



CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for Alfred Wegener Institute's
“IceBird Winter 2025” Project Proposal



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

Your file - Votre référence
25YN003
Our file - Notre référence
GCdocs#134553124

March 24, 2025

Kelli Gillard, PAg, CTAJ
Senior Impact Assessment 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 Alfred Wegener Institute's "IceBird Winter 2025" Project Proposal

Dear Kelli Gillard,

On March 14, 2025, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on Alfred Wegener Institute's "IceBird Winter 2025" project proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) 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 Interest Parties

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent consult with the communities and Hunters and Trappers Organizations and Associations of Cambridge Bay, Resolute Bay, Pond Inlet, and Qikiqtarjuaq and any other relevant organizations or individuals regarding its 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 and the environment;
- The experience of community members who participate in traditional harvesting activities within or in close proximity to the project area;
- 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: Management Practices Designed to Prevent Disturbance to Wildlife

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent adhere to applicable regulatory requirements and accepted practices to prevent and/or mitigate any potential disturbances to wildlife that may result from project activities. Meaningful efforts should be made to work with interested



stakeholders, including the Government of Nunavut's Department of Environment and community Hunters and Trappers Organizations and Associations to ensure acceptable management practices are applied. Flight altitudes should be managed in ways that will prevent any negative impacts to wildlife, including caribou and polar bear, from sensory disturbances (visual and sound).

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments. Should you have any questions, please contact David Abernethy by e-mail at david.abernethy@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Bingley".

Richard Bingley
Manager, Impact Assessment

