



NIRB File No.: 14YN034

July 29, 2014

Dr. Donald McLennan
Canadian High Arctic Research Station
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
15 Eddy Street
Hull, QC K1A 0M4

Sent via email: donald.mclennan@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's "Arctic Freshwater Biodiversity in Cambridge Bay" Project Proposal

Dear Dr. McLennan:

On July 18, 2014 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's (AANDC) "Arctic Freshwater Biodiversity in Cambridge Bay" project proposal from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI). The NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **14YN034** - please reference this file number in related future correspondence.

The proposed project is located in the Kitikmeot Region, in an area within the Greiner Lake watershed, approximately 25 kilometres (km) north, 30km northeast, and 35 km southeast of Cambridge Bay. The program is proposed to take place from August 25 to September 6, 2014 and would involve the collection of information which would help to document the Arctic freshwater biodiversity in the Cambridge Bay area.

The proposed project activities and components include:

- Sampling of 25 lakes from the deepest point of the water column, of both abiotic and biotic samples, including:
 - Samples for nutrients, phytoplankton and zooplankton;
 - Measurements of temperature, light, conductivity and pH;
 - Preservation of phytoplankton in Lugol's solution and zooplankton in formaldehyde;
- Collection of benthic algae for biomass analyses from stones in the littoral zones;
- Use of electric pump, hose 1 centimetre (cm) in diameter, water sampler, plankton nets and a Temperature, pH Conductivity Meter;

- Transportation to and within sampling sites via all-terrain vehicle (ATV) and boat with motor (all refueling to be conducted in Cambridge Bay);
- Analysis of results to occur at Université du Québec à Chicoutimi.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/14YN034-CHARS-Arctic%20Freshwater%20Biodiversity/> including:

- *NRI Scientific Research Licence Application Form in English*
- *Maps*
- *Non-technical Project Proposal summary in English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun*

Pursuant to Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the NIRB shall proceed to screen this project proposal. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process. The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access.

Be advised that the NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by this project proposal. Interested parties are encouraged to comment directly to the NIRB by **August 8, 2014**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic and socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please note that *proposed* project-specific terms and conditions, should the project proceed, have been attached for consideration and comment (**Appendix A**).

Please send your comments to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4606 or hrasmussen@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Heather Rasmussen
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
 Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
 Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
 Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute

Attachment: Appendix A – *Proposed* Project Specific Terms and Conditions

Enclosures (3): Comment Forms (English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun)

Appendix A
Proposed Project Specific Terms and Conditions

The following is a list of project-specific terms and conditions which, should the project proceed, may be recommended to be attached to any approval.

General

1. Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (the Proponent) shall maintain a copy of the Project Terms and Conditions at the site of operation at all times.
2. The Proponent shall forward copies of all permits obtained and required for this project to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) prior to the commencement of the project.
3. The Proponent shall operate in accordance with all commitments stated in correspondence provided to NIRB (Nunavut Research Institute Scientific Research Licence Application, July 18, 2014).
4. The Proponent shall operate the site in accordance with all applicable Acts, Regulations and Guidelines.

Water

5. Unless otherwise permitted, the Proponent shall not extract water from any fish-bearing waterbody unless the water intake hose is equipped with a screen of appropriate mesh size to ensure that there is no entrapment of fish.
6. The Proponent shall not use water, including constructing or disturbing any stream, lakebed or the banks of any definable water course unless approved by the Nunavut Water Board.

Waste

7. The Proponent shall keep all garbage and debris in bags until disposed of at an approved facility. All such wastes shall be kept inaccessible to wildlife at all times.

Fuel and Chemical Storage

8. The Proponent shall store all fuel and chemicals in such a manner that they are inaccessible to wildlife.
9. The Proponent shall ensure that appropriate spill response equipment and clean-up materials (e.g., shovels, pumps, barrels, drip pans, and absorbents) are readily available during any transfer of fuel or hazardous substances.
10. The Proponent shall ensure that all personnel are properly trained in fuel and hazardous waste handling procedures, as well as spill response procedures. All spills of fuel or other deleterious materials of any amount must be reported immediately to the 24 hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.

Wildlife - General

11. The Proponent shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this operation.

12. The Proponent shall not harass wildlife. This includes persistently worrying or chasing animals, or disturbing large groups of animals. The Proponent shall not hunt or fish, unless proper Nunavut authorizations have been acquired.
13. The Proponent shall ensure that all project personnel are made aware of the measures to protect wildlife and are provided with training and/or advice on how to implement these measures.
14. The Proponent shall ensure all project staff are trained in appropriate bear/carnivore detection and deterrent techniques.

Migratory Birds and Raptors Disturbance

15. The Proponent shall not disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of any birds. If nests are encountered and/or identified, the Proponent shall take precaution to avoid further interaction and or disturbance (e.g., a 100 metre buffer around the nests). If active nests of any birds are discovered (i.e. with eggs or young), the Proponent shall avoid these areas until nesting is complete and the young have left the nest.

Caribou and Muskoxen Disturbance

16. The Proponent shall cease activities that may interfere with the migration or calving of caribou or muskox, until the caribou or muskox have passed or left the area.

Ground Disturbance

17. The Proponent shall not move any equipment or vehicles unless the ground surface is in a state capable of fully supporting the equipment or vehicles without rutting or gouging. Overland travel of equipment or vehicles must be suspended if rutting occurs.

Restoration of Disturbed Areas

18. The Proponent shall ensure that all disturbed areas are restored to a stable or pre-disturbed state as practical as possible upon completion of field work.

Other

19. The Proponent should, to the extent possible, hire local people and to consult with local residents regarding their activities in the region.
20. Any activity related to this application, and outside the original scope of the project as described in the application, will be considered a new project and should be submitted to the NIRB for Screening.