



Co-management as a Framework for Ecosystem Management of Arctic Resources: Experience from the Inuvialuit Region of Canada

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Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC)
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Alan Kennedy, Chairman, FJMC

Presentation Topics

- The Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA)
- The FJMC and Co-management of Renewable Resources
- Co-management encourages science and traditional knowledge as management tools
- Imaryuk Monitoring Program – A case study on Arctic ecosystem monitoring

Co-management in the Inuvialuit Settlement Area Policy Framework

- The Inuvialuit Land Settlement Agreement (IFA) established Co-management of renewable resources throughout the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR)
- The FJMC or Fisheries Joint Management Committee was established by the IFA established to manage fish and marine resources.
- Co-management is focused on sharing power and responsibilities between governments and local resource users.
- Co-managers have many roles: operations, decision making, giving advice and making recommending on fisheries and oceans.



Co-management in the Inuvialuit Settlement Area Implementation

- Co-management bodies exist at the boarder of two worlds: the government, and the indigenous communities, and they must facilitate collaboration between the parties
- Responsibilities in both worlds and bridge the gap between the two:
 - Members appointed by the government and by the indigenous people;
 - Use scientific knowledge and traditional knowledge;
 - Bring together community members and resource users with: scientists, biologists, government managers, industry, non governmental agencies (NGOs) to address common issues.



Co-management in the Inuvialuit Settlement Area

FJMC bridges Science and Traditional Knowledge

- FJMC Co-management practices combine scientists with TK sources which is the best opportunity for engaging public, Indigenous peoples and governmental institutions
- FJMC brings TK and Science together on a continuum of fisheries and environmental management decision making from simple permitting and licencing to whale watching guidelines, to community fishing plans, to regional environmental assessments to integrated decision making that help to influence public attitudes
- Canada benefits from a comprehensive approach to incorporate TK into natural resource decision making



Co-management in the Inuvialuit Settlement Area

FJMC Co-management Example

- The Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway in ISR brings Canadians to the Arctic Ocean but also brings threats of overfishing and impacts to ecosystems
- FJMC and Hunters and Trappers Committees and NGO establish the Imaryuk Monitoring Program as long term community based co-management of fisheries along the highway





FISHERIES JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Imaryuk Monitoring Program

Monitoring the Inuvik Tuktoyaktuk Highway-
an example of community based management and monitoring

Gerald Inglangasuk
Fisheries Joint Management Committee

Inuvialuit Settlement Area Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway - Location Map



MONITORING TEAM



Inuvik Monitors:
Sammy Lennie,
Angus Alunik & Daniel Rogers

Tuktoyaktuk Monitors:
Lennie Emaghok,
Josh Teddy & Bella Elias



IMARYUK – HUSKY LAKE

- **Unique ecosystem- only place with salt water trout in the world**
- **Constructing the first road to the Arctic Ocean raised concerns**
- **ITH traverses Inuvialuit Private Lands**
- **Tuktoyaktuk Inuvik Working Group set the stage for Community Fishing Plan**
- **Purpose of the plan: “ensure that the access to the land created by the ITH does not increase fishing pressure and negatively affect fish and fish habitat”**



One People One Plan: Inuvialuit Plan for Fishing on the ITH

- **Voluntary Subsistence Gillnetting Restrictions:**
- Husky Lakes: Seasonal gill net closures
- Other Areas: Year-round gill and dip net closures
- **Licensed Sport Fishing Recommendations:**
- Catch and Release for all fish species on Husky, Jimmy, Noell Lakes, and within 10 km of ITH
- No sport fishing during gill net closures
- Register plans to fish with local Hunters and Trappers Committees

GOING FISHING
along the new highway?

TUKTOYAKTUK

INUVIALLUIT SETTLEMENT REGION

IMARYUK (HUSKY LAKES)

INUVIALLUIT PRIVATE LANDS

JIMMY LAKE

NOELL LAKE

INUVIALLUIT SETTLEMENT REGION

INUVIK

The Community Fishing Plan
The Community Fishing Plan is a voluntary agreement between the Inuvialuit and the Government of Canada to manage the Inuvialuit Settlement Region's fisheries resources. It is a key component of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) and is designed to ensure that the Inuvialuit have a say in the management of their own fisheries resources.

Imaryuk Monitors
The Inuvialuit will monitor the Inuvialuit Settlement Region's fisheries resources. This includes monitoring the status of the fish stocks, the health of the fishery, and the impact of fishing on the environment. The Inuvialuit will also monitor the compliance of the fishing industry with the Community Fishing Plan.

Arctic char **Arctic cisco** **Arctic herring** **Arctic smelt** **Arctic whitefish** **Arctic cod**

You need to know about the Inuvialuit Community Fishing Plan.

Learn more at fjmc.ca

FJMC **TUKTOYAKTUK**



STEWARDS OF THE LAND

Activities:

- Eyes and ears of the land
- Communication of Community Fishing Plan
- Education on traditional beluga harvesting
- Daily highway patrols
- Traffic counts
- Wildlife and environmental observations
- Support to ITH Science Programs



Monitoring Results from 2018

Busy road to the Arctic Ocean:

- 40,000 km driven
- 944 Northbound vehicles
- 1000 pamphlets circulated

Observations:

- Fish bearing creeks identified
- Berry picking activity
- Dust accumulation
- Environmental changes



Lessons Learned

- Importance of the land and Husky Lakes
- Collaborative approach essential
- Monitoring using both science and traditional knowledge
- Respect traditional harvesting practices
- Read and follow the Community Fishing Plan

MOVING FORWARD

- Program extension for one year
- Winter focus shifting to education and outreach in local schools
- Patrols during spring ice fishing season
- Collaboration with existing community based programs
- Further training, specific to the program
- Long-term funding still required



<https://vimeo.com/304821992/28b3333d7d>





Quyaininni Thank you

