



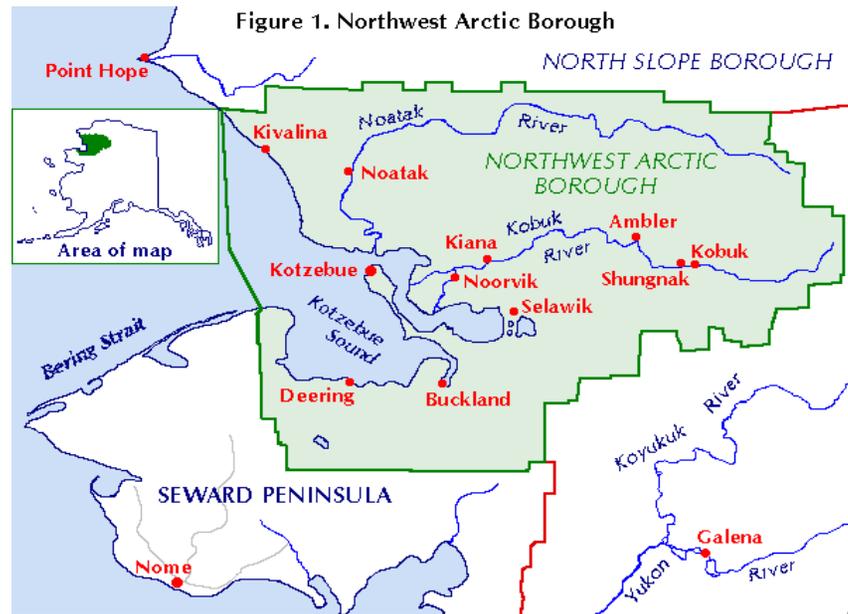
# 2012 Ice Seal Harvest Survey for Northwest Arctic



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Communities / Seals		Deering	Noatak	Buckland	Kivalina	Total
Spotted Seal		2	22	75	20	119
Bearded Seal		42	57	42	117	258
Ringed Seal		0	2	23	15	40
Ribbon Seal		0	1	0	0	1
Loss	Killed but not caught	8	12	19	8	47
Total		52	94	159	160	465



**Participation in the 2012 Ice Seal Harvest Survey for Northwest Arctic:**

Communities	Deering	Noatak	Buckland	Kivalina	Total
Numbers of Households	42	114	86	82	324
Elders	4	53	NA	NA	57
Hunters	14	NA	NA	NA	14
Not Hunters	13	36	NA	NA	49
Not Home	5	1	11	3	9
Refuse	1	1	NA	2	4
No Equipment	4	NA	NA	NA	4

**Reports by Community:** Voluntary survey was done on Spotted, Bearded, Ringed and Ribbon seals in the Native communities of Kivalina, Noatak, Deering and Buckland in the Northwest Arctic Borough. These communities help fund the Ice Seal Committee. I would really like to say a big thank you to the committee for funding this important project. Thanks to the villages for cooperating and the village surveyors Ellan Swan and Clayton Barr of Deering, Gerald Walton and William Penn of Noatak, Lizzie Hawley and Jamie Hawley of Kivalina, Edwin Gavin and Dora Stalker of Buckland for doing a wonderful job. Very important data on seals of concern on this survey, sick seals, were spotted.

- **Deering** – (Was given old household list, including teachers 55)  
Most Hunters see a big change due to global warming melting early and ice leaving earlier, ice thinner, seeing more of birds that use to never be seen at Deering.
- **Noatak** - Was told before the survey most don't come down to Shesolik to harvest seals anymore. All harvesters were happy with their take, and mentioned that the ice was thin and the ice left early. The harvesters seen a lot of the other seals than before were healthy (fat) and their stomachs had lots of shrimp and small crabs. One harvester saw 1 sick seal and the ice was rotten and did not go after it.
- **Buckland** - Seal harvesters were happy with their catch, one bearded seal had yellow blubber on it and 2 years ago (2010) harvesters saw two bearded seal with bald spots and lesions, Harvester saw two dead on top of the ice both were bearded seals, both had bald spots and lesions on them and they did notice they looked fat, also one ringed was so sick looking that it was unrecognizable if you did not know what a ringed seal looked like. Most noted that they have seen bearded, spotted and ringed seal at the river. Ice melting early and leaving early and is a lot thinner and lots of black ice. The harvesters caught two spotted seals that was very skinny.
- **Kivalina** - Harvesters saw two sick bearded seals two years ago (2010) that had bald spots and one had liaisons. For this year one was seen from a distance with binoculars with bald spots; also one was harvested that had bald spots and the meat was nice and red and the blubber was fat. Most noted that the ice melts early and leaves early and a lot of black ice and most seen seals on the river, bearded and ringed seals

***Thank You to Native Villages of Buckland, Deering, Kivalina, and Noatak for participating because without your help this survey would not be possible. It has been a great Honor to serve my region and people. Sincerely Enoch Shiedt***