

Sachs Harbour

Your Wildlife By-laws

Polar Bears

Hunters and Trappers Committees in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region set by-laws that govern Inuvialuit rights to harvest. These are your by-laws. They are enforced through the NWT Wildlife Act as required by the Inuvialuit Final Agreement.

All harvesters **must have a tag** to hunt a polar bear.

- ✓ Before going hunting, pick up a tag from your local Hunters and Trappers Committee (HTC).
- ✓ If successful, you must attach the tag and report your harvest as soon as possible.

Who can hunt a polar bear?

- Inuvialuit have exclusive rights to harvest polar bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR).
- Local Hunters and Trappers Committees (HTCs) decide how to allocate tags.

Where can I hunt?

- Tags are available for the Northern Beaufort Sea area (see map).
- Your tag also allows you to hunt 30 km into the Southern Beaufort Sea area to allow you to track a bear.

When can I hunt?

- Hunting season is October 1 to May 31, with a male-only harvest until December 1.

Are there other limitations?

- You cannot hunt:
 - A polar bear that is in a den
 - A polar bear that is constructing a den
 - A polar bear cub or a polar bear accompanied by a cub



Do I have to report my harvest?

- **Yes. Every polar bear harvest must be reported.**
- You must attach a tag as soon as possible.
- You may delay attaching the tag until after the hide is cleaned, stretched and dried, but must produce the tag at the request of a Renewable Resource Officer.
- You must report your harvest as soon as possible. This includes your name, date, location, tag number, evidence of sex of bear, ear tags and tattoos (if present) and any other information required by a Renewable Resource Officer.
- A bear is counted as female if the sex is not verified.
- A Renewable Resource Officer will help you complete the Hunter Kill Return form. You will need to confirm the information with your signature.

What if I kill a polar bear in self-defence?

- If you kill a bear in defence of life or property, you cannot keep the hide or any part of the bear.
- You must report the kill as soon as possible and turn the hide, skull and all samples over to a Renewable Resource Officer.
- The officer will ask you for a detailed report about what happened.
- After the investigation is complete, the officer will turn the hide over the HTC that provided the tag.

If you have questions about these by-laws, please contact your local Hunters and Trappers Committee.

For questions about the Wildlife Act, please contact:

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Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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