Demande de la CNER faisant l’objet d’un examen préalable #126155

Monitoring Program Pilot in Ahiak MBS

Type de demande :	New
Type de projet:	Scientific Research
Date de la demande :	Wednesday, March 19, 2025
Period of operation:	from 2026-02-22 to 2027-07-24
Promoteur du projet:	Danica Hogan Canadian Wildlife Service PO Box 2310 Yellowknife Northwest Territories X1A2P7 Canada Téléphone :: 867-669-4754, Télécopieur ::

DÉTAILS

Description non technique de la proposition de projet

Anglais: Danica Hogan, Canadian Wildlife Service, 5019 52 St, PO Box 2310, Yellowknife, NT, X1A2P7, Danica.Hogan@ec.gc.ca, 867-669-4754. Number of personnel and/or visitors that will covered under the permit: 5-6 (to be determined but no more than 6)Project Objectives: Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctury is one of the pilot sites for developing and implementing monitoring protocols as part of the Ecological and Conservation Monitoring Program (ECOMaP), a program aimed at monitoring the status and effectiveness of the Protected and Conserved Areas Network managed by Environment and Climate Change Canada. The goal of this project is to develop and implement monitoring protocols for priority species as identified by the Ahiak Area Co-Management Committee (ACMC), which includes species at risk, light geese, and other birds. Arctic PRISM (Program for Regional and International Shorebird Monitoring) is one of the few survey protocols that monitor shorebirds, and other non-colonially nesting birds, in the Arctic. The goal of PRISM surveys is to find out which bird species are there, if they are breeding or not, how many there are, and what habitats they are using. Adopting this protocol inside the MBS will enable us to compare population trends inside the MBS with those generated for the same region outside the MBS, which will provide valuable information about the value of the MBS to several groups of birds. Additionally, we intend to develop and implement sustainable long-term monitoring protocols to assess light goose use of the MBS using aerial survey techniques, such as colony perimeter mapping and transect-based aerial surveys. Light goose colony trends and use of the MBS is the primary concern of the Ahiak ACMC and information from these surveys will be used to help inform management decisions. In 2025-2026, we plan to focus on project development and fuel caching for a summer 2026 field season.In 2026-2027, we plan to focus on conducting on-the-ground PRISM surveys for shorebirds and landbirds, and aerial surveys for light geese.Project Location: Ahiak Migratory Bird SanctuaryWe plan to base the field work out of pre-existing camp and fuel cache sites: Karrak Lake (67 14.230N, 100 15.550W) or Perry River Cabin (67 42.400N, 102 11.117W), with fuel caches at these locations and other caches located within the MBS based on field logistics, likely at other pre-existing sites such as Ellice River Cabin (67 42.499N, 104 08.349W) or McNaughton Lake (67 21.690N, 98 4.110W). We will provide other fuel cache location information when available and prior to caching. Exact survey locations are still to be determined as the protocol is in development. All survey locations will be within MBS boundaries and we will provide the Ahiak ACMC with updates as the project develops.Proposed date and duration of visit to each protected area:-Fuel caching: 1-2 weeks in March/April 2026, pending weather-Field work: 2-3 weeks in June/July 2026, pending weatherMethod of Transportation:For fuel caching, drums will be delivered via Twin Otter aircraft. At the end of the project, drum clean up will also be done via Twin Otter aircraft. Projected number of hours is to be determined.During field work, personnel will transit to and from survey locations via helicopter (Bell 407 or similar). The light goose surveys will also use the same helicopter. Projected number of hours is to be determined.Summary of Activities and Rationale:The Arctic PRISM (Program for Regional and International Shorebird Monitoring) protocol for surveying shorebirds and other non-colonially nesting bird consists of rapid ground surveys at a random sample of plots that are accessed by helicopter. Surveys involve two observers walking systematically over a 12-hectare plot and recording all birds and nests they see. This allows us to determine bird density (how many there are), species diversity (how many different types of birds there are), which habitats they are using, and how a given nesting season may compare to previous years. Travel between survey plots will be done via helicopter, and otherwise the work is conducted on foot. Surveys typically take 1-2 hours to complete per plot, and plots are only visited once in a given season. Results from these surveyed plots will be used to calculate density estimates of shorebirds and other non-colonial birds within the MBS and allow us to compare population trends inside the MBS with survey data collected outside the MBS in the same region. This will provide valuable information about the value of the MBS to several groups of birds, and allow us to assess the health of the MBS as compared to areas outside the MBS. We also intend to develop and conduct surveys to assess light goose use of the MBS using aerial survey techniques. Goose survey methods are still being finalized, but the general techniques involve goose colony mapping via helicopter flown at a height so as to minimize disturbance to the geese, and transect-based aerial surveys flown at heights that minimize disturbance to the geese. The Ahiak ACMC identified light goose colony trends and use of the MBS as a priority and information from these surveys will be used to help inform management decisions.Future plans within the protected area:With fuel caching taking place in spring 2026, we plan to

conduct the PRISM bird surveys and light goose surveys in the summer of 2026. If the protocol and surveys are successful, we plan to repeat surveys every 5-10 years, pending recommendations from the Ahiak ACMC and available resources. The final report will be circulated to the Ahiak ACMC, Gjoa Haven Hunters and Trappers Association, and the Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Association when complete.

Français: N/A

Inuktitut: Ċᓂᑲ Hᐅᑎᓵ, ᑲᓇᑕᒥ ᐅᒪᔪᓕᑕᒪᕐᓂᔪᐊᕐᑲᑦᑯᑦ, 5019 52 St, PO Box 2310, Yellowknife, NT, X1A2P7, Danica.Hogan@ec.gc.ca, 867-669-4754. ᐊᒥᓱᓂᕐᓂᑦ ᐃᖅᑲᓇᐃᔨᖅᑎᑦ ᐊᒻᒪᓗᓵᓂᑦ >ᓪᕎᑎᑦ ᐱᔪᓇᐅᑎᑦᖢᑕᐅᓂᐊᖅᑐᑦ: 4-6 (ᓇᓗᓇᐃᖅᑕᐅᔨᒪᔭᓂᐊᖅᑐᖅ ᑭᓱᐊᓂ ᑕᐅᓂᐊᖅᑐᑦ 6 ᐃᓄᐃᑦ)ᐱᓕᓇᐊᖅᔪᒪᔨᔪᑦ:ᐊᐄᐃᐊᒥᒥ ᑎᒥᐊᖅᓯᑎ Ċᓴᓇ ᐃᓂᐅᔪᓂ ᖃᐅᔨᔪᖅᑐᖅᖢᓗᓂ ᖃᐅᔨᔪᐅᑕᐅᔨᒪᔪᓂ ᐱᓕᕆᓂᖅᑎᓂᒃᑯᓚᓕᓂᖅᑎᓂᒃᑯᓚᓕᓂᖅᓴᓇ ᐊᑐᖅᑕᒪᓕᓂᖅᑎᓂᒃᑯᓚᓕᓂᖅᓴᓇ ᐊᑐᐊᒪᓕᕆᓂ ᐃᓕᓴᐅᓂᐅᑦ ᐅᓪᓗᒥ ᐊᒻᒪᓗ ᐱᐅᖅᓯᐊᓂᖅᑐᑦ ᓇᐅᑕᐅᓂᖅᑎᓂᒃᑯᓚᓕᓂᖅᑎᓂᒃ –(ECOMaP), Ċᓴᓇ ᐱᓕᓇᐊᖅ ᑐᕋᒪᓂᑲ ᓇᐅᑕᐅᓂᖅᑐᑦ ᖃᐅᔨᔪᓂᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᑐᐊᒪᓕᕆᓂᖅᑎᓂᒃᑯᓚᓕᓂᖅᑎᓂᒃᑯᓚᓕᓂᖅᑎᓂᒃᑯᓚᓕ

ᑕᕐᖏᓂᑐᑦ), ᓇᓕᐊᓄᓂ ᓄᓪᓕᖅᑎᑦᕃᖏᓐᓇᑦᓯᒪᓕᑕ, ᐃᖏᓂᐅᖅᑐᒥᓂᐅᑎᓪᓗᓂᑦ ᐃᖏᓐᓂᑦ ᒥᑦᓴᐅᓴᖏᓗᓂᑦ ᐊᖏᑦᑐᒍᓂ ᐊᓂᔪᖅᑐᓂ ᐃᖏᓐᓇᐃᓂᐅᖅᑎᓪᓗ. ᑕᕐᕿᖓ ᖃᓄᐃᓕᓴᐅᖅᑎᑦᑕᕐᖃᖅᑐᑦ, ᑕᐃᒪᐃᔪᓇᖏᓄᖅ, ᐃᖅᑲᓇᐃᔾᔨᖅᑐᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᔨᒪᔪᓂᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᔨᒪᔪᓂᑦ ᐅᑭᐅᖅᑕᕐᓂᖅ ᐃᓕᓴᐃᓇᓂᖅ ᐃᓕᓴᐅᖅᑕᕐᓂᖅ ᐱᓕᕆᔨᒪᔪᓂᑦ ᐃᓕᓴᐅᖅᑕᕐᓂᖅ ᐊᑐᐊ

Aheakmi ACMC-konik kanogilivaleayotinik havak ihoakhaktaovaleanigani.Atoliktaoyomayok ubloanik hivitoniganiklo atoni polakveoyup monagiyoayomi nonami: -Okhokyoanik kanevikhat: Ataohikmit malguknut saneonikni March-mi/April-milo 2026-mi, hilakeomakpat -Manikami havakvikhak: Malguknit Pigahunut saneonikni June-mi/July-milo 2026-mi, hilakeomakpat Aolagotikhat:Okhokyoat kaneyokhani, katakyoet akyaktaoneaktut malgolinoakut tikmeakut. Inikat havak, katakyoet kiklimaktiknigit havagiyaoneaktolo Malgolinoakut tikmeakut. Nahogiyaoyut ikaknigit nalonaekneakut.Manikami havaktilogit, havaktut avatiknogakneaktut talvuga talvangalo naonaeyaoviknit inigiyaoyunit halikaptakut (Bell 407-mik ayikotaniklunet).Kagoknik naonaeyaotit atokneaktolo tavomiga halikaptamik. Nahogiyaoyut ikaknigit nalonaekneakut. Naetomik Okaoheoyhut Huliyotit Huklo Atoktaoniginik:Ukeoktaktomi PRISM-goyok (Havak Nonami Hilakyoamilo Takyup Hinani Tikmiyanik Amigiyotit) havaohikhak naonaeyageagani takyup hinani tikmiyanik aheniklo ataotimoyoetonik ivavaktonik tikmiyanik pikaktok kilamik manikami naonaeyaotinik kitonilika inikhani tikitaovaktonik halikaptakut. Naonaeyaot ilakaktok malguknik ihivgeokhiyiknik pihokhotik ihoakhagekhimayhomi 12-hectere-yomi nonami naonaeyakhogit tamaeta tikmiyat ubloelo takoyamiknik. Una naonaegotigiyakut amigaenginik tikmiyat (kaveoniginik talvani), umayut amigaenigit (kaveoniginik alatket tikmiyat talvani), kitut nunagiyauyut atoktaenik, kanoklo ivaveoyok ilagani ukeop naonaeyageagani atoktakhimayoni ukeoni. Aolagotit akungani naonaeyaevit nonat halikaptakut tikitaovakneaktut; aheagut, havak tikitaoneaktok pihoklotik. Naonaeyaotit ataohimit malguknut ikaknikni inikpakneaktut atoni inikhami, inikhat tikitaovakneaktut ataoheklotik ilaenani ukeop. Kanogiliyotit ukonanga naonaeyaktaoyonit inikhanit atoktaoneaktut nahaktaoyagani amigaeniginik nalaotakniginik takyup hinani tikmiyanik aheniklo katiyoetonnik tikmiyanik iloani MBS-mi talvani nonami. Una pipkaeneaktok atoknikateaktonik hivonikhiyotiknik atolakniginik MBS-mik ataohenaogitomi ikayoktigenit tikmiyalikiyonit pipkakmatigolo atolaligeagani aneaknaeniga MBS-goyup ihomagikpata alat nonat aheani MBS-goyup.Piyomayogolo naonaeyaptikni ilitokhageagani kagut atokniginik MBS-mik atoklota tikmeakut naonaeyaotinik notaonikhanik. Ulut naonaeyaknigit atoktaoyut iniktiktaohimaktut, kiheani atoktaoginaktut piyotikaktut ulut amigaeniginik nonaoyamut ileogakniginik halikaptakut kulvahiknikaklotik mikinikhamik kimalatigitagani ulut avatiknogagotaoyolo tikmeakot naonaeyaotit kulvahikneaktut kimalatigitpalagitagani ulut. Aheakmi ACMC-mi tikoaktaoyut kagoet amigaenigit kanogileoknigit atoknigilo MBS-mik atokaktokhak Hivonikhiyotilo ukonanga naonaeyaotinit atoktaoneaktut kaoyimayomik monagiyeoyut ihomaleokpageagani.Hivonikhami upalogaeyaotit talvani monagiyaoyomi nonami:Okhokhanik kaneneakhotik upingami 2026, upalogaektogut havagiyagani PRISM-mi hogayanik naonaeyaotinik kagokniklo naonaeyaotinik aoyami 2026-mi. Havaoheoyok naonaeyaotilo aolanikateakata, upalogaektogut atovageagani naonaeyaotit talimanit Kulinut ukeot natkagat, nahogilogit atolikoyaoyut Aheakmi ACMC-konit kahakpatalo ihoakotikhat. Inikat, kigolik unipkak toneokhaktaoneaktok Aheakmi ACMC-konut, Okhoktumi Agonahokatit Nanigeaktoktilo Katimayenut, Ikaloktuteamilo Agonahoaktit Nanigeaktoktilo Katimayenut.

Personnel

Personnel on site: 6
Days on site: 21
Total Person days: 126
Operations Phase: from 2026-02-22 to 2027-07-24

Activités

Emplacement	Type d'activité	Statut des terres	Historique du site	Site à valeur archéologique ou paléontologique	Proximité des collectivités les plus proches et de toute zone protégée
Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary Boundary	Researching	Crown	Land status of Ahiak MBS is a combination of Crown and Inuit Owned Surface Lands. We will be surveying approximately 70-75 sites within the boundaries of Ahiak MBS. Each survey site is 300m x 400m and will take 1-2 hours to complete. We will not revisit survey sites again in the same season, thus disturbance to wildlife will be minimal. We will also survey the extent of the goose colony within the boundaries of Ahiak MBS.	N/A	In Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary.
Karrak Lake Field Camp	Camp	Crown	Existing field camp and cabin site location. We will base our field camp from here.	N/A	within Ahiak Migrator Bird Sanctuary
Perry River Cabin and Fuel Cache	Camp	Crown	Existing cabin and fuel cache location. We may use this as an alternate camp location and fuel cache.	N/A	within Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary
Ellice River Cabin and Fuel Cache	Fuel and chemical storage	Crown	Existing fuel cache location. We may cache a small amount of fuel at this existing cache location and clean up once field work is complete.	N/A	within Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary
McNaughton Lake Old Cabin	Fuel and chemical	Crown	Existing fuel cache location.	N/A	within Ahiak Migrator Bird

Site and Fuel Cache	storage		We may cache a small amount of fuel at this existing cache location and clean up once field work is complete.		Sanctuary

Engagement de la collectivité et avantages pour la région

Collectivité	Nom	Organisme	Date de la prise de contact
Cambridge Bay	Chair	Ahiak Area Co-Management Committee (ACMC) - to be discussed at next meeting in March/April 2025	2025-03-31
Gjoa Haven	ACMC members	Ahiak Area Co-Management Committee (ACMC) - to be discussed at next meeting in March/April 2025	2025-03-31

Autorisations

Indiquez les zones dans lesquelles le projet est situé:

Autorisations

Organisme de régulation	Description des autorisations	État actuel	Date de l'émission/de la demande	Date d'échéance
Environment and Climate Change Canada	Canadian Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Sanctuary Permit	Applied, Decision Pending		
Environment and Climate Change Canada	Canadian Wildlife Service Scientific Permit	Applied, Decision Pending		
Gouvernement du Nunavut, ministère de l'Environnement	GN WIldlife Permit - application drafted, awaiting exact survey site locations to be chosen before submitting. Plan to submit in the next couple weeks.	Not Yet Applied		
Kitikmeot Inuit Association	Kitikmeot Inuit Assocation Land Division - application drafted, awaiting exact survey site locations to be chosen before submitting. Plan to submit in the next couple weeks.	Not Yet Applied		

Project transportation types

Transportation Type	Utilisation proposée	Length of Use
Air	Fuel caching and drum clean up will be done with a Twin Otter aircraft. During field work, personnel will transit to and from survey locations via helicopter (Bell 407 or similar). Light goose surveys will also use the same helicopter.	
Land	Once field personnel reach survey site, they will conduct their surveys on foot (each site is a plot of approximately 300m by 400m)	

Project accomodation types

Permanent Camp

Autre,

Utilisation de matériel

Équipement à utiliser (y compris les perceuses, les pompes, les aéronefs, les véhicules, etc.)

Type d'équipement	Quantité	Taille – Dimensions	Utilisation proposée
Helicopter - Bell 407 or similar	1	TBD	travel to and from survey plots, aerial surveys
Twin Otter Fixed-wing Aircraft	1	TBD	fuel caching and removal of empty drums

Décrivez l'utilisation du carburant et des marchandises dangereuses

Décrivez l'utilisation de carburant :	Type de carburant	Nombre de conteneurs	Capacité du conteneur	Quantité totale	Unités	Utilisation proposée
Propane	fuel	6	20	120	Lbs	for cooking and heating
Aviation fuel	fuel	60	205	12300	Liters	for helicopter fueling - number of drums is still to be determined

Consommation d'eau

Quantité quotidienne (m3)	Méthodes de récupération de l'eau proposées	Emplacement de récupération de l'eau proposé
0	Given only a small amount of water is needed for camp uses, personnel will retrieve water by bucket for purfication.	Closest freshwater source to Karrak Lake Camp

Déchets

Gestion des déchets

Activités du projet	Type des déchets	Quantité prévue	Méthode d'élimination	Procédures de traitement supplémentaires
Camp	Eaux grises	up to 6 person's worth	disposed of in sump pit at camp location	N/A
Camp	Other, Household waste	10 bag	flown out with camp	N/A
Camp	Eaux usées (matières de vidange)	up to 6 person's worth	solid waste bagged and flown out. Cat holes will be dug and waste buried when away from camp.	N/A

Répercussions environnementales :

Potential environmental impacts from this project are primarily associated with aircraft use. These include disturbance to wildlife while travelling to survey sites and potential for fuel spillage while refueling or from fuel caches. All aircrafts are equipped with spill kits, and drums will be placed in portable berms to contain any potential spills. Pre-existing fuel cache locations will be used whenever possible and to minimize the number of new fuel cache locations required. Empty drums will be taken to air strip at Perry River or Karrak Lake at the end of each field season where they can be picked up by Twin Otter and transported to Cambridge Bay for proper disposal. No temporary camps will be established within the MBS as the field crew will be staying at preexisting cabin sites at Perry River or Karrak Lake. All garbage and human waste will be removed from the cabin sites at the end of the field season.

Additional Information

SECTION A1: Project Info

SECTION A2: Allweather Road

SECTION A3: Winter Road

SECTION B1: Project Info

SECTION B2: Exploration Activity

SECTION B3: Geosciences

SECTION B4: Drilling

SECTION B5: Stripping

SECTION B6: Underground Activity

SECTION B7: Waste Rock

SECTION B8: Stockpiles

SECTION B9: Mine Development

SECTION B10: Geology

SECTION B11: Mine

SECTION B12: Mill

SECTION C1: Pits

SECTION D1: Facility

SECTION D2: Facility Construction

SECTION D3: Facility Operation

SECTION D4: Vessel Use

SECTION E1: Offshore Survey

SECTION E2: Nearshore Survey

SECTION E3: Vessel Use

SECTION F1: Site Cleanup

SECTION G1: Well Authorization

SECTION G2: Onland Exploration

SECTION G3: Offshore Exploration

SECTION G4: Rig

SECTION H1: Vessel Use

SECTION H2: Disposal At Sea

SECTION I1: Municipal Development

Description de l'environnement existant : Environnement physique

Description de l'environnement existant : Environnement biologique

Description de l'environnement existant : Environnement socio-économique

Miscellaneous Project Information

Identification des répercussions et mesures d'atténuation proposées

Potential disturbance to wildlife primarily consists of disturbance related to aircraft use during travel, and from human presence on the ground while surveys are taking place. Bird nests discovered duringsurveys will be approached in order to count the number of eggs and to record the nest location using GPS. Visits to nests will be brief and occur only once, so disturbance to nests is expected to be minimal. Surveys generally take 1-2 hours to complete so we're usually not in any one location for more than a few hours, and we will avoid repeatedly disturbing nests of birds during the survey. If there are largemammals in the area to be surveyed we will not land at that plot or we will depart from the area. If large mammals are observed during air transit, altitude will be increased in order to minimize potential for disturbance.

Répercussions cumulatives

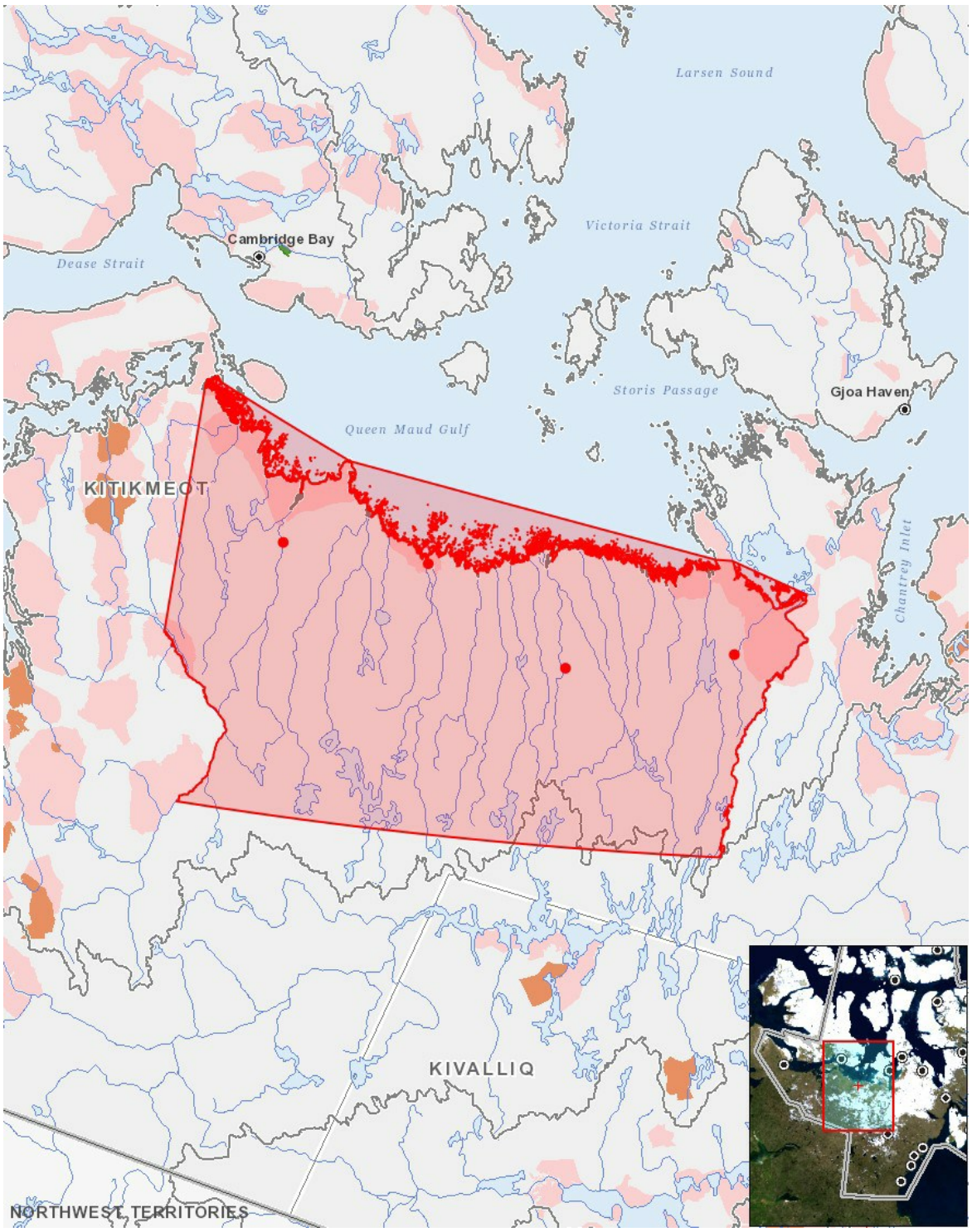
Impacts

Identification des répercussions environnementales

	PHYSICAL	Designated environmental areas	Ground stability	Permafrost	Hydrology / Limnology	Water quality	Climate conditions	Eskers and other unique or fragile landscapes	Surface and bedrock geology	Sediment and soil quality	Tidal processes and bathymetry	Air quality	Noise levels	BIOLOGICAL	Vegetation	Wildlife, including habitat and migration patterns	Birds, including habitat and migration patterns	Aquatic species, incl. habitat and migration/spawning	Wildlife protected areas	SOCIO-ECONOMIC	Archaeological and cultural historic sites	Employment	Community wellness	Community infrastructure	Human health
Construction																									
-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
Exploitation																									
Camp		P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	U		-	U	M	U	P		-	-	P	-	-
Researching		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	M		-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
Désaffectation																									
-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-

(P = Positive, N = Négative et non gérable, M = Négative et gérable, U = Inconnue)

Site du projet



Liste des géométries de projet

1	polygon	Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary Boundary
2	point	Karrak Lake Field Camp
3	point	Perry River Cabin and Fuel Cache
4	point	Ellice River Cabin and Fuel Cache
5	point	McNaughton Lake Old Cabin Site and Fuel Cache