

HJR

39



STATE OF ALASKA  
1992 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 39

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Department Affected: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: Relating to bowhead whale BRU: \_\_\_\_\_  
allocation for the City of Diomede Component: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor: Rep. Foster  
 Requestor: Senate Resources COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 

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EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
FUND SOURCE:						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE:						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year impact: \_\_\_\_\_

Changes in SCS HJR 39 (RES) have no fiscal impact. This fiscal note is appropriate.

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

1-25-92 date Terry Jones Comptroller Aide (initial)

Prepared By: Senator Lloyd Jones, Chairman Phone: 465-3743  
 Division: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: January 28, 1992  
 Approved by Commissioner: Senator Lloyd Jones, Chairman  
 Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: January 28, 1992



Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission  
P.O. Box 570  
Barrow, Alaska 99723  
Phone: (907) 852-2392

March 7, 1991

Mr. John Walsh  
P.O. Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. Walsh:

Please send the resolution supporting Diomedes' request to:

1. AEWK, Box 570, Barrow, AK 99723  
Beverly Patkotak Grinage  
Burton Rexford
2. Little Diomedes City Office  
Little Diomedes, Alaska 99762  
Fax #686-3061  
Vice Mayor Patrick Oomiak
3. Emery Oomiak, Little Diomedes, Alaska 99762
4. Toby Anungazuk, Jr., AEWK Commissioner, Wales  
P.O. Box 83, Wales, Alaska 99783

I will make sure that a copy of the resolution is given to each of the International Whaling Commission members from the United States, and anyone else who should get a copy. Thank you for your assistance, and I'll have a copy of the final draft reviewed by our attorneys who have extensive experience with the IWC.

Quyanaq,

Beverly Patkotak Grinage  
Executive Director

BG/jw

**\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\***

5 April 1991

From: John Walsh  
Rep. Richard Foster's Office  
Juneau

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**RE: Introduction House Joint Resolution 39; Regarding  
Bowhead Whale Allocation for City of Diomede**

Today, April 5, Representative Richard Foster introduced legislation supporting the City of Diomede's request for a bowhead whale allocation. The resolution has been assigned to House Resource committee for consideration. Following committee review, the full House will vote before sending it across to the Senate.

Beverly Grinage, Executive Director with the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC), has worked closely with Rep. Foster's staff to insure proper format and detail. Upon passage in the Alaska Legislature, the resolution will be transmitted to the International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting in Iceland May 1991. The IWC determines allocations of bowhead whales to the AEWC, which then distributes among eligible whaling communities.

In preparation for the May IWC meeting, the AEWC has commissioned a subsistence study with funds provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. This study is essential in establishing the traditional use of bowhead whale by the people of Little Diomede.

Rep. Foster stated, "I want to do all I can to assist my friends in Little Diomede in obtaining a bowhead whale. The late Mayor of Diomede, Thomas Menadelook, a renown whaler in the Bering Straits pushed hard for a bowhead allocation and I hope that this resolution will assist in achieving his goal."

Rep. Eileen MacLean was listed as first co-sponsor of HJR 39. Foster expects more colleagues to sign on soon. Any letters of support can be addressed to Rep. Foster, Box V, Juneau, AK. 99811.

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## ## ## ##

April 8, 1991

APR 15 1991

Representative Richard Foster  
P.O. Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Richard,

This is a letter of support for your House Joint Resolution 39, regarding Bowhead Allocation for the City of Diomedede.

As you know, my parents come from Diomedede. My father used to tell me that whaling captains on Diomedede had tattoos of whales by their lips which signified their status. Also when I received a grant from the Alaska Historical Commission over ten years ago, informants described a party of men going whale hunting. In talking with many of the Elders on Diomedede it is an indisputable fact that whaling continued to be a strong tradition in the village during this century. In the 1970's the village of Wales had to send for Albert Iyahuk, one of the Diomedede elders, to show them how to correctly cut up and divide a whale. There is much archeological evidence which confirms Diomedede's active whaling tradition prior to this century.

I would like to thank you again for your efforts in helping Diomedede to receive an allocation for bowhead whales. It is such an isolated place but that is no reason why they should be left out of something they are entitled to. I know Uncle Tommy would be very grateful for your assistance. Thanks again.

With warm regards,



Eileen Norbert

# Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE  
**RICHARD FOSTER**  
BOX 1028  
NOME, ALASKA 99762

PO BOX V  
JUNEAU, AK 99811  
[907]465-3789



## House of Representatives

19 April 1991

Senator Lloyd Jones, Chair  
Resource Committee  
MS 3100  
Juneau, AK. 99811

RE: HJR 39; Relating to a Bowhead Whale Allocation for  
the City of Diomede.

Greetings Senator Jones:

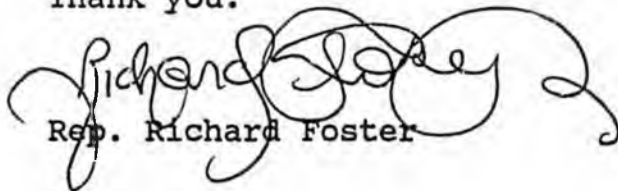
Please consider this request to calendar HJR 39;  
Relating to a Bowhead Whale Allocation for the City of  
Diomede, pending referral in the Senate.

I hope to see HJR 39 pass out of the House sometime  
next week, hopefully by April 24. In order to expedite  
hearing and passage in the Senate, prompt scheduling is  
required. I would appreciate your assistance.

The International Whaling Commission will address  
Alaskan bowhead whale allocations in their May 1991  
annual meeting held in Iceland. If this resolution  
were completed by that time, it would assist in the  
Alaskan delegation's efforts.

Please reference John Walsh in my office for further  
information, 465-3789.

Thank you.

  
Rep. Richard Foster

## Whaling captains allocate '91 harvest, seek quota increase

The Associated Press

BARROW — Eskimo whaling captains have allocated this year's whale harvest among the state's coastal villages, and they said they will ask the International Whaling Commission to increase Alaska's whale quota at its May meeting.

Whalers also reiterated worries about potential offshore oil and gas drilling and plans to respond to oil spills in the Arctic.

The whaling captains wound up

a three-day meeting in Barrow last week by approving the same allocation formula for the 1991 bowhead whale hunt that existed last year. The whaling villages will be allowed to land 41 whales and may take 47 strikes to land them.

Under the allocation, Savoonga and Gamble each will get four whales, Wales will get one, Kivalina two, Point Hope six, Wainwright five, Barrow 15 and Nulik and Kaktovik two each.

Whaling captains say they plan to ask for an increase in the Alaska quota when the International Whaling Commission meets in May in Iceland. They said they will propose raising the total to 72 strikes to land 64 whales.

Dr. William Evans, the outgoing U.S. commissioner on the International Whaling Commission, praised Eskimo whalers in Alaska for the way they have managed the

whale hunt under I.W.C. guidelines.

"The aboriginal subsistence management scheme has been in place for eight years, and we have continued to see improved quotas," Evans said.

"We also more importantly have seen improved population estimates, improved science, increases in the population, and a level of cooperation between science, management and the user community

that is unique in the world."

The whaling captains, meanwhile, reiterated concerns about the state's support for offshore oil and gas drilling.

"Together ... we must continue to push for an independent environmental assessment of the safety of drilling in arctic waters," said North Slope Borough Mayor Jessie Kaleak. Kaleak is a whaling captain.

### OBITUARIES

DIOMEDE CITY COUNCIL  
DIOMEDE, ALASKA VIA NOME 99762  
686-8001

FEB 21 1991

FEBRUARY 12, 1991

The Honorable Richard Foster  
P.O. Box 1630  
NOME, ALASKA 99762

Dear Representative Foster:

The Little Diomed City Council recently passed a resolution requesting a quota allocation for one Bowhead Whale per year from the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC).

We have been requesting a quota allocation for many years, without any success. We have traditionally hunted the bowhead whale, but because of our isolation we were unable to present our case for a whale quota back when the other whaling villages presented their cases to the International Whaling Commission (IWC).

The AEWC has expressed their support to our request, but they have been unable to obtain the necessary funding for a subsistence needs study.

The International Whaling Commission requires that a subsistence needs study be conducted at Little Diomed before they can consider the quota allocation request.

The needs study requires \$127,000.00. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Juneau Area Office, has agreed to give partial funding of \$40,000.00. This was accomplished with the help of Senator Ted Stevens, but another \$87,000.00 is required to conduct the needs study prior to the IWC meeting scheduled for May.

The quote of \$127,000.00 for the needs study was give to AEWC by Stephen R. Braund & Associates. They conducted the needs studies for Barrow and the other whaling communities.

We want to sing our whaling songs, enjoy Nalukataq, and eat black mukluk again. If there is anyway that you can help us find funding for the needs study we would be very grateful. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Patrick Omiak Sr.*, City Clerk  
Patrick Omiak Sr. *for*  
Mayor

Enclosure: Resolution 90-11



Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission  
P.O. Box 570  
Barrow, Alaska 99723  
Phone: (907) 852-2392

Unopened

January 4, 1991

The Honorable Richard Foster  
P.O. Box 1630  
Nome, Alaska 99762

Dear Representative Foster:

Our Office has been trying for years to get funding for a subsistence needs study for Little Diomedede so they can receive a bowhead whale quota allocation. We have sent grant requests to various granting agencies including BIA and the National Marine Fisheries Service. With pressure from Senator Ted Stevens, the BIA Office in Juneau finally committed themselves to giving us partial funding for a total of \$40,000. The subsistence needs study requires \$127,000.

This study has to be conducted before the International Whaling Commission (IWC) can consider Little Diomedede as a bowhead whaling community, and the next IWC meeting will be held this May. We are hoping the needs study can be funded, and completed by May so that the Little Diomedede case is presented to the IWC at that time, otherwise we'll have to wait another three years before this case is brought to the IWC again.

We are hoping to enlist your support, and if possible, help the village of Little Diomedede by giving the study the necessary funding it requires. As you may know, bowhead whale hunting is important to the entire community, both physically and culturally. Our Office would appreciate any assistance you can give this crucial need. If you have any questions, please call me at 852-2392.

Sincerely,

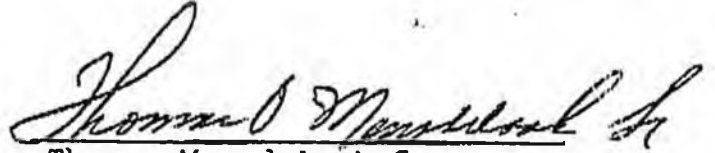
Beverly Grinage  
Executive Director


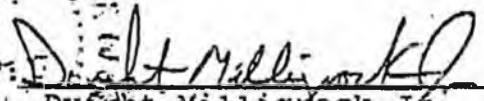
cc: City of Little Diomedede  
Toby Anungazuk, Jr., AEW Commissionner, Wales

4) We are tired of hunting only the gray whale at our island. Every year we hunt and land gray whale but we can not hunt the black whale. We know, but sad, can not sing our whaling songs, enjoy Nalukataq, enjoy black muktuk like our brothers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Diomedé City Council, the Native Village of Diomedé, the Village of Inliak, the island of Little Diomedé be granted a quota of at least one black whale.

PASSED and APPROVED by th. DIOMEDE CITY COUNCIL of LITTLE DIOMEDE this 5th day of December, 1990.

  
Thomas Menadelook Sr.  
Mayor

  
ATTEST:   
Dwight Milligock Jr.  
City Clerk

Directed to :Eskimo Whaling Commission  
Eskimo Whaling Captaining Association  
Mayor of the North Slope Borough

## CITY OF DIOMEDE

## RESOLUTION NO.90-11

A RESOLUTION OF DIOMEDE CITY COUNCIL REQUESTING A BOWHEAD WHALE QUOTA FOR INALIK (DIOMEDE).

WHEREAS, the allied peoples of Inalik (Little Diomede), Imaqxiq (Big Diomede) and Nuugaq (Naukan) have since time out of mind followed the whale; and

Whereas, today these people live in their traditional homes only on the American Island of Little Diomede at the village of Inalik; and

WHEREAS, at the time quotas were placed on agviit (Black Whale) our isolation meant we were unable to present our case for a whale quota as we followed the ways of our ancestors without contact with the mainland on our island home at Inalik; and

WHEREAS, we have always been a people of the whale; listen to our evidence; listen to our testimony; walk among the whale bones on our island.

- 1) In Chapters XIX and XX of his book DRUMS of DIOMEDE the missionary-teacher Arthur Hansin Eide on pages 185-205 documents whaling and Nalukataq. In the pictures in his book Eide shows the blessing of the boats, the whale camps on the ice, eleven whale boats returning to the village at Little Diomede, "cutting up the spirit whale", the "beginning of Nallukatak (sic)" muktuk enjoyed by all.
- 2) Our people's blood is mainly from Imaqxiq, also from Inalik, Nuugaq and Uqiuvak, with some from Tapqaq, Tikigaq, Qawiaraq, Kingigin, Siugaq. The oldest male Diomedes, Kiminaak was born on the ship Belvedere near Herschel Island in Canada in 1905. His father was Aiyerga, a great whaler from Imaqxiq, who had signed on with this Yankee boat for the spring bowhead hunt. When Kiminaak moved to Little Diomede in 1926 he remembers the whaling at Inalik. His uncle Kayouktuk whaled at Inalik. Kiminaak whaled with Kayouktuk. He remembers: Okpealuk took a whale in 1919, Omiak was striker; another in 1928, in 1938-39 Ahkingas and Sinyakis took whales, in 1953 Omiak lost one, struck by Paul Omiak; then Kiminaak moved to Nome.
- 3) Ahkinga's grandson Kakaduk (Roger Kunayak) remembers the stories. He has whaled in Barrow for black whale. Omiak's son Pat Omiak remembers the stories. He has whaled in Gambell and Barrow with his relation. Ahkinga's son Anolak, Oscar Ahkinga remembers the stories. He has whaled at Barrow and Diomede for black whale. Sons and grandsons of our old whalers still whale. Only now we have to hunt the black whale with our relation at Wales, Gambell, Barrow. At Diomede we can only hunt the gray, the meinke whales.



## ALASKA ESKIMO WHALING COMMISSION

## ALASKA ESKIMO WHALING CAPTAINS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONVENTION

## RESOLUTION 88-01

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior has commissioned a need study to determine Eskimo needs for bowhead whales by examining historic whaling activities; and

WHEREAS, this study has documented historic whaling activities by the residents of Little Diomed Island, and

WHEREAS, the residents of Little Diomed Island have petitioned the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission to become members and receive a bowhead whale quota;


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the AEWK accept Little Diomed a member of the Commission and that AEWK requests the United States Department of Interior to join with AEWK in asking the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to revise its regulations to include Little Diomed Island as a recognized whaling village in order to allow AEWK to assign Little Diomed a bowhead whale quota.

Introduced & Adopted: February 19, 1988

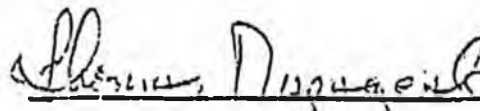
ATTEST:



Chairman



Secretary



Vice Chairman

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 39**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY REPRESENTATIVES FOSTER, MacLean, Kubina**

Introduced: 4/5/91  
Referred: Resources

**A RESOLUTION**

1 Relating to a bowhead whale allocation for the City of Diomede.

2 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3       **WHEREAS** the City of Diomede is located within the jurisdictional boundaries of Alaska and  
4 its citizens are residents of Alaska; and

5       **WHEREAS** the citizens of the City of Diomede have traditionally used the bowhead whale for  
6 subsistence; and

7       **WHEREAS** it is the responsibility of this legislature to represent the interests and protect the  
8 rights of the residents of Alaska; and

9       **WHEREAS** the citizens of the City of Diomede, as expressed in the city's Resolution 90-11,  
10 desire to obtain a bowhead whale allocation; and

11       **WHEREAS** to obtain the allocation the International Whaling Commission must increase the  
12 bowhead whale subsistence quota for Alaska Natives; and

13       **WHEREAS** the City of Diomede's request for an allocation has been endorsed by the Alaska  
14 Eskimo Whaling Commission, the local organization that oversees the management of the Eskimo  
15 bowhead whale hunt through a cooperative agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
16 Administration in the United States Department of Commerce; and

17       **WHEREAS** before the International Whaling Commission will approve the increased bowhead



# Alaska State Legislature

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Official Business

18 April 1991

P.O. Box V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

MEMORANDUM:

To: Senator Lloyd Jones, Chair,  
Senate Resources Committee.

From: Representative Richard Foster

SUBJECT: House Joint Resolution 39, "Relating to a  
Bowhead Whale Allocation for the City of  
Diomedé."

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HJR 39 is a resolution in support of the attempts by the people of Little Diomedé, Alaska to receive an allocation enabling the take of a bowhead whale. All allocations for Alaskan communities are sanctioned by the International Whaling Commission. This quota is then distributed to all eligible whaling communities. Currently, Diomedé is not an eligible community. Upon the completion of a subsistence needs determination, Diomedé will be able to request necessary eligibility.

Through funding by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission is sponsoring a subsistence determination study and completion of the report is expected prior to the May annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission.

Diomedé is supported in its request for an allocation by the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission. Only due to oversight at an earlier date was Diomedé precluded from current bowhead allocations. This resolution and the determination study will assist the community in their presentation before the International Commission.

There is no fiscal impact to the State of Alaska and no funding is requested.

Contact person: John Walsh, 3789/Court Building 611.

## ALASKA ESKIMO WHALING COMMISSION

## ALASKA ESKIMO WHALING CAPTAINS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONVENTION

## RESOLUTION 88-01

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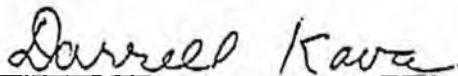
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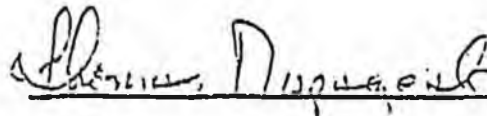
ATTEST:



Chairman



Secretary



Vice Chairman

Resolutions 88-01/90-11

## CITY OF DIOMEDE

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WHEREAS, at the time quotas were placed on agviit (Black Whale) our isolation meant we were unable to present our case for a whale quota as we followed the ways of our ancestors without contact with the mainland on our island home at Inalik; and

WHEREAS, we have always been a people of the whale; listen to our evidence; listen to our testimony; walk among the whale bones on our island.

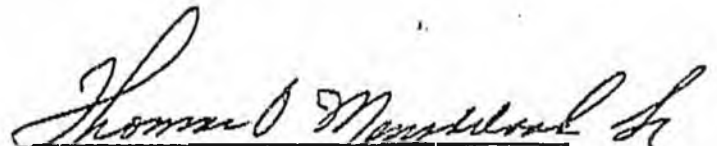
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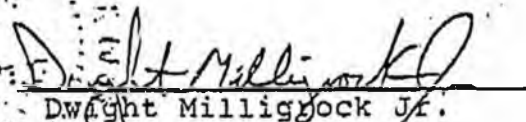
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PASSED and APPROVED by the DIOMEDE CITY COUNCIL of LITTLE DIOMEDE this 5th day of December, 1990.

  
Thomas Menadelook Sr.  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Dwight Milligock Jr.  
City Clerk

Directed to : Eskimo Whaling Commission  
Eskimo Whaling Captaining Association  
Mayor of the North Slope Borough



Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission  
P.O. Box 570  
Barrow, Alaska 99723  
Phone: (907) 852-2392

Unrecorded

January 4, 1991

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Nome, Alaska 99762

Dear Representative Foster:

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Sincerely,

Beverly Grinage  
Executive Director

cc: City of Little Diomedes  
Toby Anungazuk, Jr., AEWC Commissioner, Wales

Letter - Ak. Whaling Comm.

DIOMEDE CITY COUNCIL  
DIOMEDE, ALASKA VIA NOME 99762  
686-8001

FEB 21 1991

FEBRUARY 12, 1991

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Sincerely,  
*Patrick Omiak Sr.*, City Clerk  
Patrick Omiak Sr. *PK*  
Mayor

Enclosure: Resolution 90-11

*Position*  
- Diomedé City Council -

## Whaling captains allocate '91 harvest, seek quota increase

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Whalers also reiterated worries about potential offshore oil and gas drilling and plans to respond to oil spills in the Arctic.

The whaling captains wound up

a three-day meeting in Barrow last week by approving the same allocation formula for the 1991 bowhead whale hunt that existed last year. The whaling villages will be allowed to land 41 whales and may take 47 strikes to land them.

Under the allocation, Savoonga and Gambler each will get four whales, Wales will get one, Kivalina two, Point Hope six, Wainwright five, Barrow 15 and Nulik and Kaktovik two each.

Whaling captains say they plan to ask for an increase in the Alaska quota when the International Whaling Commission meets in May in Iceland. They said they will propose raising the total to 72 strikes to land 54 whales.

Dr. William Evans, the outgoing U.S. commissioner on the International Whaling Commission, praised Eskimo whalers in Alaska for the way they have managed the

whale hunt under I.W.C. guidelines.

"The aboriginal subsistence management scheme has been in place for eight years, and we have continued to see improved quotas," Evans said.

"We also more importantly have seen improved population estimates, improved science, increases in the population, and a level of cooperation between science, management and the user community

that is unique in the world."

The whaling captains, meanwhile, reiterated concerns about the state's support for offshore oil and gas drilling.

"Together ... we must continue to push for an independent environmental assessment of the safety of drilling in arctic waters," said North Slope Borough Mayor Jessie Kaleak. Kaleak is a whaling captain.

OBITUARIES

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