

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board



CONSERVING WILDLIFE THROUGH THE APPLICATION OF INUIT
QAUJIMAJATUQANGIT AND SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE



Arctic Users Knowledge Meeting

1. How the NWMB works to bring Inuit Knowledge into decision-making
2. What plans are there to further strengthen involvement of Inuit in decision-making



Overview

1. Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
2. Co-Management in Nunavut
3. NWMB Decision-making Process
4. Challenges
5. Opportunities



NWMB: Mandate

Main instrument of wildlife management and regulator of access to wildlife in the Nunavut Settlement Area. Note, however, the relevant Minister has the final say.

- NWMB Vision: *Nunavut - a world class model for the cooperative management of healthy wildlife populations.*
- Responsibilities assigned by *Nunavut Agreement*:
 - Article 5, Wildlife;
 - Article 8, Parks;
 - Article 9, Conservation Areas;
 - Article 15, Marine Areas
- Institution of public government and independent tribunal



NWMB: Responsibilities

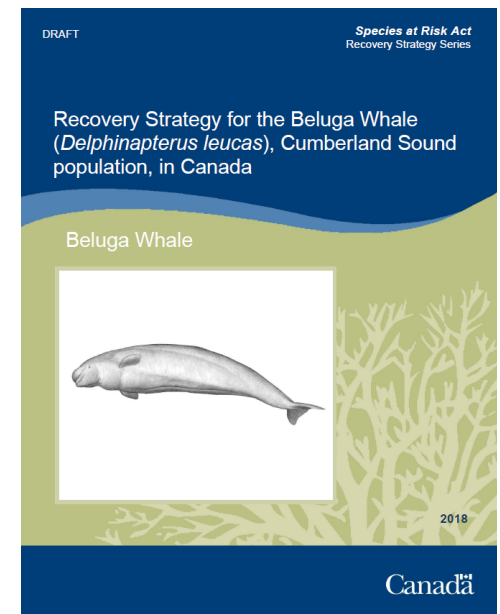
- Primary functions (5.2.33):
 - Participating in or facilitating wildlife research in Nunavut
 - Establishing/modifying/removing total allowable harvests and non-quota limitations
 - Establishing/adjusting basic needs levels
 - Allocating surplus
 - Conducting wildlife harvest studies





NWMB: Responsibilities

- Discretionary functions (5.2.34):
 - Approve boundaries of conservation areas
 - Advice to Nunavut Planning Commission regarding important wildlife areas
 - Approve management/protection plans for wildlife habitats including within Protected Areas
 - Management/designation/protection of rare, threatened and endangered wildlife
 - Establish qualifications respecting sport hunting guides





NWMB: Responsibilities

- Discretionary functions:
 - Provide advice to co-management partners and NIRB regarding mitigation measures and compensation related to commercial/industrial development impacts on wildlife habitat
 - Provide advice for the promotion of conservation education and training of Inuit for wildlife management





Co-Management in Nunavut

- Co-management partners: organizations with wildlife management responsibilities
 - Government, Inuit organizations
 - Communities, Non-Governmental Organizations, and public
- Making decisions and recommendations to Ministers
- Cooperatively conserve wildlife and habitat for the long-term benefit of Nunavummiut
- Respects Inuit harvesting rights and priorities
- Uses best available information: Inuit Qaujjimajatuqangit and science



Decision Making



- Decisions are made by the Board
- Quorum is five or more members (5.2.18)
- Holds 4 face-to-face meetings annually, Regular Meetings
- Conference calls when required
- Board makes decisions based on the best available scientific and Inuit Knowledge
- Relevant Minister has the final say

Government of Nunavut-
Department of Environment
presents Proposal for Decision
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Management Recommendations
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NWMB Consideration of Proposed
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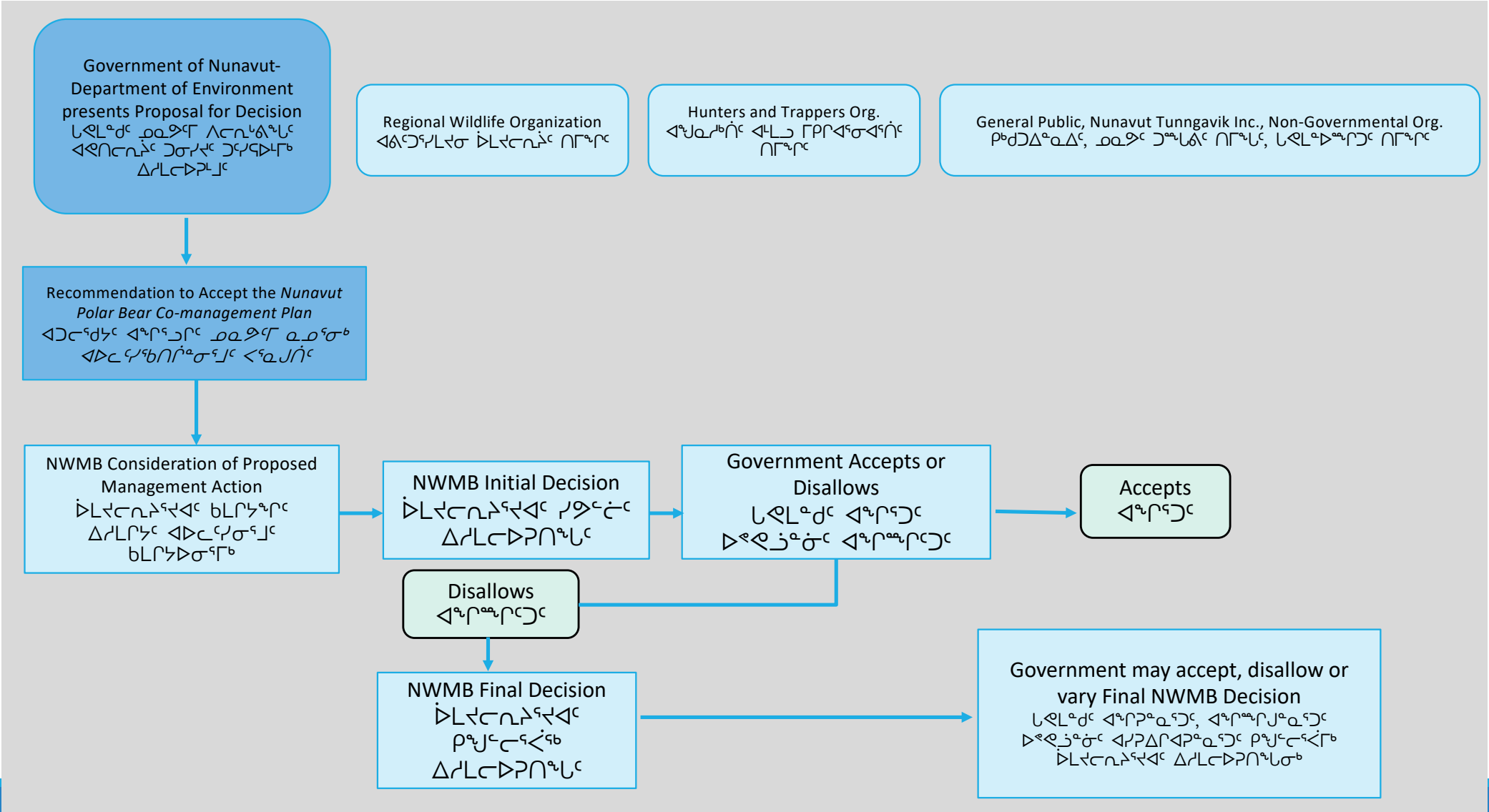
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NWMB Final Decision
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Recommendation to Accept the Nunavut
Polar Bear Co-management Plan
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NWMB Initial Decision
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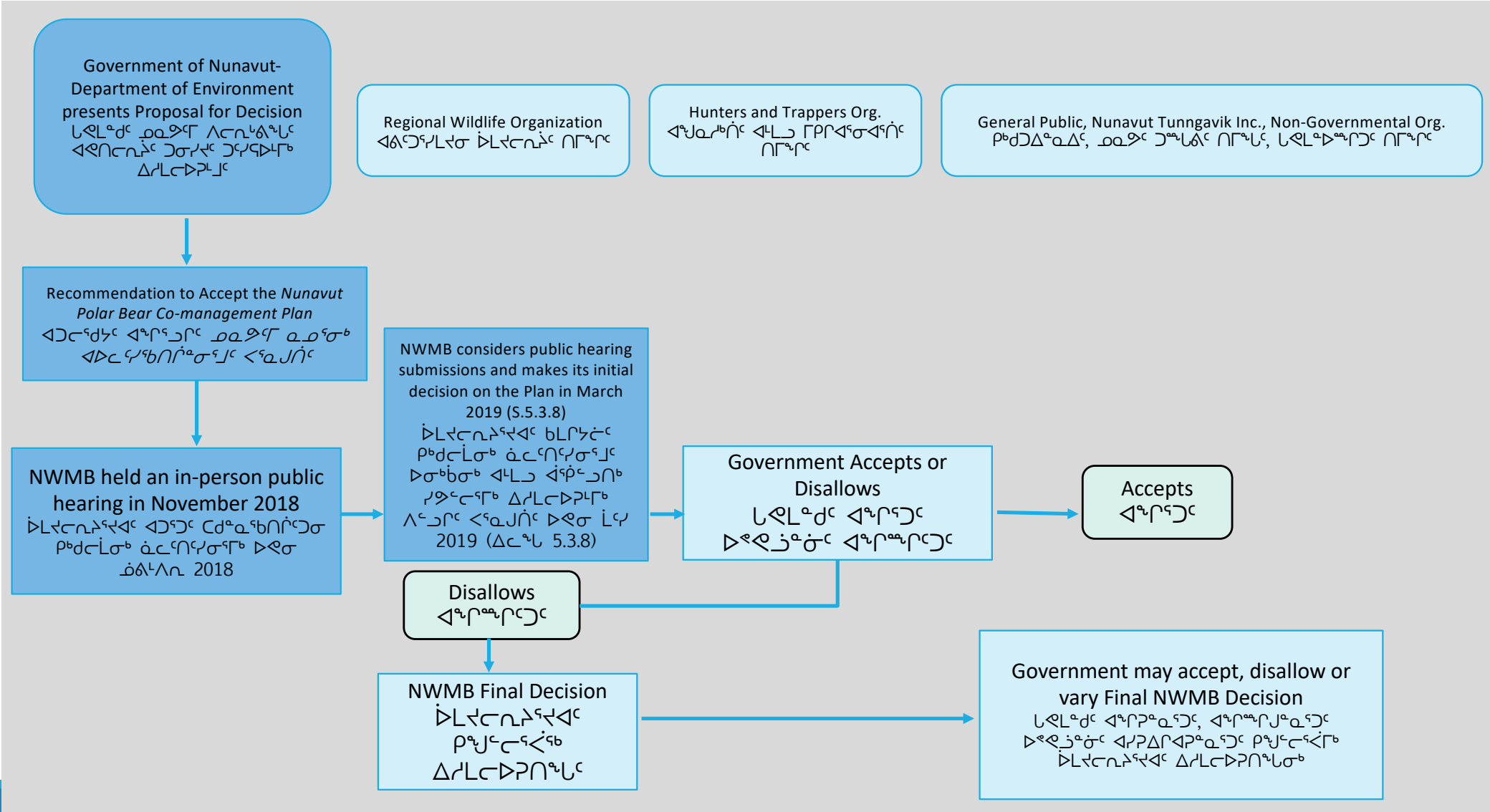
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NWMB Final Decision
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Recommendation to Accept the
Nunavut Polar Bear Co-management Plan
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NWMB considers public hearing
submissions and makes its initial
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Minister of Environment disallows
NWMB's initial decision (S.5.3.9)
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NWMB Final Decision
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Government of Nunavut-
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Regional Wildlife Organization
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General Public, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Non-Governmental Org.
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Recommendation to Accept the
Nunavut Polar Bear Co-management Plan
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Minister of Environment disallows
NWMB's initial decision (S.5.3.9)
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NWMB Final Decision
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Recommendation to Accept the
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Plan
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Minister of Environment disallows
NWMB's initial decision (S.5.3.9)
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Accepts
ᓄᓇᓅᓂᓄ

Disallows (S.5.3.9)
ᓄᓇᓅᓂᓄ ᓄᓇᓅᓂᓄ (ᓄᓄᓄᓄ 5.3.9)

NWMB Final Decision
(S.5.3.12)
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Government accepted NWMB
Decision (S.5.3.13)
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Decision Making



- Board's initial decisions are not to be made public (S.5.3.8 and 5.3.17)
- If the Board's initial decision is disallowed or rejected by the relevant Minister, the Board shall reconsider its decision in light of the Minister's reasons
- Board then makes a final decision
- Minister has authority to accept, reject/disallow or vary a Board's final decision

Challenges



11:30 am on February 5th, 2021 – KM97 Protest Location

Nunatsiaq News. February 11, 2021:
<https://nunatsiaq.com/stories/article/mary-river-mine-protesters-announce-end-to-blockade/>

Opportunities



- Community-based Monitoring Network
- Funding available for community-led project
- Funding available for Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Research
- Hiring IQ position
- Ongoing

Summary



Photo: M. Ghazal



- NWMB is an institution of public government and independent tribunal
- Works with co-management partners to carry out the responsibilities assigned to the NWMB under the *Nunavut Agreement*
- Open and transparent decision making
- Makes its decision on the best available information with Minister having final say
- Challenges and Opportunities
- Ongoing



Photo: M. Ghazal

QUESTIONS?