



<b>GN-01: Archaeological resources</b>	
<b>Department</b>	Culture and Heritage
<b>Organization</b>	Government of Nunavut
<b>Subject/Topic</b>	Archaeological resources
<b>References</b>	NIRB Notice of Screening; project location maps
<b>CONCERNS</b>	
<p>A search of the Nunavut Archaeological Site Database indicates that there are 63 protected archaeological sites within the proposed Operational Boxes. This however does not preclude the presence of unrecorded archaeological sites or cultural features as none of the areas have been the object of systematic archaeological surveys.</p> <p>The scope of the proposed project includes the following activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Military exercises and patrols to be conducted within three Operational Boxes: Resolute (2554km<sup>2</sup>); Arctic Bay (857km<sup>2</sup>); Grise Fiord (337km<sup>2</sup>); and</li> <li>(2) The establishment of a primary temporary camp near Resolute for fuel cache and exercises and three additional temporary camps near Resolute, Grise Fiord, and Arctic Bay.</li> </ol> <p>The Department of Culture and Heritage has concerns with the current project proposal as ground disturbance activities are proposed and the potential impact to archaeological/historical sites and features is high.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The application covers extensive territory and in order for the Department of Culture and Heritage to assess the current proposal further information is required about the precise locations of all camps, travelled routes and specific locations of any activities areas.</li> <li>• The geographical location of the Operational Boxes in the coastal zones, specifically at the mouth of inlets is a concern as the potential for archaeological/historical resources in this environmental setting is generally high.</li> <li>• The presence of hundreds of personnel maneuvering in the vicinity of archaeological/historical sites is a concern.</li> <li>• The transportation and movements (vehicle and on foot) within and between the operational zones is a concern.</li> <li>• The timing of the operation is a concern as snow cover might mask recorded and unrecorded archaeological sites.</li> </ul>	
<b>SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The applicant is required to provide detailed information with regards to the location of specific activities areas (camp location, travelled routes, etc.). Information to be forwarded to the Territorial Archaeology Office.</li> <li>• The applicant should avoid conducting activities in the following locations: (1) South/ southwest corner of Cornwallis Island (Resolute Operational Box) as a concentration of sites is recorded in this area. Several of these sites are of particular cultural and scientific significance as well as being significant to the tourism industry; (2) the coastline margin of Grise Fiord Operational Box and; (3)</li> </ul>	

the western section of the Arctic Bay Operational Box.

- No persons should search, excavate, alter or otherwise disturb an archaeological site, or remove an archaeological artifact from an archaeological site without a Class 2 permit.
- No activities be conducted in the vicinity (50 m buffer zone) of any archaeological/historical sites. If archaeological sites or features are encountered, activities should immediately be interrupted and moved away from this location. Each site encountered needs to be recorded and reported to the Government of Nunavut Territorial Archaeology Office.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

N/A