



# FJMC Quarterly Newsletter

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Issue 8: Winter 2013

Photo – James Malone

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For more information on these topics, other work done by the FJMC, or to be added to our e-Newsletter mailing list, please contact James at the FJMC Inuvik office:

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FISHERIES JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Photo – Inuvialuit Cultural Resource Centre

### FJMC CANADA MEMBER – BRIAN ZYTARUK

Brian Zytaruk was appointed as a member of the FJMC in July 2012. During his first 8 months with the FJMC, Brian has put his experience and knowledge to great use in the ISR, particularly through his work in the Tuktoyaktuk-Inuvik Working Group (TIWG).

The TIWG is made up of members of the Tuk and Inuvik HTC's, DFO, and the FJMC. This group is working to ensure that the fisheries resources of the Husky Lakes, and other areas surrounding the proposed all-weather road from Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk, are managed sustainably. The FJMC believes Brian's expertise with development and the management of environmental resources will be a large asset for their work.

Brian has 40 years of experience in the environmental management field, including: management, strategic development and marketing of multidisciplinary consulting operations involving scientists, engineers, technicians and support staff. Brian has also worked on a number of development projects in Northern Canada, including: transmission lines, roads and pipelines. In each of these instances the projects have involved teams of specialists, and have involved interaction and ensuring participation of local indigenous peoples.





Photo – Inuvialuit Cultural Resource Centre

### **FJMC meeting with HTC presidents**

On September 29, 2012 in Whitehorse, the FJMC held a meeting with the presidents of the Hunters and Trappers Committees. As has been the case for previous years, this annual meeting was very successful, as it allows the president of each HTC to bring community concerns to our attention. A summary of HTC concerns and FJMC responses was sent back to the HTCs, and these concerns were also considered when we discussed our priorities with DFO biologists in Winnipeg during our January 2013 meeting. The FJMC plans to continue meeting with HTC presidents each fall, as well as tour 3 ISR communities each June, to remain informed on Inuvialuit concerns related to fish and marine mammals.

### **New FJMC Technical Report The Canadian Beaufort Sea Ecosystem: A Fisheries Perspective, by Jack Mathias**

The FJMC is currently preparing Jack Mathias' manuscript, *The Canadian Beaufort Sea Ecosystem: A Fisheries Perspective*, for publication as an FJMC Technical Report. Jack's report includes a wealth of information on factors related to the Beaufort Sea ecosystem (see a condensed version of the Table of Contents to the right). If you would like a digital copy of Jack's report once it is published, please email Kristin at the FJMC Inuvik office ([fjmc-rb@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:fjmc-rb@jointsec.nt.ca)), or find it on our website ([www.FJMC.ca](http://www.FJMC.ca)) under 'Publications' → 'FJMC Report Series'. A hard copy will be distributed to each HTC, along with some of our other partners once it is published.

### **The Canadian Beaufort Sea Ecosystem – condensed Table of Contents**

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### FJMC MEETING – JANUARY 14-18, 2013, WINNIPEG, MB

#### Report from Gerald L. Inglangasuk (FJMC Inuvialuit alternate member)

The FJMC meeting started on January 14, 2013 at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans – Freshwater Institute in Winnipeg, MB. I met FJMC Chair Vic Gillman, Burton Ayles and Brian Zytaruk, who are the FJMC's Canada members, Billy Archie and Vernon Amos, the FJMC's Inuvialuit members. Kristin Hynes, James Malone and Owen Allen attended as FJMC staff. Dennis Arey from Aklavik, IGC Chair Frank Pokiak and FJMC Inuvialuit Alternate James Pokiak also attended. There were two community observers from Paulatuk at the FJMC meeting: Bessie Ruben-Lennie, and Mary Bennett.

The FJMC covered regular business items. Reports from the Chair, members and staff were reviewed. Other items discussed were the Dolly Varden on the West Side, the Paulatuk and Ulukhaktok Arctic Char, the Tuktoyaktuk-Inuvik highway. The DFO staff presented the results of 2012 research studies and proposals for studies in 2013 in the ISR. FJMC members reviewed the proposals and set priorities for budget funding for this year's work. The projects that have been approved in principle are listed below. Full proposals will be prepared for final budget approval in April 2013.



Jim Johnson, Jim Reist, Lisa Loseto and Bonnie Gemmil examining the contents of a beluga whale stomach from Sachs Harbour (2010) at the Freshwater Institute, DFO, Winnipeg, MB.



Neil Mochnacz in the Big Fish River

### FJMC SUPPORTED RESEARCH PROJECTS 2013

PROJECT MANAGER	PROJECT TITLE
Allen, H. (Parks Canada)	- The Hornaday River water discharge, freshwater quality and benthic monitoring program
Harwood, L. (DFO)	- Reproduction and condition of ringed seals taken in the regular harvests at Ulukhaktok, NT - 2013
Harwood, L. (DFO)	- Consultations and publications 2013-2014
Howland, K. (DFO)	- Assessment of Arctic char from Fish Lake
Howland, K. (DFO)	- Assessment of Arctic char from the Hornaday River
Howland, K. (DFO)	- Population assessment of North Slope Dolly Varden
Lea, E. (DFO)	- Big Fish River Dolly Varden Harvest Monitoring 2013
Lea, E. (DFO)	- Ulukhaktok summer char harvest monitoring
Lea, E. (DFO)	- Ulukhaktok, Sachs Harbour and Paulatuk Harvest Studies
Loewen, T. (DFO)	- Discrimination of Dolly Varden populations from the YK North Slope and NWT using Laser ablation-ICP-MS
Loseto, L. & Hoover, C. (DFO)	- Beluga spring habitat use of the Mackenzie estuary
Loseto, L. (DFO)	- ISR regional coastal monitoring
Ostertag, S. & Loseto, L. (DFO)	- Enhancing beluga monitoring in the ISR through the inclusion of local and traditional ecological knowledge
Mochnacz, N. (DFO)	- Ecological thresholds of Dolly Varden in the Canadian Western Arctic
Nielsen, O. (DFO)	- Seal disease surveillance and virus discovery



### UPCOMING COMMUNITY TOURS: THE COMMUNITY-BASED MONITORING PROGRAM (CBMP)

The ISR-CBMP was developed to fulfill the need for a comprehensive and robust CBM initiative, that includes all important species of wildlife in the ISR. The CBM program design will be based on the recommendations of the community workshops and the guiding principles established by the Steering Committee. Some key aspects of the program will be:

- Increasing community capacity for monitoring
- Improving the way data is collected and reported back to communities
- Addressing community concerns and monitoring needs
- Incorporating traditional knowledge into monitoring
- Collecting long-term data sets where possible
- Ensuring collected data is maintained in a standardized and useable format

With improved community capacity and local delivery, we believe more attention can be focused on the issues that matter the most to the Inuvialuit.

The program will be synthesizing all current CBM projects and addressing ongoing community monitoring needs in the ISR. We are aiming to hire a full time community monitoring liaison in each community as soon as the funds are secure. A training program will be created to train the monitoring liaisons. The first step in creating a plan that works for all communities, as well as the ISR as a whole, is to visit each ISR community and follow up on the first CBMP community tour, which took place over two years ago. Tour dates are listed below:



*TK interview with Frank and Martha Kudluk in Sachs Harbour, photo by James Kuptana.*

ISR-CBMP Community Tour Dates - 2013	
Ulukhaktok	February 21 – 25
Aklavik	February 28 – March 2
Sachs Harbour	March 7 – 11
Paulatuk	March 12 – 15
Tuktoyaktuk	TBA
Inuvik	TBA

**If you any questions or ideas about the ISR-CBMP please feel free to contact Jennie.**

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*Jiggling for Arctic Char on Fish Lake, Banks Island*

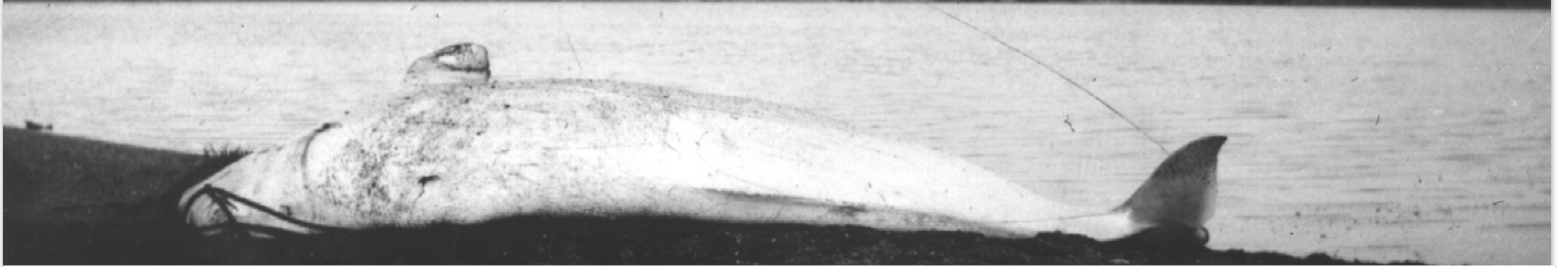
**ISR-CBMP Coordinator – Jennie Knopp**

Jennie Knopp has been hired through the Joint Secretariat as the Community-Based Monitoring Program (ISR-CBMP) Coordinator. Some of you may know Jennie from her graduate school research she has been conducting over the past five years on community-based monitoring of Arctic Char in Sachs Harbour and Ulukhaktok. Jennie has also worked with local experts in Sachs Harbour, Ulukhaktok and Paulatuk conducting Traditional Knowledge interviews for Team 10 of the Circumpolar Flaw Lead (CFL) Study and she has been working on a foodweb and Lake Trout study of Husky Lakes conducting Traditional Knowledge interviews with local experts in Tukoyaktuk.

Jennie started as the CBMP Coordinator January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and is moving forward with the creation of the ISR-wide CBMP. Jennie will be working with all six ISR communities to ensure the needs of community members are addressed.



Photo – Inuvialuit Cultural Resource Centre



### UPCOMING COMMUNITY TOURS: BELUGA MANAGEMENT IN THE ISR

Between March 11-13<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Hank Rogers Sr., Bob Bell – former FJMC Chair, and Steve Newton – DFO Oceans Manager will be visiting the communities of Inuvik (March 11), Tuktoyaktuk (March 12) and Aklavik (March 13) to discuss the recently updated **Beluga Management Plan (BMP)** and the **Tarium Niryutait Marine Protected Area (TNMPA) Management and Monitoring Plans**. These reports illustrate the effective partnership that ISR communities, FJMC and DFO have developed in beluga whale research and management. We hope everyone comes out to provide their thoughts and input. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Visits to Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour and Ulukhaktok will be planned early next year.

Bob Bell – FJMC  
Chair from 1987  
to 2007



For more information,  
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Sachs Harbour beluga hunt - 2008

Beluga whale hunt at East Whitefish (Beluga Management Plan 2001)



### ISR REGIONAL COASTAL MONITORING (BELUGA, FISH AND THEIR HABITAT) AN UPDATE FROM LISA LOSETO (DFO)

Over the last few years DFO and FJMC have worked together with communities to develop a coastal regional monitoring program of beluga, fish and their supporting habitat throughout the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR). The program seeks to better understand the coastal ecosystem at an integrated regional scale.

Monitoring programs are being built in partnership with communities and HTC's to develop capacity and create a foundation for future long term monitoring. Long term data provides a baseline from which to understand coastal ecosystems that we will bridge with offshore ecosystem programs (specifically the DFO fish trawler program). Such information is important for future decision making on issues such as oil and gas development, adapting to a changing climate, managing fisheries and supporting the Tarium Niryutait Marine Protected Area (TN MPA).

The goal is to have a key coastal monitoring program for each ISR community.

The Hendrickson Island beluga monitoring program and the Ulukhaktok ringed seal program have been running for many years and were used as models to design similar programs that focused on strong partnerships between scientists and beluga monitors. In 2010 we began an ecosystem program based out of Shingle Point, largely monitoring fish and their supporting ecosystem. From Aklavik, the monitors Jordan Mcleod and Denis Arey worked with a DFO science team and completed a third successful year. For 2012 we focused efforts to build monitoring programs with the Inuvik and Paulatuk HTCs. Unfortunately, due to capacity constraints a smaller coastal project was supported at Sachs Harbour (opportunistic cod and beluga sampling), the same project also occurred at Ulukhaktok.



In partnership with the Inuvik HTC several scientists (that are typically at Hendrickson) went to Kendall Island to sample belugas and provide training on tissue sampling to the monitor (John Day) and youth (Kendra Tingmiak). This project was partnered with a traditional knowledge project that occurred in late July. In Paulatuk, the HTC led their second consecutive beluga sampling year (in partnership with DFO and FJMC) largely based out of Browns Harbour. Monitors Brandon Green and Jody Illasiak sampled 7 whales late in the summer, these whales were larger than those collected in 2011, 2005 and those at Hendrickson this summer, averaging just over 14ft. DFO also initiated a new coastal fish sampling program in Darnley Bay near Bennett Point. The program was designed to replicate that at Shingle Point where different fish species, invertebrate and physical environmental features were studied/sampled. Mykle Wolki was trained as the coastal fish monitor along with the youth Bessie Lennie-Ruben who also participated at the beluga camp. Lastly all programs as well as char monitors deployed crab and shrimp pods throughout Darnley Bay, only toad crab were found.

Bessie Lennie-Ruben and Mary Bennett spent a week down in Winnipeg learning sampling and analysis techniques on the fish and beluga samples described above.

We are looking forward to continue the programs in the summer of 2013 (funding pending) and working closely with the HTC's to design programs that are fitting to key questions and needs.



Photo – James Malone

### COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLANS REVIEW OF RESEARCH RELEVANT TO FISH AND MARINE MAMMALS

The FJMC has initiated an internal review and update of the fish and marine mammal information in the Community Conservation Plans (CCPs). The CCPs contains very informative material in terms of which species need to be protected and managed so that future harvesters have access to the resources on the land. The HTC's and co-management committees in the ISR use the information in the CCPs when they review industrial projects and developments to make sure that the resources will be protected. There have been many new studies in the last decade and it is important that the information gathered is incorporated into the CCPs. FJMC member Billy Archie will be reviewing TK studies, Owen Allen, casual staff for the FJMC, is currently involved with the review of all studies that the FJMC has funded in past years and FJMC member Brian Zytaruk is investigating how we can better incorporate some of the information that has been gathered by industry as they prepared their environmental assessments.

#### AKLAVIK INUVIALUIT COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLAN Akaqvikiut Nunamikini Nunutailivikautinich

A Plan for the Conservation and Management  
of Natural Resources and Lands  
within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region  
in the Vicinity of  
Aklavik, Northwest Territories



Prepared by

The Community of Aklavik,  
the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)  
and the Joint Secretariat

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June 2008