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NPC File No: 150555
NIRB File No: 24XN058

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9 June 2025

**Re: Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program Information Request
Response to the Resolute Bay Community Harbour Nunavut Impact Review Board Public Comment
Period (24XN058)**

Dear Natalie and Francis,

1 Project Overview

The Government of Nunavut -Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut (GN-TIN) is planning the design, construction and operation of the Resolute Bay Community Harbour (the Project). The Project is located at Resolute Bay, a Hamlet on the southern shore of Cornwallis Islands in Parry Channel (74° 41.472'N, 94° 51.549'W), see Appendix A (Figure A-1). The community is located in the Qikiqtaaluk Region, and conforms with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP) (Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC, 2000)). While Resolute Bay is within the NBRLUP, the Recommended Nunavut Wide Land Use Plan (RNLUP) (NPC, 2023) will replace the NBRLUP once it is approved.

Worley Canada Services Ltd., operating as Worley Consulting, has been retained by the GN-TIN to support the detailed design of a community harbour facility in Resolute Bay, Nunavut. Dynamic Ocean Consulting Ltd. (Dynamic Ocean) is supporting Worley on the permitting requirements for the Project. The Resolute Bay Community Harbour was a component of an earlier feasibility study, completed by Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbour (DFO-SCH) in 2019.

The Project will improve safety and access to water, functionality of boating activities, and reduce the congestion and environmental risks associated with the current use of the harbour (see Section 1.3 of the PSIR Report (Dynamic Ocean & Worley Consulting, 2025b)).

The permanent components of the Project are described below and are depicted in the General Arrangement (see Appendix A (Figure A-1)):

- A new breakwater (to create a protected harbour).
- Boat launch ramp.
- Small craft floating docks to support mooring of small craft vessels.
- Laydown area.
- Harbour lighting.

Temporary components required during construction include:

- Quarry.
- Haul road.

Construction activities will be inclusive of the activities described in Table 1-1, with the construction schedule described in Appendix B (Table B-1).

Table 1-1: Construction Activities Associated with the Community Harbour

Community Harbour	Quarry (borrow pits)	Haul Road
Infill (laydown area, breakwater, boat ramp, shoreline)	Drilling and Blasting	Construction of new haul road
Installation of small craft floats	Crushing and Screening	Upgrades to existing road
Dredging	Stockpiling	Transportation of rocks
Stockpiling	Operation of equipment	Operation of equipment
Operation of equipment	-	Installation of culverts (potential)
Installation of navigation aids and harbour lighting	-	-

2 Information Request Response

2.1 Background

The Resolute Bay Community Harbour Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) application was submitted on 4 April 2025 (NIRB, 2025a) with the application accepted as complete on 8 April 2025 (NIRB, 2025b). The screening assessment pursuant to Section 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* was initiated. The NIRB requested interested parties to submit comments on the Project over a 21-day Public Comment Period, which initiated on 6 May 2025. The GN-TIN received a request from the NIRB on 27 May 2025 (see list below) to respond to comment submissions (hereafter referred to as an Information Request [IR]).

- Transport Canada (TC), 29 May 2025 (TC, 2025).
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program (DFO-FFHPP), 26 May 2025 (DFO, 2025).

2.2 Letter Intention

This letter supports the GN-TIN's response to DFO-FFHPP. The DFO-FFHPP IR is provided in Appendix C.

We acknowledge that the Project will occur in waters frequented by fish and marine mammals and require approval from DFO-FFHPP, and be required to be compliant with pertinent legislation as summarized below:

- *Fisheries Act* Subsections:
 - 34.4(1): Death of Fish.
 - 35(1): Harmful Alteration, Disruption or Destruction (HADD).
- Marine Mammal Regulations (MMR).
- Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations (AISR).
- *Species at Risk Act* (SARA): Sections 32, 33 and subsection 58(1).
- Marine Transportation Security Regulations.

The GN-TIN and their supporting consultants (Worley Consulting, Dynamic Ocean) have undertaken early engagement with DFO-FFHPP to discuss the Project. Each occasion of engagement is summarized in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1: Meetings and Communication with Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program

Date	Communication Format	Personnel Involved
22-Oct-24	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emily Morton (DFO-FFHPP). • Victoria Burdett-Coutts (Dynamic Ocean).
23-Oct-24	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennifer Loughery (DFO-FFHPP). • Derek Donald (DFO-FFHPP).

Date	Communication Format	Personnel Involved
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laura Borden (Dynamic Ocean).
21-Nov-24	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jennifer Loughery (DFO-FFHPP).• Derek Donald (DFO-FFHPP).• Holly Simpson (DFO-FFHPP).• Victoria Burdett-Coutts (Dynamic Ocean).

2.3 Information Request Response

We appreciate DFO-FFHPP taking the time to support the NIRB during the Public Comment Period and have provided our responses to the IR in Table 2-1.

Table 2-2: Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program Information Requests

ID No.	Topic	Question	Response
1A	Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program Compliance	This comment is an acknowledgement of the review of the NIRB File No: 24XN058, Resolute Bay Community Harbour Project. Based on the information that was submitted, DFO recommends the proponent to complete and submit a request for review form (https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnwppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-004-eng.html) as the application 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).	Acknowledged, a Request for Review (RFR) application is being prepared and will soon be submitted to the DFO-FFHPP referrals team for the Arctic Region. As summarized in Table 2-1, there has already been engagement to this point.
1B		In order 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-pratique-eng.html).	Acknowledged. The Standards and Codes of Practice (SCOPs) that are relevant to the Project are summarized below and have been addressed in Section 7 of the pending RFR application (Dynamic Ocean, in-prep). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of machinery in water. • Placement of material in water. • Removal of materials (including aquatic vegetation) from water. • Introduction of underwater noise.
1C		DFO asks that the proponent to please review and implement any relevant Measures to protect fish and fish habitat (dfo-mpo.gc.ca). By doing so, you ensure that any works, undertaking or activities where impacts to fish and fish habitat can be avoided.	Acknowledged. The primary effects that have been identified as relevant to the marine environment are as below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality degradation. • Physical damage to fauna (crushing, burial, or mortality). • Habitat modification. Measures to minimize these effects have been included in the Project Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) (Dynamic Ocean

ID No.	Topic	Question	Response
			& Worley Consulting, 2025a), and will be discussed further with DFO-FFHPP during the RFR and potentially <i>Fisheries Act</i> Authorization (FAA) process.
1D		It is also the proponent's Duty to Notify DFO if they have caused, or are about to cause, the death of fish by means other than fishing and/or the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat. Such notifications should be directed to DFO.ARCENTriage-TriageGEARC.mpo@dfo-mpo.ca .	<p>Acknowledged. This requirement has been incorporated into Sections Section 5.4.1 (Table 5-1, G4) CEMP (Dynamic Ocean & Worley Consulting, 2025a), and is repeated below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop work measures will be implemented should any non-compliance concerns arise. Corrective actions or adaptive management strategies will be discussed with the EM and implemented where necessary prior to re-starting work. Stop work procedures will be defined in the Contractors CEMP (CEMP), and at minimum meet the requirements discussed outlined in this CEMP as out detailed in AHJ approval. <p>The Contractor will be required to implement stop work procedures if there a non-compliance that results in the death of fish or the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction (HADD) of fish habitat.</p> <p>A communication plan will be established with DFO-FFHPP during the RFR/FAA process, where there will be notification after the event, and engagement prior to the re-start of construction activities.</p>



3 Summary and Closing

We appreciate DFO-FFHPP taking the time to participate in the NIRB's Public Comment Period and are available for further discussions if needed. If you require any clarification on our responses, or have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Victoria Burdett-Coutts (victoria@dynamicocean.ca; 778-839-2372).

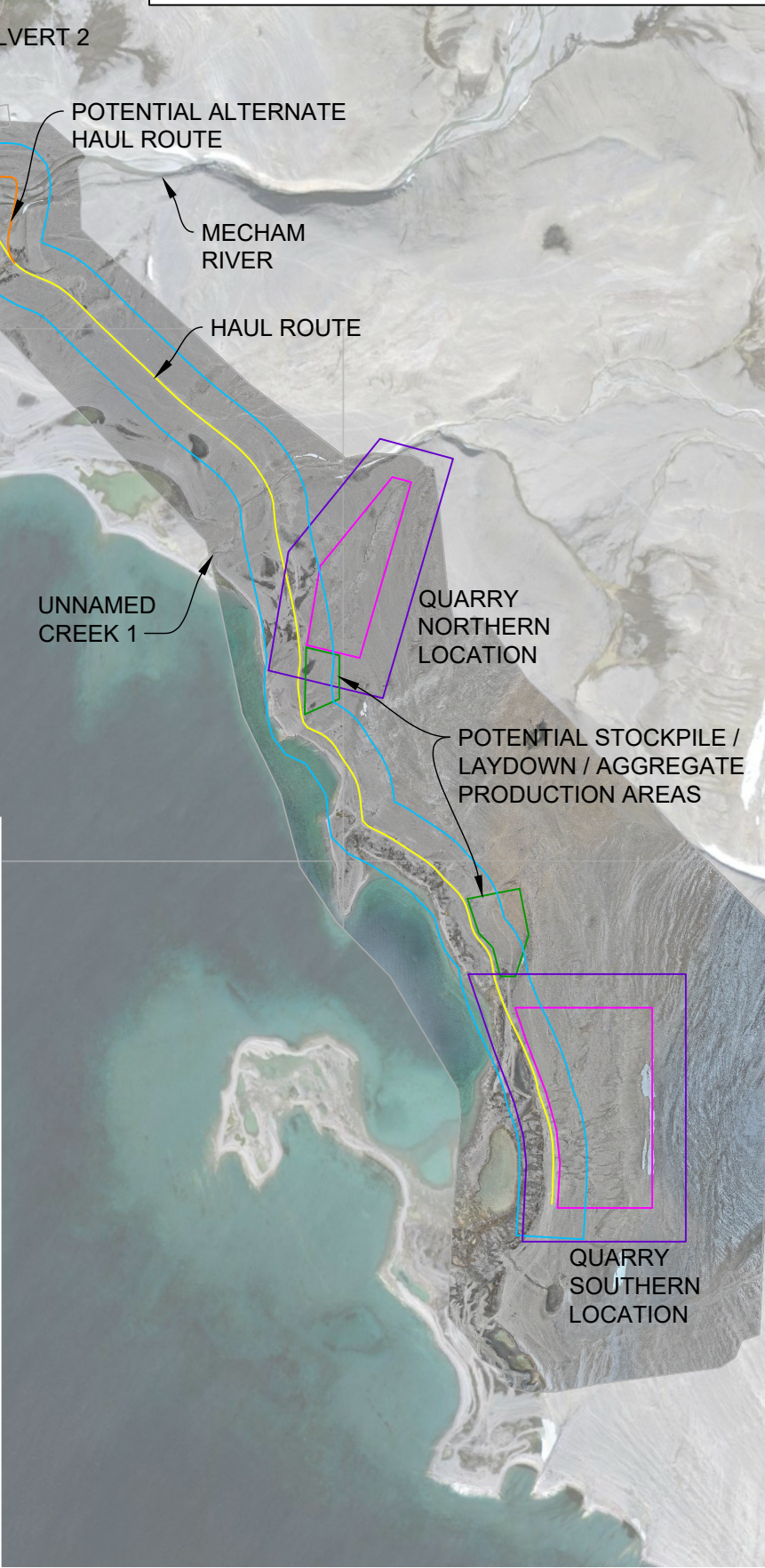
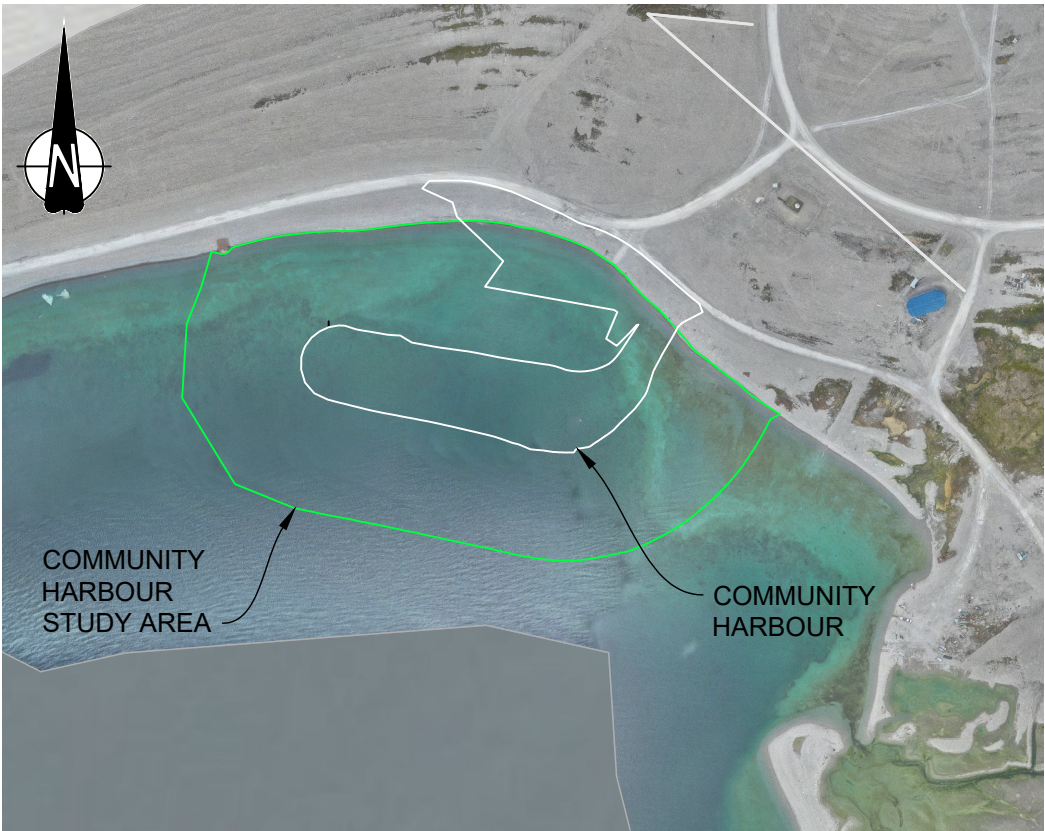
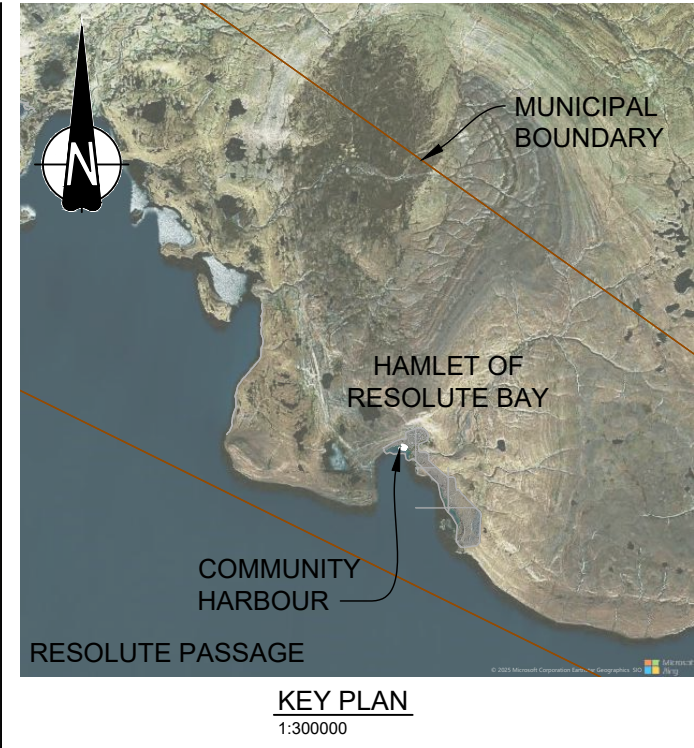
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Victoria Burdett-Coutts".

Victoria Burdett-Coutts, MSc. RPBio.
Dynamic Ocean Consulting Ltd.
Senior Regulatory Professional

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Meisl".

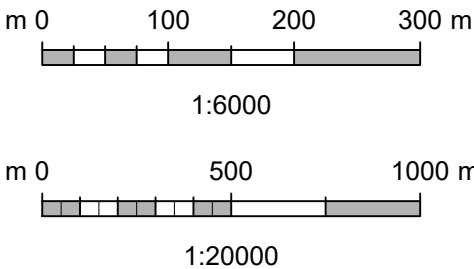
Chris Meisl, PEng.
Worley Canada Services Ltd.
Project Manager

Appendix A: Supporting Figures & Drawings




LEGEND

- HAUL ROAD ON EXISTING ROAD/TRACK
- ALTERNATE/ADDITIONAL HAUL ROUTE
- COMMUNITY STUDY AREA
- QUARRIES STUDY AREA
- EXISTING ROAD STUDY AREA
- STOCKPILE/LAYDOWN AREA
- QUARRY



GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT
RESOLUTE BAY COMMUNITY
HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT

PROJECT COMPONENTS
(QUARRY, HAUL ROAD, COMMUNITY HARBOUR)

	Date: 03-APR-25	Drawn by: JLC	Edited by: JLC	App'd by: CM
	Worley Project Number 317086-54175			
	DRG No Figure A-1		REV 2	

This drawing is prepared for the use of the contractual customer of Worley Canada Services Ltd. and Worley Canada Services Ltd. assumes no liability to any other party for any representations contained in this drawing.

Appendix B: Supporting Tables

Table B-1: Anticipated Schedule for the Project

Task	Timeline
Pre-Construction	
• Permitting, Baseline Surveys and Consultations	Aug-24 to Apr-26
• Schematic Design	Jun-24 to Aug-25
• Geotechnical Investigations	Spring 2025
• Detailed Design and Construction Documents Preparation	Summer 2025 to Dec-25
• Permitting Complete	Mar-26
• Construction Tender Period	Winter 2025 / Spring 2026
• Construction Contract Tender Period	Winter 2025 / Spring 2026
• Award of Construction Contract	Spring 2026
Construction	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilization of equipment and supplies. • Set up construction camp and equipment maintenance facilities, as required. • Prepare quarry and commence blasting for aggregate production and stockpile pads. • Set up crusher and complete test runs. 	2026 Construction season (Jun-26 to Oct-26)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggregate production. • Commence placement of breakwater core. • Dredging and onshore disposal. 	2027 Construction season (Jun-27 to Oct-27)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggregate production. • Breakwater core and armour placement. • Laydown/boat storage area and ramp fill placement • Dredging and onshore disposal. • Partial demobilization. 	2028 Construction season (Jun-28 to Oct-28)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete breakwater armour surfacing. • Electrical installations. • Community harbour floats, including installation and removal demonstration. • Final grading and compaction. • Remainder of demobilization. 	2029 Construction season (Jun-29 to Oct-29)
Operations	
• Community harbour operations.	Spring 2030

Appendix C: Information Requests





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:

Project Proposal Title:	Resolute Bay Community Harbour Project		
Proponent:	Government of Nunavut – Community Services		
Location:	Qikiqtani Region		
Comments Due By:	May 27, 2025	NIRB #:	24XN058

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 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 Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area (TI NMCA) is an important designated area located in the Canadian Arctic, specifically in Lancaster Sound and its adjacent waterways. This conservation area was established to protect and preserve the unique and ecologically important marine environment for Inuit and all Canadians.

The Project includes construction of the following components:

- Breakwater
- Dredging of a harbour basin and entrance channel
- Boat launch ramp(s)

The community harbour encompasses a permanent footprint that is approximately 30,000 m². The seaward extent is approximately 170 m from shore (perpendicular) to a depth range of approximately 8.5 m Chart Datum (CD).

Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for this application?

This comment is an acknowledgement of the review of the NIRB File No: 24XN058, Resolute Bay Community Harbour Project. Based on the information that was submitted, DFO recommends the proponent to complete and submit a request for review form (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-004-eng.html>) as the application 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>).

In order 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-pratique-eng.html>).

DFO asks that the proponent to please review and implement any relevant Measures to protect fish and fish habitat (dfo-mpo.gc.ca). By doing so, you ensure that any works, undertaking or activities where impacts to fish and fish habitat can be avoided.


It is also the proponent's Duty to Notify DFO if they have caused, or are about to cause, the death of fish by means other than fishing and/or the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat. Such notifications should be directed to DFO.ARCENTriage-TriageGEARC.mpo@dfo-mpo.ca.

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

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program has no additional comments at this time.

Name of person commenting: Natalie Grishaber **of** Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)

Position: Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Biologist **Organization:** DFO

Signature:  **Date:** May 26, 2025

Appendix D:References



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- Species at Risk Act*. (2002). S.C. 2002, c. 29. Last amended: June 17, 2024. Available at: <https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/s-15.3/>. Accessed: January 2025.
- TC. (2025). Comment form for NIRB Screenings. Resolute Bay Community Harbour Project. Issued to Nunavut Impact Review Board. No. 24XN058. May 29, 2025.