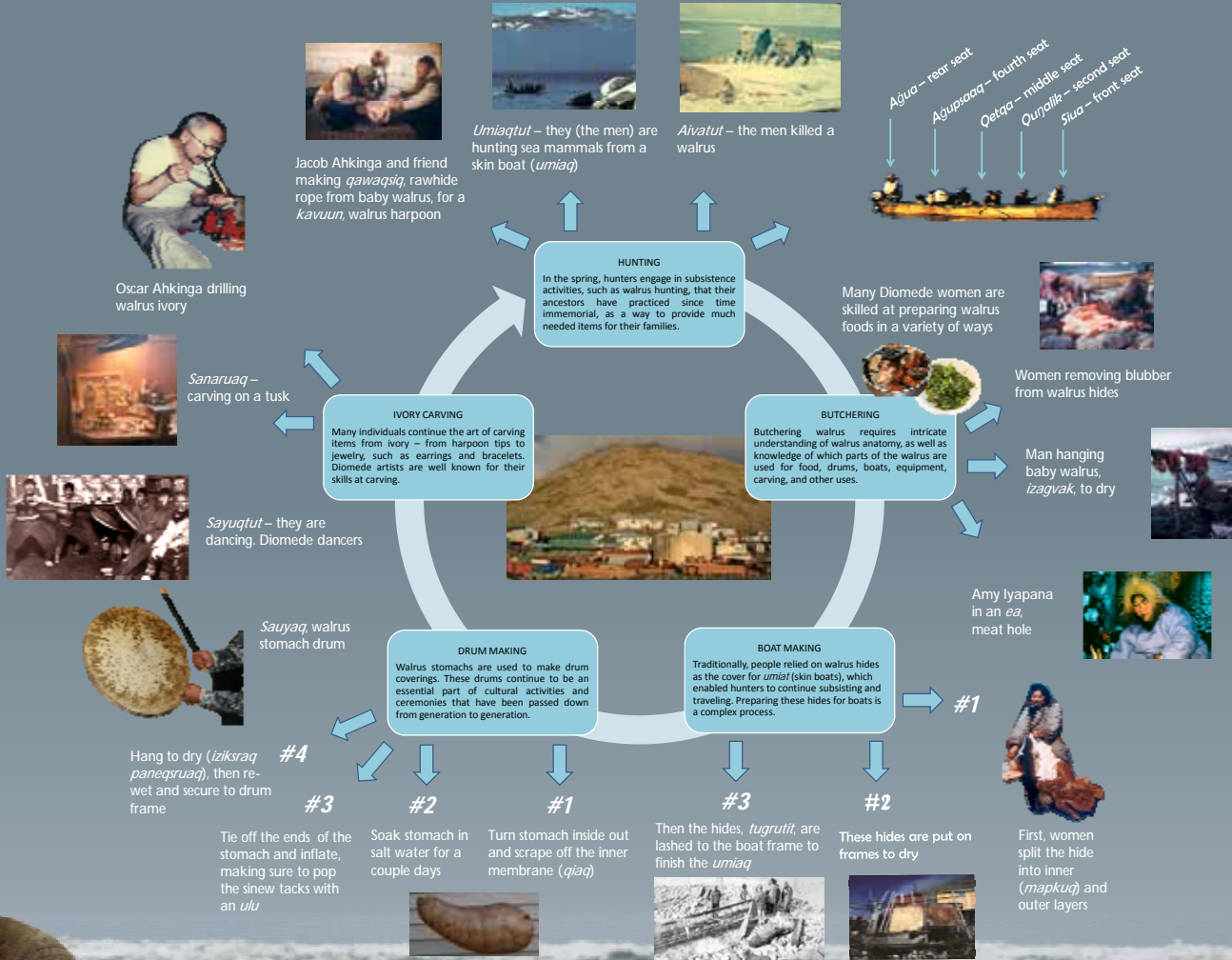


We depend on the sea: The Importance of Walrus to Little Diomedede

The Igalit, or people of Little Diomedede, maintain a long-standing and complex relationship with walrus. Traditionally, every part of the walrus had its own specific use so that no part was wasted. Walrus meat provides nourishment, the stomach can be made into drums, the hide can be used to make boats, and the tusks can be made into harpoon tips and jewelry, just to name a few of the many uses Diomedede people have for walrus. Great cultural value and meaning are attached to walrus, as the community has relied heavily on the harvest of walrus to sustain them for millennia. Although this relationship between Diomedede people and walrus has changed over time, walrus remain a critical resource for people on Little Diomedede today.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Funding from the North Pacific Research Board (project 10-131).
 Traditional Knowledge contributors: Arthur Ahkinga, Dora Ahkinga, Alois Ahkvaluk, John Ahkvaluk, Glenn Iyahuk, Jerry Iyapana, Andrew Kunuyak, Mary Menadelook, James Orniak, Patrick Orniak Sr, Francis Ozerna, Alice Soolook, Edward Soolook, Robert Soolook Jr.
 Collaboration and support from the Native Village of Diomedede Tribal Council and staff.
 Photographs: Joel Garlich-Miller, USFWS (background photo), Kawerak Eskimo Heritage Program archives, Julie Raymond-Yakoubian.
 Poster design: Meghan Topkok. Other Project Staff: Lawrence Kaplan, Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian, Julie Raymond-Yakoubian, Mary Herman, Eva Menadelook, Gay Sheffield.

Kawerak Social Science Program, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762. www.kawerak.org/socialsci

