



10 January 2025
NPC File No. 150594

Cassel Kapolak

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Christian Haas (Proponent)

Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine
Research
By email: chaas@awi.de

Dear Cassel Kapolak, Mosha Cote, Jared Ottenhof, and Christian Haas:

RE: NPC File # 150594 [IceBird Winter 2025]

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. AMENDMENT to Scientific Research activities: The aim of IceBird is to conduct sea ice surveys over different ice regimes when sea ice is close to its maximum and minimum extents. The project is designed to collect detailed measurements and trace the evolution of such changes from year to year.
 - a. Airborne survey towing electromagnetic induction system (EM system) for estimation of ice thickness
 - b. Airborne laser scanner for high-resolution surface roughness
 - c. Snow radar for snow depth on sea ice
2. Summary of proposed modifications:
 - a. Addition of new study area
3. Timing, Duration, & Personnel:
 - a. 19 days over period 25 March to 4 April 2025
 - b. 8 personnel for a total of 152 person-days
4. Associated NPC File Nos.: 148390, 149053, 149938, and 150375
5. Associated NIRB File Nos.: 09YN010 and 14YN025
6. Location: Kitikmeot & Qikiqtani Regions & Transboundary; [Cambridge Bay and Victoria Strait; Pond Inlet, Resolute Bay, and Penny Strait; Eureka and Last Ice Area]

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. It conforms to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP) and the proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, H, and I of the NBRLUP. Works and activities associated with the current proposal were previously reviewed by the NPC, including airborne scientific research activities and conformity determinations were issued on 15 December 2016, 14 February 2019, 16 January 2023, and 8 April 2024 which still

apply. In addition, the associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB File Nos.: 09YN010 and 14YN025).

The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project because of the addition of a new survey area in Victoria Strait near Cambridge Bay.

The above-noted project proposal requires screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the *Nunavut Agreement* as amended because it is for a component or activity that was not part of the original or previously amended proposal and its inclusion is a significant modification of the project.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address: <https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/registry/registry.aspx?appid=150594>.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits, and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required.

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA)* to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits, and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the *NuPPAA*.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 447-4563.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'SA' with a horizontal line extending from the 'A'.

Solomon Amuno, PhD
Senior Planner
Nunavut Planning Commission