

Sachs Harbour Hunters & Trappers Committee

Beluga Hunting Bylaws

1. Each boat will have the following equipment:
 - a. A rifle of not less than .243 caliber;
 - b. Two harpoons equipped with line and float, or one such harpoon and a "seal hook";
 - c. One grapple hook attached to sufficient length of line to reach the ocean bottom in the area being hunted;
 - d. One float marker with enough line to reach the ocean bottom in the area being hunted and equipped with an anchor;
 - e. A towing line.
2. Each hunter must attempt to retrieve sunken or wounded whales before hunting for another whale.
3. No person shall, at any time, take more whales on a hunt than can adequately be taken care of considering limitations of the boat, weather, the towing distance, and the number of people in the camp available for processing.
4. Beluga hunters must provide the SHHTC with the requested harvest information including measurements and samples.
5. There shall be no hunting in "No Hunting Zones" if applicable.
6. There shall be no interference during the hunt by tourists or operators.

Beluga Hunting Guidelines

1. A proven method by some hunters has reduced loss rates considerably, by harpooning first. Whales should be harpooned before shooting.
2. It would be preferable that no person should hunt alone.
3. Each boat should have at least one experienced hunter.
4. All areas around whale kills should be cleaned up after processing.
5. These Guidelines and Bylaws may be changed by the Sachs Harbour HTC as necessary.

Tuktoyaktuk Hunters & Trappers Committee

Beluga Hunting Bylaws

1. Each boat will have the following equipment:
 - a. A rifle of not less than .243 caliber;
 - b. Two harpoons equipped with line and float, or one such harpoon and a "seal hook";
 - c. One grapple hook attached to a sufficient length of line to reach the ocean bottom in the area being hunted;
 - d. One float marker with enough line to reach the ocean bottom in the area being hunted and equipped with an anchor;
 - e. A towing line.
2. Each hunter must attempt to retrieve sunken or wounded whales before hunting for another whale.
3. No person shall, at any time, take more whales on a hunt than can adequately be taken care of considering limitations of the boat, weather, the towing distance, and the number of people in the camp available for processing.
4. Beluga hunters are recommended to provide Beluga Harvest Monitors with the requested information and reasonable access to harvested whales for measurements and samples.
5. There shall be no interference during the hunt by tourists or tourism operators.



Beluga Hunting Guidelines

1. A proven method by some hunters has reduced loss rates considerably, by harpooning first. Whales should be harpooned before shooting.
2. No person should hunt alone.
3. Each boat must have at least one experienced hunter.
4. It is recommended that hunters use a boat not less than 16 feet long.
5. All carcasses must be towed out to the area designated by the Tuktoyaktuk Hunters and Trappers Committee after processing.
6. These rules may from time to time be changed by the THTC.



Inuvialuit HTC Beluga Hunting Bylaws and Guidelines – 2024

This brochure, updated in 2024, includes the Inuvialuit Settlement Region Hunters and Trappers Committees Beluga Hunting Bylaws and Guidelines. Each HTC within the ISR developed these community-specific bylaws to ensure efficient, safe, and responsible hunting practices. These bylaws provide support to applicable elements of the Marine Mammal Regulations and represent best practices for each community's hunting activities. Fisheries and Oceans Canada is responsible for the enforcement of Fisheries Act and Marine Mammal Protection Regulations. Fishery Officers can enforce elements of the Hunters and Trappers Committee beluga hunting bylaws that align with existing regulations.



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FISHERIES JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Aklavik Hunters & Trappers Committee Beluga Hunting Bylaws

1. Each boat will have the following equipment:
 - a. A rifle of not less than .243 caliber;
 - b. Two harpoons equipped with line and float, or one such harpoon and a “seal hook”;
 - c. One grapple hook attached to sufficient length of line to reach the ocean bottom in the sea area being hunted;
 - d. One float marker with enough line to reach the ocean bottom in the area being hunted and equipped with an anchor or sinker;
 - e. A towing line.
2. No person shall, at any time, take more whales on a hunt than can adequately be taken care of considering limitations of the boat, weather, the towing distance, and the number of people in the camp available for processing.
3. No hunter shall hunt a cow known to be accompanied by a calf.
4. Each hunter must attempt to retrieve sunken or wounded whales before hunting for another whale.
5. Beluga hunters should provide harvest information to their HTC, either directly or through a Beluga Harvest Monitor, and provide monitors reasonable access to the harvested whale for measurements and samples, when safe to do so.
6. There shall be no interference during the hunt by tourists or tour operators, or anyone else not involved in the hunt.

Beluga Hunting Guidelines

1. No hunting boat shall carry passengers of a number that may interfere with proper hunting technique.
2. No person shall hunt alone.
3. Each boat must carry at least one (1) experienced hunter. The designation of experienced hunters shall be made at each camp.
4. A hunting leader shall be appointed at each camp to advise and make any necessary decisions on matters concerning the safety and efficiency of beluga hunting based from that camp, according to guidelines for hunting leaders provided by the Aklavik HTC.
5. No hunter should remove the harpoon and float when towing the whale to shore.
6. All carcasses must be towed out to deep water or burned after processing, unless being used for other purposes (e.g., bait).
7. Out of respect for the hunt, unnecessary boat activity and noise should be reduced when whales are spotted near camps.
8. These rules may from time to time be changed by the Aklavik HTC.

Inuvik Hunters & Trappers Committee Beluga Hunting Bylaws

1. Each boat will have the following equipment:
 - a. A rifle of not less than .30-30 caliber;
 - b. Two harpoons equipped with line and float or one such harpoon and a “seal hook”;
 - c. One grapple hook attached to a thirty-foot (30’) length of line, sufficient to reach the ocean bottom in the area being hunted;
 - d. One float marker with thirty feet (30’) of line to reach the ocean bottom in the area being hunted and equipped with an anchor or sinker;
 - e. A towing line.
2. Each hunter must attempt to retrieve sunken or wounded whales before hunting for another whale.
3. No person shall knowingly waste, abandon or discard any edible product (muktuk or meat) of a harvested beluga.
4. No person shall, at any time, take more whales on a hunt than can adequately be taken care of considering limitations on the boat, weather, the towing distance, and the number of people in the camp available for processing.
5. Beluga hunters must provide Beluga Harvest Monitors with the requested information and reasonable access to harvested whales for measurements and samples.
6. There shall be no hunting in “No Hunting Zones” if applicable.
7. There shall be no interference during the hunt by tourists or operators.

Beluga Hunting Guidelines

1. A proven method by some hunters has reduced loss rates considerably, by harpooning first. Whales should be harpooned before shooting.
2. No person should hunt alone.
3. Each boat must carry at least one experienced hunter. A hunting leader shall be appointed at each camp and approved by the Inuvik Hunters and Trappers Committee (IHTC). Hunting leaders will be appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the IHTC. The hunting leader will advise and make any necessary decisions on matters concerning the safety and efficiency of beluga hunting based from that camp, according to guidelines for hunting leaders provided by the IHTC.
4. Each boat must be equipped with artificial life preservers for all passengers.
5. Hunters should follow the directions of the appointed hunting leader in each camp.
6. All carcasses must be towed out to deep water or burned after processing.
7. These rules may from time to time be changed by the IHTC.

Olokhaktomiut Hunters & Trappers Committee

Beluga Hunting Bylaws

1. Each boat will have the following equipment:
 - a. A rifle of not less than .30-30 caliber;
 - b. Two harpoons equipped with line and float, or one such harpoon and a “seal hook”;
 - c. Two float markers or two 5-gallon jerry cans per harpoon with enough line to reach the ocean bottom in the area being hunted, and equipped with an anchor;
 - d. A towing line.
2. Each hunter must attempt to retrieve sunken or wounded whales before hunting another whale.
3. No person shall, at any time, take more whales on a hunt than can adequately be taken care of considering limitations of the boat, weather, the towing distance, and the number of people in the camp available for processing.
4. Beluga hunters must provide the OHTC with the requested information including measurements and samples.
5. There shall be no hunting in “No Hunting Zones”, if applicable
6. There shall be no interference during the hunt by tourists or others.

Beluga Hunting Guidelines

1. The recommended method of hunting whales is to first harpoon the whale before shooting. This method reduces losses of sunken or wounded whales.
2. No person shall hunt alone.
3. Each boat should have at least one experienced hunter.
4. These rules may from time to time be changed by the Olokhaktomiut HTC.



Paulatuk Hunters & Trappers Committee

Beluga Hunting Bylaws

1. Each boat will have the following equipment:
 - a. A rifle of not less than .30-30 caliber;
 - b. Two harpoons equipped with line and float, or one such harpoon and a “seal hook”;
 - c. One grapple hook attached to a sufficient length of line to reach the ocean bottom in the area being hunted;
 - d. One float marker with enough line to reach the ocean bottom in the area being hunted and equipped with an anchor;
 - e. A towing line.
2. Each hunter must attempt to retrieve sunken or wounded whales before hunting for another whale.
3. No person shall, at any time, take more whales on a hunt than can adequately be taken care of considering limitations of the boat, weather, the towing distance, and the number of people in the camp available for processing.
4. Beluga hunters may provide Beluga Harvest Monitors with the requested information and reasonable access to harvested whales for measurements and samples.
5. There shall be no hunting in “No Hunting Zones” if applicable.
6. There shall be no interference during the hunt by tourists, operators or others.



Beluga Hunting Guidelines

1. A proven method by some hunters has reduced loss rates considerably, by harpooning first. Whales should be harpooned before shooting. No person should hunt alone.
2. Each hunting boat should have at least one experienced hunter.
3. All carcasses must be towed out to deep water or burned after processing.
4. These rules may from time to time be changed by the PHTC.