

Communities, Conservation & Livelihoods

May 30 , 2018

**Developing Community Fishing Plans for
the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway
Development**

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FISHERIES JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Presentation Outline

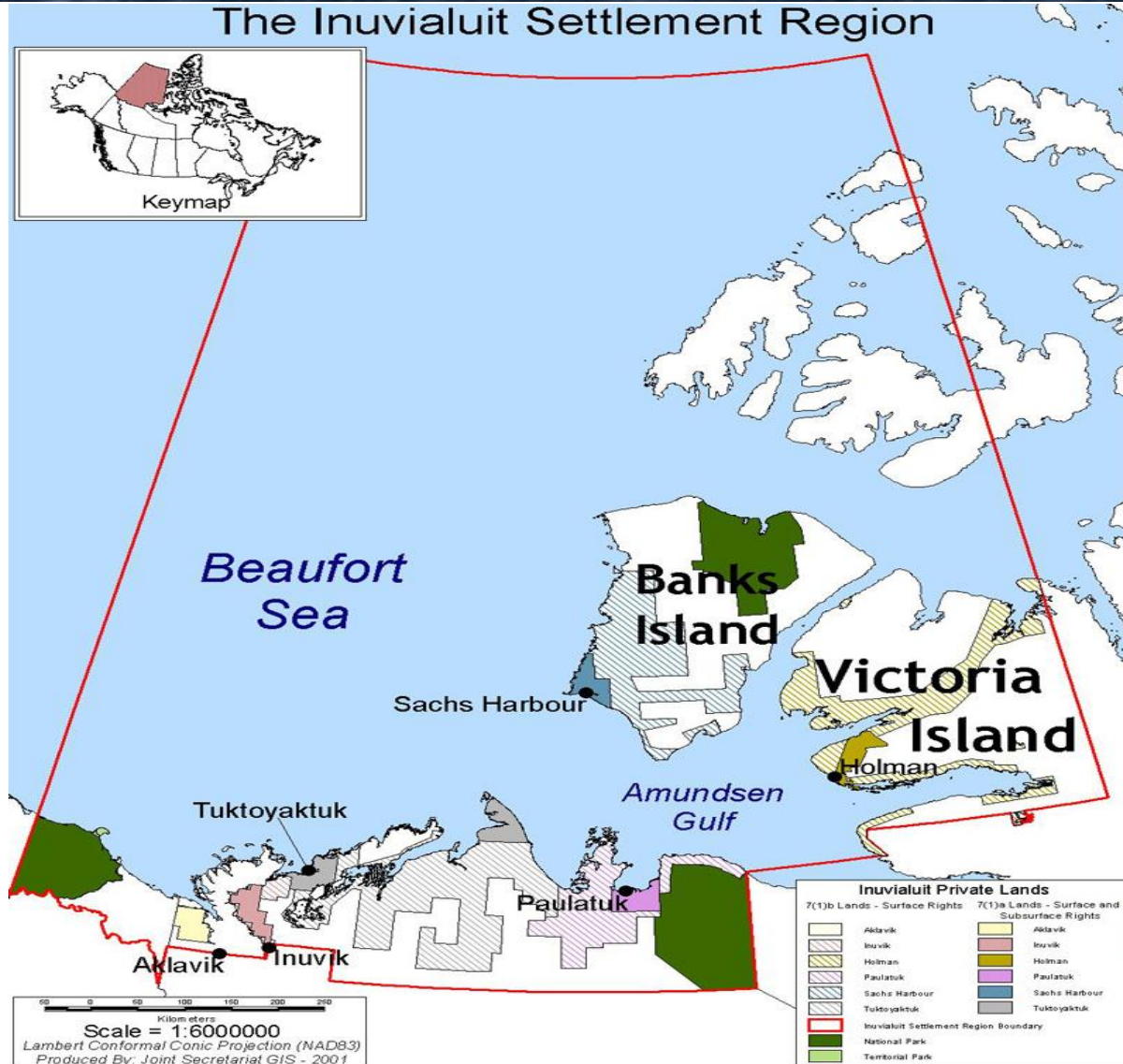
- **Background information**
- **Land Claim Governance structures**
- **Fisheries Joint Management Committee**
- **Inuvik –Tuk Highway project**
- **Community formed Fishing Plans**
- **Current Status for 2018**

Where are we?

Inuvialuit Settlement Region



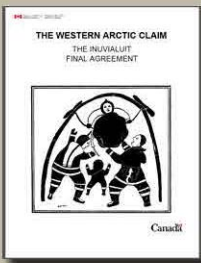
Inuvialuit Settlement Region



Inuvialuit Final Agreement



- Signed in 1984 –first Arctic Land Claim --created the Inuvialuit Settlement Region in Canada’s Western Arctic
- Co-managed by partners—Canada & Inuvialuit
- 1. Principles expressed by the Inuvialuit and recognized by Canada in concluding this Agreement:
 - (a) to preserve Inuvialuit cultural identity and values within a changing northern society;
 - (b) to enable Inuvialuit to be equal and meaningful participants in the northern and national economy and society; and
 - (c) to protect and preserve the Arctic wildlife, environment and biological productivity.
- Last factor is key in considering industrial or community developments that might impact resources and wildlife utilized by the Inuvialuit



The Co-management System

As established in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement



The Joint Secretariat provides administrative, technical and logistical support to Inuvialuit Organizations and Co-management Boards.



Responsibilities of the FJMC For Developments

- Work with the co-management bodies and communities to determine potential impacts of developments
- Present information to environmental screening processes
- Assist communities in implementing measures that protect and conserve the cultural and natural resources
- Monitor activities to ensure fisheries resources are sustained



FJMC Guideposts

- Precautionary principle
- Sustainable use –through both ways of knowing
- Positioning communities for success
- Capacity investment and development; resources, education, empowerment,
- Assist communities in managing and sustaining their resources
- Pathways; respect, trust, action

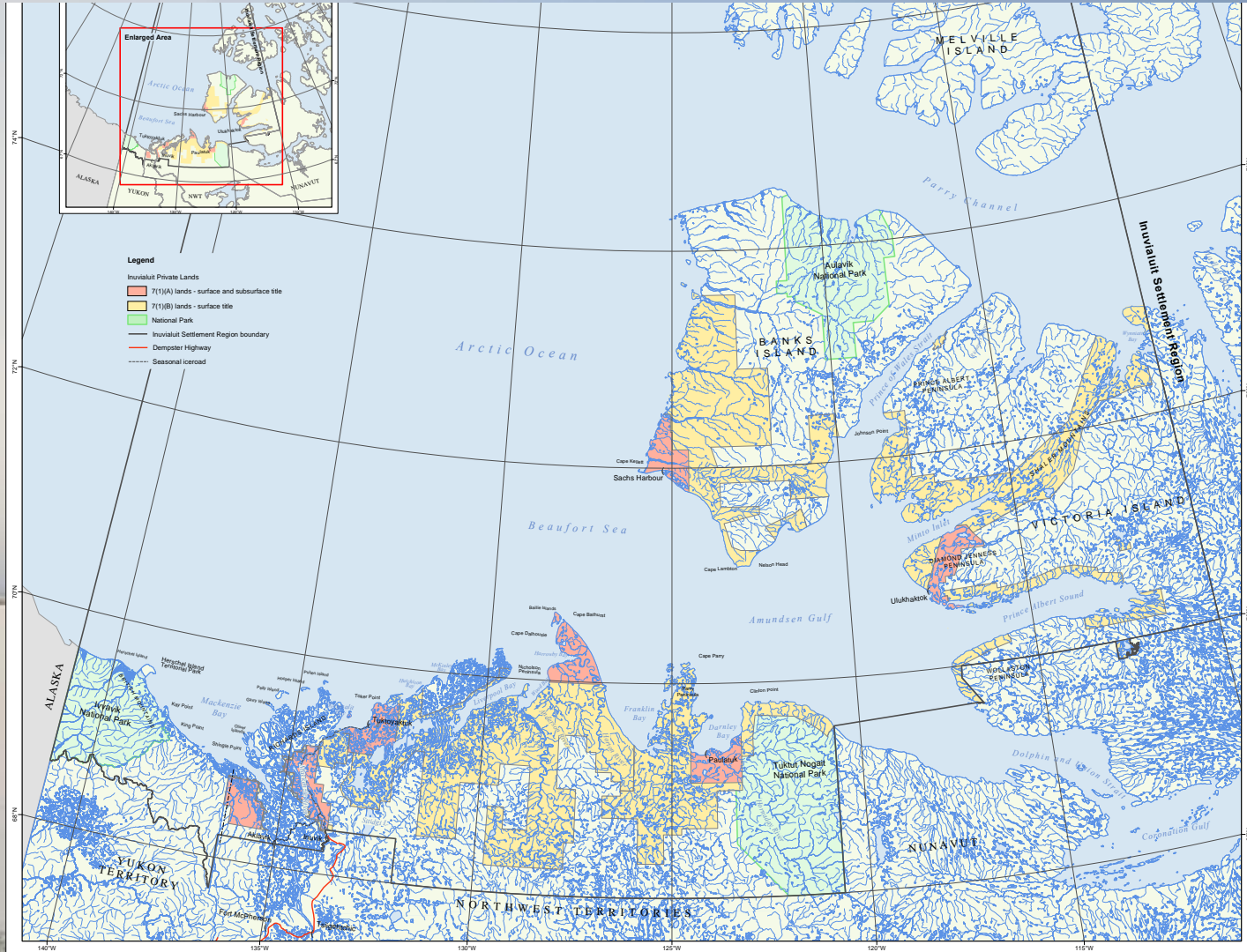
Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway

The Project:

A highway from Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk
Connecting Canada's Arctic Ocean by road



Inuvialuit Settlement Region Land Holdings



The Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway Background

- 1st Canadian Highway to the Arctic Coast
- 137 kilometers
- 367 water crossings
- Winter construction (166 days/season)
- Cost \$2.2 million/ kilometer

Rewards and Risks

- Completion of an all weather road link to Canada's Arctic Coast—coast to coast to coast
- Social and economic benefits to Canada and NWT—2 communities of Tuk and Inuvik—social and economic risks as well
- Cultural Risk—loss of historic fishing and wildlife practices
- Environmental Risk---damage to habitat, increased access to traditional fisheries, potential losses similar to other areas of NWT
- Impacts to private lands, access management etc

Inuvialuit Private Lands

Inuvialuit Private Lands in Proximity to the highway



Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway

Process: What was done and what was needed

- Environmental Review Process—done—not well
- Conditional Approval—done and highway built
- Protecting the resource—established integrated community working group
- Composition—Community Hunters and Trappers, regulators, co-management bodies, proponent
- Task: Figure out how to protect the resource from impacts of increased access and fishing

Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway

- Challenges
- Information deficit—both TK and Science
- No regulatory mechanism—DFO cannot support community fishing by-laws or regulations
- Voluntary compliance issues
- No enforcement capacity

Working Group

Actions:

- 2 years of meetings identify issues and provide recommendations
- Advice to Proponent & Communities during construction
- Identify the resource and the resource users, volume and location and timing
- Create voluntary community fishing plans –vetted and approved by community members and harvesters
- Inform and educate all agencies and users
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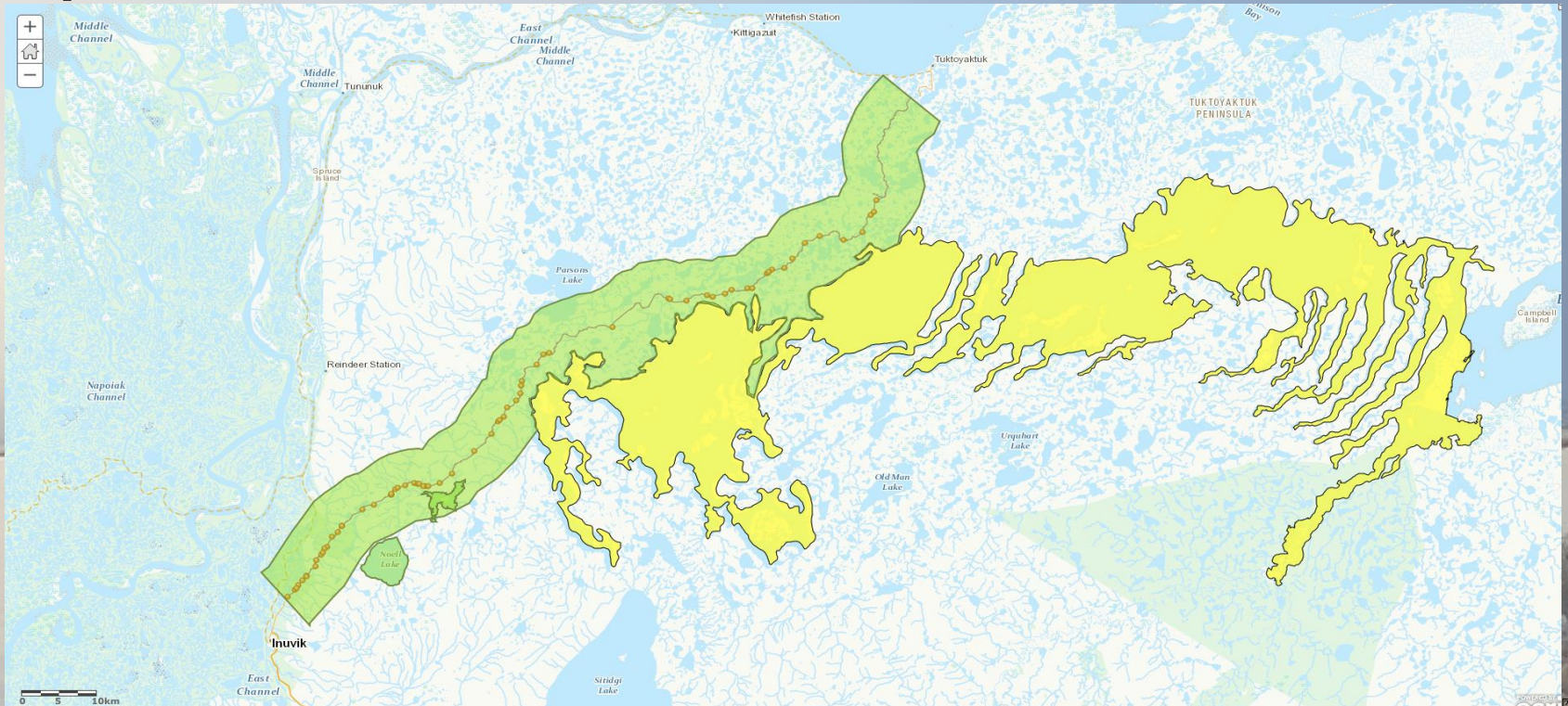
RESULTS

- Community Fishing Plans completed in 2017
- Voluntary restrictions on gill netting in key lakes
- Catch and release fisheries encouraged
- Create and maintain community monitoring programs
- Education –for communities and users
- Guardianship and monitoring program recommended

Inuvialuit Voluntary Netting Closure Area

INUVALUIT VOLUNTARY GILLNETTING CLOSURES:

- Year-round: within 5 km of TH and Husky Lakes; Jimmy and Noell Lakes (green)
- Seasonal closures of Husky Lakes (yellow): April 10, June 1, and August 15 to October 15



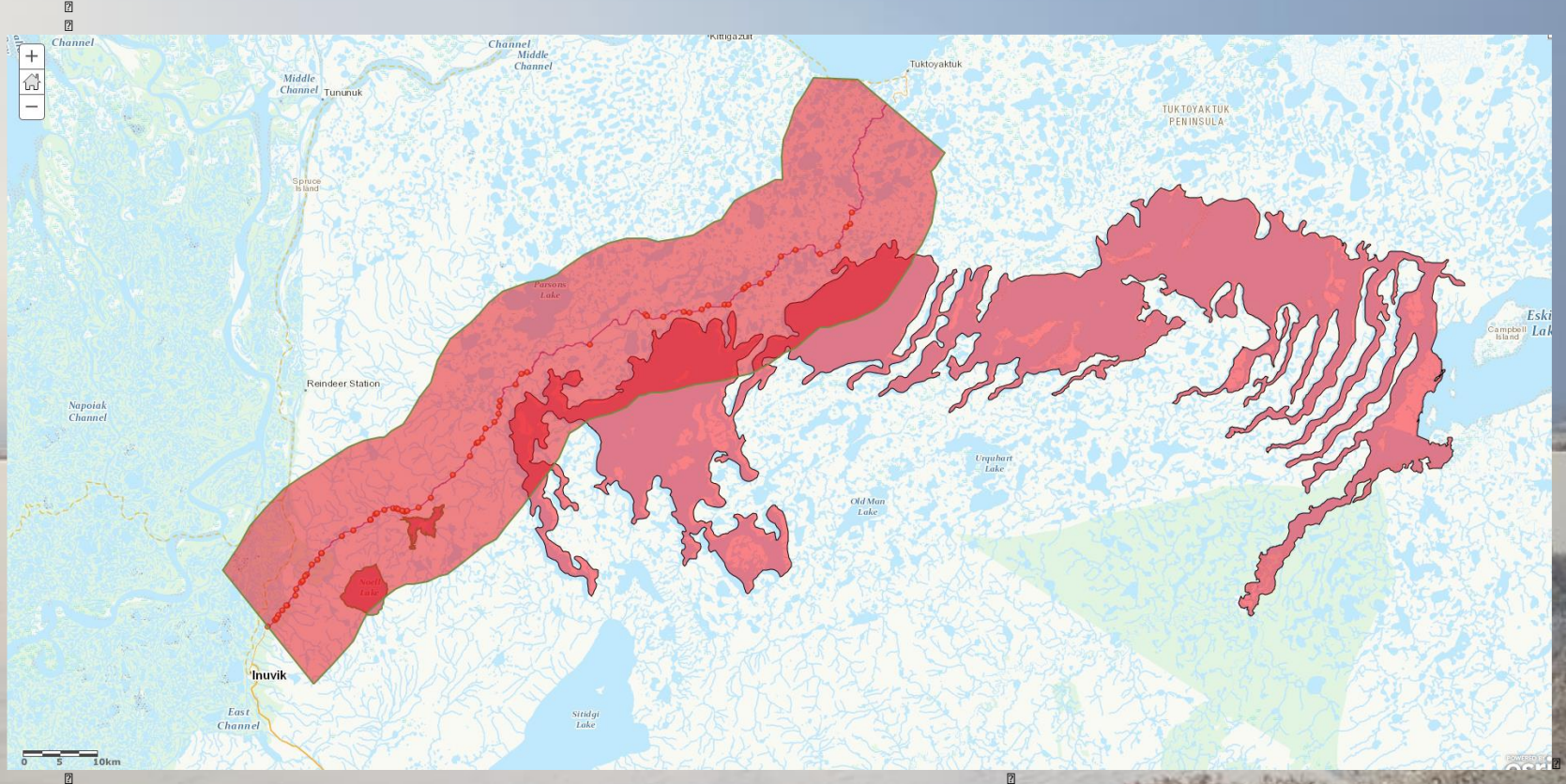
Green – Shows the area closed to netting

Yellow – Shows the area with seasonal netting closure

Proposed Sport Fishing Catch and Release Zone

ITH SPORT FISHING:

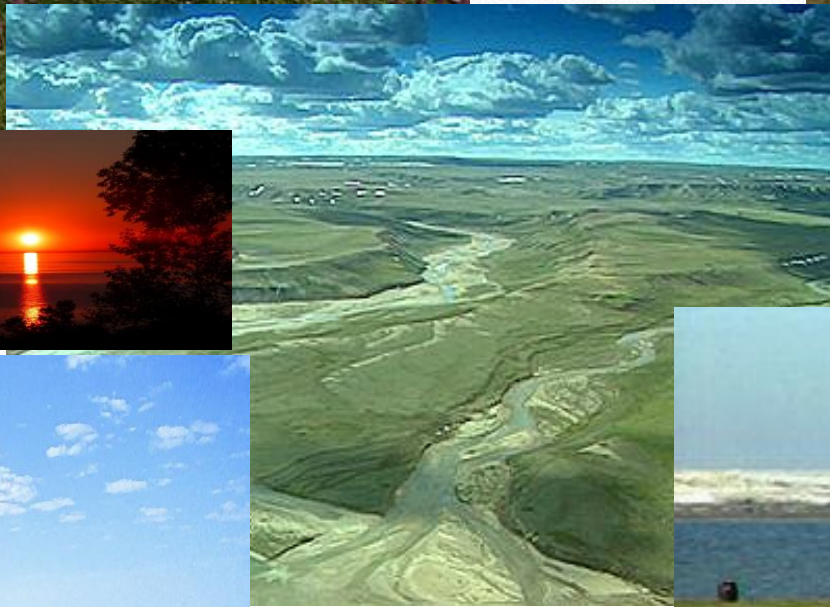
- Catch and Release Only (red): 10km Buffer of ITH, Husky Lakes, Jimmy and Noell Lakes



Summary

Outcomes

- 3 part monitoring program in 2018—WG continues
- Assessing status of fisheries resources-science
- Monitoring the success of highway construction mitigation measures
- Monitoring CFP fishing plans for success
- Creation of 6 community monitoring and guardians positions
- Expanding the community based management model to all areas of the Settlement Area
- Decisions and direction by communities



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Thank you!!*

