

**Walrus Harvests in Canada<sup>1</sup>**

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**Abstract**

Harvest data from the Nunavut Wildlife Harvest Study (NWHHS) and a recent compilation for the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada were reviewed for reported catches since 1995. Harvest data are plagued by incomplete reporting and, for the NWHHS, extrapolation biases. Best-guess estimates are derived that are likely reliable only to an order of magnitude.

**Introduction**

In Canada, walrus are hunted for food and high quality dog food, with a subsidiary benefit of ivory, primarily by Inuit as Beneficiaries under legally binding Land Claims Agreements. Other non-Inuit beneficiaries (such as spouses) hunt walrus on a subsistence basis and southern hunters increasingly visit a few communities to harvest trophy animals in guided sports hunts. This summary focuses on the subsistence hunt but includes the sports hunt figures as well.

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<sup>1</sup> Disclaimer: This WP is prepared with great frustration; the author wishes that once they are written down, the estimates presented here will be used as if they actually reflected a reality.