

Public Registry - Project Proposals

NPC 150212: Hantzsch Island Thick-Billed Murre Surveys
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Proposal Status: Conformity Determination Issued

[Overview](#) [Documents](#)

[Project Overview](#)

Type of application: Amendment

Proponent name:

Julia Baak

Proponent company:

Canadian Wildlife Service

Project Description:

The Newfoundland and Labrador Thick-billed Murre (Akpa) annual harvest is the only licensed harvest of seabirds in Canada. Though harvest of Thick-billed and Common Murres has declined considerably since the 1960-70s, colony declines across the North Atlantic have prompted domestic and international concerns over the sustainability of the harvest in Canada. The impact of current harvest is difficult to assess since there is considerable uncertainty in recent population size, trend, and demographic rate, particularly in the eastern Canadian Arctic where some colonies have not been surveyed for 40 years. To inform harvest management, updated information on the Canadian population is required. Therefore, objective of this project is to support harvest management decisions for the Atlantic population of Thick-billed Murre by conducting surveys at the nine largest murre colonies in the eastern Canadian Arctic, including Hantzsch Island in Frobisher Bay, which has not been surveyed since 2010. To do this, we propose to take a boat from Iqaluit and travel to Hantzsch Island to take camera photos and drone photos of the seabirds on the island. This would allow us to estimate the population size of Thick-Billed Murres and other seabird species on the island, such as Black-Legged Kittiwakes (Tiratira). This survey would be a 1-2 day trip from Iqaluit to Hantzsch Island, and would be 3-12 people depending on the size of the boat we are able to secure. It would be sometime between August 1 and August 15, 2024, depending on weather and availability of a boat. We will not be going onto the island.

[Project Schedule](#)

Start Date:
2024-08-01

End Date:
2024-08-15

[Project Map](#)

List of project geometries:

Id	Geometry	Location Name
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[11013](#)

point

Hantzsch Island

NPC Planning regions:

No Approved Plan

[Project Land Use and Authorizations](#)

Project Land Use:

Scientific Research

Scientific Research

Licensing Agencies:

Government of Canada - Canadian Wildlife Service

Government of Nunavut - Department of Environment

Nunavut Research Institute

[Material Use](#)

Equipment:

Type	Quantity	Type	Use
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Boat

1

Unknown

To transport people to and from Hantzsch Island (departing from Iqaluit). The boat size will depend on the number of personnel and availability of outfitters (to be determined). Boat will hold 5-12 personnel.

Drone (DJI Mavic 3 Pro)

1

98 mm

To take photos and videos of thick-billed murre and other breeding seabirds on the island.

Camera (Sony AR7IV)

1

98 mm

To take photos and videos of thick-billed murre and other breeding seabirds on the island.

Fuel Use:

Type	Container	Capacity	Use
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Gasoline

1

200

Fuel for the boat

Hazardous Material and Chemical Use:

Type	Container	Capacity	Use
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No data found

Water Consumption:

Daily Amount (m ²)	Retrieval Method	Retrieval Location
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0

Waste and Impacts

Environmental Impacts:

No predicted impacts. All waste (if any) will remain on the boat and be brought back to Iqaluit. We will not embark on the island.

Waste Management:

Waste Type	Quantity Generated	Treatment Method
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Disposal Method

No data found