

NAMMCO SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Ad Hoc Working Group on Narwhal in East Greenland

25-29 October 2021, Greenland Representation Copenhagen, Denmark

DRAFT AGENDA

(19 OCTOBER 2021)

Monday 25 October 11:30-17:00

1. CHAIRMAN WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

- 1.1. Welcome & Logistics
- 1.2. Appointment of Rapporteurs
- 1.3. Review of Terms of Reference
- 1.4. Review of Available Documents
- 1.5. Adoption of Agenda

2. DEVELOPMENT OF ADVICE ON EAST GREENLAND NARWHALS

- 2.1. Implementation of earlier advice
 - 2.1.1. Review of MCC response to advice from NEGWG 2019
 - 2.1.2. Hunter and User Knowledge (hunter presentation to MCC 2021 meeting)
- 2.2. Economic considerations
 - 2.2.1. Review of payments to hunters for support of research activities.
 - 2.2.2. Review of commercial aspects of the hunt
- 2.3. Improve support for existing advice e.g., Add columns to advice table which estimate costs to the population at different removal levels such as expected percent decline or years of no hunt to recover to current abundance.
- 2.4. Accounting for climate change in advice
 - 2.4.1. Changes in distribution and habitat
 - 2.4.2. Changes in life history parameters
 - 2.4.3. Changes in abundance
- 2.5. Consider alternative management objectives including mitigation of economic impacts and develop assessment methods for the alternatives
- 2.6. Prepare request for Hunter and User Data and Knowledge

Tuesday 26 October 10:00-17:00

3. INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS TO DEVELOP ADVICE ON EAST GREENLAND BELUGAS

- 3.1. Review available information on belugas in SE Greenland and identify information needs for an initial assessment
- 3.2. Recommend research necessary for an initial assessment
- 3.3. Prepare request for hunter/user data on belugas in SE Greenland

4. DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE OF EAST GREENLAND NARWHAL

- 4.1. Information on historical distribution of narwhals in the Greenland Sea
- 4.2. Review of movements and dive behaviour data
 - 4.2.1. Satellite tracking studies (Norway)
 - 4.2.2. Time-depth recorder studies (review of JWG-QSG recommendations)
- 4.3. Review of aerial surveys in East Greenland in light of review by JWG-QSG
- 4.4. Review of planned surveys, including comparison to historical distribution and recent hunter observations, and other scientific activities that could assist the next assessment.

Wednesday 27 October 10:00-17:00

5. BIOLOGY

- 5.1. Life History
- 5.2. Genetics and Physiology

6. ANTHROPOGENIC IMPACTS

- 6.1. Hunt Removals
- 6.2. Other Removals
 - 6.2.1. Fisheries by-catch or entanglement data
 - 6.2.2. Vessel strikes
- 6.3. Non-lethal Impacts

7. HABITAT EAST GREENLAND NARWHALS

- 7.1. Habitat Changes
- 7.2. Narwhal Response to Changes - Synthesis of Population Response
 - 7.2.1. Changes in seasonal distribution
 - 7.2.2. Changes in life history parameters
 - 7.2.3. Changes in habitat carrying capacity

18:30 - Common dinner for participants in Copenhagen at Kanalhuset (Overgaden Oven Vandet 62a).

Thursday 28 October 10:00-17:00

8. STOCK ASSESSMENTS AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE

- 8.1. Stock Structure
 - 8.1.1. Genetics
 - 8.1.2. Seasonal distribution
 - 8.1.3. Review of hunter three stock proposal for Area 1 based on behaviour and condition
- 8.2. Stock Assessment Model
 - 8.2.1. Draft assessment model
 - 8.2.2. Review of model structure: multiple stocks or seasons
 - 8.2.3. Review of population model: time or habitat dependent parameters
 - 8.2.4. Review of model priors
 - 8.2.5. Revise stock assessment model (if necessary)
- 8.3. Develop Management Advice



- 8.3.1. Advice on management of hunting
- 8.3.2. Advice on management of interacting fisheries
- 8.3.3. Advice on management of other anthropogenic impacts

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- 9.1. Consider request from NAMMCO-SC to JWG for guidance on management objectives and assessment methods for small and depleted stocks and stocks at risk of extirpation

Friday 29 October 09:00-12:00

PREPARE REPORT

ADJOURN