



Marine Conservation in Qikiqtaaluk

Community Consultations 2023

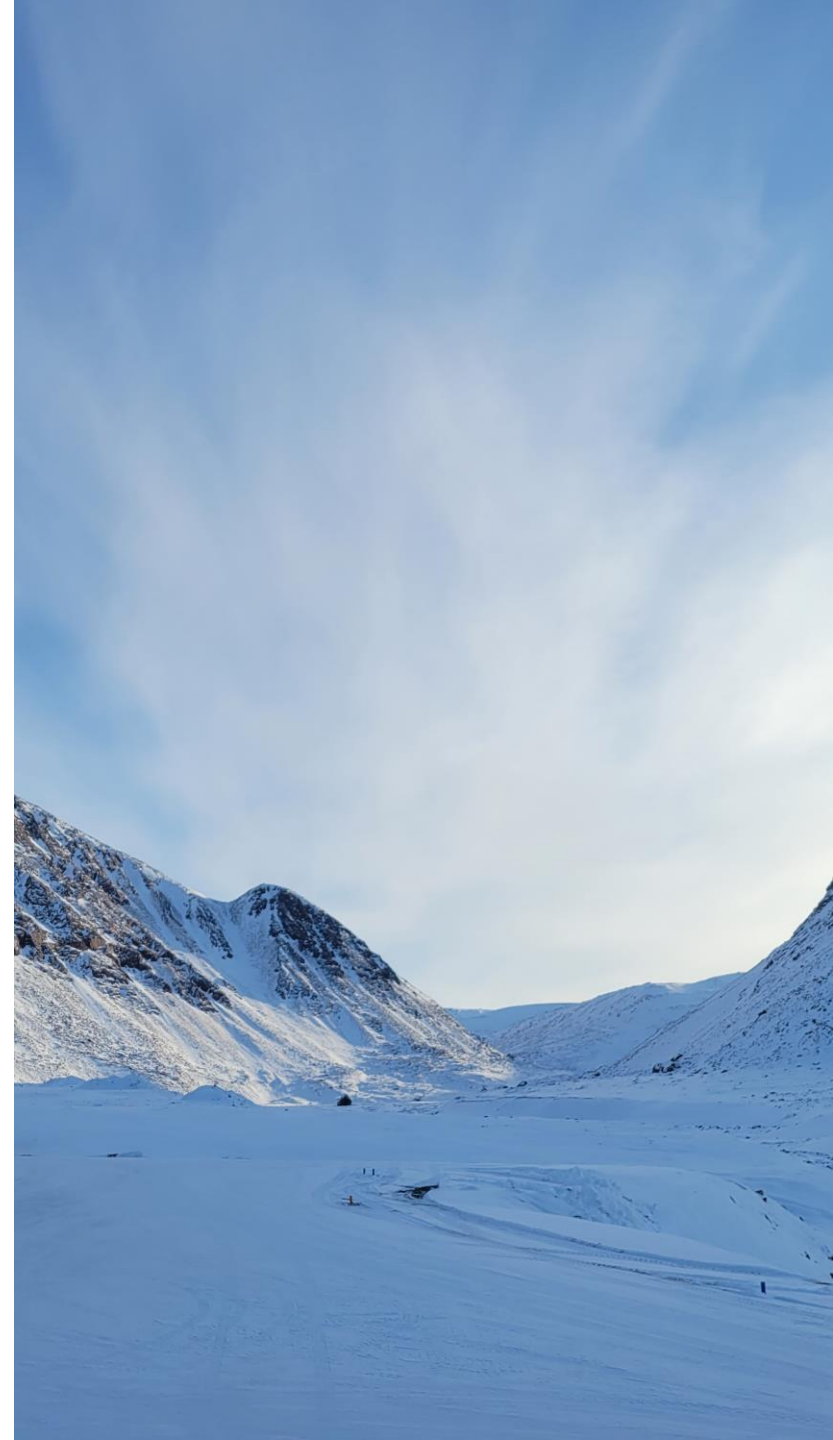
Sanikiluaq, November 2023

Consultation Purpose

Provide information on Qikiqtait and the Ministerial Order process

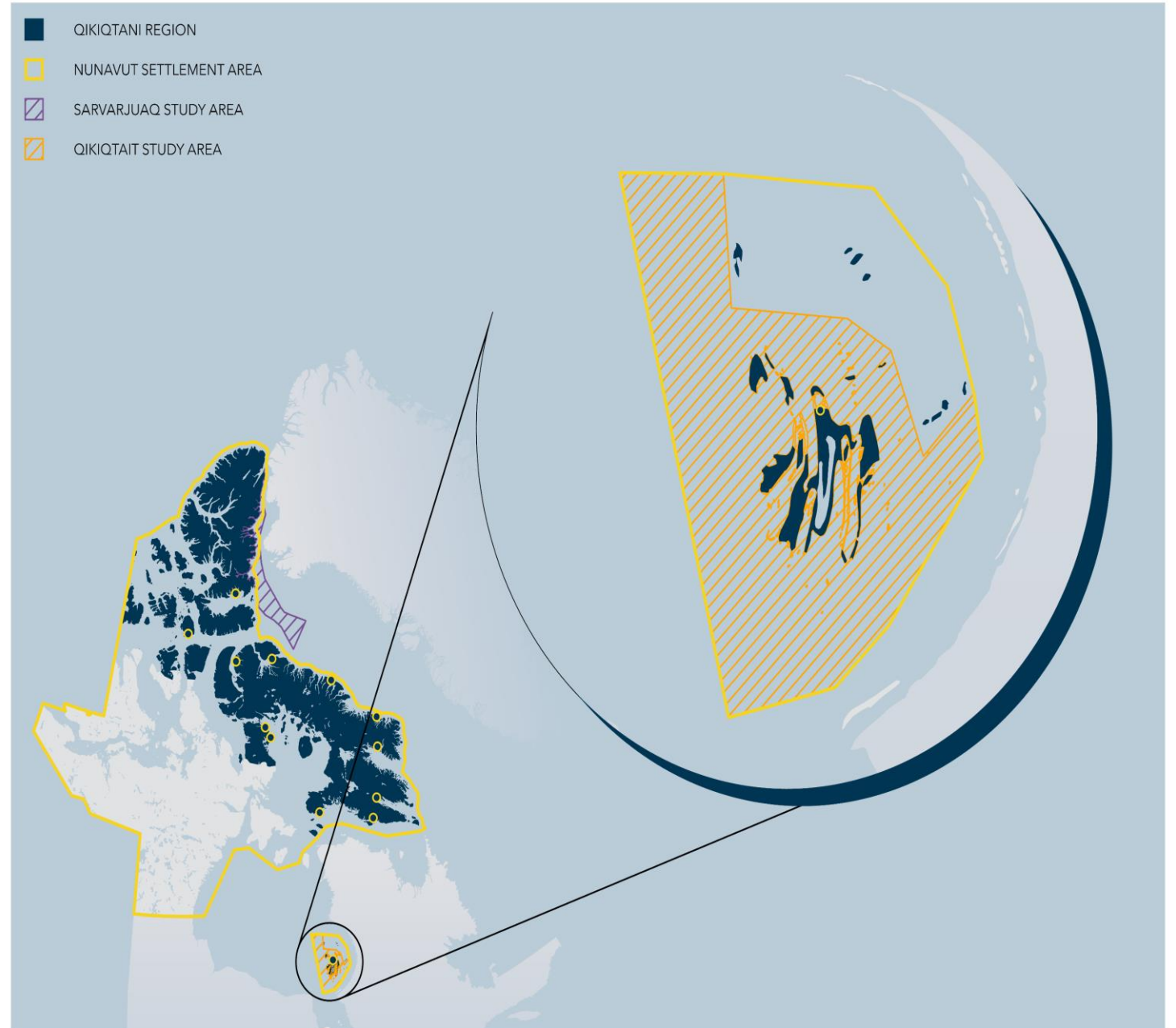
Discuss the proposed approach to marine conservation in Qikiqtait – next steps

Hear what you think, share your experiences and uses of the areas



Qikiqtait

- Qikiqtait includes the marine and terrestrial area surrounding the Belcher Islands, and the community of Sanikiluaq
- Qikiqtait provides important habitat for many marine species of birds and invertebrates
- The community of Sanikiluaq has been collecting knowledge and actively working to advance marine conservation in this area.



Why protect these areas?

- By working together, we can protect this ecologically unique and important area and provide support for key habitat and migration corridors for many Arctic species.
- The Government of Canada has committed to supporting Inuit leadership and collaboration on marine conservation initiatives to safeguard ecosystems, wildlife and Inuit culture, while supporting sustainable employment, economic diversification, building critical infrastructure and reinforcing financial stability that enable healthy communities.

Marine Protected Area by Ministerial Order

- This is a *temporary* protection measure designed to protect an area in the short-term, up to 5 years.
- An MPA by Ministerial Order protects an area by “freezing the footprint”. This means that activities already underway (or allowed) in the area may continue, but no new activities are to start during this time.
- This represents first step in a path towards identifying what the long-term protection for Qikiqtait could be.
- Qikiqtait and Sarvarjuaq will be established as two separate MPAs by Ministerial Order.

What does this mean for you?

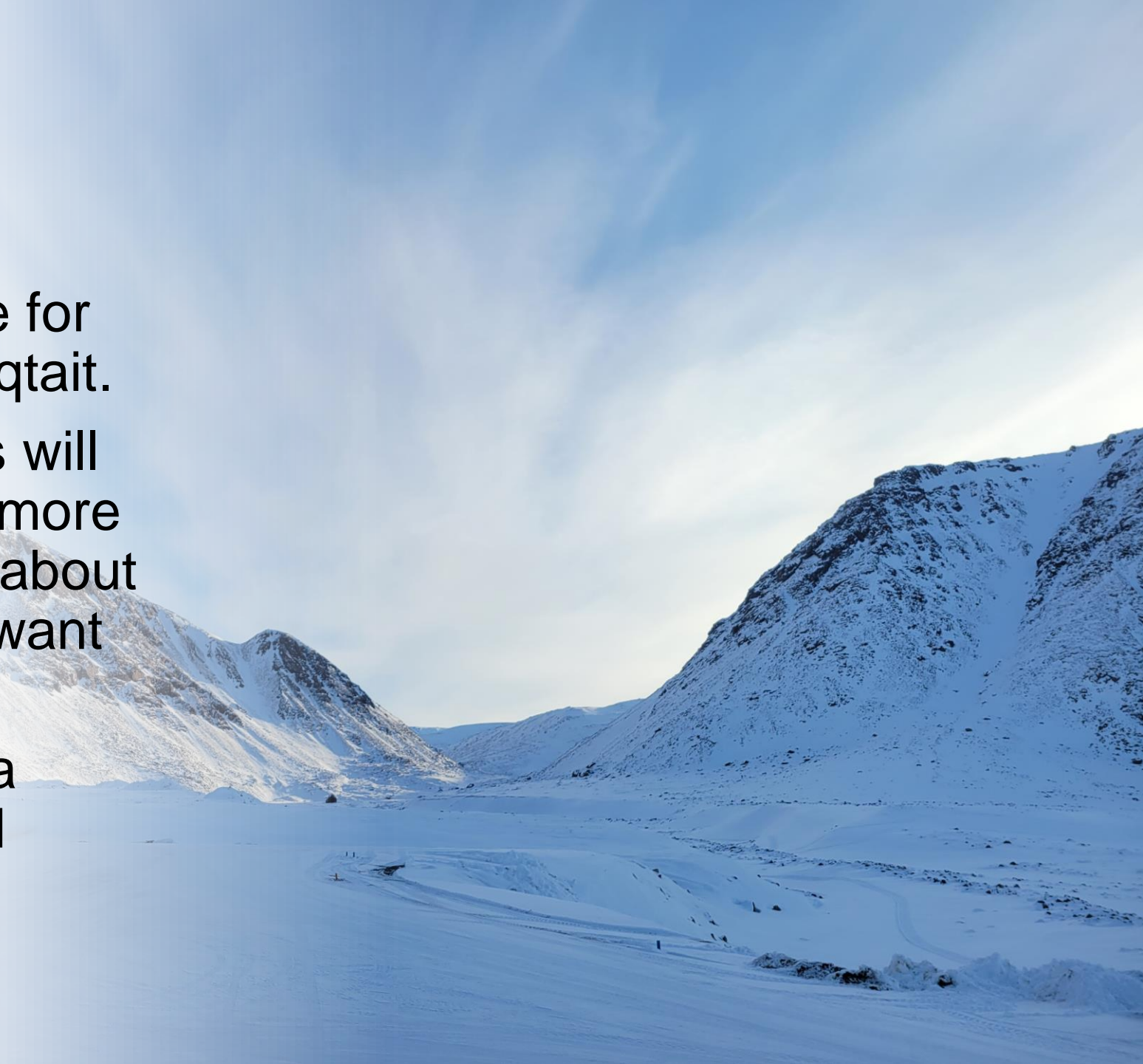
- Traditional harvesting within the Nunavut Settlement Area is a protected right under the Nunavut Agreement, and will not be impacted in any.
- Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement (IIBA) negotiations currently underway to provide resources and benefits for these areas.
- Your ideas and knowledge will directly affect the development of conservation objectives and regulations for the Ministerial Order MPAs.
- You will be involved in the discussions about how to support these areas in the long term, your ideas and priorities are important.

Establishment Process



Long term plans

- QIA has expressed a desire for long-term protection in Qikiqtait.
- The Ministerial Order MPAs will give us time to understand more about the area, learn more about how communities use and want to protect the area.
- The Government of Canada supports long-term Inuit-led conservation in Qikiqtait.



Knowledge Gaps

We are hoping to hear from you:

- Do you use either of these areas for hunting, fishing, or other activities?
- What can you tell us about the areas and their importance to you?
- Have you made any observations about either of these areas through your own use of the land, knowledge from Elders, or any other means?



What are your thoughts?

Is marine protection something that you would like to see for these areas?

Do you have any concerns about establishing marine protection?

Please consider filling out the surveys that we have brought with us!



Nakurmiik! Qujannamiik!
Thank you!

