



23 May 2024

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Marianne Marcoux

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Proponent)
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Dear José Audet-Lecouffe, Cassel Kapolak, Jared Ottenhof, and Marianne Marcoux:

RE: NPC File No. 150413 [Kinngait beluga and walrus biopsy, tagging, camera, and drone work]

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

1. Marine-based Scientific Research: This project aims to address uncertainties in the habitat use and the stock definitions of beluga and walrus using satellite telemetry and genetics. It is proposed to:
 - a. remotely collect biopsy samples of walrus and beluga for genetics,
 - b. remotely equip walrus and beluga whales with satellite tags that provide location and depth data,
 - c. use drone and time lapse camera footage to monitor walrus haul outs and gather behavioural data on beluga whales, and
 - d. deploy hydrophones to monitor marine mammal presence.
2. Timing, Duration, & Personnel:
 - a. 10 days over period 10 September to 10 October 2024
 - b. 2 personnel for a total of 20 person-days
3. Location: Qikiqtani Region; [Fiords east of Kinngait and open ocean south and east of Kinngait]

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) can be accessed online using the link below.

The NPC has determined that this project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. The project proposal requires screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) because it does not belong to a class of exempt works or activities set out in Schedule 12-1 of the *Nunavut Agreement*.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal to the NIRB for screening. Project materials are available at the following address: <https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/registry/registry.aspx?appid=150413>.

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This decision 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.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 979-3444.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Goump Djalogue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Goump" and last name "Djalogue" clearly distinguishable.

Goump Djalogue
Manager of Planning & Implementation, MCIP, RPP
Nunavut Planning Commission