



LIVE IN CANADA'S COASTS.

(*Pagophilus groenlandicus*)

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Objectives.

- ❖ Analyze the effect of the hunt in Northwest Atlantic Harp seal population, over the trade bans.
- ❖ Evaluate the consequences of thin ice due to climate change.
- ❖ See if Active campaigns of divers organizations have any influence in the population.



Introduction.

Canada's commercial hunt is the largest slaughter of marine mammals in the world.

HARVEST

Conservational groups have been trying to protect the specie since 1970's.

CLIMATE CHANGE



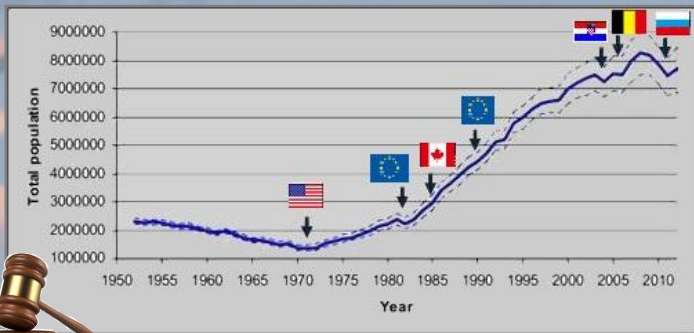
ACTIVE campaigns

Quick changes in temperature and ice conditions pose significant challenges for Arctic seals.

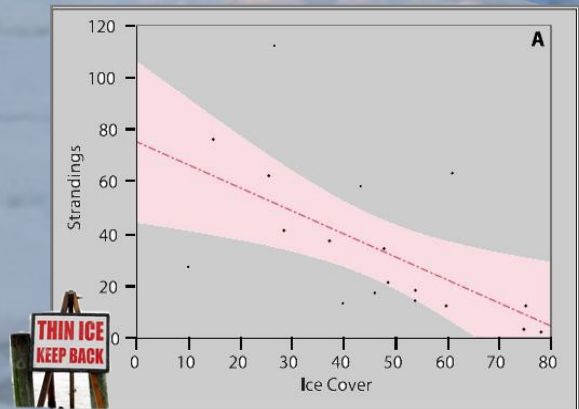
INUIT HUNT

Seals are source of fat, Protein, Vitamin A & B, and iron for Inuit population.

Results.



Graphic 1; Total population of Harp seal, assuming carrying capacity 12 million. Years of the bans marked with arrows.



Graphic 2; Relationship between seals mortality and sea ice cover.

Thanks to the laws applied, the population of seals have raised, but if the hunting quotas keep raising and the ice cover becomes lighter, Harp seal population wont be able to survive.



Conclusions.

- ❖ Stop the commercial (not Inuit) hunt of Harp seals → excluding events of overpopulation.
- ❖ Be keen of the ice state, due to climate change → Main factor affecting.
- ❖ Understand the dynamic of the population, by taking adequate samples of reproductive and pregnancy rates → Future of the specie.



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