

ᐅᓂᕐ ᑕᕈᖃᑦ (Ferguson Lake) ᐱᑦᑎᐸᑦ, ᓄᓇᑭᑦ, ᐸᐳᑎᒋᑦ ᐱᑦᑕᐸᕐᑐᑦ
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Ferguson Lake Project, NU, Environmental Baseline Studies

The Ferguson Lake, Nunavut, Baseline Studies at site and to Evaluate the Winter road route, All Weather Road route and SeaLink Facility Project Development (the Project) is located in the Kivalliq region. Canadian North Resources Inc. (CNRI) is beginning to assess the feasibility of transportation and logistics infrastructure to connect the Ferguson Lake Project to a transportation hub, potentially either in Baker Lake, NU, or Arviat, NU. This includes consultation, engagement and environmental studies when considering winter road routes, All-Weather Road (AWR) routes, and potential SeaLink facility locations. This application is for NIRB to screen and permit CNRI to conduct basic baseline environmental field studies, which includes scientific data collection along potential routes from Ferguson Lake Camp to Baker Lake and Arviat.

The entire baseline study and evaluation of routings and logistics for an AWR and/or Winter Road will be guided by a multi-year engagement and consultation process with Inuit to ensure the integration of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ), as well as by scientific data and engineering assessments. Workers will travel to the study locations by helicopter and carry out their work on foot or by boat. The instrumentation may remain in place until at least the end of the summer in 2027. During the field program, workers will reside in existing authorized facilities.

The 2025 to 2027 planned program involves basic field environmental monitoring, including: Archaeological Surveys and Traditional Land Use Studies Placement of wildlife observation cameras, automated recording units, and related support structures for wildlife and bird observations along the potential routes and near the Ferguson Lake Camp. Assessment of freshwater and possibly marine fish habitat using underwater cameras, short set gill nets, hoop nets and electrofishing to identify fish species, and ponars or kick nets for bathymetric data collection at watercourses and lakes along the potential routes, SeaLink Facilities and near the Ferguson Lake Camp. Biophysical data collection including terrestrial, soil, dust and water quality samples along the potential routes and near the Ferguson Lake Camp. Consultation, engagement and land use studies will be conducted for the duration of this work to ensure an integration of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) into the planning and environmental monitoring.