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Fisheries Joint Management Committee

Issue Number

Dear Kayla,

4

Well folks, I must apologize for the delay in this latest newsletter. The end of 2010 proved to be a hectic time here in the office as well as the start of 2011. We may have to re-think how often this newsletter is distributed, what would you all think about a Newsletter every 3 months? I know it would be more manageable for me but I'll leave it up to you to decide. In this issue we have some great articles, including a short splurge on the award received by participants in the Bowhead aerial survey project lead by Lois Harwood of DFO, an update on the Paulatuk MPA and write-up from FJMC Inuvialuit Alternate member Stan Ruben. So Hold on Tight to your seats, you're in for a great reading experience!!!!

In This Issue

[Paulatuk MPA Update](#)
[Bowhead Project Receives](#)
[Award!](#)
[TN MPA Designated!](#)

TN MPA Designation

Sincerely,
 Kayla Hansen-Craik
 Fisheries Joint Management Committee

At Ocean's Day in Tuktoyaktuk on August 26th, Prime Minister Harper announced the official designation of the Tarium Niryutiit Marine Protected Area. The TN MPA was ten years in the making when it was finally signed off and was well worth the wait and hard work that was put into the process by numerous players. The TN MPA has three major sections; the Niaqunnaq (Shallow Bay) portion, the Okeevik and the Kittigaryuit portions which reflect the 71A Beluga Management zones outlined in the Beluga Management Plan. This MPA will further ensure the protection of the Western Arctic Beluga stock for use by

Paulatuk Marine Protected Area

The Paulatuk Area of Interest (AOI) has officially been approved and now the Steering Committee is working collaboratively towards the designation of the AOI as a Marine Protected Area. There are still many steps involved to get to the end goal. The Steering Committee, comprised of the FJMC, Paulatuk HTC, IRC, IGC and DFO, is now working on defining the boundaries and conservation objectives. They have a meeting in February to discuss input received from DFO science. The Steering Committee will then present their findings to the community of Paulatuk and will seek approval from the community on these decisions.

The following steps in the process include discussions on activities

that will or will not be permitted in the proposed Marine Protected Area. The Steering Committee will involve all stakeholders (Inuvialuit, industry ect.) in the decision making process. The Committee will then present those options to the community of Paulatuk for final review and comment.

An important part of the designation process is the use of traditional knowledge (TK) in decision making. A TK workshop will be held in Paulatuk in the next few months to collect information that will fill in knowledge gaps.

FJMC Funded Project Receives Award

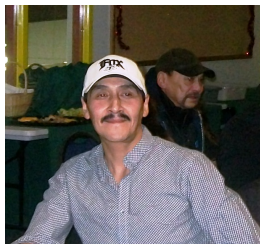
Bowhead Tagging Project Acknowledged

The United States Department of the interior presented the Alaska Department of Fish and Game with an award for their collaborative efforts on the Satellite Tracking of Western Arctic Bowhead Whales. It was stated in an article that the project was a great example of how Native Hunters can work together to develop management strategies for endangered species. Parties involved with the study include: The Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee, the Tuktoyaktuk Hunters and Trappers Committee, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission, the North Slope Borough and the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources.

Great Job to all involved!!

Perspective from an FJMC Alt. Member

My name is Stan Ruben, I was recently appointed as an alternate director for the Fisheries Joint Management Committee. Along with me, Vernon Amos from Sachs Harbour (Ikahuk) was also appointed. Vernon is a well educated young man and is able to bring his knowledge and experience when it comes to understanding FJMC's and DFO's commitment to science and research.



Being invited to participate at their annual FJMC/DFO meeting, at the Freshwater Institute in Winnipeg is an opportunity not to be missed because of the importance of representing our communities, needs and interests.

We have a responsibility to our members in each respective ISR community. Our views have to be heard if we are to maintain what our other directors have struggled to set up as Co-managers of some of our fish and marine mammals stocks. At this meeting we are introduced to the operation and mandate of the board as we sit in on discussions. We certainly are encouraged to speak on behalf of all the Inuvialuit who are subsistence harvesters and Monitors, whether it's about the Belugas, the Arctic Char, and the ringed seals. Also during this meeting, DFO science and research team reports on all studies and projects that are in place in all of the communities. These projects are vital to the conservation,

future generations and regulate the industrial activities.

The designation of the TN MPA is a great accomplishment for the people of the ISR and all the players involved. Another Great Accomplishment for the ISR as a whole!
KUDOS!!!!



Photo courtesy of Northern News Services

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Husky Lakes Beluga Entrapment Study

Beluga entrapment in the Husky Lakes is a natural phenomenon that has occurred sporadically since the Inuvialuit inhabited the Husky Lakes area and into the present. This research project took a look at how the decision-making process regarding the entrapments has changed over the years and attempted to understand what impacts the implementation of co-management has had. Through interviews with people who were involved

preservation, and Co-management of any marine species, and I commend all Scientists and researchers that are doing a lot of hard work on behalf of the Inuvialuit.

In each community monitoring projects have been in place for many years. These are a result of combined efforts of community members who wanted to be better prepared for the sustainability of our marine mammals stocks. Certain fish stocks have been in decline in some years and there many reasons that contribute to this, manmade pollutants predator kills water changes or overharvesting might be some. The Inuvialuit and Gwich'in have been at the forefront of subsistence harvesting long before these management processes were in place. Maintaining that balance can have serious effects, if we do not have traditional knowledge as a working partner with Co-management bodies from all regions. We deserve to leave our children with this heritage of caring and keeping our rights as subsistence harvesters while taking care of the co-management of our fish species.

In this day and age there is more potential for serious effects to happen to our fish seals and whales that migrate along our coastal waters. With the potential for fish resources to be exploited in the Beaufort Sea at some point in the future and the oncoming process to drill in our northern waters we have to be more wary and concerned that all our views are heard by DFO and FJMC. The monitoring efforts by our local Hunters & Trappers Committees, Scientists and Researchers have yielded valuable data that can and will be used in determining the best practices when it comes to dealing with the stressors to our mammal stocks in and around the Beaufort Sea.

The importance is Co-management, and we should not overrule one or the other as more important. I feel confident that TK will become more valuable to DFO scientists as it is too us, and in order for our co-management bodies to survive and continue to be effective we have to rely on and respect each other.

Stan Ruben

Alt. Director FJMC



and research of archived documents regarding entrapments in 1966, 1989, 1996, 2006, and 2007, I was able to find some key changes that show how co-management has facilitated knowledge exchange and co-production between the Inuvialuit and the DFO.

According to the documented efforts of the chair of the Inuvik Research Laboratory (funded by DIAND), the 1966 entrapment was monitored by the head of the IRL as well as members of a "save the whales" committee made up of Inuvik Lions Club members, with no consultation with the Tuk HTC. Former members of the Tuk HTC and other people who remember the events of the entrapments in 1989 recall the decision-making process being DFO-driven, with a degree of consultation that would be below par today. As the years went on the role of the FJMC became better defined, ex-chair Robert Bell became an important facilitator in consultations between the DFO Inuvik and the Tuk and Inuvik HTCs.

Eventually, this lead to cooperative decision-making and the creation of action-plans. In 2006 and 2007, primary decision-making responsibility was given back to the Tuk HTC and the DFO supported and facilitated the management strategies chosen by the HTC. The culmination of the knowledge sharing was a 2008 workshop in Tuk that involved the HTC, DFO, FJMC, members from all ISR HTCs, and professional scientists from relevant fields that led to the co-production of a management strategy and action plan for the entrapments. It is evident that the process has come a long way since

1966. What is more exciting is that the process has evolved significantly since 1989 as well, meaning that co-management has been successful in facilitating knowledge exchange and co-production, and decision-making power sharing between the Tuk HTC and the DFO, leading to solutions that everybody had a hand in creating and approving.

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