



Photo: C. Gallagher

Also critical are the rich, marine habitats used for summer feeding, such as Pearce Point.

Nuvuqpaluq).
bottom (the “Bluffs,” locally called cut-bank where the river does not freeze to the channel of the Hornaday River estuary under a caught in a winter gillnet fishery from the west winter. In recent years, char have also been accessible by snowmobile or fished regularly in unstable ice conditions and therefore not confluence because the river is prone to of areas farther upstream than the Aklak Creek Nothing is known of the overwintering potential Tourist Camp, Billy’s Creek, and Coalmine. community on the main stem of the Hornaday: the under-ice fishery conducted annually by the these known through the timing and locations of Spawning sites are also used for overwintering, pool at the base of La Roncière Falls.

between Coalmine and Aklak Creek, and the holes in the mainstream Hornaday River System, freshwater during fall mainly in the deepest habitat for Arctic Char. Arctic Char spawn in important spawning, overwintering, and rearing the Paulatuk area, the Hornaday River provides largest and most diverse stock of Arctic Char in Hornaday River system. Contributing to the Char occur in the Paulatuk area, including the Anadromous (sea run) and landlocked Arctic

Arctic Char Habitats & Fishing Areas

Paulatuk Ikalukpik Community Fishery Management Plan



Dedication
NELSON ALLEN GREEN (1948-1999)
CHARLIE RUBEN (1952-2012)

Nelson Green and Charlie Ruben worked on Char Management and Projects in the Paulatuk Area starting in the 1980s. From the day this plan was thought of, to three years later when the first edition was signed-off by the PHTC, Nelson was totally committed to it. He willingly and effectively chaired the Paulatuk Char Working Group from 1996 to 1998. His vision was to have a Plan that ensured the char resources were conserved, and that the people of Paulatuk had char for subsistence use.

For their insight, patience, knowledge, and guidance in the preparation of this plan, we dedicate this Management Plan to our dear friends and colleagues, Nelson Allen Green and his hunting partner Charlie Ruben.

May God keep their souls and help us to implement the Management Plan for conservation of the resource, to provide for the future, and in deep respect of their memories.

Commercial Fishing
Commercial fisheries in the Paulatuk area were closed in 1987 to prioritize the subsistence fishery, given observations of declines in Arctic char catch numbers and sizes. Commercial fishing opportunities, including for other species in the Paulatuk area, could be considered in the future following the leadership of the PHTC and co-management partners.

- Individuals wishing to sport fish in Tukut Nogait National Park:
• Require a National Parks Fishing Permit and follow relevant Parks Canada regulations;
• Are limited to a daily catch and possession limit of 1 Arctic Char, except on the Hornaday River where the catch and possession limit is 0 Arctic Char;
• Are not allowed to fish in the Hornaday River downstream of La Roncière Falls, Seven Islands Lake and Aklak Creek (closed year-round).

- For more information, visit: <https://isr-sportfishing.ca>
• Must register with the PHTC and FJMC if they wish to access private 7(1)(a) or 7(1)(b) lands to fish.
regulations for other species; and
• Should review the current Northwest Territories Sport Fishing Regulations Guide for updates and
• Must adhere to the Daily Catch and Possession Limits;
• Must adhere to relevant NWT Fishery Regulations;
• Require an NWT Sport Fishing License, validated for the ISR;
wishing to sport fish in the Paulatuk area (not including Tukut Nogait National Park):

Sport Fishing
Due to concerns on the status of Hornaday River Arctic char, and in order to prioritize the subsistence fishery, the PHTC is not supportive of any sport fishing activity in the Hornaday River. Individuals

the Paulatuk area have been developed as part of this Plan (found on inside cover of pamphlet)
Voluntary Community Harvest Levels for Arctic Char and a set of community guidelines for fishing in subsistence use for beneficiaries.
Consistent with the IFA, and subject to conservation, the first-priority for all fishing under this Plan is

Subsistence Fishing
Types of Arctic Char Fisheries in the Paulatuk Area

PCWG meetings are held at least once a year, usually in February, and include a portion that is open to the public. At the public meetings, community member are encouraged to come forward with concerns, questions, observations, or priorities related to Arctic Char in the Paulatuk area.
Using Indigenous Knowledge shared at these annual meetings, as well as monitoring results and observations gained through field programs and harvesting, the health of the char stocks and voluntary community harvest levels are discussed, reviewed, and adjusted as needed, by the PCWG.

Paulatuk Char Working Group - Annual and Public Meetings

Goals of the Paulatuk Char Community Management Plan:

- To ensure healthy stocks of Arctic Char throughout the Hornaday River and other Arctic Char harvesting locations in the Paulatuk area.
- To preserve and protect Arctic Char habitats in the Hornaday River and other fishing areas around Paulatuk.
- To manage and conserve Arctic Char populations in the Paulatuk area to ensure that subsistence needs of the residents of Paulatuk are met today and in the future.

Background

Sea run (anadromous) and land-locked Arctic Char from the Hornaday River system have always been and remain to this day an important food and cultural resource for the residents of Paulatuk.

In the 1990’s, residents of Paulatuk expressed concern over the decline in size, health, and catch rate of the Arctic char. To assist in the ongoing management of char populations in the Paulatuk area, the Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC) created the Paulatuk Char Working Group (PCWG), which is composed of members from the Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Committee (PHTC), the FJMC, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), and Parks Canada (PC). Together, the PCWG developed the Paulatuk Char Community Management Plan, with the first version of the plan in place for 1998-2002. The Plan has since been revised twice. This present version of the Plan, updated in 2023, reflects new information from over the last decade and up to 2021. This pamphlet is a condensed version of the full plan.

Contact information

For matters related to fisheries in the Paulatuk area.

Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Committee
1-867-580-3004
Email: paulatukhtc@gmail.com

Paulatuk GNWT ECC officer
PH: 1-867-580-3021 or 1-867-788-0114
Email: ECC_Beaufort-Delta@gov.nt.ca

Fisheries Joint Management Committee
1-867-777-2828
fjmc.ca

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
1-867-777-7500 (Inuvik- Fisheries Management)
1-867-669-4900 (Yellowknife- Conservation and Protection)

Parks Canada (Paulatuk)
1-867-580-3233

Report a Poacher
1-866-762-2437

Signatories to this plan

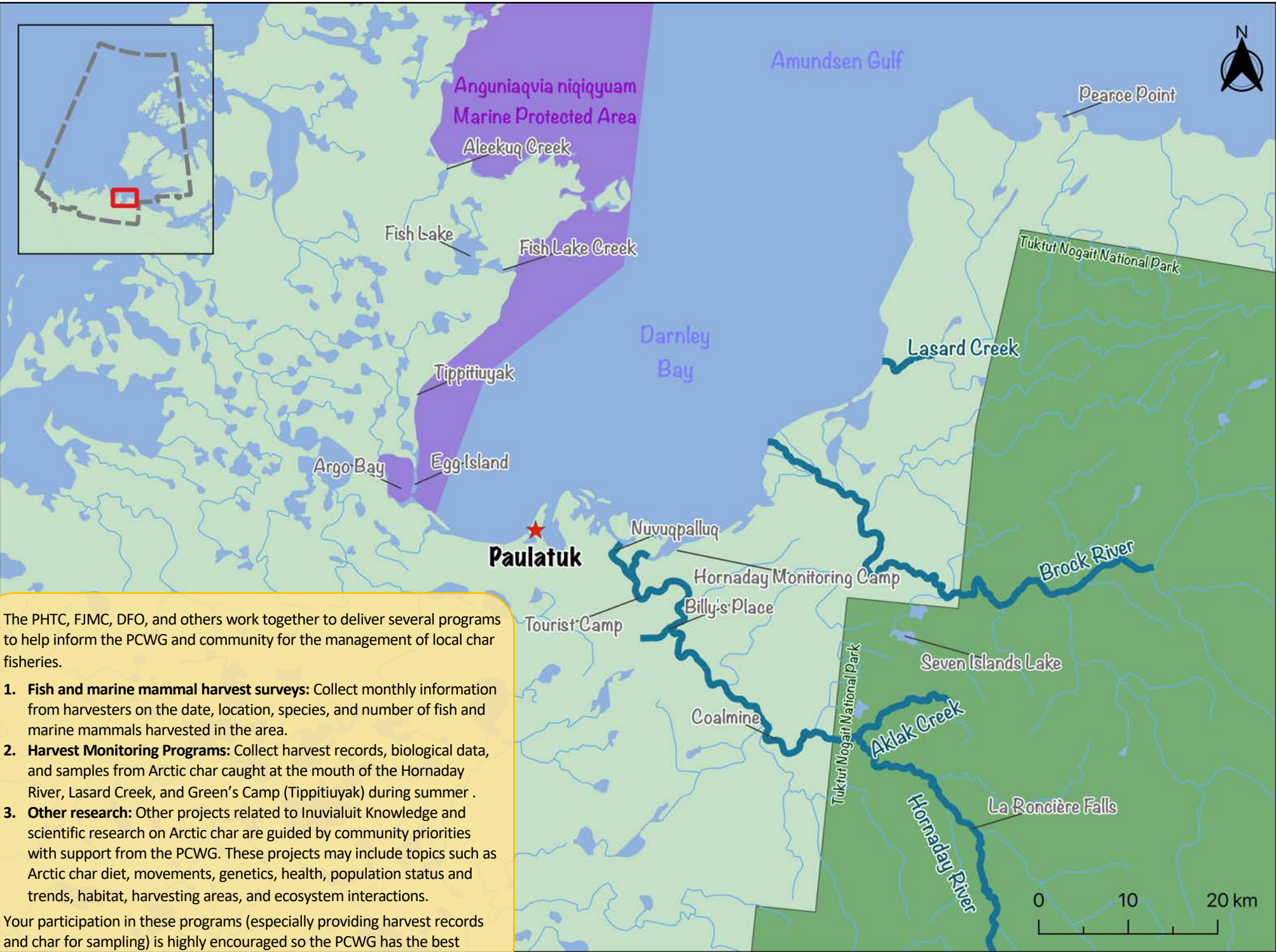
Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Committee (PHTC)
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
Parks Canada Agency (PC)
Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC)

The PHTC, DFO, PC, and FJMC support the Paulatuk Arctic Char Community Fisheries Management Plan and are committed to its effective implementation. The signatories wish to acknowledge the work of the PCWG in the development of the Plan and its roles and responsibilities for its implementation.

A review and evaluation of the Plan is conducted every 3 to 5 years, and is updated as required.



A complete version of this plan can be found at fjmc.ca



Voluntary Community Harvest Level for the Subsistence Fishery

The Voluntary Community Harvest Level for Arctic Char in the Paulatuk area is 2,000 fish per year. This includes all anadromous Arctic Char harvested across all seasons, in both coastal (Darnley Bay) and freshwater (Hornaday R.) fisheries.

- The voluntary harvest level will be allocated by the PHTC amongst its membership as required.
- There shall be no commercial sales from the subsistence fishery.
- If a change to the Voluntary Community Harvest Level is required, the PCWG will follow all available Inuvialuit and scientific knowledge.

Breakdown of the Voluntary Community Harvest Level for Arctic Char	
Summer fishery <i>June-September</i>	1,300 char
Fall and Winter fishery <i>October-December</i>	300 char
Elders' fishery <i>October-December (or earlier, if the HTC decides)</i>	300 char <i>The PHTC will hire two fishermen from the community to do the fishing for the elders and will oversee the distribution of the 300 char</i>
Families harvesting at their camps <i>Any season</i>	100 char <i>To allow for families to continue harvesting at their camps even if the seasonal harvest level is met</i>
Landlocked char <i>Any season</i>	<u>No</u> voluntary harvest level <i>The PCWG recommends taking only what you need</i>

Federal and Territorial Regulations – Requirements for all fisheries in the Paulatuk area:

1. Nets must be checked every 30 hours in the summer (May 16 to October 31), and every 72 hours in the winter (November 1 to May 15).
2. At least one third of a stream must be left open to allow fish to pass.
3. Indigenous harvesters may fish without a license by angling or gillnets, set lines, spears, snares or dip nets, for food for their families and dogs.
4. No person shall fish by snagging.
5. No person shall dispose of dead fish or any remains or offal of fish by leaving it in the water or on the ice over water.
6. Fish that is suitable for food shall not be wasted.
7. All nets must have the name of the owner clearly marked
8. Fishery Officers may determine or prescribe the distance between each and every fishery and shall forthwith remove any fishing apparatus or material that the owner neglects or refuses to remove.
9. Subsistence caught fish by beneficiaries can be sold or traded to other beneficiaries but cannot be sold or gifted to non-beneficiaries.

Community Fishing Guidelines for the Subsistence Fishery

1. No nets longer than 25-yards (22.8 m) shall be set and used for Arctic Char fishing in the rivers, and no 100-yard (91 m) nets shall be set.
2. No net mesh size smaller than 4.5" (114 mm) shall be used in the Hornaday river and other areas.
3. Unless fishing for elders, no gill nets shall be set during fall and winter in the Hornaday River mainstream between Coalmine and Aklak Creek.
4. Nets are not to be left unattended. If a harvester leaves their net, the person it is left with becomes responsible for that net. If a harvester sets their net during a day trip, the net shall be pulled up before they go back to Paulatuk.
5. Nets should be checked twice per day during summer, weather permitting. After freeze-up nets should be checked once per day.
6. All camps shall be kept clean and all garbage shall be brought back to Paulatuk.
7. Be respectful of other people's fishing areas and gear.
8. Take only what you need.
9. Participation in harvest survey and monitoring programs is strongly encouraged, to ensure the best information is available to the PCWG and community.
10. All catches must be stored and processed to minimize wastage.