



Environmental Protection Operations Directorate  
Prairie & Northern Region  
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ECCC File: 6100 000 180 /001

NIRB File: 17EN029

Natasha Lear  
Environmental Administrator  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
P.O. Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Via email: [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca)

**RE: 17EN029 – North Country Gold Corporation – Gibson MacQuoid Project –  
NIRB Screening**

Attention: Natasha Lear

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) regarding the above-mentioned screening. ECCC's specialist advice is provided based on our mandate, in the context of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

The following comments are provided:

1. On page 6 of the Corporate and Social Responsibility Action Plan (CSRAP), Section 4.6 Authorizations includes a list of Acts, Regulations, Guidelines and Recommendations that North Country Gold Corporation's (the Proponent) must follow. ECCC notes the absence of the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA). The Proponent must comply with the MBCA, including Paragraph 6(a) of the Migratory Bird Regulations which states that no one shall disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of migratory birds. Migratory birds, the nests of migratory birds and/or their eggs can be inadvertently harmed or disturbed as a result of many activities including but not limited to clearing trees and other vegetation, draining or flooding land, or using fishing gear. The inadvertent harming, killing, disturbance or destruction of migratory birds, nests and eggs is known as incidental take. Incidental take, in addition to harming individual birds, nests or

eggs, can have long-term consequences for migratory bird populations in Canada, especially through the cumulative effects of many different incidents.

ECCC recommends that the MBCA be added to the list of Acts, Regulations, Guidelines and Recommendations listed in section 4.6 of the CSRAP.

2. On page 8 of the CSRAP in section 6.0 Flora and Fauna, the Proponent states "NCGC will ensure that eggs or nests are not disturbed by any activities." In order to protect migratory birds, ECCC believes it should be specified that eggs, nests AND migratory birds not be disturbed by any activities.

ECCC recommends that the Proponent update their Flora and Fauna section so that it includes migratory birds and reads "eggs, nests and migratory birds are not to be disturbed by any activities".

3. On page 15 of the Spill Contingency Plan, in section 13.0 Emergency Contacts, Curtis Didham is listed as working for the Government of Nunavut. Curtis Didham is an Enforcement Officer working for ECCC.

ECCC recommends the Proponent update section 13.0 so that the correct information is available and Curtis Didham is listed as the ECCC contact.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4746 or [Gabriel.Bernard-Lacaille@canada.ca](mailto:Gabriel.Bernard-Lacaille@canada.ca).

Sincerely,



Gabriel Bernard-Lacaille  
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Melissa Pinto, Senior Environmental Assessment Coordinator  
Georgina Williston, Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)