

Adaptive co-management of beluga in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region: John Noksana Jr., FJMC Member

Abstract:

The Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC) was established pursuant to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) for the co-management of fish and marine mammals in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR). As a result of the IFA, certain authorities have been transferred from the federal government to the FJMC, and the FJMC acts as a bridge between the Inuvialuit and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to ensure the resources are co-managed by these three main working partners for fish and marine mammals in the ISR. The FJMC beluga monitoring program is one example of co-management in the ISR that highlights how co-management efforts have built upon a harvest monitoring program and expanded it into a more robust and adaptive, ecosystem-scale management system that involves a wide-range of stakeholders.