

Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission P.O. Box 570 Barrow, AK 99723 www.aewc-alaska.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement of the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission Regarding Gray Whale Struck on the Kuskokwim River

The Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC) was notified today by news sources that a gray whale was struck on the Kuskokwim River. The AEWC is responsible for managing the bowhead whale and its subsistence harvest through a co-management agreement with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). This comanagement agreement applies only to whaling activities by registered whaling captains in the AEWC's 11 villages of Barrow, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Pt. Lay, Wainwright, Pt Hope, Kivalina, Wales, Little Diomede, Gambell, and Savoonga. The AEWC does not have authority related to whaling activities beyond the registered whaling captains of these communities.

All inquiries can be directed to the regional National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) office in Anchorage.