

QWB-QIA Joint Submission
to the Nunavut Planning Commission

in response to the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP)

regarding

Wildlife Harvesting Areas

No. 2023 – B

Technical Memorandum, No. 2023-B-TM

Prepared By: Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB) and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), with support from Firelight Research Inc.

In response to: The 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Date: February 10 2023

1. Existing Land Use Rights of Inuit for Wildlife Harvesting

Sub-section 11.2.1 (b) of the Nunavut Agreement states:

the primary purpose of land use planning in the Nunavut Settlement Area shall be to protect and promote the existing and future well being of those persons ordinarily resident and communities of the Nunavut Settlement Area taking into account the interests of all Canadians; special attention shall be devoted to protecting and promoting the existing and future well-being of Inuit and Inuit Owned Lands (https://nlca.tunngavik.com/?page_id=1094).

In the opinion of the QWB and the QIA as representatives of all Inuit in Qikiqtaaluk Region, revisions of the DNLUP are required in order for the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) to ensure that the Final Nunavut Land Use Plan (FNLUP) to meet the above stated *primary purpose*.

In 2018 the QWB and all HTOs in the region requested protection of specific Wildlife Harvesting areas, but in the 2021 DNLUP few if any of these high priority areas were designated for the level of protection needed,

The QIA and the QWB and the region's HTOs recognize that Inuit have existing rights for full and protected access to their primary harvesting areas, whether those areas are marine, land or freshwater. Every month and year, Inuit invest huge amounts of time and resources in the on-going exploration and production of food, skins, bones, ivory and other materials from their specific harvesting areas. Inuit and their ancestors have been investing and caring for their harvesting areas within Qikiqtaaluk Region for about 3,500 years, based on archeological records. The modern financial value of Inuit investments is priceless, beyond comparison with more recent investments by largely non-Nunavut-based industrial corporations.

QWB has estimated the food replacement cost of wildlife harvested by Inuit in Qikiqtaaluk Region, as a partial surrogate for the recent annual investment that Inuit make in harvesting of wildlife in the Region. This information will be provided in Appendix A of this submission. Despite Inuit investments in exploration and production, Inuit land-use have not been acknowledged to give rise to clear area-specific rights.

Section 1.4.1 of the 2021 DNLUP (and Plan Requirement 1.4.2-1) states that the plan does not *govern* the harvesting of wildlife, which is dealt with exclusively by the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) pursuant to Article 5 of the Nunavut Agreement. However, the NPC's recognition of the role of the NWMB and Article 5 of the Nunavut Agreement leaves no clear and consistent pathway for *protecting* Inuit rights to harvest wildlife in the specific areas that they have invested and continue to invest in terms of exploration and production of critical sustainable resources. On the other hand, areas subject to existing mineral and oil and gas rights have been given a clear pathway to protection through 2021 DNLUP Section 6.1.8 and Appendix A.

Furthermore, Section 1.3.3 of the DNLUP states in part that

... land use planning has critical aspects, including: ... b) recognizing the need to make productive and responsible use of the land and resources for social-cultural, community health, economic and environmental priorities, objectives and benefits (e.g., ... harvesting ...)

The QIA and QWB are concerned that the lack of a clear and consistent pathway for protecting harvesting rights and investments could result in many of the identified Wildlife Harvesting Areas being severely degraded or destroyed in future through potentially impactful industrial and other projects or land uses. We recommend that the NPC clearly recognize and enable protection of specific lands and waters for Wildlife Harvesting, as identified by Inuit, to enable this critical aspect of land use planning.

While land use designations developed to protect critical or sensitive habitat types (e.g., caribou and whale calving, walrus haul-outs, polar bear denning areas) can certainly influence wildlife survival and productivity, and thereby availability of wildlife species for harvesting, habitat designations do not necessarily protect specific areas

that are most important and accessible to Inuit for harvesting purposes. For example, areas where Inuit can reliably harvest wildlife are selected not only based on animal abundance and seasonal distribution, but also because of the absence of major geophysical barriers, and temporal variations and distance issues that may enable accessibility for harvesters (e.g., lack of deep or steep terrain, favourable wind effects on sea ice formation and break-up, adequate snow accumulation and melt, long- and short-term animal movement patterns). In addition, successful harvesting by Inuit often depends on intimate, place-based knowledge of specific harvesting areas.

In the QIA's and QWB's perspective, it is just as important to protect areas identified as important and accessible for wildlife harvesting by Inuit as it is to protect other areas on the basis of the ecological value or sensitivity of habitats, in order to maintain productive and sustainable wildlife populations.

Chapter 2 of the 2021 DNLUP addresses NPC's goal 2 of "Protecting and Sustaining the Environment", based on the intent to "conserve Nunavut's air, land and water, which are of critical importance to the sustainability of those living in the Nunavut Settlement Area". The chapter continues by stating that "for long-term sustainability", "existing patterns of natural resource use", "cultural factors and priorities", as well as "special local [and] regional ... considerations" are among the factors that should be taken into account during the land use process.

From the QWB's and QIA's perspective, assigning land use designation categories that primarily to protect some sensitive wildlife habitats, while not protecting high priority Wildlife Harvesting areas that Inuit have identified and invested in, is unlikely to address existing patterns of natural resource use, cultural factors and priorities, and local and regional considerations.

Chapter 4 of the 2021 DNLUP addresses NPC's goal 4 of "Building Healthier Communities", based on the intent to "support community needs and cultural priorities, taking into account factors such as: ... cultural factors and priorities; and ... special local, [and] regional ... considerations".

Within this chapter, there is a general "Community Areas of Interest" land use designation category. Within the Qikiqtaaluk region, this designation includes three Limited Use areas including Sanirajak (Hall Beach), Foxe Basin, and Nettilling Lake, which were largely assigned high environmental and cultural importance based on the identification of several important wildlife habitats and Wildlife Harvesting areas. The designation of these areas suggests that NPC is somewhat willing to protect some areas on the basis of their importance to communities for harvesting purposes.

In their written submissions to the NPC in 2018, the HTOs in Qikiqtaaluk Region and the QWB requested the equivalent of "limited use" protection for several specific Wildlife Harvesting areas, which were not incorporated into the 2021 DNLUP.

From the QIA's and the QWB's perspective, these areas need to be included as requested. Incorporation of such high priority areas into the FNLUP may be accomplished either as:

- "Community Areas of Interest" already present in Chapter 4, with the addition of a factor such as "historical and existing patterns of sustainable resource use for the local and regional economy", or as
- a new designation category of "Wildlife Harvesting Areas" under Chapter 2.

"Community Areas of Interest" could readily address Wildlife Harvesting Areas if the above factor is added in the introduction for Chapter 4.

Alternatively, "Wildlife Harvesting Areas" could fit in Chapter 2 which emphasizes on "protecting and sustaining the environment", especially with the factors: "[historical and] existing patterns of natural resource use", "cultural factors and priorities" and "special local [and] regional ... considerations" already listed in that chapter.

In summary, the QIA and QWB recommend that the NPC:

- 1) Commit to protecting specific areas in the Final Nunavut Land Use Plan based on their importance for Wildlife Harvesting, land-use areas critical to Inuit culture, food security, self-employment and economics;
- 2) Recognize specific limited-use harvesting areas as either "Community Areas of Interest" or as "Wildlife Harvesting Areas" to clearly protect their future high values for which Inuit have invested and provided stewardship for generations.
- 3) Accept the updated and previously submitted 2018 QWB-HTO areas (Table 1 and Submissions section **2023-B-01**) identified as important for terrestrial, marine and freshwater Wildlife Harvesting Areas as limited use areas with the requested prohibitions and conditions as either "Community Areas of Interest" or as "Wildlife Harvesting Areas" with the appropriate designation and land use prohibitions or seasonal restrictions originally requested by QWB, updated with relatively minor modifications or qualifiers

Table 1: 2018 Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board Submissions Recommended by QIA and QWB for Acceptance into the Final Nunavut Land Use Plan as limited-use areas designated as either “Community Areas of Interest” or “Wildlife Harvesting Areas”.

2018 Submission Number	2023 Submission Number	Title	Species Harvested ¹
WS-05	QWB-QIA 2023-B-01	Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area, Igloolik and Sanirajak	Walrus and other species
WS-12	QWB-QIA 2023-B-02	Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas, Grise Fiord	Muskox
WS-16	QWB-QIA 2023-B-03	Community Area of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Areas,	Snow Geese, Brant and Canada Geese
WS-19	QWB-QIA 2023-B-04	Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas, Resolute Bay, Iqaluit and Sanirajak	Beluga and Narwhal
WS-24	QWB-QIA 2023-B-05	Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area, Pangnirtung	Turbot, Beluga and other species
WS-26	QWB-QIA 2023-B-06	Community Area of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Areas, Sanikiluaq	Bearded Seal
WS-27	QWB-QIA 2023-B-07	Community Area of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Area, Igloolik	Ringed Seal
WS-29	QWB-QIA 2023-B-08	Community Area of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Area, Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, Pond Inlet, Qikiqtarjuaq, Pangnirtung, Iqaluit, Kimmirut, Cape Dorset, Sanikiluaq, Sanirajak and Igloolik	Landlocked Arctic Char, Arctic cod, Whitefish, Atlantic cod, and other fish
WS-30	QWB-QIA 2023-B-09	Community Area of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Area, Iqaluit	Polar Bear. Caribou, Beluga. Walrus, Arctic Char, and Waterfowl.
WS-32	QWB-QIA 2023-B-10	Community Area of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Area, Kimmirut	Caribou, Polar Bear, Arctic Char, and Waterfowl

2018 Submission Number	2023 Submission Number	Title	Species Harvested ¹
WS-33	QWB-QIA 2023-B-11	Community Area of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Areas, Sanirajak	Ringed and Bearded Seals, Beluga, Caribou, Polar Bears, Arctic Char, Arctic Cisco (Whitefish), Lake Trout, Arctic Fox, Ptarmigan, Arctic Hare, Snow Geese, Common Eiders, Arctic Terns, and Other Species
WS-34	QWB-QIA 2023-B-12	Community Areas of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Areas, Grise Fiord	Peary Caribou, Muskoxen, Arctic Char, Polar Bear, and Migratory Birds
WS-40	QWB-QIA 2023-B-13	Community Areas of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Areas, Qikiqtarjuaq	Narwhal, Ringed, Bearded, Harp and Hooded Seals, King and Common Eiders, Arctic Tern, Snow and Canada Geese, Arctic Cod, Arctic Char, Polar Bear, Caribou, Arctic Hare, Foxes and Other Species.
WS-41	QWB-QIA 2023-B-14	Community Area of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Areas, Kinngait and Kimmirut	Beluga, Walrus, Arctic Char, Common Eider, Waterfowl, and Ringed Seal.
WS-42	QWB-QIA 2023-B-15	Community Area of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Areas, Sanikiluaq	Ringed and Bearded Seals, Beluga, Walrus, Canada Geese, Common Eider, Blue Mussel, Usuk and Kukiujuk Clams, Sea Urchin, Sea Cucumber, Aajat Starfish, and Scallop.

1. Some of these submissions may have been identified also as important wildlife habitat (e.g., migration, calving, nesting); however, for the purposes of focusing on recognition and protection of Wildlife Harvesting Areas, these ecological values are not listed in this table. Please refer to Submissions section 2023-B-01 for further information.

Appendix A

Surrogate Valuation of Annual Inuit Investments in Exploration and Production of Wildlife Harvesting Areas

Each year, many Inuit have made extensive investments in exploration and production needed to develop, maintain and sustain long-term harvesting of wildlife in Qikiqtaaluk Region. They have been making these investments for generations, even millennia through their ancestors. These are well known facts that are beyond question, yet existing rights of Inuit to use specific land and water areas have not been recognized in past drafts of the Nunavut Land Use Plan.

In the meantime, the NPC has devoted section 6.1.8 and Appendix A of the 2021 DLNUP to existing rights of industrial development proponents based on much short tenures of recent exploration and production investment.

The QIA and the QWB suggest that Inuit investments in harvesting must be recognized in the FNLUP, and at least one chapter or section of the FNLUP should be devoted to Wildlife Harvesting on specific lands and waters, and identified in the FNLUP for protection from other land uses with limited use designations.

Documenting the investments of Inuit in wildlife harvesting in Qikiqtaaluk Region would be difficult to produce well expensed estimates of harvesting investments by Inuit. Some of the challenges include: the sheer number of Inuit that spend significant amounts of time in self-employment related to the land use activity of wildlife harvesting, the capital and maintenance costs of snowmobiles, boats and motors, rifles, traps, nets and other equipment, the time for arrangement and other costs for processing, storage and shipment of country foods, skins, bones, ivory and other products, and many more investments. Although two regional harvest studies have estimated the numbers of Inuit self-employed as harvesters in Qikiqtaaluk Region in the early 1980s (Donaldson 1988) and the late 1990s and early 2000s (Priest and Usher 2004), many more Inuit are self-employed in meat processing, clothing production, bone and ivory carving, related tourism and other work.

Industrial proponents may also expense their research on the environment related to their activities as exploration and production investments. Inuit utilize mainly their Qaujimajatuqangit to manage and mitigate any impacts on the environment. We are not aware of any efforts to estimate the investments of Inuit related to wildlife harvesting land-uses on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. It cannot be assumed to just come out of thin air.

As a surrogate valuation of Inuit investments in harvesting land use, the replacement cost of meat and food production may be used. However, such estimates are likely to significant underestimates, at least because non-food products are not considered

Nevertheless, to provide some guide to the annual investments by Inuit in wildlife harvesting, the QWB estimated the annual value of harvested food, based on results of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's 1996-2001 Nunavut Harvest Study from communities in Qikiqtaaluk Region. The study was not fully operational in two communities for all of the first two years; therefore, we used only the results from the last three years, 1998 – 2001.

During 1998 – 2001, Priest and Usher (2004)¹ estimated that 24% (2,818) of 11,741 Inuit in the region were harvesters, showing that harvesting as a land use is a major source of self-employment. It is notable that the proportion of Inuit who were self-employed as harvesters apparently increased from 20% (1,394) among 6,968 Inuit in the region during 1981-82 (Donaldson 1988)². This suggested that as a sustainable land use, harvesting has the capacity to keep up with Inuit population growth and provide a reliable source of self-employment. As more Inuit require more food, harvesters endeavour to provide that food.

During 1998-2001, Qikiqtaaluk Inuit obtained nutrition by harvesting at least 45 different species (Priest and Usher 2004)¹. In total, Wildlife Harvesting provided at least 1.6 million kg of food annually in Qikiqtaaluk Region, for an average of 139 kg per Inuk via self-employment, probably financed largely by Inuit themselves. The average annual food production included: 491,879 kg from terrestrial mammals, 825, 048 kg from marine mammals, 31,630 kg from birds and eggs, and 284,043 kg from fish and clams.

Inuit harvesters provided their families and communities with an average of 380 g of meat daily, while the Canada food guide recommends only 225 g per person. Harvesting keeps Inuit very well fed, and as a sustainable traditional land use, industrial land uses should not be allowed to put Wildlife Harvesting at risk.

Based on average results in Priest and Usher (2004)¹ during 1998 - 2001, the QWB has estimated that the replacement cost of food alone from Wildlife Harvesting had a value of at least \$59 million annually. This total was based on mean regular retail prices of ground beef and beef steaks advertised by Northmart in Iqaluit in October and June 2022, respectively. The average annual replacement cost of food provided by Inuit harvesters included: \$17,855,209 for terrestrial mammals, \$29,949,225 for marine mammals, \$1,148,180 for birds and eggs, and \$10,310,393 for fish and clams.

¹ Priest, H. and P.J. Usher. 2004. The Nunavut Wildlife Harvest Study. Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, Iqaluit, Canada. 822 pp.

² Donaldson, J.L. 1988. The Economic Ecology of Hunting, A Case Study of the Canadian Inuit. Ph.D. Thesis, Harvard University, Cambridge, USA. 243 pp.

The QIA and QWB requests that the NPC formally recognize Wildlife Harvesting as a legitimate and the most sustainable form of land use in Qikiqtaaluk Region, providing significant on-going self-employment to residents across the region. During 2017-18 the QWB held land-use planning workshops in all 13 communities, and HTO Boards were asked if and where temporary land use restrictions might protect important Wildlife Harvesting areas that they identified, and other important wildlife habitats. Each HTO responded that if a major new development occurred, it is highly unlikely that affected wildlife would return to any seriously disturbed area in future. They generally did not support temporary or mobile mitigative measures.

The QIA and the QWB are deeply concerned that the nutritional, self-employment and economic values of Wildlife Harvesting in specific areas has not adequately guided decision-making leading to the 2021 DNLUP. The FNLUP should fully recognize Wildlife Harvesting by Inuit as the most valued and actively sustainable land use that it is, at least by Inuit in Qikiqtaaluk Region.

Submission QWB-QIA 2023-B-01

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 05

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area

Igloolik and Sanirajak

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

From: The Qikiqtani Inuit Association and the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB),
and the Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs) of Igloolik and Sanirajak

Background Information:

This part of Foxe Basin is an important wildlife harvesting area for Inuit in the communities of Igloolik and Sanirajak. Inuit rely on this area for harvesting of walrus, as well as seals, bowhead whales, fish, polar bears, and migratory birds.

Some protection measures were proposed for parts of this area in the 2016 and 2021 draft Nunavut Land Use Plans. These area and land-use condition should be amended in order to adequately protect important Wildlife Harvesting Areas of Igloolik and Sanirajak.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Boundaries:

- Designate the Limited-Use area as proposed by the QIA, QWB and the HTOs of Igloolik and Hall Beach to include important Wildlife Harvesting Areas, as per the attached maps and associated shp files.

Note: Additional walrus harvesting areas for Sanirajak outside this area should also be protected (see QWB 2023-C-01).

Proposed Amended Restrictions:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Marine Shipping;

- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;
- Linear infrastructure;
- Related research except Non-Exploitive Scientific Research

Conditions:

- No vessel may enter these Community Areas of Interest - Wildlife Harvesting Areas at any time during the year, except as may be negotiated with the QWB and the HTOs of Igloolik and Sanirajak along specific routes and at specific times with prior, informed and written consent.
- Any project in Nunavut that involves shipping that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023

Submission QWB-QIA 2023-B-02

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 12

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area

Grise Fiord

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

From: The the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB), and the Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) of Grise Fiord

Background Information:

Muskoxen are critically important to maintain the health, culture and heritage of the Inuit of Grise Fiord. Without protection of the community's most accessible muskox harvesting areas, the Nunavut Land Use Plan will fail in its goal to protect and promote the well-being of all of Nunavut's residents as a primary purpose of land use planning under Article 11 of the Nunavut Agreement.

Due to rugged terrain, changing se-ice conditions, and long seasonal periods with insufficient snow cover to travel inland, the Inuit of Grise Fiord rely on specific areas close to the community throughout the year in order to harvest muskoxen. These muskoxen provide food, skins and other resources, as well as enable Inuit to maintain family and cultural activities important to the community.

Industrial development in or near these areas would deter muskoxen from using them. Such development must be prohibited.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation: Limited Use

Proposed Restrictions:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Obnoxious Land Use;

- Quarries;
- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;
- Linear Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research

Proposed Boundaries of this Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area, Grise Fiord, mainly for Muskox Harvesting on Southern Ellesmere Island:

See the attached maps and the associated shp files.

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023

Submission QWB-QIA 2023-B-03

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 16

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Geese),

Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay, Pond Inlet and Iqaluit

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

From: The Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB),
and
the Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTO) of Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay, Pond
Inlet and Iqaluit

Background Information:

Snow geese, brant and Canada geese are critically important to maintain the health, culture and heritage of the Inuit of Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay, Pond Inlet, Iqaluit and other communities. Without protection of the communities' harvesting areas for these Arctic geese species, 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 Inuit of Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay, Pond Inlet and Iqaluit utilize specific areas each year for harvesting of eggs, meat and other resources from these species, as well as for family and cultural activities important to the communities.

These areas are also valuable for the annual production, health and conservation of Greater Snow geese, Brant and Canada geese populations at the regional and national levels. Among Inuit of Arctic Bay, southern Admiralty Inlet is known as a feeding and breeding 'home' for snow geese. Important nesting areas near other communities have been known to Inuit for generations.

With both brant and snow geese, the area around and west of Eleanor Lake on Cornwallis Island is one of few goose harvesting areas accessible to Inuit from Resolute Bay in spring and early summer. The areas on Somerset Island are well known among Inuit as being important for snow goose harvesting and nesting, as well as nesting sandhill cranes.

Near Nalluat (ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ) on western Navy Board Inlet, the nesting and summering area for snow geese and other birds has been an important area for Inuit and their ancestors since time

immemorial. There are important recent and historical sites in this area, as well archeological sites. Tourist ships, yachts and sail boats should be prohibited from docking at or near this site to prevent harassment of geese (see also WS-21 regarding no shipping in the narwhal harvesting area along the west coast of Navy Board Inlet). Tourists should be allowed to visit only if guided by knowledgeable Inuit from Pond Inlet.

Canada geese are harvested by Inuit from Iqaluit in several valleys and on islands around Frobisher Bay.

During Upingaaq and Aujaq, these areas must be protected from disturbance by all non-traditional activities, and from any activities and long-term development in other seasons that may impact the use of these areas by Arctic geese, other birds, and Inuit.

Special Note: The QIA, QWB and the HTOs have chosen **not** to indicate these areas as Key Migratory Bird Sites (KMBS). The criteria for KMBS are based on percentages of a species national population or on recognition of critical habitat under the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA). These KMBS criteria do not "... protect and promote the existing and future well being of those persons ordinarily resident and communities of the Nunavut Settlement Area" (Nunavut Final Agreement Article 11, Section 11.2.1 (b)). In order to meet that objective, IQ and needs of Inuit in the communities must be taken fully into account.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation: Conditional Use Area

Proposed Restrictions:

Conditions:

- During Upingaaq and Aujaq, Snow Goose Brant and Canada Geese Harvesting Areas must not be disturbed by any non-traditional human activities.
- Any projects and activities must shut-down during Upingaaq and Aujaq in these areas.
- Wind turbines for electrical generation should be prohibited within 10 km of goose nesting areas until they can be proven to be safe for geese and will not impact Inuit harvesting.
- No long-term development and land uses may occur in any season if they may impact future use by snow geese, brant, or Canada geese in these areas.

- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the aerial, marine and terrestrial setbacks in a modified Table 2³ for all migratory birds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate any of these conditions is prohibited.

Additional Conditions for 16H (Nalluat):

- Tourism access by ship, yachts and sail boats is prohibited.
- Tourists may be allowed only if guided by knowledgeable Inuit from Pond Inlet.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas for Species of Geese:

The following table gives the map numbers and general location of these important snow goose, Canada goose and brant harvesting areas, as shown on the attached maps and the associated shp files.

Snow Goose and Brant Nesting Site #	Description of Location	Important Species
16AA	Strathcona River, Baffin Island	Snow Geese
16A	Magda River and nearby coast of Admiralty Inlet	Snow Geese
16B	Southwestern coast of Admiralty Inlet	Snow Geese
16C	Eleanor Lake, Cornwallis Island	Snow Geese and Brant
16D	Southern Aston Bay, Somerset Island	Snow Geese
16E	Northern Stanwell Fletcher Lake, Somerset Island	Snow Geese and Sandhill Cranes
16F	Northern Creswell Bay, Somerset Island	Snow Geese and Sandhill Cranes
16G	Cape Garry, Somerset Island	Snow Geese and Sandhill Cranes
16H	Nalluat, northern Baffin Island	Snow Geese
16I	Jordan River, southern Baffin Island	Canada Geese

³ Modified Table 2 refers to a version of Table 2 that incorporates modifications recommended in Written Submission No. 14 from the QWB and its associated HTOs.

16J	Burton Bay, southern Baffin Island	Canada Geese
16K	Cantley Bay, southern Baffin Island	Canada Geese
16L	Cormack Bay, southern Baffin Island	Canada Geese
16M	Pike and 4 other islands in Fletcher Channel, southern Baffin Island (1.5-km marine ship setback included)	Canada Geese
16N	Waddell Bay, southern Baffin Island	Canada Geese
16O	Cyrus Field Bay, southern Baffin Island	Canada Geese
16P	Lailor Lakes, Melville Peninsula	Snow and Canada Geese
16Q	Avammuktulik, Melville Peninsula	Snow and Canada Geese

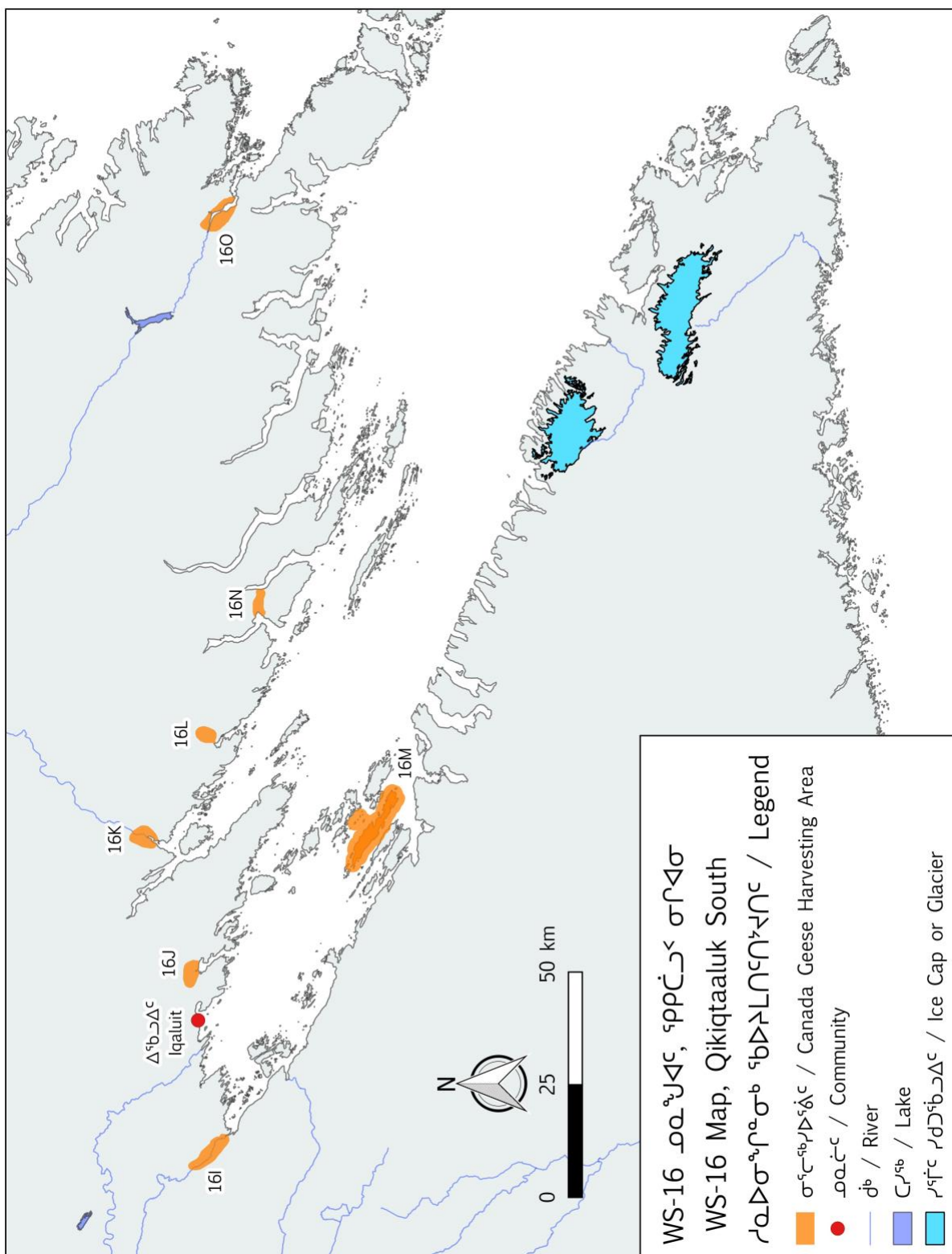
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Date of this draft: February 10, 2023



Submission QWB-QIA 2023-B-04

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 19

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Beluga and Narwhal), Resolute Bay, Iqaluit and Sanirajak

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

From: The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB), and
the Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) of Resolute Bay, Iqaluit and Hall
Beach

Background Information:

Protection of the environmental integrity of the beluga and narwhal harvesting areas in Aston Bay, south central Frobisher Bay, Foxe Basin, Fury and Helca Strait, Gulf of Boothia, Committee Bay, Richards Bay and Lyon Inlet is critically important to maintain the health, culture and heritage of the Inuit of Iqaluit and Hall Beach. Without protection of these waters and this species, 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.

These waters provide Inuit with both important cultural and subsistence resources. They are important areas for beluga and narwhal during Upingaaq, Aujaq and Aujaq, when the whales migrate into the areas from early break-up to late freeze-up. Narwhal and beluga also calve in these waters. The areas must also be protected throughout the year from any development, which could degrade the quality of these waters for beluga and narwhal.

There is evidence that military sonar has negative effects on marine mammals (Cressey 2008). A federal US court has found that the US Navy's use of sonar has illegally harmed numerous populations of whales, dolphins, seals and sea lions (Morell 2015). When beluga are present in Frobisher Bay, the use of sonar by military and other ships should be prohibited from the time that they enter the bay until they leave.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation: Limited Use

Proposed Restrictions:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea;
- Sonar
- Moorings;
- Related research except Non-Exploitive Scientific Research

Conditions:

- Closed to all ship traffic, smaller vessels and watercraft all year, except for to access the communities of Hall Beach and Igloolik, and for emergency search and rescue purposes.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate any of these conditions is prohibited.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Area of Interest –Beluga and Narwhal Harvesting:

As per the attached maps and associated shp files.

References:

Cressey, D. 2008. Sonar does affect whales, military report confirms. Nature.
doi:10.1038/news.2008.997.
Morell, V. 2015. U.S. Navy to limit sonar testing to protect whales. Science.
doi:10.1126/science.aad1763

Date of this draft: February 10,2023

Submission QWB-QIA 2023-B-05

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 24

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

**Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area
(Cumberland Sound), Pangnirtung**

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

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

Background Information:

Below is a bulleted list of the features of this area:

- Cumberland Sound should be protected as a Community Area of Interest or Wildlife Harvest Area based on extensive Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit.
- The designation should reflect the importance of many species including turbot, beluga whales, seals, bowhead whales, Arctic char and other fish, and migratory birds.
- The wintering areas used by beluga at the mouth of the Sound should be included.
- The entire area should be protected from shipping from Ukiaq to Upingaaq.
- Beluga, bowheads and other marine mammals and birds migrate throughout the Sound.
- Islands in the Sound should be protected from industrial development as this would impact the marine environment.

The 2021 DNLUP failed to give adequate protection to the Sound. Without protection of these waters and islands, the final Nunavut Land Use Plan would 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.

Below we describe the designation and restrictions for this area that should be implemented in the final NLUP.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit

Proposed Designation: Limited Use Area

Proposed Restrictions:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Seismic Testing;
- Sonar;
- Disposal at sea;
- Obnoxious Land Use;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;
- Linear Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-Exploitive Scientific Research

Conditions:

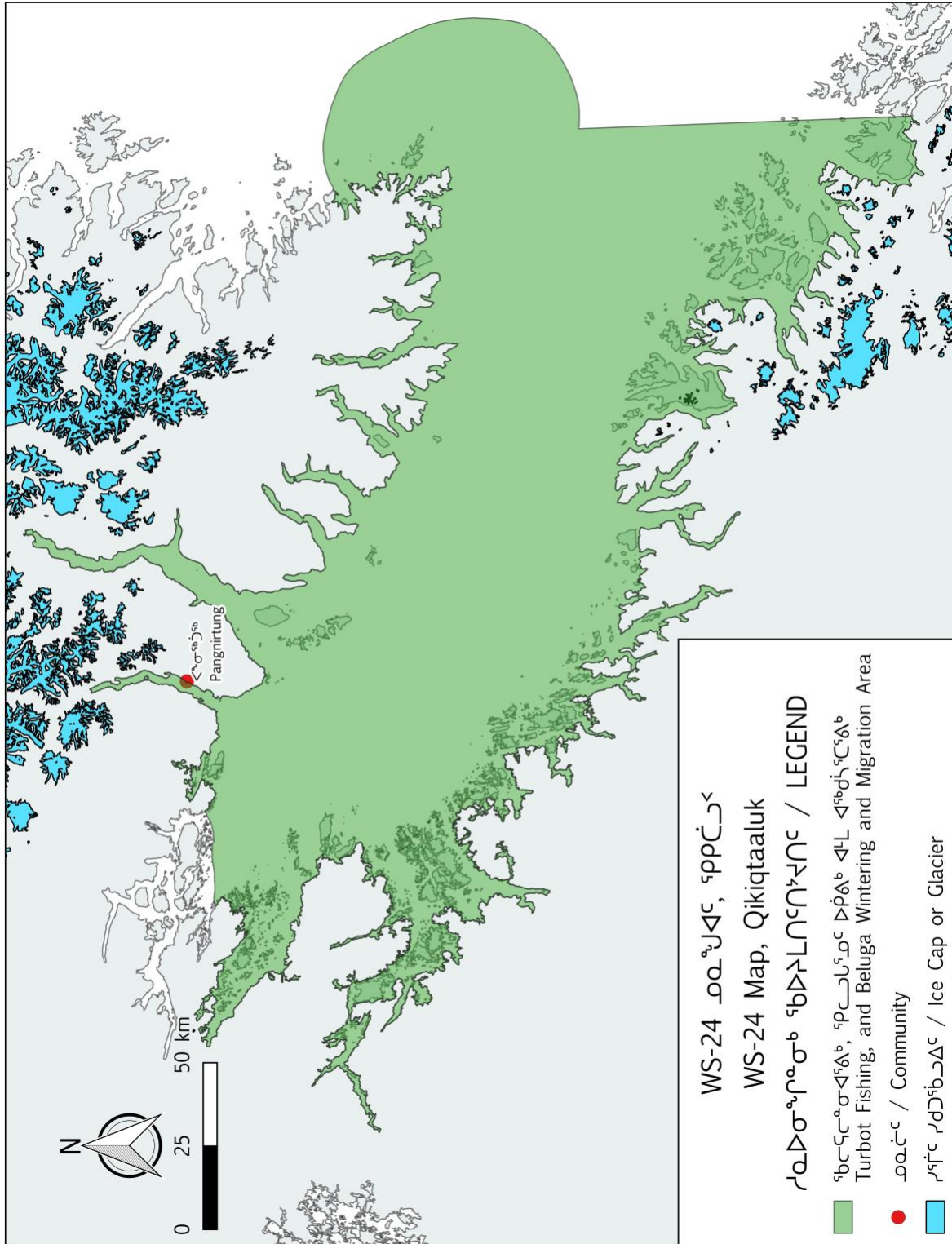
- Closed to all ship traffic during Ukiq, Ukiq, Upiqsaaq and Upiqsaaq.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area (Cumberland Sound), Pangnirtung

The waters and islands of Cumberland Sound and its fiords, inlets and bays, and the Beluga wintering area in Davis Strait, as per the attached maps and associated shp files.

Note: It is assumed that the Clearwater Beluga Calving and Post-calving Area (WS 22), and the Kingnait Bowhead Calving and Mating Area (WS 23) will also be designated in the FNLUP to recognize their special values and the prohibition of shipping during Aujaq and Ukiqsaaq in those areas.

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023



Submission QWB-QIA 2023-B-06

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 26

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area (Bearded Seal), Sanikiluaq

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: Limited Use

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, Upingaksaaq, and Upingaaq.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area (Bearded Seal), Sanikiluaq:

As per the attached maps and associated shp files.

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023



Submission QWB-QIA 2023-B-07

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 27

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

**Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area (Ringed Seal),
Igloolik**

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

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

Background Information:

Ringed seals are highly valued by Inuit across Nunavut. The Inuit of Igloolik has three specific areas that are especially important for harvesting ringed seals. 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 areas where Inuit of Igloolik harvest ringed seals is critically important to maintain the health, culture and heritage of the Inuit of Igloolik. Industrial development in or near these areas would degrade the value of the areas. Such development must be prohibited in the waters and on the adjacent islands.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation: Limited Use

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

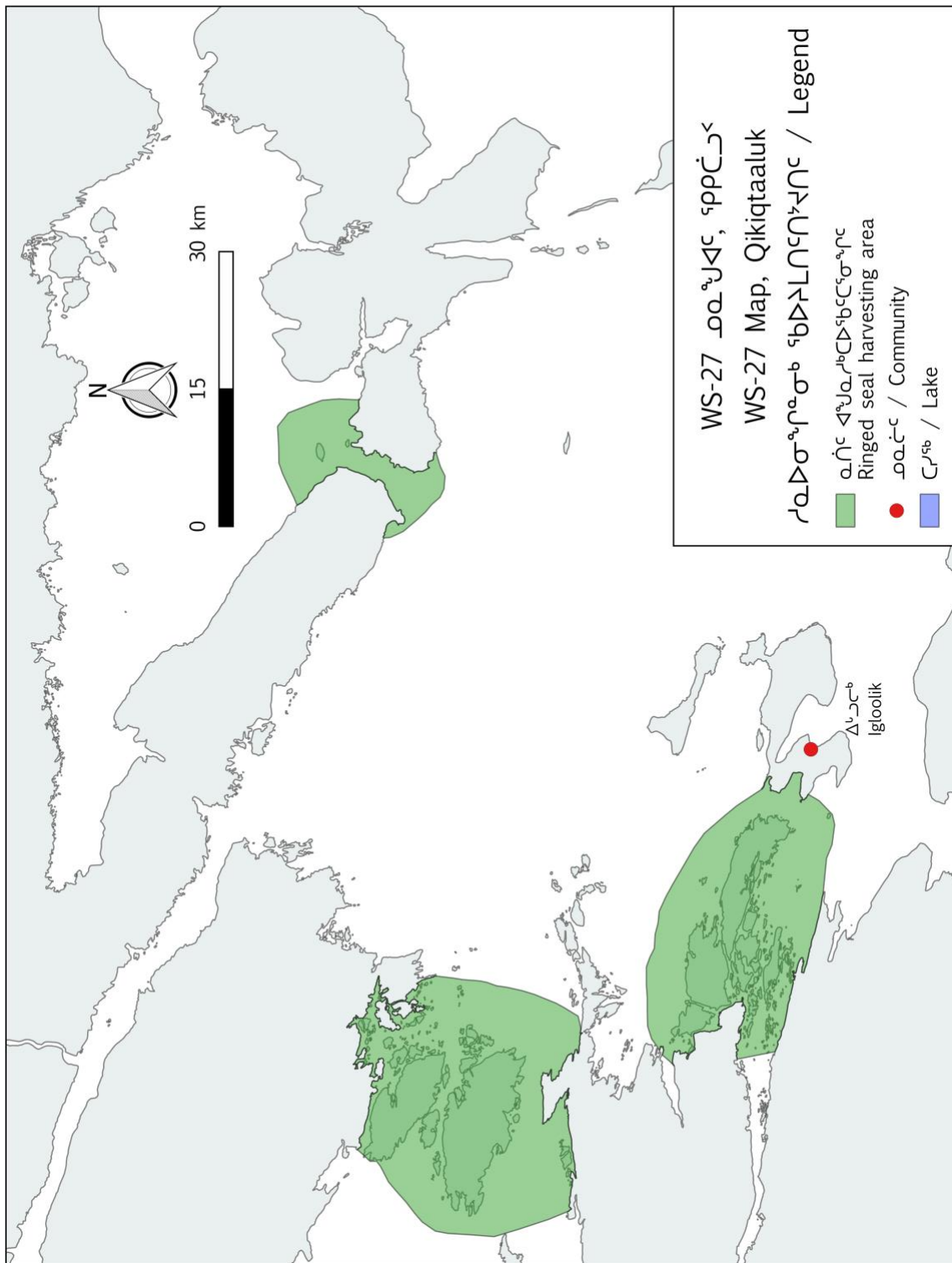
Conditions:

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

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area (Ringed Seal), Igloolik:

As per the attached maps and associated shp files.

Date of this draft: February 10, 2022



Submission QWB-QIA 2023-B-08

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 29

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas
(Landlocked Fish), Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, Pond Inlet, Qikiqtarjuaq,
Pangnirtung, Iqaluit, Kimmirut, Kinngait, Sanikiluaq, Sanirajak and Igloolik

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

From: The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB), and
the Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTOs) of Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, Pond
Inlet, Qikiqtarjuaq, Pangnirtung, Iqaluit, Kimmirut, Kinngait, Sanikiluaq, Sanirajak
and Igloolik

Background Information:

Arctic char and other fish are staple foods for Inuit. Fish are extremely important to the health, culture and economy of Inuit throughout Qikiqtaaluk Region. Without adequate protection of the lakes, rivers, and watersheds where Inuit harvest Arctic Char and other species (e.g., Arctic Cod, Whitefish), the Nunavut Land Use Plan would fail in its goal to protect and promote the well-being of all of Nunavut's residents, a primary purpose of land use planning under Article 11 of the Nunavut Agreement.

The Inuit of the Qikiqtaaluk Region utilize specific lakes and rivers to harvest landlocked Arctic Char, Atlantic cod and other fish throughout the year.

Landlocked Arctic Char, cod and other landlocked species must be protected from potential development impacts:

- in the lakes and rivers where Inuit harvest them, and
- upstream from the fishing areas in their catchment basins, where development could have detrimental impacts on water flow, sedimentation and effluent on the fishing areas.

After extensive discussions with HTOs in Qikiqtaaluk Regional, the QWB and HTOs propose a two-stage protective regime for landlocked fish in catchment basins where Inuit harvest this resource:

- Protected Areas, extending up to 5 km around each fishing lake and river, restricted to the limits of the lateral and upstream basin.

- Special Management Areas, extending upstream in the basin of each fishing lake and river up to 50 km from the farthest upstream fishing area.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation 1: Limited Use (LU)

Proposed Restrictions for LU Designation:

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; and
- Related research except Non-Exploitive Scientific Research

Proposed Designation 2: Conditional Use (CU)

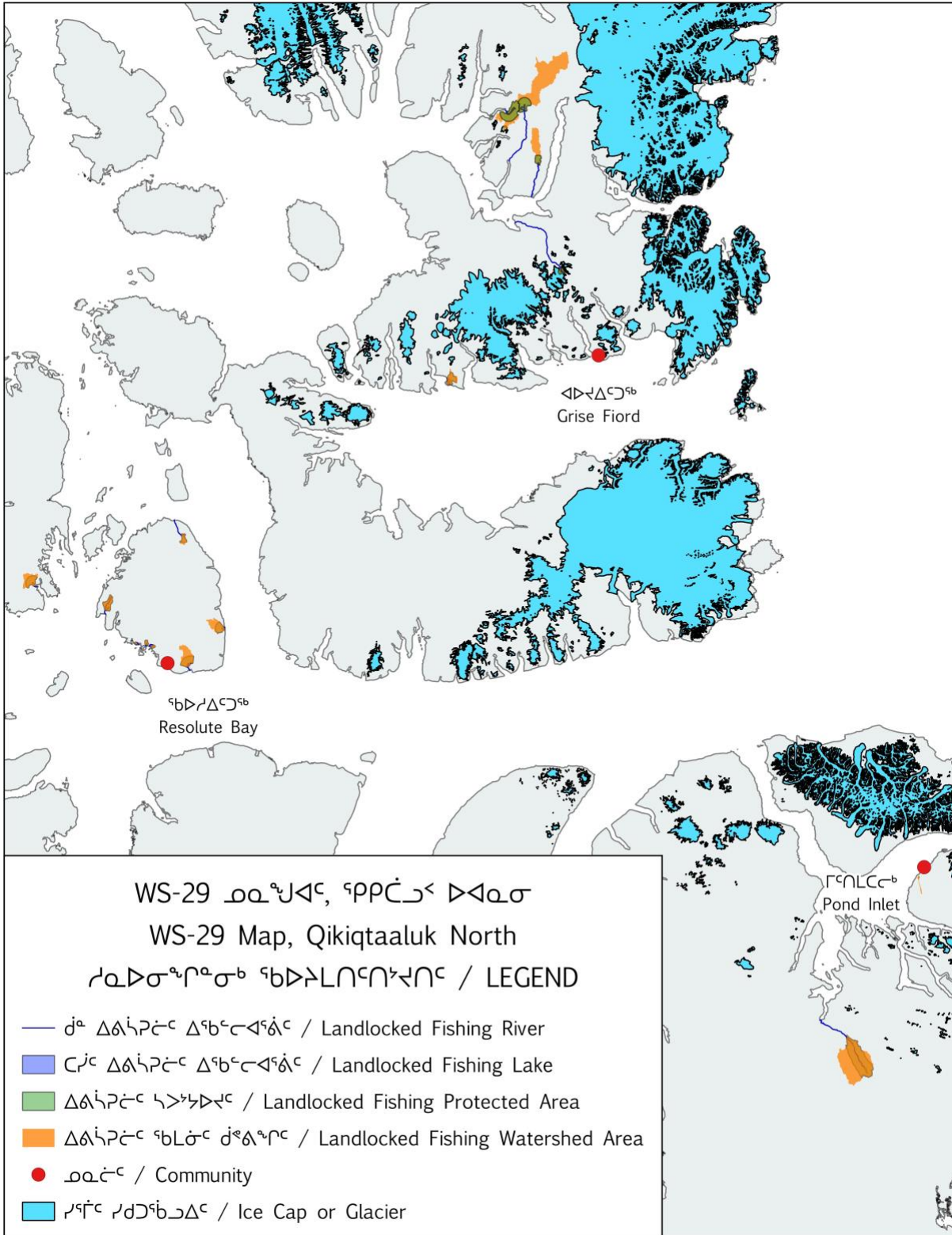
Proposed Restrictions for CU Designation:

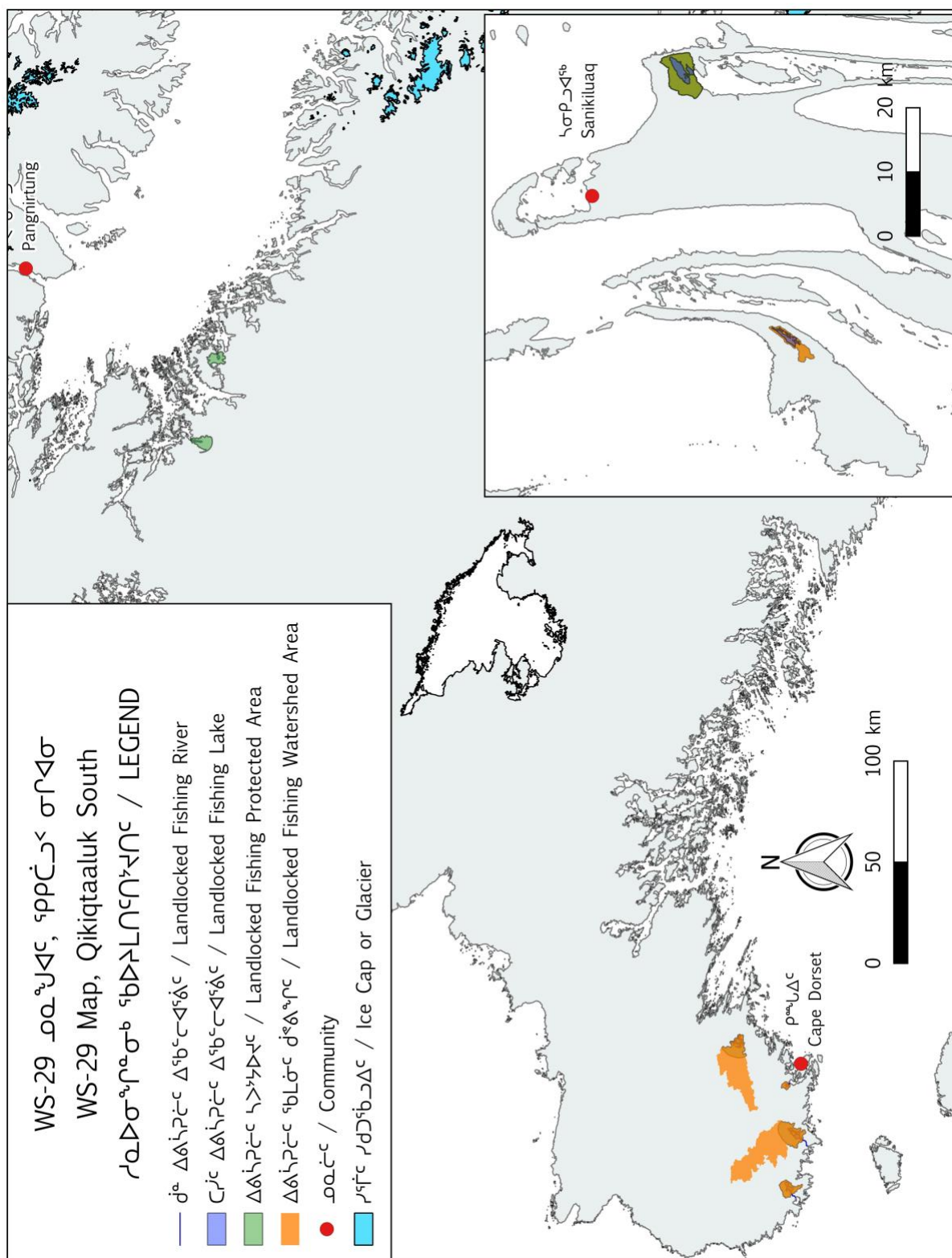
- **Conditions:** Within the fishing watershed up to 50 km upstream from any fishing lake or river, Arctic char and other fish populations harvested by Inuit must not be impacted by any of the following land uses:
 - Mineral Exploration and Production;
 - Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
 - Quarries;
 - Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure; and
 - Linear Infrastructure.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate any of these conditions is prohibited.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Landlocked Fish):

See pairs of Landlocked Fish Protected Areas and Special Management Areas on the attached maps and the associated shp files.

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023.





Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 30

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas
Blunt Peninsula – Loks Land, Iqaluit

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

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

Background Information:

Multiple resources that are highly valued by the Inuit of Iqaluit occur on the land and in the adjacent waters of Blunt Peninsula, Loks Land and nearby islands. The important waters extend to at least 8 km from Blunt Peninsula, Loks Land and the outer-most associated islands.

Without protection of this Wildlife Harvesting Area, 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.

Throughout the year, this Area is an important community harvesting area for wildlife and fish, including but not limited to: polar bears, beluga, walrus, Arctic char, waterfowl, caribou and other species. The area is also a known denning area for polar bears.

The protection of this area is critically important to maintain the health, culture and heritage of the Inuit of Iqaluit. Industrial development in or near these areas would degrade the value of the area. Such development must be prohibited.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation: Limited Use

Proposed Restrictions:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Obnoxious Land Use;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;
- Wind turbines for electrical generation and related infrastructure;
- Linear Infrastructure;
- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea;
- Sonar; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research

Conditions:

- Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, during Ukiaq, Ukiuq, Upingaksaq, and Upingaaq.
- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 2 (as amended based on WS-14 from the QWB and member HTOs) for all seabirds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during the issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.
- No vessel may approach within five (5) km seaward of a walrus haul-out, any time during the year.
- When walrus are present, fixed wing aircraft must maintain a minimum vertical setback of 460 m (1500 ft) above ground level (AGL) while within 310 m (1000 ft) of a group of walrus. Helicopters should remain at altitudes greater than 910 m (3000 ft) AGL when traveling within 1,610 m (1 mile) of a group of walrus.
- When walrus are present, walrus must not be approached by terrestrial vehicles closer than 800 m (0.5 mile) while the vehicle remains out of sight of the walrus.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area (Blunt Peninsula-Loks Land), Iqaluit:

As per the attached maps and associated shp files.

References:

Cressey, D. 2008. Sonar does affect whales, military report confirms. Nature.
doi:10.1038/news.2008.997.

Morell, V. 2015. U.S. Navy to limit sonar testing to protect whales. Science.
doi:10.1126/science.aad1763

Schuster, E., Bulling, L. and Köppel. 2015. Consolidating the State of Knowledge: A Synoptical Review of Wind Energy's Wildlife Effects. J. Environmental Management 56: 300.

Tabassum-Abbasi, M.T, T. Abbasi and S.A. Abbasi. 2014. Wind energy: Increasing deployment, rising environmental concerns. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews 31: 270-288.

Wang, S. and S. Wang. 2015. Impacts of wind energy on environment: A review. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews. 49: 437-443.

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023

Submission QWB-QIA 2023 – B - 10

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 32

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas
(Meta incognita Peninsula), Kimmirut

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

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

Background Information:

Multiple resources that are highly valued by the Inuit of Kimmirut occur on the coastal areas of Meta Incognita Peninsula. These areas extend from the nearshore islands in Hudson Strait inland up the many valleys mainly to where elevations reach 300 m (1000 ft) above sea level (asl),

Throughout the year, this area is an important Wildlife Harvesting Area for species including but not limited to: caribou, polar bears, Arctic char, waterfowl and other species. Polar bears den within this area.

The protection of this Wildlife Harvesting Area is critically important to maintain the health, culture and heritage of the Inuit of Kimmirut. Industrial development in or near these areas would degrade the value of the area. Such development must be prohibited.

Without protection of this area, 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.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation: Limited Use

Proposed Restrictions:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Obnoxious Land Use;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;
- Linear Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research

Conditions:

- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 2 (as amended based on WS-14 from the QWB and member HTOs) for all seabirds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during the issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Area of Interest – Multiple Values Area: Meta Incognita Peninsula:

The coastal areas of Meta Incognita Peninsula from McKellar Bay east to East Bluff and then north to the mouth of Hendersen Inlet including near-shore islands in Hudson Strait (not colored green on map but included in the area), and extending from the shoreland inland to about 300 m asl, as per the attached map and associated shp file. Note that we generally limited the designated area to valleys where 300 m contour lines are greater than 2 km wide, but we did include “islands” of land that may be higher than 300 m when surrounded by lower land (e.g., butte, monadnock, inselberg, etc.).

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023

Submission QWB-QIA 2023 – B - 11

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 33

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Melville Peninsula), Sanirajak

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

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

Background Information:

Multiple resources are highly valued by the Inuit of Sanirajak in three areas . One of these areas, Roche Bay, (33A) is a marine area with islands south of the hamlet of Sanirajak. Area 33B is another marine area with included islands north of the hamlet, and 33C is a terrestrial area west of Sanirajak.

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

All of these Areas are important community harvesting areas for wildlife, including but not limited to: ringed and bearded seals, beluga, caribou, polar bears, Arctic char, Arctic cisco (whitefish), lake trout, Arctic fox, ptarmigan, Arctic hare, snow geese, common eiders, Arctic terns, and other species.

All of these areas are critically important to maintain the health, culture and heritage of the Inuit of Sanirajak.

Industrial development in or near these areas would degrade their value. Such development must be prohibited.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation (for all Areas): Limited Use

Proposed Restrictions for Areas 33A and 33B:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Quarries;
- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea;
- Sonar; and
- All research including but not limited to Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Conditions:

- Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, during Ukiaksaq, Ukiaq, Ukiuq, Upingaksaq and Upingaaq.
- All ice-breaking must be prohibited.
- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the aerial, marine and terrestrial setbacks as per a modified Table 2⁴ for all migratory birds, all seabirds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.
- Any project or activity in Nunavut that would violate any of these conditions is prohibited.

Proposed Restrictions for Area 33C:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea;
- Sonar
- Quarries;
- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;
- Wind turbines for electrical generation and related infrastructure;
- Linear Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research

⁴ Modified Table 2 refers to a version of Table 2 that incorporates modifications recommended in Written Submission No. 14 from the QWB and its associated HTOs.

Conditions:

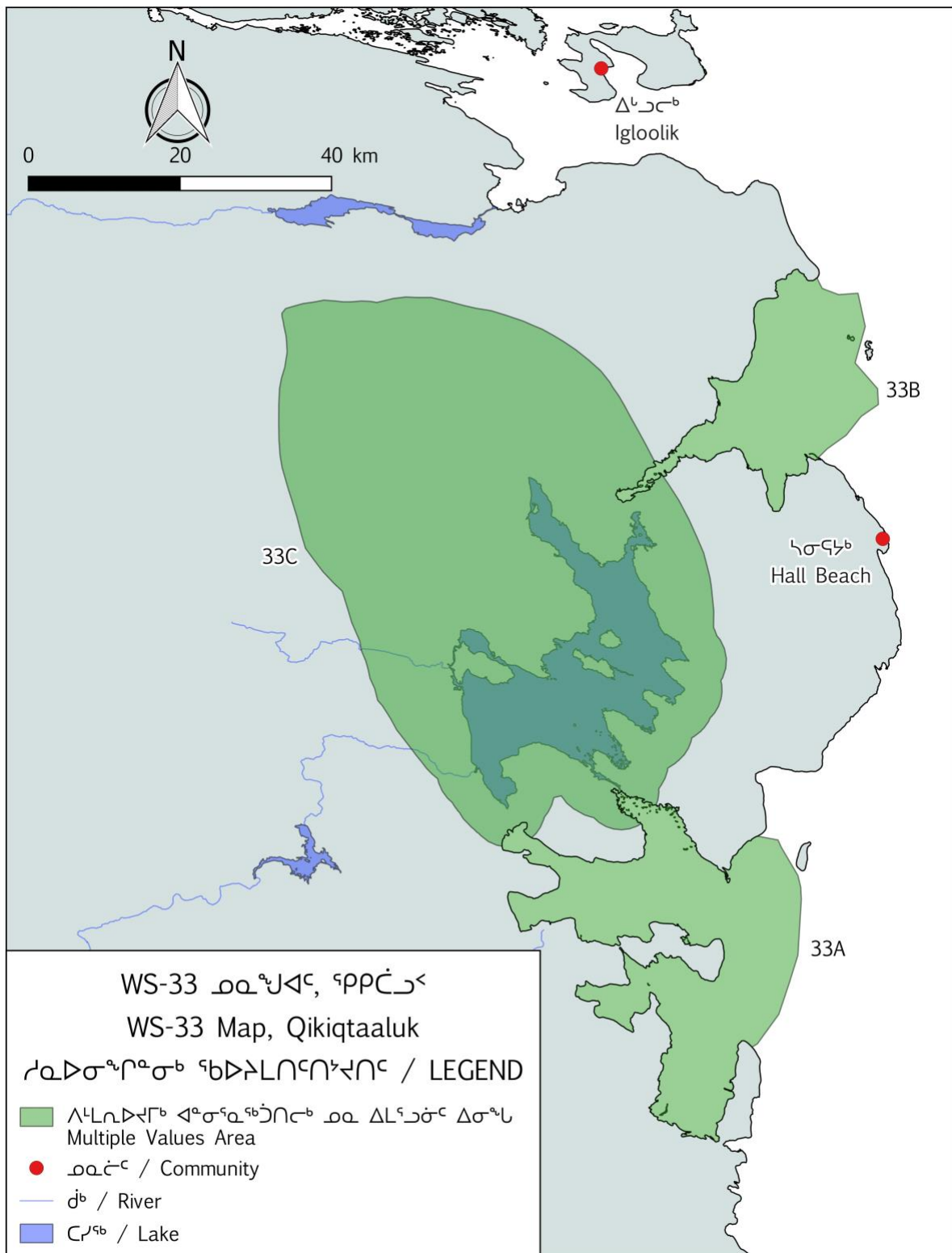
- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the aerial, marine and terrestrial setbacks as per a modified Table 2⁵ for all migratory birds, all seabirds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate any of these conditions is prohibited.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Melville Peninsula), Sanirajak

As per the attached maps and associated shp files

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023

⁵ Modified Table 2 refers to a version of Table 2 that incorporates modifications recommended in Written Submission No. 14 from the QWB and its associated HTOs.



Submission QWB-QIA 2023 – B - 12

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 34

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Bjorne – Bauman – Makinson, and Sverdrup – Truelove – Brae) Grise Fiord

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

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

Background Information:

Multiple resources are highly valued by the Inuit of Grise Fiord in two large Wildlife Harvesting Areas. One of these areas (34A) is on Ellesmere Island and includes Bjorne Peninsula in the west, and extends mainly to the east in an irregular shape to Makinson Inlet. The second area (34B) is on Devon Island to the Ice Cap and out to 10 km off Devon Island into Jones Sound, starting from the peninsula west of Sverdrup Inlet eastward into Brae Bay.

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

Both of these Areas are important community Wildlife Harvesting Areas for species including but not limited to: Peary caribou, muskoxen, Arctic char, polar bears and migratory birds. The coastal islands, sea-ice and marine waters of Area 34B are very important areas for walrus (including haul-outs), polar bears, marine mammals and birds.

Both of these areas are critically important to maintain the health, culture and economy of the Inuit of Grise Fiord.

Industrial development in or near these areas would degrade their value. Such development must be prohibited.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation: Limited Use

Proposed Restrictions:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Obnoxious Land Use;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;
- Linear Infrastructure;
- Seismic testing (MVA 34B only);
- Disposal at sea (MVA 34B only);
- Sonar (MVA 34B only); and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research

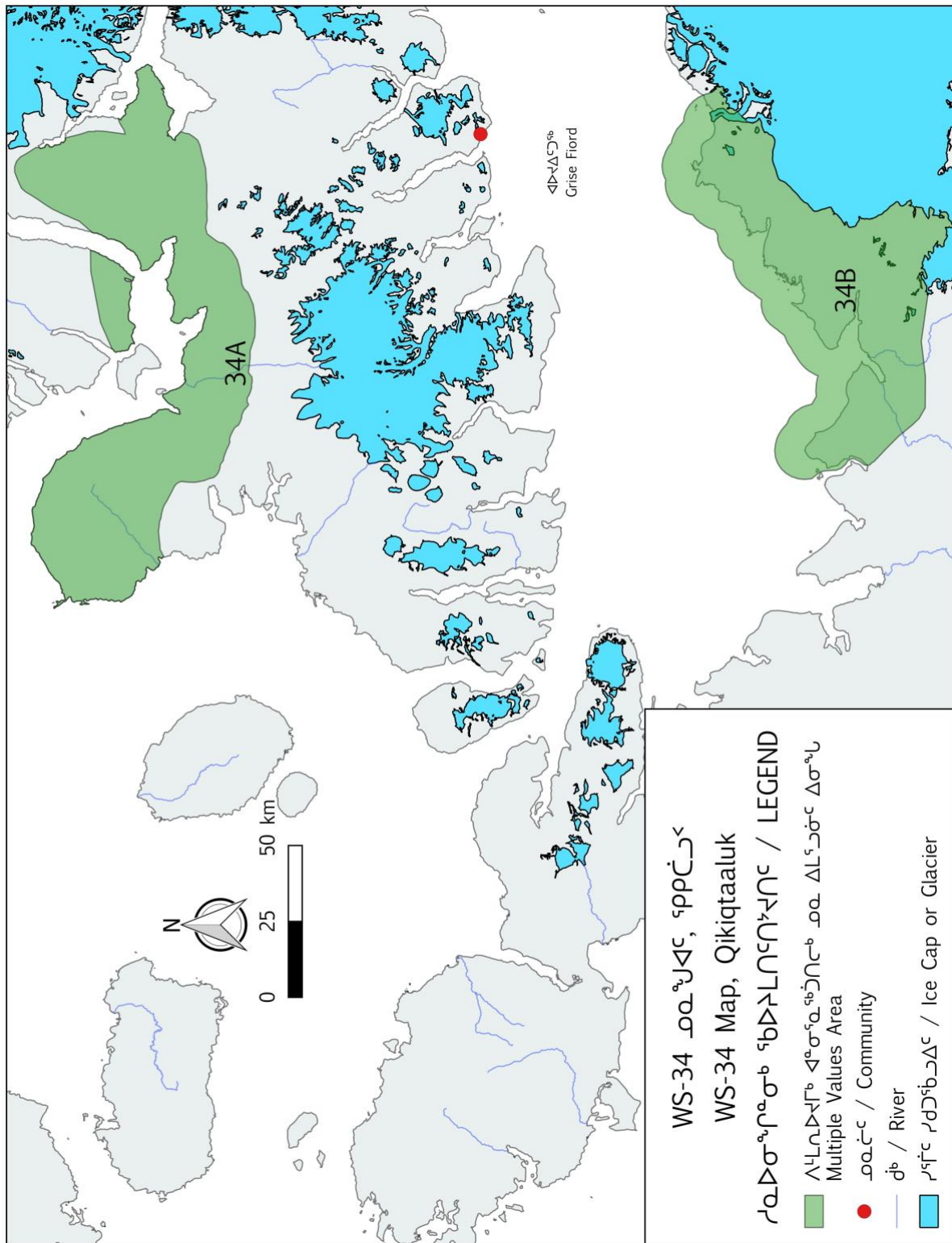
Conditions:

- Area 34B only: Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, during Ukiag, Ukiuq, Upingaksaaq, and Upingaaq .
- Area 34B only: Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 2 (as amended based on WS-13 from the QWB and member HTOs) for all seabirds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during the issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Bjorne – Bauman – Makinson, and Sverdrup – Truelove – Brae) Grise Fiord:

- 34A: On Ellesmere Island from Bjorne Peninsula south and east of Bauman and Sor fiords, north, south and east of Stenkul Fiord, and east to Makinson Inlet, north and west of and including Swinnerton Peninsula, based on attached map and associated shp file.
- 34B: From Sukause Island and the fiord west of Cape Svarten and Sverdrup Inlet, southeast and then east to the Devon Island Ice Cap, extending north 10 km off the coast of Devon Island into Jones Sound, then east past Truelove Inlet to Brae Bay to about 6.2 km east of Sverdrup Glacier, based on attached map and associated shp file.

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023



Submission QWB-QIA 2023 – B - 13

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 40

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Home Bay, and Merchants Bay), Qikiqtarjuaq

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

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

Background Information:

Multiple resources are highly valued by the Inuit of Qikiqtarjuaq in two areas. One of these areas (40A) includes both marine and terrestrial resources in and around Home Bay, while the other area (40B) also includes marine and terrestrial areas in the fiords south of Merchants Bay.

Without protection of these two areas, plus others important to the Inuit of Qikiqtarjuaq, 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.

Both Home Bay with its fiords extending to the west (40A) area and Merchants Bay with its four major fiords extending to the south (40B) have been major harvesting and cultural centres for Inuit of the Qikiqtarjuaq region since time immemorial. The waters and islands of these areas are important for narwhal calving and harvesting areas, polar bear summer and winter habitats, bowhead whale feeding areas, summer marine waters for Arctic char, and homes for ringed, bearded, harp and hooded seals, and killer whales. Inuit harvest eggs and meat from King and Common Eiders and Arctic Terns on several islands. Several rivers that flow into Home Bay (40A) and Padle Fiord (40B) are important harvesting areas for Arctic char for much of the year. Arctic cod are fished in the Merchants Bay area. The Inuit of Qikiqtarjuaq also harvest caribou in the coastal areas of Baffin Island among the fiords of Home Bay, usually up to 10 kms inland but sometimes farther. Inuit harvest both Snow and Canada Geese inland from Padle Fiord (40B), and Snow Geese inland from fiords in the Home Bay area (40A). Arctic hare and foxes are also harvested, while there are several walrus haul-outs, in both these areas.

Both of these areas are critically important to maintain the health, culture and heritage of the Inuit of Qikiqtarjuaq.

Industrial development in or near these areas would degrade their value. Such development must be prohibited.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation: Limited Use

Proposed Restrictions:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Obnoxious Land Use;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;
- Linear Infrastructure;
- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea;
- Sonar; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research

Conditions:

- Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, during Ukiaq, Ukiuq, Upingaksaq, and Upingaaq.
- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 2 (as amended based on WS-14 from the QWB and member HTOs) for all seabirds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during the issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.
- No vessel may approach within five (5) km seaward of a walrus haul-out, any time during the year.
- When walruses are present, fixed wing aircraft must maintain a minimum vertical setback of 460 m (1500 ft) above ground level (AGL) while within 310 m (1000 ft) of a group of walruses. Helicopters should remain at altitudes greater than 910 m (3000 ft) AGL when traveling within 1,610 m (1 mile) of a group of walruses.
- When walruses are present, walruses must not be approached by terrestrial vehicles closer than 800 m (0.5 mile) while the vehicle remains out of sight of the walruses.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Home Bay, and Merchants Bay), Qikiqtarjuaq:

- 40A: As per the attached maps and shp files, all waters, islands and coastal lands and glaciers enclosed in the mapped boundaries, extending at least 10 km inland from the marine high tide onto Baffin Island.
- 40B: As per the attached map and shp files, all waters, islands and coastal lands and glaciers enclosed in the mapped boundaries in Merchants Bay and its four major fiords, and extending inland about 16 km from the head of Padle Fiord to include the snow goose harvesting area as mapped.

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023

Submission QWB-QIA 2023 – B - 14

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 41

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Markham Bay – Western Hudson Strait – Foxe Channel), Kinngait and Kimmirut

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

From: The Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB), and the Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) of Kimmirut and Kinngait

Background Information:

Multiple harvested resources that are highly valued by the Inuit of Kimmirut and Kinngait occur on the islands and in the waters of Markham Bay, western Hudson Strait and Foxe Channel off the coast of Baffin Island. The important waters extend to at least 20 km from Baffin Island and the outer-most associated islands.

Without protection of this area, 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.

This Wildlife Harvesting Area includes a significant part of Nunavut's population of Common Eiders. Eiders occur in this area from Upingaksaq to Aujaq, inclusive. This Area also supports Kumlien's Gull and Black Guillemots. Throughout the year, this Wildlife Harvesting Area is an important for wildlife and fish, including but not limited to: Polar bears, beluga, walrus, Arctic char, common eiders and other waterfowl, ringed seals and more. This coastal area is known to Inuit to be an important migratory route for beluga, bowheads, narwhal and walrus moving between Davis Strait, Labrador Sea, Foxe Basin and Hudson Bay. Killer whales, harp seals and other species of marine mammals occur in this MVA. The area is also used as a denning area for Polar bears, although specific denning locations change somewhat between years.

Wildlife in the area are already subjected to impacts of marine shipping, which is expected to increase in future. Development on the islands or in these waters could deprive the Inuit of Kimmirut and Kinngait of important food and cultural resources.

The protection of this Wildlife Harvesting Areas is critically important to maintain the health, culture and heritage of the Inuit of these two communities. Industrial development in or near these areas would degrade the value of the area. Such development must be prohibited.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation: Limited Use

Proposed Amended Boundaries of Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Area (Markham Bay – Western Hudson Strait – Foxe Channel), Kinngait and Kimmirut:

This Area should extend from Markham Bay in the east, including all coastal islands and waters extending to 20 km from the outer-most islands off Baffin Island, to western Hudson Strait and Foxe Channel to 23.5 km east of Peregrine Point on Foxe Peninsula in southern Foxe Basin, as per the attached map and associated shp files.

Proposed Restrictions:

Prohibited Uses: The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Obnoxious Land Use;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;
- Wind turbines for electrical generation and related infrastructure;
- Linear Infrastructure;
- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea;
- Sonar; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research

Conditions:

- Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, during Ukiaq, Ukiuq, Upingaksaq, and Upingaaq.
- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 2 (as amended based on WS-14 from the QWB and member HTOs) for all seabirds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during the issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.
- No vessel may approach within five (5) km seaward of a walrus haul-out, any time during the year.
- When walrus are present, fixed wing aircraft must maintain a minimum vertical setback of 460 m (1500 ft) above ground level (AGL) while within 310 m (1000 ft) of a group of walrus. Helicopters should remain at altitudes greater than 910 m (3000 ft) AGL when traveling within 1,610 m (1 mile) of a group of walrus.
- When walrus are present, walrus must not be approached by terrestrial vehicles closer than 800 m (0.5 mile) while the vehicle remains out of sight of the walrus.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023

Submission QWB-QIA 2023 – B - 15

Updated from 2018 QWB Written Submission No. 42

2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Community Areas of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Belcher Islands), Sanikiluaq

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

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

Background Information:

Multiple resources that are highly valued by the Inuit of Sanikiluaq occur in several sounds and bays around the Belchers Island and on the islands within these waters. Generally, these important waters include but are not limited to: Churchill Sound, Coats Bay, Eskimo Harbour, Omaroluk Sound, waters south of Gushie Point, and contiguous waters east of Renouf Island, north and east of Wiegand Island, between Wiegand and Johnson islands and north to southern Laddie Island.

Throughout the year, these Wildlife Harvesting Areas are important to the community for harvesting wildlife and fish, including but not limited to: beluga, polar bears, bearded and ringed seals, walrus, waterfowl (e.g., common eiders, Canada geese), shellfish (e.g., blue mussels, usuk clams, kukiujuk clams, sea urchins, sea cucumbers, aajat starfish, scallops) and other species.

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 Areas 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.

Source of information: Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Proposed Designation: Limited Use

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;
- Wind turbines for electrical generation and related infrastructure;
- Linear Infrastructure;
- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea;
- Sonar; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research

Conditions:

- Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, during Ukiaq, Ukiuq, Upingaksaaq, and Upingaaq.
- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 2 (as amended based on WS-13 from the QWB and member HTOs) for all seabirds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during the issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.
- No vessel may approach within five (5) km seaward of a walrus haul-out, any time during the year.
- When walrus are present, fixed wing aircraft must maintain a minimum vertical setback of 460 m (1500 ft) above ground level (AGL) while within 310 m (1000 ft) of a group of walrus. Helicopters should remain at altitudes greater than 910 m (3000 ft) AGL when traveling within 1,610 m (1 mile) of a group of walrus.
- When walrus are present, walrus must not be approached by terrestrial vehicles closer than 800 m (0.5 mile) while the vehicle remains out of sight of the walrus.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Proposed Boundaries of the Community Area of Interest – Wildlife Harvesting Areas (Belcher Islands), Sanikiluaq:

As per the attached maps and associated shp files.

Date of this draft: February 10, 2023

