



## **NAMMCO ANNUAL MEETING 28**

*22-25 March 2021*

*Online*

## **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

<b>DOCUMENT NPR/ CA-2020-2019</b>	<b>NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORTS CANADA – 2020 &amp; 2019</b>
<b>Submitted by</b>	<b>Canada</b>
<b>Action requested</b>	For information

**Progress Report on Marine Mammal  
Research and Management in 2020**

**February 2021**

## I. Introduction

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is Canada's responsible federal government department with respect to the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO). This report provides an overview of Canada's 2020 marine mammals catch statistics for its East Coast and Arctic Archipelago. It reflects available information on subsistence hunting practices. Additional subsistence hunt data is usually received/available after the NAMMCO reporting period. As an addendum to this year's report, we provide additional data from the 2019 harvest that was not available at the time of our 2019 report.

## IV. Advice given and management measures taken

Canada manages all fish and marine mammal resources under integrated fisheries management plans (IFMP), specific for each species. An IFMP serves to communicate the necessary information on the fishery and its management to DFO and other federal government officials, other domestic orders of government, legislated co-management boards, hunters and trappers associations, regional wildlife boards, Inuit communities, and other stakeholders. The IFMP provides a common understanding of basic "rules" for the resource's sustainable management.

IFMPs are not a legally binding instrument that can form the basis of a legal challenge. IFMPs can be modified at any time and does not fetter Canada's Minister of Fisheries and Oceans' discretionary powers set out in Canada's *Fisheries Act*. For reasons of conservation or for any other valid reasons, the minister can modify any provision of the IFMP in accordance with the powers granted pursuant to the *Fisheries Act* and subject to the relevant terms of the Nunavut Agreement. Below is a list of relevant IFMPs.

Pinnipeds	
Harp seal	<a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/seals-phoques/index-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/seals-phoques/index-eng.html</a>
Hooded seal	
Bearded seal	
Grey seal	
Ringed seal	
Walrus	<a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/ifmp-gmp/narwhal-narval/index-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/ifmp-gmp/narwhal-narval/index-eng.html</a>
Cetaceans	
Narwhal	<a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/ifmp-gmp/narwhal-narval/index-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/ifmp-gmp/narwhal-narval/index-eng.html</a>

In Canada, Bowhead and Beluga whales are species at risk and subject to Canada's *Species at Risk Act*. More information regarding management measures can be found at the following links.

Bowhead whale	<a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/profiles-profils/bowheadwhale-baleineboreale2-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/profiles-profils/bowheadwhale-baleineboreale2-eng.html</a>
Beluga whale	<a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/profiles-profils/beluga-Hudson-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/profiles-profils/beluga-Hudson-eng.html</a>

## VI. Appendix 1 – Data Reporting to NAMMCO Committees

Canadian Catch Data – 2020 Harvest Year

Pinnipeds – 2020 Harvest Year (data is considered preliminary)

	Atlantic Canada and Quebec*	Eastern Canadian Arctic
Harp seal	2,384	No data
Hooded seal	0	No data
Bearded seal	75	No data
Grey seal	2,129	No data
Harbour seal	0	No data
Walrus	37	80
Ringed seal**	562	No data

	Western Canadian Arctic	Eastern Canadian Arctic	Quebec Region
Beluga	87	182	430
Bowhead	0	4	0
Narwhal		Pending	

\*Seal catches include minimal landings for personal use (<50).

\*\* Data issues are restricting our ability to report on ringed seal. Once rectified, data will be forwarded to NAMMCO

### Addendum to 2019 report

Canadian Catch Data – 2019 Harvest Year

Pinnipeds – 2019 Harvest Year

	Atlantic Canada and Quebec*	Eastern Canadian Arctic
Harp seal	32,265	No data
Hooded seal	30	No data
Bearded seal	71	No data
Grey seal	1236	No data
Harbour seal	0	No data
Walrus	198	213
Ringed seal	3,356	No data

	Western Canadian Arctic	Eastern Canadian Arctic	Quebec Region
Beluga	74	428	367
Bowhead	0	4	0
Narwhal		662	

\*Seal catches include minimal landings for personal use (<50).

# **PROGRESS REPORT ON MARINE MAMMAL RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT IN 2019**

**March 2020**

## I. Introduction

This report provides an overview of the management programs and catch statistics of marine mammals for Canada's East Coast and Arctic Archipelago in 2019.

## IV. Advice given and management measures taken

Canada manages all fisheries and marine mammal resources with Integrated Fisheries Management Plans (IFMP), specific for each species.

An IFMP also serves to communicate the basic information on the fishery and its management to Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) staff, legislated co-management boards, Hunters and Trappers Associations (HTOs), Regional Wildlife Boards (RWOs), Inuit, communities and other stakeholders. They also provide a common understanding of the basic “rules” for the sustainable management of the fisheries resource.

IFMPs are not a legally binding instrument which can form the basis of a legal challenge. IFMPs can be modified at any time and does not fetter the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans' discretionary powers set out in the Fisheries Act. The Minister can, for reasons of conservation or for any other valid reasons, modify any provision of the IFMP in accordance with the powers granted pursuant to the Fisheries Act, and subject to the relevant terms of the Nunavut Agreement. Below is a list of relevant IFMPs.

<b>Pinnipeds</b>	
Harp seal	<a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/seals-phoques/reports-rapports/mgtplan-planges20112015/mgtplan-planges20112015-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/seals-phoques/reports-rapports/mgtplan-planges20112015/mgtplan-planges20112015-eng.html</a>
Hooded seal	
Bearded seal	
Grey seal	
Harbour seal	
Ringed seal	
Walrus	<a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/ifmp-gmp/walrus-atl-morse/walrus-nunavut-morse-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/ifmp-gmp/walrus-atl-morse/walrus-nunavut-morse-eng.html</a>
<b>Cetaceans</b>	
Narwhal	<a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/ifmp-gmp/narwhal-narval/index-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/ifmp-gmp/narwhal-narval/index-eng.html</a>

In Canada, Bowhead and Beluga are considered species at risk and are subject to the Species at Risk Act. More information regarding their management measures can be found at the following links.

Bowhead	<a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/profiles-profils/bowheadwhale-baleineboreale2-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/profiles-profils/bowheadwhale-baleineboreale2-eng.html</a>
Beluga	<a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/profiles-profils/beluga-Hudson-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/profiles-profils/beluga-Hudson-eng.html</a>

## VI. Appendix 1 – Data reporting to NAMMCO Committees

### CANADIAN CATCH DATA – 2019 HARVEST YEAR

Pinnipeds – 2019 Harvest Year (data is considered preliminary)

	Atlantic Canada (including QC)*	Eastern Canadian Arctic
Harp seal	32,199	No data
Hooded seal	30	No data
Bearded seal	0	No data
Grey seal	1,232	No data
Harbour seal	0	No data
Walrus		80
Ringed seal	3	**

\*Seal catches include minimal landings for personal use (<50).

\*\* Data issues are restricting our ability to report on ringed seal. Once rectified, data will be forwarded to NAMMCO.

Cetaceans – 2019 Harvest Year

	Western Canadian Arctic	Eastern Canadian Arctic	Quebec Region
Beluga	No data	362	No data
Bowhead	No data	4	No data
Narwhal		Pending 2019 Tag Returns	

\*\* some communities have yet to report