



# CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for Silverback Films' "Filming Cetaceans in Admiralty Inlet" Project Proposal



Nunavut Regional Office  
918 Sivumugiaq Street  
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 3H0

Your file - Votre référence  
24AN029  
Our file - Notre référence  
GCdocs#127316745

July 8, 2024

Francis Emingak  
Screening Officer  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
P.O. Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0  
via NIRB public registry

**Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request for Silverback Films' "Filming Cetaceans in Admiralty Inlet" Project Proposal**

Dear Francis Emingak,

On June 27, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on Silverback Films' "Filming Cetaceans in Admiralty Inlet" project proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and offers the responses below as it pertains to the NIRB's request:

**Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.**

**CIRNAC 1: Consultation with Interested Parties**

Given that any project that plans to interact with a culturally and economically significant resource like narwhal is likely to arouse significant public concern; CIRNAC strongly recommends that the Proponent consult with Arctic Bay and Pond Inlet community members, especially the Ikajutit Hunters and Trappers Organization and the Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization, as well as the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, who may have an interest in the project proposal.

As part of any consultation activities, several issues should be considered, including, but not limited to:

- Incorporation of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into project activities;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent any disturbance to wildlife (especially whales) and the environment;
- The experience of community members who participate in traditional harvesting activities within or in close proximity to the project area;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent disturbance to sites with cultural, archaeological, and/or environmental significance;
- Training and employment opportunities for Inuit and community members;
- Procurement opportunities for local and Inuit-owned businesses; and,
- Regular updates on the status of project activities.



## **CIRNAC 2: Preventing Disturbance to Marine Wildlife From Boat and Drone Operations**

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent consult the Ikajutit Hunters & Trappers Organization, the Mittimatalik Hunters & Trappers Organization, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans regarding its planned use of a boat and drones to film killer whales and narwhal in Admiralty Inlet. The focus of this consultation should be to obtain informed prior consent, and to review and confirm that accepted community practices will be followed to prevent any disturbance to marine wildlife and avoid conflict with traditional harvesting activities that may arise associated with these project activities.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and looks forward to working with the NIRB and the Proponent throughout any further phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Courtney White by e-mail at [courtney.white@rcaanc-cirnac.ca](mailto:courtney.white@rcaanc-cirnac.ca) or David Abernethy by email at [David.abernethy@rcaanc-cirnac.ca](mailto:David.abernethy@rcaanc-cirnac.ca).

Sincerely,



Richard Bingley  
A/Manager, Impact Assessment

