



## COMMENT FORM FOR NIRB SCREENINGS

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has a mandate to protect the integrity of the ecosystem for the existing and future residents of Nunavut. 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:

<b>Project Proposal Title:</b>	<b>Norwegian Tall Ship Through Northwest Passage and the Nunavut Region in 2025</b>		
<b>Proponent:</b>	<b>Foundation Statsraad Lehmkuhl</b>		
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Kitikmeot and Qikiqtani Regions</b>		
<b>Comments Due By:</b>	<b>February 10, 2025</b>	<b>NIRB #:</b>	<b>24TN051</b>

**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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> fish and their habitat	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> heritage resources in area	_____

**Please describe the concerns indicated above:**

The One Ocean Expedition, Norwegian tall ship through the Northwest Passage and Nunavut Region in 2025, NIRB file: 24TN051 documents discuss the assessment of fish and zooplankton population but does not confirm under Regulatory Authority if the project has applied for Licence to Fish for Scientific Purposes (LFSP) and Animal Use Protocol (AUP) for the project.

In addition, DFO understands that the One Ocean Expedition 2025 proposes to conduct marine research on the One Ocean Vessel (Statsraad Lehmkuhl) and travel through the Northwest Passage to the west coast of Alaska and British Columbia (Canada). Two trips will occur on from Nuuk to Cambridge Bay, NU (August 2025) and Cambridge Bay, NU to Anchorage, USA (September 2025).

We understand the following aquatic species listed as Endangered/Threatened, under the *Species at Risk Act* may use the area in the vicinity of where your proposal is to be located:

- Basking Shark, Pacific Ocean population listed as Endangered
- Beluga Whale, Cumberland Sound population listed as Threatened
- Blue Whale, Atlantic & Pacific Ocean populations listed as Endangered
- Eulachon, Pacific Coast population listed as Endangered
- Killer Whale, Pacific populations listed as Threatened
- Right Whale, North Atlantic and North Pacific populations listed as Endangered
- Northern Wolffish, population listed as Threatened

In addition, we understand the following aquatic species listed as Special Concern under the *Species at Risk Act* may use the area in the vicinity of where your proposal is to be located:

- Basking Shark, Atlantic Ocean population
- Bowhead Whale, Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort population
- Fin Whale, Atlantic & Pacific Ocean populations
- Grey Whale, Eastern North Pacific Ocean population
- Harbour Porpoise, Northwest Atlantic & Pacific Ocean populations
- Humpback Whale, North Pacific Ocean population
- Dolly Varden, Western Arctic population

Finally, we understand the following aquatic species considered for addition under the *Species at Risk Act* may use the area in the vicinity of where your proposal is to be located:

- Atlantic Walrus, Central / Low Arctic population
- Atlantic Walrus, High Arctic population
- Beluga Whale, Eastern High Arctic - Baffin Bay population
- Beluga Whale, Eastern Hudson Bay population
- Bowhead Whale, Eastern Canada-West Greenland population
- Killer Whale, Northwest Atlantic/ Eastern Arctic population
- Narwhal
- Ringed Seal

Your proposal has been reviewed to determine whether it is likely to result in:

- the death of fish by means other than fishing and the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat which are prohibited under subsections 34.4(1) and 35(1) of the *Fisheries Act*;
- effects to listed aquatic species at risk, any part of their critical habitat or the residences of their individuals in a manner which is prohibited under sections 32, 33 and subsection 58(1) of the *Species at Risk Act*;
- the importation, possession, transportation or release of aquatic invasive species set out in Part 2 of the schedule of the *Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations* which are prohibited under sections 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the Regulations; and
- the introduction of aquatic species into regions or bodies of water frequented by fish where they are not indigenous, which is prohibited under section 10 of the *Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations*;
- the disturbance of marine mammals, which is prohibited under Section 7 of the *Marine Mammal Regulations*.

### Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for this application?

Based on the project description and scientific assessments of fish, a LFSP and AUP may be needed for the project. DFO recommends the project review the Guidelines for a Licence to Fish for Scientific Purposes Application and send the application to Arctic Region Permitting, if needed ([DFO.NTNUPermit-PermisNUNT.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.NTNUPermit-PermisNUNT.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)).

In addition, to avoid and mitigate the potential for prohibited effects to fish and fish habitat (as listed above), the Proponent shall comply with the following Acts and Regulations and implement the measures listed below:

- *Fisheries Act*

- To comply with the *Fisheries Act*, it is recommended that the Proponent follow DFO's protective measures for fish and fish habitat and standard codes of practice which can be found on DFO's website (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html> and <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/practice-practique-eng.html>).
- If the proposal meets the criteria for a site-specific review, as described on DFO's website (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-003-eng.html>), the Proponent should complete and submit the request for review form available on the DFO website (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-004-eng.html>).

*Marine Mammals Regulations:*

- Section 7 of the *Marine Mammal Regulations (Fisheries Act)* prohibits the disturbance of marine mammals. Generally, disturbance is interpreted as disruption to an animal's normal life processes, resulting from intentional human activities (e.g., to pursue, accompany, overtake, encircle, approach repeatedly, hunt, disperse, drive or herd individuals or groups of marine mammals). This applies equally to divers, kayaks, motor boats and aircraft. Disturbance response thresholds vary among individuals, species and locations.
- DFO recommends that watercraft should survey the area for Marine Mammals to avoid disturbing them. If marine mammals are encountered, and remain in the area, effort should be made to avoid disturbing them by rerouting, slowly navigating around their location at a reduced speed and maintaining their distance. Marine mammals should not be approached, in general, within 100 m and 400 m for Species at Risk. Please see the approach distances set out in Schedule V of the Marine Mammal Regulations (<http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-93-56/page-3.html#h-958013>) for specific setback based on species and location.
- In certain circumstances, the proponent can apply for an authorization to disturb marine mammals (see: [Application instructions for the authorization of marine mammal disturbance](#))

- *Species at Risk Act:*

- The *Species at Risk Act's* general prohibitions makes it an offence to:
  - kill, harm, harass, capture, or take an individual of a species listed in Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* as endangered, threatened or extirpated
  - possess, collect, buy, sell or trade an individual of a species listed in Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* as endangered, threatened or extirpated
  - damage or destroy the residence (e.g. nest or den) of one or more individuals of a species listed in [Schedule 1](#) of SARA as endangered, threatened or extirpated, if a recovery strategy has recommended the reintroduction of that extirpated species

- *Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations:*

- The Proponent should avoid and mitigate risk related to the importation, possession, transportation or release of aquatic invasive species set out in Part 2 of the schedule of the *Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations*; and/or the introduction of aquatic species into regions or bodies of water frequented by fish where they are not indigenous.

- *Marine Protected Areas*

- Proponent must adhere to the [Tarium Naryutait Marine Protect Areas Regulations](#) and the [Anguniagvia niqiqyuam Marine Protected Areas Regulations](#)
- DFO requests that ships avoid transiting through the MPAs and advises that a geo-fence is in place to identify and alert the appropriate organizations when vessels cross the boundaries.



- Parks Canada in Nunavut
  - Anyone planning to enter a Parks Canada protected area should contact Parks Canada directly at [permits.nunavut.pemis@pc.gc.ca](mailto:permits.nunavut.pemis@pc.gc.ca)
- Other measures
  - Consult with local communities to avoid known marine mammal aggregation areas
  - Proponent should consider integrating the following tools when planning
    - [ISR Cruise Ship Management Plan 2022-2025](#)
      - [Note that the map on p.18-19 shows current shipping routes and should not be considered low impact shipping corridors](#)
    - [NOTMAR Annual Edition 2024](#) June 2024 Amendments
    - Latest Beaufort Sea Beluga Management Plan on [FJMC website](#)
    - Latest Recommended Nunavut Land Use Plan on the Nunavut Planning Commission [Public Registry](#)

People are encouraged to report abuse or harassment (fisheries violation), through the following 24-hours/day toll-free numbers:

- Crime Stoppers: 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)
- Marine VHF radio channel 16
- [Report a fisheries violation](#)

And report marine pollution through the following 24-hours/day toll-free numbers and


- 1-867-979-5269
- At [DFO.CCG.ArcticERDO-ODIEArctique.GCC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.CCG.ArcticERDO-ODIEArctique.GCC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) or [IqaNordreg@innav.gc.ca](mailto:IqaNordreg@innav.gc.ca)
- Marine VHF radio channel 16

Additional information on marine mammals is available on DFO's website: <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especies/mammals-mammiferes/watching-observation/index-eng.html>.

It is also the Proponent's *Duty to Notify* DFO if they have caused, or are about to cause, the death of fish (including marine mammals) by means other than fishing and/or the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat. Such notifications should be directed to [DFO.ARCEMTriage-TriageGEARC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.ARCEMTriage-TriageGEARC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca).

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

DFO does not have any additional comments.

<b>Name of person commenting:</b>	<u>Anna-Maija LaFlamme</u>	<b>of</b>	<u>DFO</u>
<b>Position:</b>	<u>FFHPP Biologist</u>	<b>Organization:</b>	<u>Department of Fisheries &amp; Oceans</u>
<b>Signature:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	<u>2/10/2025</u>