



Bears and Tol Landfill

GLWB Technical Session Town of Inuvik Municipal Water Licence Renewal

27 April 2017

Marsha Branigan, ENR Inuvik Region

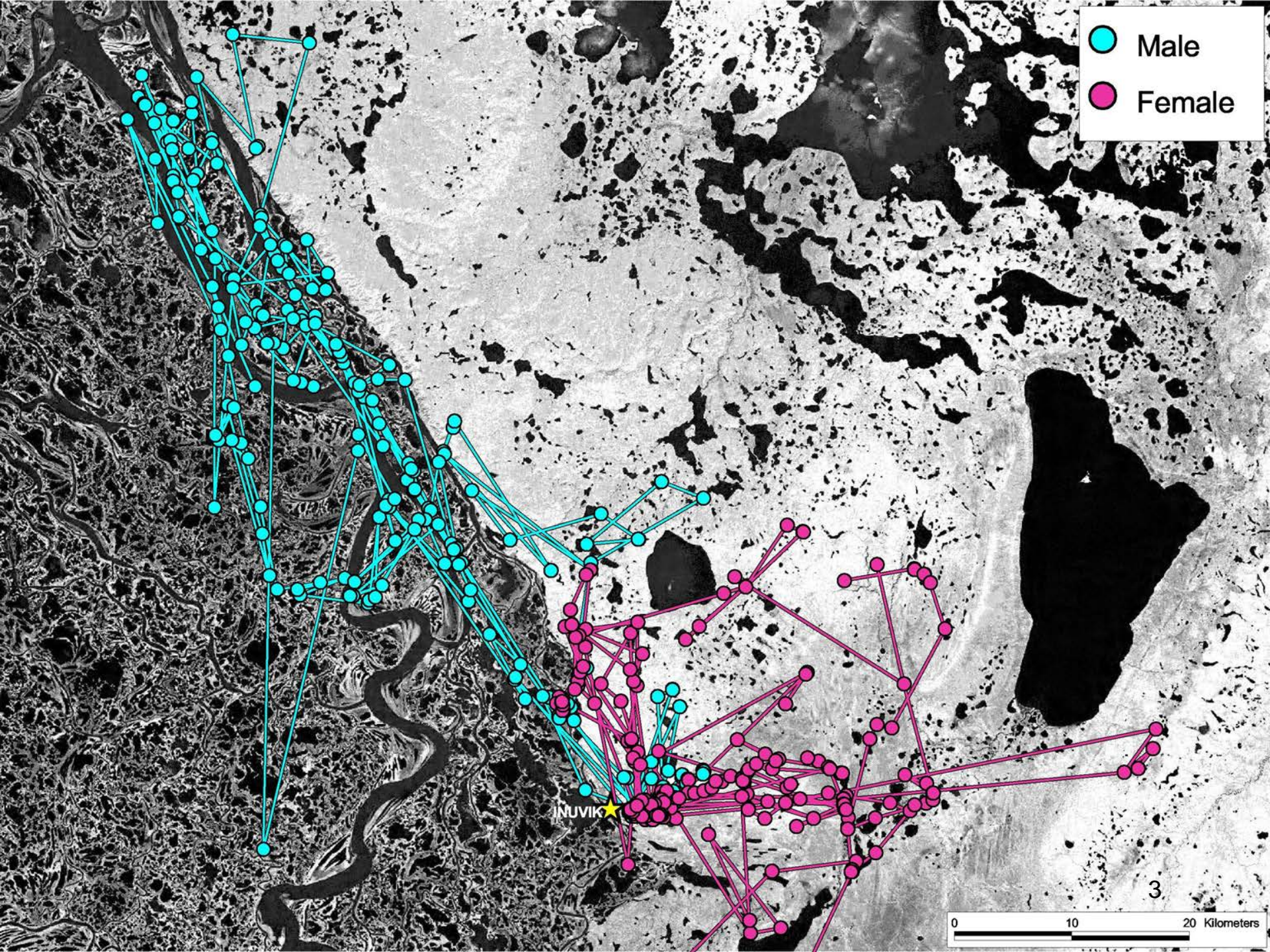
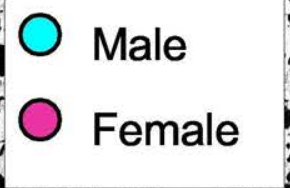
Northwest Territories

Environment and
Natural Resources

ENR believes that:



Most human-bear conflicts begin when people allow bears to access non-natural food sources such as landfill sites and food left at camps



ENR and Bears

- Bear phone – 24 hours in the bear season
- Responding to calls
- Implement bear traps when needed
- Posting warning signs
- Facebook page
- Cabin inspections and Electric fence Program





ENR - Inuvik Bears

August 11, 2016 · 🌐

The bear trap has been pulled from behind spruce hill drive and has been set in a vacant lot on Tuma Drive. Again, the public is asked to stay clear of this area. Parents, it is very important that you keep your children away from this area!



Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts ✕

3,708 People Reached

91 Reactions, Comments & Shares

46 Like | **15** On Post | **31** On Shares

6 🤩 Wow | **1** On Post | **5** On Shares

4 Comments | **1** On Post | **3** On Shares

36 Shares | **32** On Post | **4** On Shares

788 Post Clicks

186 Photo Views | **1** Link Clicks | **601** Other Clicks ⓘ

NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

2 Hide Post | **1** Hide All Posts
0 Report as Spam | **0** Unlike Page

Recent numbers:
533 Likes

357 identify as Inuvik residents

ENR and Bears

Inuvik Region occurrence reports
228 - of those 191 are from Inuvik

Year	Occurrences	Bears Killed
2014	32	1
2015	65	3
2016	94	5



Water Licence

GRRB Recommendation: investigate bear deterrent methods and other alternatives to killing bears at the Inuvik Landfill.

TOI: Bear deterrence from solid waste sites and from townsites generally is a well-known and seemingly somewhat intractable problem, in communities spanning the spectrum from Vancouver to Inuvik and beyond. Inuvik would be very pleased to host a GNWT-funded research project. The results would have application at all northern communities, and quite likely throughout Canada.



Bears and Humans

- Many instances where reducing access to landfills has been successfully implemented
- Requires on-going efforts and a plan
- ENR opinion that there is no need for a GNWT funded research project
- Many communities are implementing Bear Smart or Bear Wise programs



Fencing The Landfill

Multiple purposes

- Keep garbage contained
 - Prevent garbage from blowing into adjacent water or creating unsightly lands
 - Inspection reports for a number of Inuvik region landfills recommending installation of fences for this purpose
- Keep wildlife out
- Keep humans out – safety issue



Examples

- Fencing of land fills
- Use of bear deterrents
- Ongoing maintenance required
- Community awareness programs



Bear Smart Waste Management could include a variety of options

- **Move the landfill sites further from town**
- **Cover or remove domestic garbage daily**
- **Install permanent electric fencing**
- **Implement Bear smart by-laws in community**
- **Use bear proof garbage containers**
- **Implement a continuing education program on bear awareness**
- **Restricting curb-side placement until collection day**

Bear Smart Program

- Needs to be collaborative and multi-pronged
- If dump is fenced, in short term more bears will come into town
- Removal of habituated food-conditioned bears likely required
- Town needs to be ready
- ENR needs to be ready
- Discussions with WMBs need to happen



Moving Forward - ENR

- ENR agrees with GRRB that there is a problem with bears in the Inuvik Landfill
- Landfills need to be managed to reduce bear access to attractants and keep garbage contained
- ENR is willing to work with the TOI and co-management partners to develop a plan of action moving forward on reducing bear attractants including access to the landfill



A close-up photograph of a brown bear's face, showing its eyes, nose, and thick brown fur. The bear is looking directly at the camera.

Questions? Discussion

Potential Options under Water Licence

- Operations and Management of landfill moves towards fencing the dump to contain garbage
- Potential for term or conditions under the licence with a time frame to implement action

