



NOTICE OF SCREENING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NIRB File No.: 25YN013

Project Name: The “Monitoring Program Pilot in Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary” project
Proponent Name: Canadian Wildlife Service
Project Type: Research Region: Kitikmeot Region
Public Registry: www.nirb.ca Application No.: 126155
Comment Deadline: **April 21, 2025**

PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed “Monitoring Program Pilot in Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary” project is located within the Kitikmeot region, approximately 100 kilometres (km) from Cambridge Bay. The Proponent intends to develop and implement monitoring protocols as part of the Ecological and Conservation Monitoring Program. This program aims at monitoring the status and effectiveness of the Protected and Conserved Areas Network managed by Environment and Climate Change Canada for priority species including Species at Risk, geese and shorebirds and landbirds. The program is proposed to take place from March 2025 to July 2027. The scope of this proposed project as identified by the NIRB includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Conduct on-ground PRISM (Program for Regional and International Shorebird Monitoring) surveys which would include bird density, species diversity, habitats the birds are using and how a given nesting season may compare to previous years
- Use of existing camps at Karrak Lake and Perry River Cabin for personnel and fuel cache sites
- Use of aerial survey techniques to develop and implement sustainable long-term monitoring protocols to assess light geese use of the MBS
- Use of Twin Otter aircraft for fuel caching (2026) potentially at Ellice River Cabin or McNaughton Lake followed by fuel drum cleanup at the end of the project (2027)

Please visit the NIRB’s public registry online at the link above and look up NIRB File No.: **25YN013** to access all project information, maps, and public comment forms.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

You are invited to provide the NIRB with your comments regarding whether the proposed project is:

- likely to arouse significant public concern and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse ecosystemic or socio-economic effects and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities and, if so, why;
- a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and can be prevented/managed appropriately with known technology.

Parties are also invited to recommend any specific mitigation measures they feel would be appropriate, and to bring any other matter of importance related to this project proposal to the NIRB’s attention.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The NIRB has recently launched an updated online public registry, and parties can access project information as well as submit comments directly to the NIRB via www.nirb.ca. Comments can still be submitted directly to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca or via fax to **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding the proposed project or the NIRB’s screening process, please contact Kelli Gillard, Manager Impact Assessment toll-free at 1-866-233-3033 or kgillard@nirb.ca.