

Additional Information

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Please see project map which outlines coordinates for all planned landing locations. Vessel will only call communities and zodiac near Lady Franklin Island. The Canadian Arctic Archipelago comprises of 94 major and 36,469 minor islands, covering a vast area of 1.4 million square kilometers in Northern Canada's North Atlantic Ocean. Nunavut and Northwest Territories form the majority of this region, which is separated from the mainland and each other by the Northwest Passage, the largest high Arctic land area worldwide. The terrain is mostly tundra, with the exception of mountainous areas, and Canada's glacial ice is mostly located in the highlands. The archipelago experiences cold winters, averaging between -20°C and -35°C, and mild summers, with temperatures ranging from 10°C to 25°C, with a wide range of plant and animal life, including various land and marine mammals, insects, and birds. The islands also have a range of plant species, such as mosses, liverworts, and lichens.

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During the expedition through Nunavut there are various endangered species in both marine and land environments that the vessel could potentially encounter. The Species at Risk Act (SARA) aims to protect species from extinction and has identified several species in Northern Canada as endangered, such as Barren-ground Caribou (NWT), Beluga Whale (Nvt), Caribou (Nvt), Eskimo Curlew (NWT, Nvt, YT), Gypsy Cuckoo Bumble Bee (NWT, YT), Ivory Gull (NWT), Little Brown Myotis (NWT, YT), Northern Myotis (NWT, YT), Red Knot (NWT), Ross's Gull (Nvt), and Whooping Crane (NWT).

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Several community visits are planned to Iqaluit, Pond Inlet, and Qikiqtarjuaq. We are looking forward to working with the communities to develop a program that allows the passengers to learn about the culture in a respectful and engaging manner. Passenger landing fees are paid to the Hamlet to ensure there is a fiscal benefit to the community. While the federal covid regulations have been dropped, we will adhere to any/all covid protocols requested by the communities. Appropriate archaeological permits have been applied for, and the onboard archaeologist will ensure all procedures are respected.

Miscellaneous Project Information

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Minimization and mitigation measures include following established standard operating procedures and education, which are viewed as being the key factors toward ensuring that crew, expedition staff and guests are educated and briefed appropriately. Staff and Guest Briefings will include pre-landing briefings on

wildlife sensitivities and potential hazards, proper wildlife viewing techniques and safety and operational practices. While the OCEAN NOVA will take necessary measures to limit their impact on all species within the surrounding environment, extra precautions will be taken for the species listed above. It is important to note that the proposed activity may cause disturbances to the flora and fauna. However, Grand Espaces believes that with proper procedures and attention to detail, any potential impacts caused by the OCAEN NOVA can be minimized. Ship's command and the Expedition Leader are aware of Species at Risk to ensure that activities do not impact these species. Environment and Climate Change Canada's "Environment Assessment Best Practice Guide for Wildlife at Risk in Canada" (http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual_sara/files/policies/EA%20Best%20Practices%202004.pdf) provides information on what is required when Wildlife at Risk, including Species at Risk, are encountered or affected by the Project.

Cumulative Effects

Cumulative effects are expected to be minimal. Vessel will only call communities and zodiac near Lady Franklin Island. No landing to be conducted there.

Impacts

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	PHYSICAL	Designated environmental areas	Ground stability	Permafrost	Hydrology / Limnology	Water quality	Climate conditions	Eskers and other unique or fragile landscapes	Surface and bedrock geology	Sediment and soil quality	Tidal processes and bathymetry	Air quality	Noise levels	BIOLOGICAL	Vegetation	Wildlife, including habitat and migration patterns	Birds, including habitat and migration patterns	Aquatic species, incl. habitat and migration/spawning	Wildlife protected areas	SOCIO-ECONOMIC	Archaeological and cultural historic sites	Employment	Community wellness	Community infrastructure	Human health
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List of Project Geometries

1	point	Pond Inlet
2	point	Qikiqtarjuaq
3	point	Lady Franklin Island
4	point	Iqaluit