

Written Submission No. 26

2016 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Proposed Land Use Designation:

Community Area of Interest – Bearded Seal Harvesting

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

From: The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB), and
the Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) of Sanikiluaq

Background Information:

Bearded seals are highly valued by the Inuit of Sanikiluaq. They are especially common in two bays: one on western Kugong Island, and the other in southern Split Island. These are important harvesting areas for the community.

Without protection of these areas, the Nunavut Land Use Plan will fail in its goal to protect and promote the well-being of all of Nunavut's residents and communities as a primary purpose of land use planning under Article 11 of the Nunavut Agreement.

The protection of these harvesting areas where Inuit of Sanikiluaq harvest bearded seals is critically important to maintain the health, culture and heritage of the Inuit of Sankiluaq. Industrial development in or near these areas would degrade the value of the area. Such development must be prohibited in the waters and on the islands in these bays.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation: Protected Area

Proposed Restrictions:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;

- Linear Infrastructure;
- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research

Conditions:

- Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, during Ukiaq, Ukiuq, Upingaksaq, and Upingaaq.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Area of Interest – Bearded Seal Harvesting:

As per the attached maps and associated shp files.

Date of this draft: November 5, 2018

