

What should we do with all these geese?

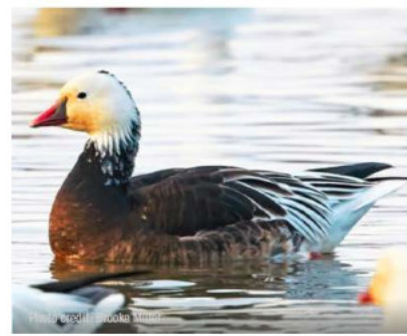


Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) about the impact of light geese abundance on land, wildlife, and people, and recommendations for light geese management in the Kivalliq region, Nunavut, Canada

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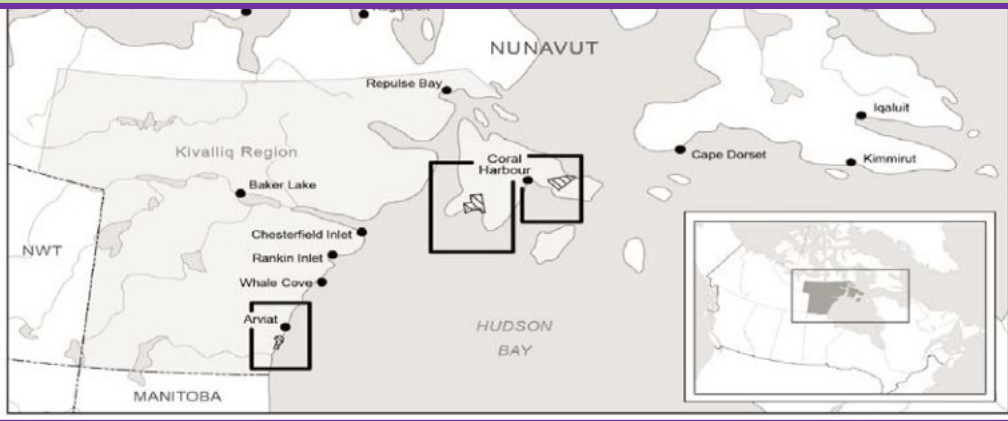


**Why this
project
was started**



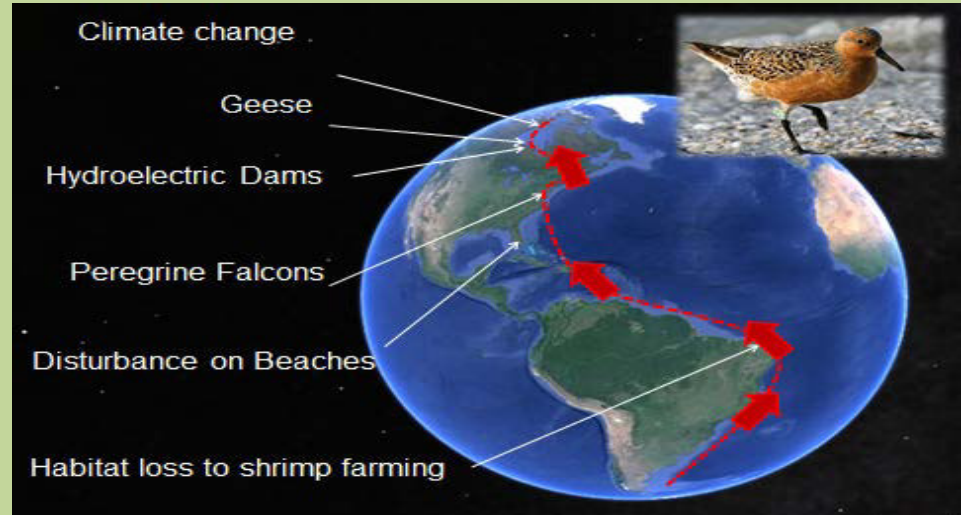
Concerned Nunavummiut

- Hunters and trappers organizations, local Bird Sanctuary committees in Coral Harbour and Arviat, Nunavut
- All expressed concern about 'too many geese'



Concerned scientists

- Science shows that too many geese affects other birds and the land



International concern

The Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative



ARCTIC COUNCIL



Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative

Our goals

- Write down what Inuit observe, what Inuit think should be done
- Bring Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit [knowledge] holders, managers, and biologists together – share info and perspectives on ‘what to do’
- See if there are common recommendations that can be taken to land and wildlife managers in Nunavut

What we did

1. Raise money!

-funders in Canada ready for this sort of project

-funding from



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

-in kind support from

Kivalliq Wildlife Board

Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat

Hunters and Trappers Organizations in Coral Harbour and Arviat

Irniurviit and Niviallik Bird Sanctuary committees



What we did (con'd)

2. Train local researchers



Looking for work this summer? Check this out!!!

The Inuit Area Co-Management Committee, Aiviit Hunters & Trappers Organization, and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) are looking for an active person who is interested in working with an ECCC researcher, elders, and active harvesters to identify Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit about the impacts of snow goose overpopulation on land, animals, and people near Coral Harbour, Nunavut.

Resumes now being accepted for:

INUIT QAUJIMAJATUQANGIT RESEARCHER – SNOW GOOSE OVERPOPULATION

Position reports to Natalie Carter (ECCC). Position works 9:00am to 5:00pm with evening and land trip hours as well, for three weeks in August. Option for additional hours (computer time, results sharing) in September, October, and November. Option for a one-week trip to Ottawa for analysis and report writing training in October.

Duties include:

- Participate in developing research questions about snow goose overpopulation
- Co-ordinate meetings and visits with elders, harvesters, community members
- Co-ordinate land trips: gas, grub, guides, transportation
- Conduct interviews and group discussions and take notes
- Record interviews and discussions and analyze research
- Write in language reports and share results with community members

Requirements:

• Spoken and written communication skills in English
• Interest in the land, birds, and Inuit knowledge
• Ability and comfortable conducting interviews and discussions
• Experience in transcribing, analyzing qualitative data, and writing
• A desire to learn how to do those things (training can be provided)

Not required:

• Knowledge of the land surrounding Coral Harbour
• Inuktitut
• Transportation such as ATV

Salary: \$25 to 35/hr depending on experience. Salary will be paid by Kivalliq Wildlife Board.

Application date: Friday, June 23, 2017

Send resume and cover letter to: Natasha Ottokie, Aiviit HTO
5-8622 Email: aiviithto@qiniq.com



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

What we did (con'd)

3. Write down Inuit knowledge

-Personal interviews in town and on the land



What we did (con'd)



4. results verification

5. community meetings to generate recommendations



What we found out- Inuit knowledge

- **Community view** - a problem but not a crisis
- **Objectives-** healthy land (including other animals), healthy communities
- Interest in increasing local harvest of geese- but **BE CAREFUL**
- Some want **non-commercial hunt**, others want to explore **commercial hunt** too
- Desire to encourage southerners to **take steps to reduce populations in south** (e.g. by decreasing amount of winter food available)

6. Bring together Inuit knowledge holders, biologists, and land managers

Bringing together Inuit knowledge and science to manage light geese
September 25-27, Winnipeg, Manitoba





Build Consensus

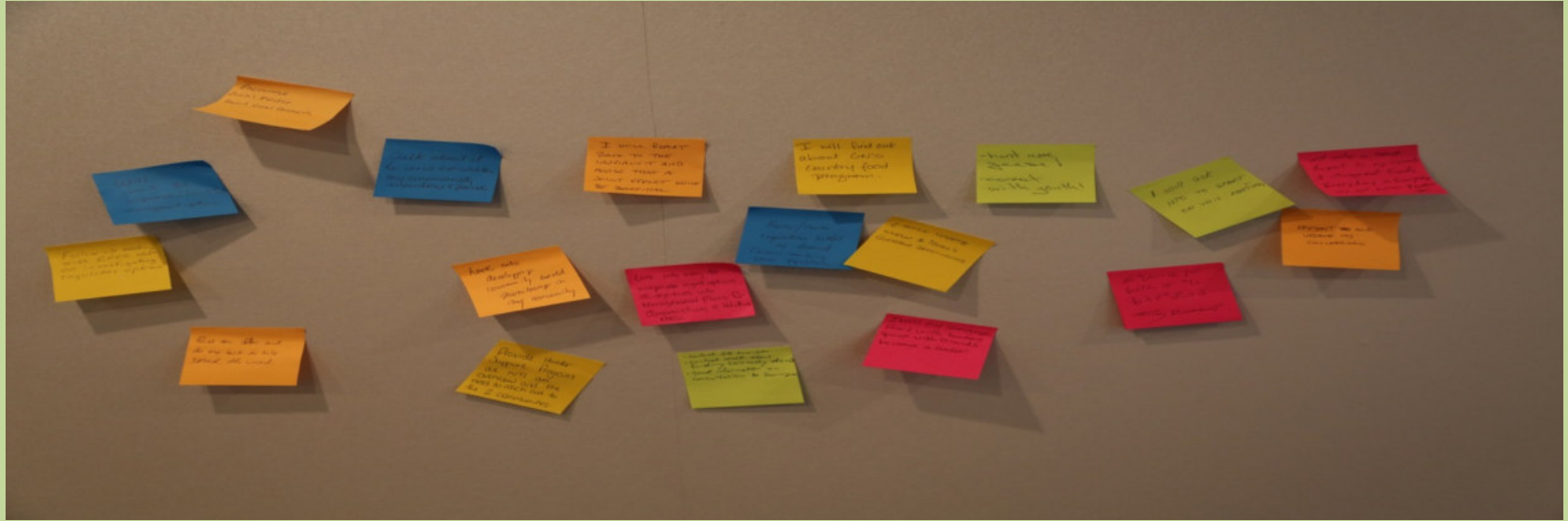
- **Agreement-** a problem but not a crisis
- **Agreement-** vision for healthy land and healthy communities



Shared Management Objective for Light geese

- *Our shared management objective is to have goose populations at a level that allows us to have healthy communities and healthy land, where all species thrive and survive.*
- *We agree that the size of the light goose population must be decreased to keep the land and the animals strong for future generations.*
- *We understand actions shall be undertaken in Nunavut and in other jurisdictions to meet our shared objective.*

What's next?



Individual commitments to action

What we learned

- Coming together to solve problems
- “two-eyed seeing”



What we learned con'd

“Both Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Western Science heard each other.” – *Inuit organization employee*

“I have learned how they band birds and Snow geese. That was the most interesting part to me.” – *Community member*

“Coming from the youth, I'd like to say it was a great experience and that you may proceed with hiring young people for skills development.” – *Community researcher*

“I think differently on how light geese impact Inuit now.” – *Federal government employee*

“It was a wonderful experience to hear the same concerns from other regions of the Arctic. I would like to see this as an annual thing across Canada.” – *Wildlife manager*

We believe that this project is a good model
for issue-specific wildlife co-management





For a copy of the workshop report, please
contact dominique.henri@canada.ca