

The Nunavut Fishing Industry:

Background and Approach to Sustainable Resource Development

*Joint Presentation by Nunavut Fishery Stakeholders
to the Fisheries Resource Conservation Council*

May 11, 2010



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Department of Environment

Havakviat Avatiliqiyikkut

Ministère de l'Environnement





Nunavut Fishery Stakeholders

- Government of Nunavut (GN)
- Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB)
- Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI)
- The Nunavut Fishing Industry:
 - Four primary entities
 - Arctic Fishery Alliance
 - Baffin Fisheries Coalition
 - Cumberland Sound Fisheries Ltd./Pangnirtung Fisheries Limited Partnership
 - Qikiqtaaluk Corporation



Presentation Outline

- Background on the Nunavut Fishery
- Nunavut Fisheries Strategy
- Allocation Policy for Nunavut's Commercial Marine Fisheries
- Nunavut Fisheries Science and Research Agenda
- Nunavut Fishery - Remaining Obstacles and Issues



The Nunavut Fishery – Allocations

- Nunavut now at 45.5% of adjacent resources, up from 19.1% in 1999, when the Territory was established – still well below the 80-90% standard for other adjacent jurisdictions
 - Turbot at 70%: 6,500 t 0A (100%) and 2,850 t in 0B (41%)
 - Shrimp at 34%: 10,681 t of 31,133 t total
- New 500 t quota established for Cumberland Sound in 2005;
- Additional 1,350 t allocation provided to Nunavut from the 2010 Division 0B increase – 90%.



The Nunavut Fishery - Organizations

- Four Organizations hold 100% of Nunavut's turbot and shrimp quotas :
 - Arctic Fishery Alliance
 - Baffin Fisheries Coalition
 - Cumberland Sound Fisheries Ltd./ Pangnirtung Fisheries Limited Partnership
 - Qikiqtaaluk Corporation



Arctic Fishery Alliance

- Partnership between the HTAs of Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay and Nattivak HTA of Qikiqtarjuaq
- 100% Nunavut Inuit owned and operated fishing enterprise - independent of southern or any other interests
- AFA's goals include increasing Inuit employment
- Profits from operations to flow back to communities through community trusts
- AFA has purchased the 100 foot fixed gear factory-freezer vessel Genny and Doug and has partnered with Ueushuk Fisheries Limited – a Labrador Innu owned company to operate a sister-ship the Atlantic Optimist. Its fishing fleet will consist of similar vessels – all fixed gear



Baffin Fisheries Coalition

- Formed in 2000 to bring together Nunavut's fishing interests to manage the new 0A turbot allocation
- Represents 9 Inuit Owned Organizations – 5 HTAs and 4 Private Companies
- Up to 2008, directly invested over \$16.5 Million in vessel acquisitions, royalties to members, turbot to the Pangnirtung plant, training programs, exploratory fishing projects, salaries and board costs, travel and accommodations, and rent.
- Has majority ownership in one mobile gear vessel, the Inuksuk 1, and one fixed-gear vessel, the Oujukoaq. Has recently purchased 100% ownership in another fixed-gear vessel, the Vinlander.



Cumberland Sound Fisheries/Pangnirtung Fisheries

- Cumberland Sound Fisheries Ltd. (CSFL) was incorporated in 1988 as a 100% Inuit owned company with 50 shareholders; 48 local Inuit, the Pangnirtung Inuit Co-op Ltd. and Pangnirtung HTA.
- Pangnirtung Fisheries Limited (PFL) was incorporated in 1992. It is owned 51% by the Nunavut Development Corporation (NDC) and 49% by CSFL.
- In 2008, CSFL and PFL formed a partnership to hold and manage any quotas that might be awarded under the new allocation process established by the NWMB.
- CSFL/PFL Partnership is currently in the process of identifying and purchasing harvesting capacity.



Qikiqtaaluk Corporation

- Incorporated in 1983, Qikiqtaaluk Corporation (QC) is the Inuit Birthright Development Corporation owned by the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), the organization representing the Inuit of the Baffin Region.
- In 1985, QC applied for and was granted a northern shrimp licence. Another northern shrimp licence was granted to QC and Makivik Corporation and is shared equally between the two companies.
- In 2006, QC invested in the purchase of its own majority-owned offshore factory freezer trawler, the Saputi. This vessel fishes for both shrimp and turbot.



Nunavut Fisheries Strategy - 2005

- Need for a Strategy
- Vision, Guiding Principles and Objectives
- Science and Conservation
 - Strategic Considerations
 - Accomplishments
 - Remaining Gaps
- Strategy Review and Update Initiated for Next Five Years

NUNAVUT FISHERIES STRATEGY

MARCH 2005



GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT
AND
NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INCORPORATED



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Need for a Nunavut Fisheries Strategy

- Coastal Jurisdiction
 - Nearly 2/3rd's of Canada's coastline.
 - 25 of 26 communities on coast.
- Nunavut Economic Development Strategy
 - Recognized fishery as 'pillar' of Nunavut economy.
- Nunavut Fisheries Strategy Development
 - GN & NTI continued partnership.
 - To guide development activities over next 5 years.



Industry at a Glance

- Long and rich history of marine use.
 - Subsistence based.
- Increasingly commercialized in recent years.
- Development occurring in all three regions.
 - Kivalliq & Kitikmeot - primarily char based with other emerging fisheries on horizon.
 - Baffin – large scale offshore and inshore turbot and shrimp fisheries as well as char and other emerging fisheries.
- Four fish processing facilities throughout territory.



Vision Statement

“To see fisheries emerge as a driving economic catalyst for Nunavut resulting in increasing prosperity for current and future generations of Nunavummiut recognizing the principles of sustainable use and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ).”



Guiding Principles

- Cultural Integrity
- Determination and Realism
- Self Reliance
- Community Control
- Co-operation and Co-ordination
- Sustainability



Objectives

- Strategy identifies six key objectives to recognize fisheries vision.
 - Science and Conservation
 - Organizational Capacity and Governance
 - Access and Allocation
 - Labour Market Development and Training
 - Infrastructure
 - Funding and Revenue Generation



Science and Conservation

- Significant fisheries research deficiencies in the North.
- Present trend towards ‘user pay’ approach not workable in Nunavut.
- Historically fisheries research has been publicly funded.
- Research needs in Nunavut have a clear ‘public value’.
- Concerns over emerging regulatory costs i.e. CSSP.
- Science deficiencies pose challenge to conservation framework for Nunavut.



Science and Conservation

Strategic Considerations

- Development of Nunavut Fisheries Science Agenda.
- Incorporation of Conservation Ethic into Decision-Making Process



Science and Conservation - Accomplishments

- Inclusion of an “Exploratory Fisheries Fund” under the new NWMB Fisheries Allocation Policy. Industry commitment to fund science and research;
- Coastal Zone Inventory project initiated, with projects completed or ongoing in six communities;
- Workshop on bottom impacts completed in Iqaluit in February 2007;



Science and Conservation - Accomplishments

- Research on mitigating bottom impacts through gear design by the Marine Institute, for Qikiqtaaluk Corporation;
- Nunavut Fisheries Symposium held in March 2008 and again in April 2010;
- New community based management model being developed for Arctic char, pilot underway in Pangnirtung;



Science and Conservation - Accomplishments

- Development of the *Nunavut Fisheries Science and Research Agenda*, in collaboration with industry and other fishery stakeholders.
- Additional DFO Science positions in Iqaluit and Winnipeg.
- Fisheries Science Advisor position established and filled in Department of Environment.



Science and Conservation – Remaining Gaps

- Funding of Nunavut Fisheries Science and Research (Multi-year plan/funding, offshore and inshore needs)
- Expand Coastal Zone Inventory to other communities
- Complete development of Community Based Management Model for char and expand to other areas
- Seabed mapping in Cumberland Sound and other areas



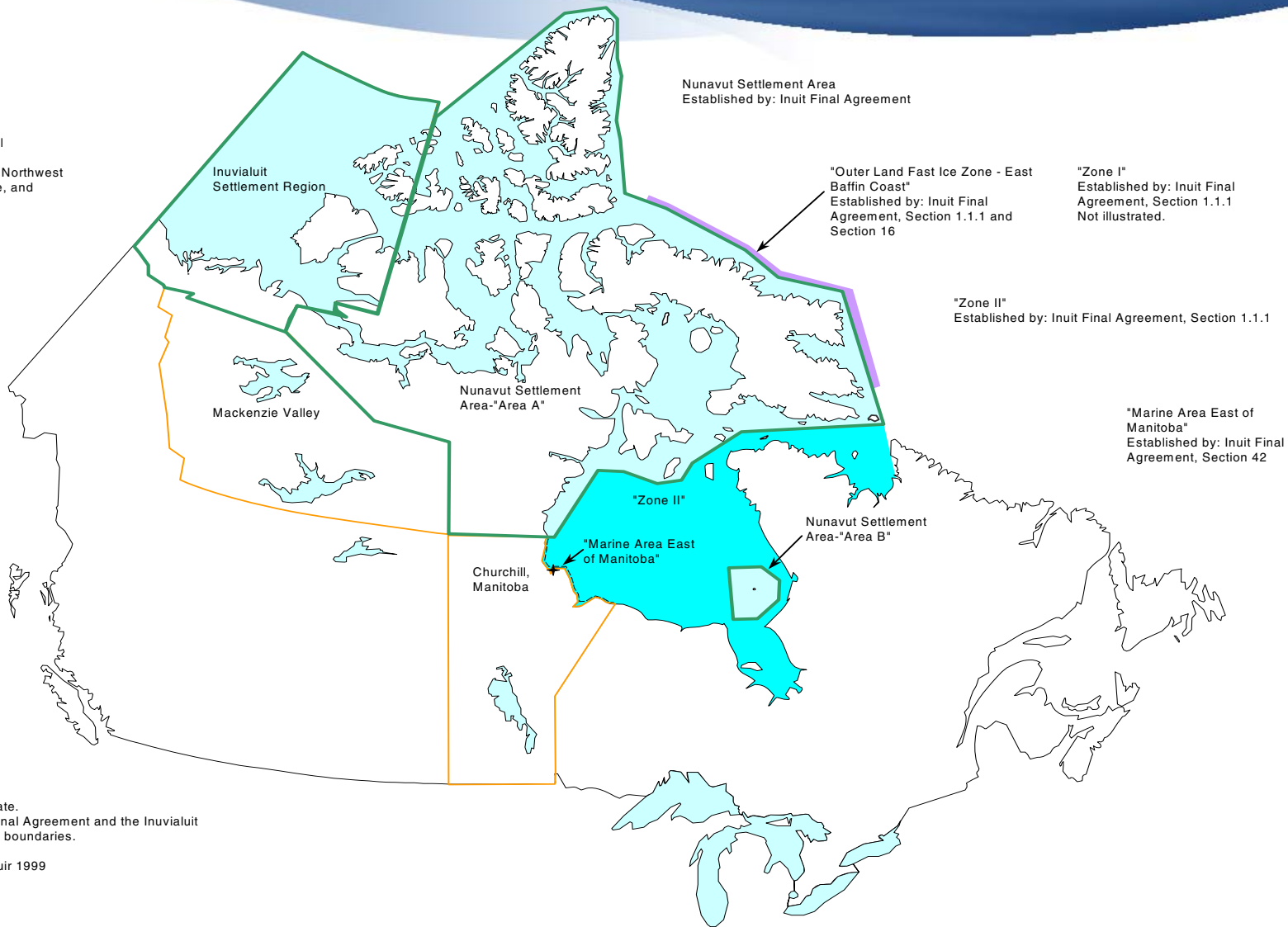
Allocation Policy for Nunavut's Commercial Marine Fisheries - 2007

Within the Allocation Policy

- Objective
- Mandatory Requirements for Responsible Stewardship
- Nunavut is the only Canadian jurisdiction that has established such a policy
- For more detail see accompanying presentation

Inuvialuit Settlement Region
Established by: Inuvialuit Final Agreement
Located in northern portion of Northwest Territories, Yukon North Slope, and federal offshore waters.

Northwest Territories
Divided into: Inuvialuit Settlement Region and Mackenzie Valley



Nunavut Settlement Area
Established by: Inuit Final Agreement

"Outer Land Fast Ice Zone - East Baffin Coast"
Established by: Inuit Final Agreement, Section 1.1.1 and Section 16

"Zone I"
Established by: Inuit Final Agreement, Section 1.1.1
Not illustrated.

"Zone II"
Established by: Inuit Final Agreement, Section 1.1.1

"Marine Area East of Manitoba"
Established by: Inuit Final Agreement, Section 42

Churchill,
Manitoba

"Marine Area East of Manitoba"

Nunavut Settlement Area-"Area B"

Boundaries are approximate.
Please refer to the Inuit Final Agreement and the Inuvialuit Final Agreement for exact boundaries.

Map © Magdalena A K Muir 1999





OBJECTIVE OF THE ALLOCATION POLICY

- ◆ *“TO FACILITATE A CO-OPERATIVE, PROFESSIONAL AND DIVERSIFIED APPROACH TO ECOSYSTEM-BASED FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT, MAINTAINING COMPLIANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF CONSERVATION, RELYING UPON RE-INVESTMENT IN THE FISHERY BY NUNAVUT FISHERS, AND ENSURING THE WIDE DISTRIBUTION OF TANGIBLE BENEFITS TO NUNAVUMMIUT.”*



MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP

- ◆ FIVE MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO ALL PARTICIPANTS IN NUNAVUT'S COMMERCIAL MARINE FISHERIES:
 - ◆ COMPLIANCE WITH RELEVANT LAW AND POLICY;
 - ◆ COMPLIANCE WITH RELEVANT RESEARCH AND REPORTING INITIATIVES;
 - ◆ COMPLIANCE WITH RESPONSIBLE HABITAT AND ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS;
 - ◆ COMPLIANCE WITH RESPONSIBLE VESSEL AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS; AND
 - ◆ COMPLIANCE WITH RESPONSIBLE FISHING PRACTICES AND GEAR USE.



MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP

- ◆ ALL APPLICANTS FOR ALLOCATIONS MUST SUBMIT A *STEWARDSHIP PLAN* DETAILING THEIR INTENDED MEASURES TO COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE 5 REQUIREMENTS.
- ◆ THE NWMB ENCOURAGES AND SUPPORTS INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF NUNAVUT'S SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT THROUGH INDEPENDENT CERTIFICATION.



Nunavut Fisheries Science and Research Agenda

- Project Goals and Objectives
- Project Partners
- Project Costs



Project Goals and Objectives

- Development and funding of a Nunavut Fisheries' Science and Research Agenda is one of the primary objectives of the *Nunavut Fisheries Strategy*.
- Development of sound fisheries science and research is critical to Nunavut's inshore and offshore fisheries and to the sustainable management of these resources.



Project Objectives

- Specific objectives for this project include the following:
 - Completion of multi-species offshore surveys in Nunavut's adjacent waters, to continue the time series on stock assessments needed for sustainable resource management;
 - Undertake stock assessment research on species with commercial potential in Nunavut's inshore waters such as turbot, clams, sea urchins, and char, that can subsequently lead to new fisheries and economic development;



Project Objectives

- Specific objectives for this project include the following:
 - Develop the necessary science to convert exploratory char fisheries to commercial status;
 - Complete scientific research on commercial species in areas such as juvenile life history and recruitment; and
 - Complete all research activities based on sound scientific principles and with input from DFO Science.



Project Partners

- Partners on this project include the following:
 - Department of Environment, Fisheries and Sealing Division
 - Arctic Fishery Alliance
 - Baffin Fisheries Coalition
 - Cumberland Sound Fisheries Limited/ Pangnirtung Fisheries Ltd.
 - Qikiqtaaluk Corporation
 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Central and Arctic Region
 - Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
 - Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
 - CanNor, Canada's Northern Economic Development Agency



Projects Costs

- \$7.5 Million Project Over Four Years
- \$1.8-\$1.9 Million Per Annum
 - Offshore - \$815,000-\$935,000 per annum
 - Inshore - \$867,000-\$887,000 per annum
 - Project Management – Requires full-time Project Manager to oversee and coordinate project - \$125,000 per annum



The Nunavut Fishery – Remaining Obstacles and Issues

- Access and Allocations
 - Although Nunavut has achieved significant growth in its access and allocations, it remains well short of the 80-90% of adjacent allocations enjoyed by other jurisdictions



The Nunavut Fishery – Remaining Obstacles and Issues

- Infrastructure
 - Coastal jurisdiction with no harbour/port facilities – vessels land in Greenland;
 - Small Craft Harbours Strategy developed, GN has moved forward on habitat assessments and engineering and earmarked \$1 million;
 - Federal commitment to development of the Pangnirtung harbour – much more is needed



The Nunavut Fishery – Remaining Obstacles and Issues

- Access to Funding
 - Nunavut not been able to access funding available to other aboriginal groups for fisheries development (over \$750 M invested in other aboriginal groups)
 - Lack of funding for science, infrastructure, and fisheries development