



February 16, 2022
NPC File No. 149689

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Dear Ms. Maksagak, Ms. Pirie-Dominix, Ms. LeBlanc-Havard, Mr. Manzo, Mr. Cote, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Tagalik:

RE: NPC File # 149689 [Understanding the impacts of climate change on Arctic nesting geese – a key towards Inuit food sovereignty in Arviat, Nunavut]

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. Scientific research: assess the viability of an increased harvest of geese and eggs in a changing climate, to contribute to food security in Arviat. Specific activities include:
 - Establishment of a mobile base camp near the nesting area(s) to support research activities;
 - Use of ATVs to enter and traverse the Migratory Bird Sanctuary, and for the transportation of research personnel;
 - Undertake the mapping of current goose nesting locations and estimate abundance through systematic nest plot surveys (a grid of sample plots where numbers of nests inside a 30 m radius are counted, and eggs are measured to determine species);

- Undertake goose population health monitoring including collection of a sample size of 50 adult snow and 50 adult Ross's geese to assess cotemporary pathogens, plastic pollution, contaminant, and pre-breeding nutrient levels (note: some of these birds may be collected outside the MBS).
 - Banding a representative sample of snow and Ross's geese to determine current harvest and survival rates, which will guide local harvesting thresholds (note: some banding may occur outside the MBS).
2. Locations: Kivalliq [near the Hamlet of Arviat].

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. It conforms to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan (KRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, G, and H of the KRLUP. The project proposal requires screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) because it does not belong to a class of exempt works or activities set out in Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Agreement.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149689&sessionid=>

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the NUPPAA.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 983-4982.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Amuno'.

Solomon Amuno, PhD
Senior Planner
Nunavut Planning Commission