

NIRB File No.: 24YN026
NPC File No.: 150407

June 20, 2024

Alyssa Bohart
Government of Nunavut
P.O Box 1000, Sm 1310
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: abohart@gov.nu.ca

Re: Notice of Screening for Government of Nunavut's "Estimating the abundance of the Foxe Basin polar bear subpopulation" project proposal

Dear Alyssa Bohart:

On May 24, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen the Government of Nunavut's (GN) "Estimating the abundance of the Foxe Basin polar bear subpopulation" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), which conforms to both the Keweenaw Regional Land Use Plan and the North Baffin Regional Land Use plan. On June 18, 2024, the NIRB received the complete application from the Proponent.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)*, and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (NUPPAA), the NIRRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number 24YNO026 - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Scope:

Project:	Estimating the abundance of the Foxe Basin polar bear subpopulation
Region:	Within all three regions: Kitikmeot, Kivalliq and Qikiqtaaluk (South Baffin)
Location:	Aerial surveys within the entire Foxe Basin area, within the municipal boundaries of the communities of: Baker Lake, Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour, Nauyasat, Igloodik, Samitlak, Kimgait, and Kimmirut.

COMMENT FORM FOR NIBS SCREENINGS

The Numavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has a mandate to protect the integrity of the ecosystem for the existing and future residents of Numavut. To assess the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the project proposal, NIRB would like to hear your concerns, comments and suggestions about the following project proposal application:

Project Proposal Title: Estimating the abundance of the Foxe Basin polar bear subpopulation

Proponent: Government of Nunavut

Location: Kittlmeot, Kivalliq, and Qikiqtani (South Baffin) Region

Comments Due By: July 11, 2024 NIKB #: 24YN026

Indicate your concerns about the project proposal below:

<input type="checkbox"/> no concerns	<input type="checkbox"/> traditional uses of land
<input type="checkbox"/> water quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Inuit harvesting activities
<input type="checkbox"/> terrain	<input type="checkbox"/> community involvement and consultation
<input type="checkbox"/> air quality	<input type="checkbox"/> local development in the area
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> wildlife and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> tourism in the area
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> marine mammals and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> human health issues
<input type="checkbox"/> birds and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fish and their habitat	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> heritage resources in area	_____

Please describe the concerns indicated above: _____

The chopper noise will make many bears leave.

I suggest the pilots and biologists do their work with no hearing protection. Do as they do to the bears.

Too invasive!

Do you support the project proposal? Yes ☐ No ☒ Any additional comments?

Name of person commenting: Leand Akter of Coral Harbour

Position: Resident Organization: _____

Signature: [Signature] Date: June 24/24