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## FISHERIES JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



### *Fisheries Joint Management Committee*

### Issue Number

Dear Kayla,

# 7

Welcome to the spring issue of the FJMC Newsletter!

It took long enough but it seems spring has finally hit the ISR and has everyone in full spring hunting and fishing mode. I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone out there, on behalf of the FJMC, a safe and successful spring harvesting season!

In this month's issues we will provide some updates on the FJMC's recent activities including the FJMC research priority and proposal processes, attendance at the International Polar Year conference and the plans for the FJMC's upcoming June Community Tour. In addition we will have articles specific to current topics of interest in the ISR with respect to fisheries and fisheries management. We have also included, for the first time in this issue, more audience engagement sections which include a cartoon and a word search, these will be included wherever possible in future issues - just a little something to lighten the reading.

Enjoy!

Sincerely,  
Kayla Hansen-Craik  
Fisheries Joint Management Committee

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### Big Fish River

There has been no Inuvialuit subsistence fishery on the Big Fish River since 1986 when the system was closed through regulation under the Fisheries Act. This was triggered by a community concern in Aklavik that identified a decline in the Dolly Varden Char population of the area. This is about to change! Through many years of self-restriction of the harvest at the Big Fish by the community of Aklavik and the cooperative management processes developed by the AHTC, the FJMC, the GRRB and the DFO the ISR Dolly Varden team was able to show the successful application of the "precautionary Principal" and "Adaptive Co-

### *Another Year, Another Field Season!*

#### **2012 FJMC Funded Research** ***The Who, What, Where & How of it all...***

It all starts with the FJMC June Tour, the Committee visits three of the six communities in the ISR each year. They meet with the local HTC board to

provide updates on fisheries management topics in the ISR and to identify and discuss any community comments and/or concerns that are raised with respect to ISR fisheries. The FJMC also tries to hold community Q&A/Meet & Greet lunch-ins while in the communities to allow for updates to the community as a whole and to answer and questions the community may have regarding the FJMC and the work they do. The meetings with the HTC boards are recorded as minutes and any HTC or community comments/concerns are flagged for future FJMC discussions on the topic.

The next step in the FJMC's research priority setting cycle is the October FJMC/HTC Presidents meeting which is usually held in Inuvik. This meeting is also executed in two parts; first the FJMC meeting with the HTC Presidents and then the HTC Presidents are provided an opportunity to meet alone. The FJMC/HTC meeting is held to 1) to provide an update on fisheries management in the ISR, 2) to provide an overview of the FJMC DRAFT research priorities document as well as the fisheries related research that occurred in the previous year and 3) to review the comments and concerns raised during the June community tour with the presidents in attendance. Following this joint meeting the HTC Presidents are provided with a opportunity to meet alone to identify and/or discuss any ISR wide fisheries issues that may be of concern to all communities and to review the DRAFT research priorities document to ensure it's in line with the priority questions of the communities. The HTC presidents then present their comments and suggestions to the FJMC for inclusion in the Research Priorities document.

It is following these discussions with the HTC Presidents that the FJMC finalizes their Research Priorities document, which is sent to the HTC's for one last review before being forwarded onto the DFO and Universities along with the FJMC's Call for Proposals. In January, the FJMC travels to Winnipeg, MB for their annual FJMC Science meeting, this is where the Committee sits through presentations on proposed research and reviews funding proposals that have been submitted. The FJMC uses a proposal rating matrix to rate whether the proposals fit within the identified research priorities. Following this meeting the FJMC sends out request for long proposal letters to researchers that had successful proposals, at this time the FJMC can also request that a researcher make changes to their original proposal if need be. Final research proposals are reviewed at the FJMC's April meeting where final funding decisions are made.

The following list is a summary of the 2012 FJMC funded research. If you have any comments or questions about the FJMC's Research Priority setting cycle please do not hesitate to contact James Malone or Kayla Hansen-Craik.

## FJMC Funded Research 2012-13

Project ID	Project Title	Manager
2012/13-01	Hornaday River Water Monitoring Program	Bisaillon
2012/13-02	Dolly Varden Redds Monitoring for Ivavik Park	Bisaillon
2012/13-03	Hydro-climatic Drivers of Contaminant Transfer in Husky	Gantner
2012/13-04	Reproduction & Condition of Ringed Seals in Ulukhaktok	Harwood
2012/13-05	Consultation & Publications	Harwood
2012/13-07	Assessment of Arctic Char from the Hornaday River	Howland
2012/13-08	Assessment of Arctic Char from Fish Lake	Howland
2012/13-09	Understanding impacts of environ. change on Char in the ISR	Knopp
2012/13-10	Ulu, Sachs & Paulatuk Harvest Studies	Lea

management". This has supported the argument for a cultural harvest on the Big Fish in fall of 2012. The DFO and FJMC will be working with the AHTC to plan and coordinate the harvest, which will be monitored and sampled on site.

Representatives of DFO and FJMC will be in attendance at the next AHTC Board meeting to discuss the plans further. Many thanks to the community of Aklavik for all the hard work and patience that got us all here today and

CONGRATULATIONS! I guess patience and persistence really does pay off!



"Didn't I tell you to take up some hobby other than opera?"

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## FJMC meets Minister Ashfield

On May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 the FJMC met with the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Honorable Keith Ashfield. Time was of the essence and the agenda a full one but the FJMC managed to cover it all. Topics discussed included the finalization of the TN MPA management plan and funding arrangements, the development of the MPA near Paulatuk and the need to have the management plan and funding in place prior to the designation of the MPA, the proposed changes to the Fisheries Act, and the Dolly Varden IFMP and the

2012/13-11	Big Fish River DV Monitoring Program	Lea
2012/13-12	Ulukhaktok Char Monitoring & Data Collection	Lea
2012/13-13	ISR Regional Coastal Monitoring Program	Loseto
2012/13-14	Critical Habitat of West Side DV	Mochnac
2012/13-15	Potential Negative Health Effects of PAH exposure in Biota	Tomy
2012/13-16	Characterizing Temporal & Spatial variation in THg	Reist
2012/13-18	Test Fishery at Malyhoklyok Lake, Ulukhaktok	Papst

forthcoming recommendation from the FJMC and the community of Aklavik to amend the current legislation to re-open parts of the Big Fish river to subsistence fishing. In addition to the agenda items outlined above the FJMC also provided Minister Ashfield with updates on ongoing initiatives/issues within the ISR including updates on the Beaufort Sea Fisheries Framework, the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway and outlined ongoing issues such as the Unidentified Mortality Event effecting the Ringed Seals in region. Posters outlining the signs to look for and how to handle infected seals have been sent to communities. Please use caution if/when handling an infected seal.



FJMC Inuvialuit Members Billy Archie & Vernon Amos presenting Minister Ashfield with a 'Nipkik'



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