

THE NORTHERN FORUM

RESOLUTION 15

SUSTAINABLE USE OF MARINE MAMMALS AND OTHER WILDLIFE

Whereas the Northern Forum has received a resolution from the World Wilderness Congress supporting Sustainable Use of Marine Mammals.

Whereas Marine Mammals and other wildlife comprise a major component of the northern areas ecosystems,

Whereas northern peoples have depended on the hunting and utilization of these resources for their social, economic, cultural and nutritional needs over many generations.

Whereas there are a number of international agreements that assert the rights of people to a secure livelihood and the right to use natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Whereas, even as we meet, these rights are under threat from diverse governments and non governmental organizations that oppose the harvesting of marine and land based mammals, predators and furbearing species, and the marketing of their products, even where science has indicated sustainable harvest levels.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Northern Forum Board of Directors urge that governments and non governmental organizations avoid actions that threaten the rights of Northern residents to utilize and manage non-endangered marine and land based mammals on a sustainable and equitable basis.

And be it further resolved that the Northern Forum board of directors urges management of all wildlife based on science to support sustainable populations.

Signed this day of October 3, 1993