

*Near Gambell—*

# Spring Whales Arrive

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GAMBELL — Spring whale hunting days are very exciting here in Gambell. As this is the month when the whales are passing by this way at the sea northwest of Gambell.

First the little ones would be passing by, a few ton ones. Every time the ice has moved away farther apart there would be more whales.

Sometimes in groups, the little blue whales be splashing around, they say they are playing.

Then it is when this happens, the boats do get out on pursue. Oh, everyone would run around and to their walrus hide boats to be going.

Over the hills of snow and down the slides of slippery ones, everyone run around.

It is a very scarce chance when one might kill this monster and bring it home for food and other uses.

Our ancestors use to use the bones for housing poles and other durable uses before we knew of lumber.

There also is lots of work, for the men to do. It is making path for the walrus hide boats to go out.

As the snow is thickest this month, the path has to be pretty wide 10-15 feet wide and solid white snow walls are over 5 feet some places.

There still are no snow removing tractors to work here, only one that works here is for the airport. Men still shovel at the ice shores to make paths to go out hunting.

So it is happening this way now. And on April 23, three whales have been lost. First it was Willard Kaningok's that lost one, next was

Alex Oozeva's boat and the third and most sure of was Daniel Iyakitan's. When the boats all were ready to bring it home, it sunk! How disappointing.

Everyone sadly and very tired, tried to sleep that night.