

ARCTIC COAST - CHESTERFIELD INLET

COMMUNITY-BASED SUMMER FIELDWORK

JULY—SEPT
2023
RESULTS



- The summer fieldwork was conducted near Chesterfield Inlet, NU between July 25th—September 7th, 2023

The objectives this year were to:

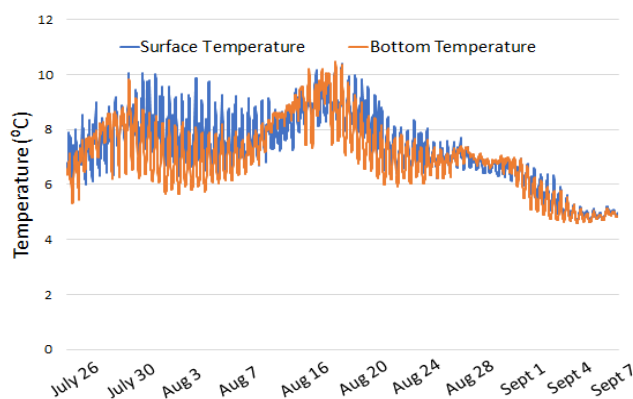
- Expand on baseline work started in the winter, re-view protocols and test new equipment with DFO staff (ROV and water profiler)
- Complete a survey using standardized methods at sites chosen by the AHTO
- Collect environmental data for water (temperature/salinity) at different depths using moorings set up at three locations
- Collect fishes to investigate biodiversity, diet, and habitat use
- Collect invertebrates from the sea floor and plankton from the water column

The Arctic Coast team thanks the Aqigiq Hunters and Trappers Organization for their support this summer and the hard work of technicians David Putumiraqtuq, Jocelyn Simik, and Sheldon Putumiraqtuq, this season

Qujannamik! Thank You!

Project Highlights

- Technicians completed 7 days of field work at 3 sites that were chosen by the AHTO and sampled last winter
- Fish, plankton, bottom samples, and environmental data were collected at all 3 sites
- Sapujiiit Guardians and technicians worked together on the first field day, and were excellent hosts to DFO staff
- 5 Arctic Char, 10 Greenland Cod, and 3 Shorthorn Sculpin were captured these will be processed for biological samples (tissues, stomach, and otoliths for ageing)
- Underwater video footage collected at all sites
- Water profiler collected ocean chemistry data at all sites
- Timelapse camera retrieved and set up to continue taking pictures of ice into the winter
- Orange buoys (set up to collect temperature and salinity data over time) retrieved and data is currently being analyzed and compared to winter measurements



Water temperature in False Inlet (site 2) for surface and bottom (15 m depth) loggers from July 25—Sep 7, 2023



Underwater footage from site 4, of kelp and an urchin collected with a remote operated vehicle (ROV; Photo: K. Gully)

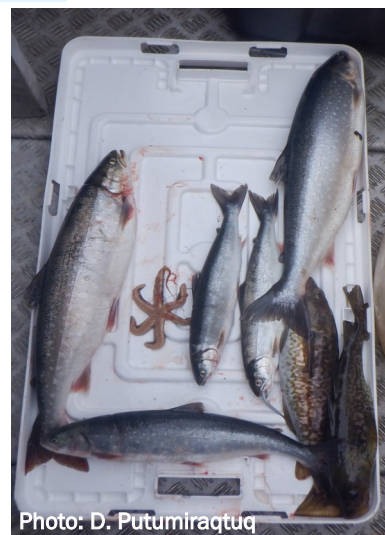


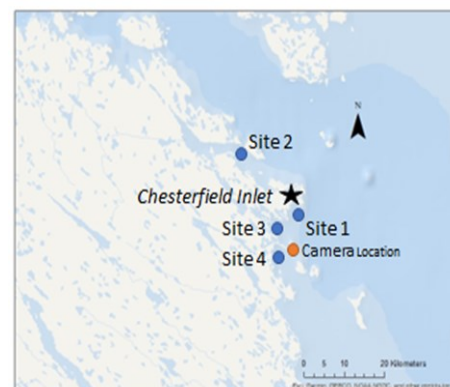
Photo: D. Putumiraqtuq

Fish captured by technicians in Fish Bay for future analysis



Photo: J. Ippiak

Sapujiiit Guardians assisted with getting the project started on the first day of fieldwork



Sites selected by the Aqigiq HTO and sampled in the summer and winter of 2023



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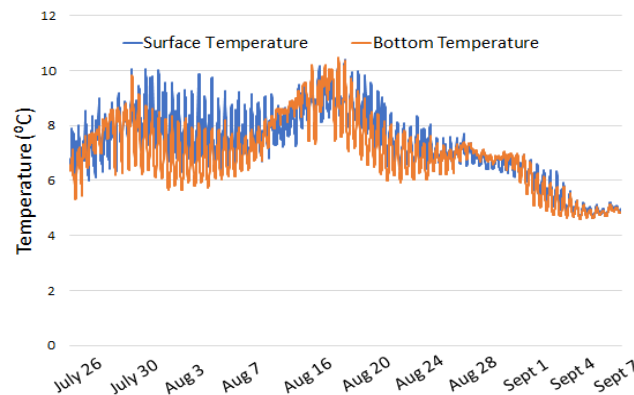
Darcy.McNicholl@dfo-mpo.gc.ca


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