



June 16th, 2023

Wildlife Research Permit Application

RE: Keewaytinook Okimakanak Bathymetric Marine Survey.

Enclosed for your review is a wildlife research permit application for ***Keewaytinook Okimakanak*** of the ***Arctic Research Foundation***. This study is scheduled to begin on ***09 September, 2023*** and finish on ***15 November, 2023***.


This research is intended to:

- Create a set of maps of the sea floor identifying the best route between the communities for a marine fibre optic cable.

The study will involve:

- The survey will not capture, handle or dispose of any wildlife species and will report any incidents resulting in wildlife being killed;
- Pole mounted, towed dual purpose swath bathymetry systems will be used to obtain a 500m wide corridor data at depths below 50m and 250m wide corridor at depths of 10-50 m;
- A manometer will be used to identify the existing cable crossing point;
- A vibracore sample may be completed at 5km intervals within a 25m water depth at the Fort Severn and Peawanuck shore landing corridors;
- Keewaytinook Okimakanak is planning to use existing survey data first before considering the use of vibracore sampling at the existing Kuujjuaraapik landing;
- Environmental impacts are not anticipated to be caused by the project to lands, waters or nature resources including animals;
- The use of minimum gear power level to achieve the survey objectives will be used to reduce the impact on aquatic life
- Ramp up procedure will be completed with gradual increase in power of survey equipment to reduce impact on aquatic life;
- Cetacean monitoring by visual observation post will be completed. Survey will begin only if cetaceans are absent from the survey zone and stop if present. A summary sightings report will be provided following survey completion;
- The Arctic Research Foundation has met with key contacts and community visits are planned for June 22-29 consultations;
- Community members are invited to participate in the marine survey including identifying members to join the in shore survey where possible;
- At no point will the marine survey disrupt the traditional practices of the people.



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