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For Immediate Release

Nunavut Fishery Regulations Working Group Releases Policy Intentions Paper

(February 28, 2025 – Iqaluit, Nunavut) Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) is pleased to announce the completion of the Nunavut Fishery Regulations Policy Intentions Paper, which proposes policy and management objectives for the future Nunavut Fishery Regulations (NFR).

The policy intentions paper was co-developed by the NFR working group, made up of members from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), NTI, the Government of Nunavut, Makivvik, and the Cree Nation Government, while the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and the Nunavut Marine Region Wildlife Board participated as observers in the co-development process.

“NTI is pleased with this milestone in the development of the much-needed Nunavut Fishery Regulations,” said NTI President, Jeremy Tunraluk. “Inuit communities depend on fish and marine mammals for cultural, social and economic well-being. Establishing a fisheries regulatory framework that respects Inuit values and empowers communities to take the leadership role in decision-making is essential for advancing fisheries reconciliation and supporting Inuit food security and sovereignty.”

Public engagement on the policy intentions paper will begin in March 2025, allowing impacted rights-holders and stakeholders to provide feedback on the policy and management proposal. Once finalized, the working group will begin drafting the new regulations, to then be published in draft to Canada Gazette I. Further feedback will be collected from the public before the regulations are finalized, published in Canada Gazette II and taken into effect.

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Media Contacts:

Ivaluarjuk Merritt
Director of Communications
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
media@tunngavik.com

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Quick Facts

- The *Nunavut Agreement*, *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement*, and *Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement* establish unique, constitutionally protected, Inuit and Cree harvesting rights, including for fish and marine mammals.
- On July 9, 2018, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and the Government of Nunavut renewed a commitment to co-develop new fisheries regulations for the Nunavut Settlement Area through the Nunavut Fishery Regulations Working Group, with Makivik Corporation and the Cree Nation Government subsequently joining.
- The Nunavut Fishery Regulations would apply in the Nunavut Settlement Area (including the Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy, and the Outer Land Fast Ice Zone), east of Ellesmere Island and north of 78°10" N, and in waters northwest of the Arctic Archipelago that are not within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. The NFRs would also apply in Hudson Bay and James Bay, the Nunavik Marine Region, and the Eeyou Marine Region.

Associated Links

[Policy intent for Nunavut Fishery Regulations](#)