ᓄᓇᕘᒥ ᐊᕙᑎᓕᕆᔨᒃᑯᑦ ᑲᑎᒪᔨᖏᑦᑎᒍᑦ ᑐᒃᓯᖅᑰᑦ ᕿᒥᕐᕈᔭᒃᓴᖅ #126169

DFO biopsy, tagging, acoustics, and drone work on walrus and beluga

ᑐᒃᓯᖅᑰᑕᐅᔪᖅ ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑰᓂᖓ:	New
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ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑐᑎᓂᒃ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖃᖅᓂᐊᕆᐊᕐᓗᓂᒃ

ᖃᖅᓗᓇᓀᑐᑦ: Sea ice declines in Canada's Arctic have been accompanied by an increase in shipping traffic. Shipping can have negative direct (i.e., mortality from strikes) and indirect (e.g., noise disturbance) impacts on Arctic marine mammal populations, leading to displacement from critical habitat or disruption of critical behaviors (e.g., reproduction), with ultimate impacts on population demographics. Walrus and beluga are known to be sensitive to shipping-related disturbance, but there has been very little research carried out in Canada. Results from these two projects will be used to assess spatial and temporal overlaps between critical habitat and shipping corridors, detect behavioral (foraging, resting, vocalizing) and distribution responses to shipping activity, and develop mitigation measures (e.g., buffer zones around important terrestrial and marine habitat). This proposal covers two projects and species (across multiple areas) and has been developed in response to community-identified concerns and research priorities concerning shipping impacts on walrus/beluga behaviour, distribution, and demographics. 1. The walrus field project will take place from the communities of Coral Harbour, Naujaat, Igoolik, Sanirajak and Kinngait, as shipping expansions through these areas of critical high-density walrus habitat stand to have disproportionate impacts on walrus. 2. The beluga work will take place from Igloolik and Kinngait, and data generated from this project will form baseline information on stock definitions, address uncertainties in habitat use, and assess monitor potential impacts of increased shipping over the next few years. Both projects will use a collection of methods to address different questions and uncertainties: 1) satellite tags to collect distribution, movement and diving data (both walrus and beluga) 2) time-lapse stationary cameras and aerial drone imagery (only walrus to monitor haul-out patterns) 3) hydrophone recordings (e.g., vocalizations of walrus and beluga and shipping noise) 4) tissue biopsies (e.g., both walrus and beluga, for analysis of stress hormone concentrations) 5) drone footage to monitor haul-outs (walrus) and gather behavioural health metrics on beluga whales. DFO will be on site in Coral Harbour, Igloolik, and Kinngait, while work in Naujaat and Sanirajak will be community-led. The work will be conducted by boat during day trips (i.e. no field camps) from each community. Operations will take place for ~7-15 days between August 1 to October 30th (exact timing and focus areas will be based on availability of local research team, ice conditions and seasonal species occurrence). The polygons submitted for this project cover large areas to ensure we have the flexibility to follow community recommendations, however they represent a maximum distance that could be traveled. We will not be conducting our work in protected areas or national parks, for example, the Coral Harbour field work will only occur at Walrus Island and will not encroach on the Coats Island Bird Sanctuary. Both projects have and will continue to work closely with the local Hunters and Trappers Associations/Organizations to hire local boats, captains and field research assistants to conduct the work. For the 2025 field season the walrus field program (biopsy, tagging, cameras, and drone) has been supported by all communities, except Naujaat did not support the use of drones. The beluga program has received full support from the Igloolik HTA and Kinngait HTA. For the hydrophones, Sanirajak has supported deploying a new one near the community, the beluga approval letter from Kinngait covers the hydrophone being use for both projects, and the support letter to re-deploy 3-4 hydrophones is pending for Igloolik (however verbal support has been provided).

ᐅᐃᕕᑎᑐᑦ: Le déclin de la glace de mer dans l'Arctique canadien s'est accompagné d'une augmentation du trafic maritime. La navigation peut avoir des impacts négatifs directs (c.-à-d. mortalité due aux collisions) et indirects (p. ex. perturbation par le bruit) sur les populations de mammifères marins de l'Arctique, entraînant le déplacement de l'habitat essentiel ou la perturbation des comportements essentiels (p. ex. reproduction), avec des impacts ultimes sur la démographie de la population. On sait que le morse et le béluga sont sensibles aux perturbations liées à la navigation, mais très peu de recherches ont été menées au Canada. Les résultats de ces deux projets serviront à évaluer les chevauchements spatiaux et temporels entre l'habitat essentiel et les corridors de navigation, à détecter les réponses comportementales (alimentation, repos, vocalisation) et de répartition aux activités de navigation, et à élaborer des mesures d'atténuation (p. ex. zones tampons autour de l'habitat terrestre et marin important). Cette proposition couvre deux projets et deux espèces (dans plusieurs domaines) et a été élaborée en réponse à des Préoccupations et priorités de recherche concernant les impacts du transport maritime sur le comportement, la répartition et la démographie des morses et des bélugas. 1. Le projet de terrain pour le transport du morse se déroulera dans les collectivités de Coral Harbour, de Naujaat, d'Igoolik, de Sanirajak et de Kinngait, car l'expansion de la navigation

dans ces zones d’habitat essentiel à haute densité du morse risque d’avoir des impacts disproportionnés sur le morse. 2. Les travaux sur les bélugas auront lieu à partir d’Igloolik et de Kinngait, et les données générées dans le cadre de ce projet serviront de renseignements de base sur les définitions des stocks, aborderont les incertitudes quant à l’utilisation de l’habitat et évalueront les impacts potentiels de l’augmentation de la navigation au cours des prochaines années. Les deux projets utiliseront un ensemble de méthodes pour répondre à différentes questions et incertitudes : 1) des balises satellitaires pour recueillir des données sur la distribution, les mouvements et la plongée (morses et bélugas) 2) des caméras fixes en accéléré et des images aériennes par drone (uniquement des morses pour surveiller les échoueries) 3) des enregistrements d’hydrophones (p. ex. vocalisations de morses et le bruit des bélugas et des navires) 4) des biopsies tissulaires (p. ex. des morses et des bélugas, pour l’analyse des concentrations d’hormones de stress) 5) des images de drones pour surveiller les échoueries (morses) et recueillir des mesures de santé comportementale chez les bélugas. Le MPO sera sur place à Coral Harbour, à Igloolik et à Kinngait, tandis que les travaux à Naujaat et Sanirajak seront dirigés par la communauté. Les travaux seront effectués par bateau lors d’excursions d’une journée (c.-à-d. pas de camps sur le terrain) à partir de chaque communauté. Les opérations se dérouleront pendant ~7 à 15 jours entre le 1er août et le 30 octobre (le moment exact et les zones d’intérêt seront basés sur la disponibilité de l’équipe de recherche locale, l’état des glaces et la présence saisonnière des espèces). Les polygones soumis pour ce projet couvrent de grandes superficies afin de nous assurer d’avoir la flexibilité nécessaire pour suivre les recommandations de la communauté, mais ils représentent une distance maximale qui pourrait être parcourue. Nous ne mènerons pas notre travail dans des aires protégées ou des parcs nationaux, par exemple, le travail sur le terrain de Coral Harbour n’aura lieu qu’à l’île Walrus et n’empiétera pas sur le refuge d’oiseaux de l’île Coats. Les deux projets ont travaillé et continueront de travailler en étroite collaboration avec les associations et les organisations locales de chasseurs et de trappeurs afin d’embaucher des bateaux, des capitaines et des assistants de recherche sur le terrain pour mener les travaux. Pour la saison de terrain 2025, le programme de terrain sur le morse (biopsie, marquage, caméras et drone) a été soutenu par toutes les communautés, sauf Naujaat qui n’a pas soutenu l’utilisation de drones. Le programme sur les bélugas a reçu l’appui total de l’ETS d’Igloolik et de l’ETS de Kinngait. En ce qui concerne les hydrophones, Sanirajak a appuyé le déploiement d’un nouvel hydrophone près de la communauté, la lettre d’approbation du béluga de Kinngait couvre l’utilisation de l’hydrophone pour les deux projets, et la lettre d’appui pour le redéploiement de 3 ou 4 hydrophones est en attente pour Igloolik (mais un soutien verbal a été fourni).

ᐃᓄᒃᑎᑐᑦ: ᓯᑯᐃᖅᐸᓪᓕᐊᓂᖏᑦ ᑲᓇᑕᐅᑉ ᐅᑭᐅᖅᑕᖅᑐᖓᓂ ᐃᓚᕋᖅᓯᒪᔪᑦ ᐅᓄᖅᓯᒋᐊᕐᓂᖏᓐᓄᑦ ᐅᒥᐊᕐᔪᐊᒃᑯᑦ ᐊᐅᓪᓚᕋᑦᑕᖅᑐᑦ. ᐅᒥᐊᕐᔪᐊᒃᑰᖅᑎᑦᑎᓂᖅ ᐱᐅᙱᑦᑐᒃᑯᑦ ᑐᕌᕆᑎᖃᕈᓐᓇᖅᑐᖅ (ᓈᕐᓗ ᑐᕐᑯᕚᓪᓕᐊᓗᓂ ᓄᖅᑲᖓᓂᕐᓂ) ᑐᕌᖓᑦᑎᐊᙱᑦᑐᕐᓗ (ᓈᕐᓗ ᓂᐱᖅᑯᖅᑐᔪᒥᒃ ᐸᒃᕿᓴᐃᓂᖅ) ᐋᒃᑐᑎᔪᓄᑦ ᐅᑭᐅᖅᑕᖅᑐᒥ ᐃᒪᕐᒥᐅᑕᓄᑦ ᐆᒪᔪᓄᑦ, ᑐᕌᖅᑎᑦᑎᓗᓂ ᐃᓂᖃᓐᓃᕐᓂᕐᒥᒃ ᐱᔭᕆᐊᖃᒪᕆᒃᑐᓂᒃ ᐃᓂᖏᓐᓂ ᐅᓚᕖᑕᐅᓗᑎᒃᓘᓐᓃᑦ ᐱᕐᔪᐊᖅᑐᓄᑦ ᐃᓕᖅᑯᓯᕐᓄᑦ (ᓈᕐᓗ ᕿᑐᕐᖏᐅᕐᓂᖏᑦ), ᐋᒃᑐᑎᖃᒪᕆᒃᑲᓗᓂ ᖃᔅᓯᐅᓂᖏᓐᓂ ᐃᓄᐃᑦ ᐅᓄᕐᓂᖏᑎᒋᑦ. ᐊᐃᕖᑦ ᐊᒻᒪ ᕿᓚᓗᒐᐃᑦ ᖃᐅᔨᒪᔭᐅᕙᑦ ᐊᐅᓪᓚᖅᑎᑕᐅᔭᕆᐊᖃᕐᓂᖏᓐᓂᒃ–ᐋᒃᑐᐊᓂᓖᑦ ᐸᒡᕕᓴᒃᑕᐅᔪᑦ, ᑭᓯᐊᓂ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᖅᑕᐅᓗᐊᖅᓯᒪᙱᒻᒪᑕ ᑲᓇᑕᒥ. ᖃᐅᔨᓴᕈᑎᕙᓂᑦ ᑖᒃᑯᓇᙵᓪᓚᑦ ᒪᕐᕉᖕᓂᒃ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖑᔫᖕᓂᒃ ᐊᑐᖅᑕᐅᓂᐊᖅᐳᑦ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᕈᑕᐅᓗᑎᒃ ᐃᓂᒋᕙᒃᑕᖏᓐᓂᒃ ᐊᒻᒪ ᐊᑯᓂᖅᓱᖅᑐᓂᒃ ᐃᓂᖏᓐᓂᒃ ᐱᔪᐊᖑᓪᓗᑎᒃ ᓇᔪᖅᐸᒃᑕᖏᓐᓂᒃ ᐊᒻᒪ ᐊᐅᓪᓚᖅᑎᑎᖠᕕᕆᕚᒃᑕᖏᓐᓂᒃ, ᖃᐅᔨᔫᓇᕐᓗᑎᒃ ᐱᐅᓯᖏᓐᓂᒃ (ᓂᕆᖠᕕᖏᑦ, ᑕᖃᐃᖅᓯᖅᑐᑦ, ᓂᐱᖃᖅᑎᓪᓗᒋᑦ) ᐊᒻᒪ ᑐᓂᐅᖅᑲᐅᑕᐅᔪᑦ ᑭᐅᔾᔪᑕᐅᔪᑦ ᐊᐅᓪᓚᖅᑎᑦᑎᓂᕐᒧᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᓄᑦ, ᐊᒻᒪ ᐱᕙᓪᓕᐊᑎᑦᑎᓗᑎᒃ ᐋᒃᑐᐃᓗᐊᖅᑕᐃᓕᑎᑦᑎᓂᕐᒧᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᔾᔪᓯᕐᓂᒃ (ᓈᕐᓗ, ᑮᓕᒋᑎᑕᐅᔪᑦ ᐱᒻᒪᕆᐅᔪᑦ ᓄᓇᒥ ᐊᒻᒪ ᐃᒪᕐᒥᐅᑕᑦ ᓇᔪᖅᐸᒃᑕᖏᓐᓂᒃ). ᑖᓐᓇ ᑐᒃᓯᕋᐅᑦ ᒪᕐᕈᙱᓐᓂᒃ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖑᔫᖕᓂᒃ ᐊᒻᒪ ᐆᒪᔪᓂᒃ (ᖃᔅᓯᑲᓪᓚᖕᓄᑦ ᐃᓄᓄᑦ) ᐋᖅᑭᒃᑕᐅᓯᒪᓕᖅᓱᓂᓗ ᓄᓇᓕᖕᓂ ᓇᓗᓇᐃᖅᑕᐅᔪᓄᑦ ᑭᐅᔾᔪᑕᐅᓗᓂ ᐃᓱᒫᓘᑕᐅᔪᑦ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᕐᓃᓪᓗ ᓯᕗᓪᓕᐅᑎᔭᕆᐊᓖᑦ ᐱᔾᔪᑎᓖᑦ ᐊᐅᓪᓚᖅᑎᑕᐅᓂᖏᓐᓄᑦ ᐊᒃᑐᐃᓂᐅᕙᒃᑐᑦ ᐊᐃᕖᑦ/ᖃᓪᓗᓈᑦ ᐱᐅᓯᖏᑦ, ᓯᐊᒻᒪᒃᐸᓪᓕᐊᓂᖏᑦ, ᐊᒻᒪᓗ ᓄᓇᓖᑦ ᐃᓄᖁᑎᖏᑦᑕ ᖃᓄᐃᓕᕙᓪᓕᐊᓂᖏᑦ. 1. ᐊᐃᕝᕕᓕᕆᓂᕐᒧᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖅ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖑᓂᐊᖅᐳᖅ ᓴᓪᓕᕐᒥ, ᓇᐅᔮᓂ, ᐃᒍᓖᓂᒃ, ᓴᓂᕋᔮᖕᒥ ᐊᒻᒪ ᑭᙵᐃᑦ, ᐅᓯᔾᔪᐅᔾᔪᑎᖏᑦ ᐊᖏᓪᓕᒋᐊᖅᑕᐅᑎᓪᓗᒋᑦ ᑕᒪᒃᑯᓇᙵᑦ ᐱᔪᐊᖑᓪᓗᑎᒃ ᐊᐃᕖᑦ ᓇᔪᖅᐸᒃᑕᖏᑦ ᐋᒃᑐᐃᓂᕐᓗᒍᑕᐅᔪᐊᕈᓇᕐᒪᑕ ᐊᐃᕕᕐᓄᑦ. 2. ᕿᓚᓗᒐᐃᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖑᓂᐊᖅᐳᑦ ᐃᒡᓗᓕᖕᒥ ᐊᒻᒪ ᑭᙵᐃᑦ, ᐊᒻᒪ ᑎᑎᕋᖅᓯᒪᔪᑦ ᓴᖅᑭᑎᑕᐅᔪᑦ ᑖᒃᑯᓇᙵᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᓂᒃ ᐋᖅᑭᒃᓯᔾᔪᑕᐅᓂᐊᖅᐳᑦ ᑐᑭᓯᒋᐊᑲᒃᓴᓂᒃ ᓂᐅᕐᕈᑎᒃᓴᑦ ᑐᑭᖏᓐᓂᒃ, ᓴᖅᑭᓪᓗᒋᑦ ᓇᓗᓇᖅᑐᑦ ᓇᔪᖅᑕᐅᔪᑦ, ᖃᐅᔨᓴᕐᓗᒋᓪᓗ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᖅᑕᐅᓗᑎᒃ ᐋᒃᑐᐃᔾᔪᑕᐅᑐᐃᓐᓇᕆᐊᓖᑦ ᐅᒥᐊᕐᔪᐊᒃᑯᖅᑕᐅᒃᑲᓂᕐᓂᖏᑦ ᐅᑭᐅᓄᑦ ᖃᔅᓯᐊᕐᔪᓐᓄᑦ ᐊᒡᒋᖅᑐᓄᑦ. ᑕᒪᕐᒥᒃ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖑᔪᒃ ᐊᑐᕐᓂᐊᖅᐳᑦ ᑲᑎᑕᐅᓯᒪᔪᓂᒃ ᐊᑐᖅᑕᐅᔪᓇᖅᑐᓂᒃ ᑭᐅᓯᓂᐊᕐᓗᑎᒃ ᐊᔾᔨᒌᙱᑦᑐᓂᒃ ᐊᐱᖅᑯᑎᒃᓴᓂᒃ ᓇᓗᓇᕈᔾᔪᑎᓂᓪᓗ: 1) ᖃᖓᑦᑕᖅᑎᑕᐅᓯᒪᔪᒃᑯᑦ ᓂᕕᙵᑖᑦ ᑲᑎᖅᓱᐃᓂᐊᕐᓗᑎᒃ ᑐᓂᐅᖅᑲᐃᕙᓪᓕᐊᓂᕐᒥᒃ, ᓇᒨᙵᐅᕙᓪᓕᐊᕙᖕᓂᖏᓐᓂᒃ ᐊᖅᑲᐅᒪᓂᕐᒧᓪᓗ ᑎᑎᕋᖅᓯᒪᔪᓂᒃ (ᑕᒪᐃᓐᓄᑦ ᐊᐃᕖᑦ ᕿᓚᓗᒐᐃᓪᓗ) 2) ᖃᖓᙳᖅᐸᓪᓕᐊᓂᖓᓄᑦ ᐊᔾᔨᓕᐅᕈᑎᓄᑦ ᖃᖓᑕᔪᓄᓪᓗ ᖃᖓᑕᓗᓂ ᖃᖓᑕᓗᓂ ᐊᔾᔨᓕᐅᕆᓂᖅ (ᐊᐃᕖᑦ ᑭᓯᐊᓂ ᓇᐅᑦᑎᖅᓱᖅᓯᓂᐊᖅᑐᓂ ᓇᒨᙵᐅᕙᓪᓕᐊᕙᖕᓂᖏᓐᓂᒃ) 3) ᐃᒪᕐᒨᖅᑐᓂᒃ ᓂᐱᓕᐅᕆᓂᕐᓂᒃ (ᓈᕐᓗ, ᓂᐱᓕᐅᕆᓂᖅ ᐊᐃᕖᑦ ᓂᐱᖏᓐᓂᒃ (ᓈᕐᓗ, ᓂᓪᓕᐊᓕᖅᑎᑦᑎᓂᖅ ᐊᐃᕝᕚᐅᐃᓂᕐᒥᒃ s ᐊᒻᒪ ᕿᓚᓗᒐᖅ ᐊᒻᒪ ᓂᐱᖓ ᐊᐅᓪᓚᖅᑎᓪᓗᒍ) 4) ᑕᒋᖏᑦ (ᓈᕐᓗ, ᑕᒪᕐᒥᒃ ᐊᐃᕖᑦ ᐊᒻᒪ ᕿᓚᓗᒐᐃᑦ, ᖃᐅᔨᓴᖅᑕᐅᖁᓪᓗᒋᑦ ᐊᒃᓱᕈᕐᓇᖅᑐᑦ ᑎᒥᐅᑉ ᐊᐅᓚᔾᔭᐃᔨᖏᑦ) 5) ᖁᓕᒥᒎᕋᓛᓖᑦ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᕐᓗᒋᑦ

ᐊᐅᓪᓚᖅᑎᑕᐅᔪᑦ (ᐊᐃᕙᕋᔭᐃᑦ) ᐊᒻᒪ ᑲᑎᖅᓱᐃᓗᑎᒃ ᐱᐅᓯᖕᒋᑦᑕ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᕈᑎᖏᓐᓂᒃ ᕿᓚᓗᒐᕐᓄᑦ ᐃᒪᕐᒥᐅᑕᓕᕆᔾᑯᓐᓂ ᓴᓪᓕᕐᒦᓐᓂᐊᖅᑐᑦ, ᐃᒡᓗᓕᖕᒥ, ᐊᒻᒪ ᑭᙵᕐᓂ, ᐱᓕᕆᑎᓪᓗᒋᑦ ᓇᐅᔿᓂ ᐊᒻᒪ ᓴᓂᕋᔭᖕᒥ ᓄᓇᓕᖕᓂ ᐊᐅᓚᑕᐅᓂᐊᖅᑐᑦ. ᐅᒥᐊᒃᑯᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖑᖃᑦᑕᕐᓂᐊᖅᐳᖅ ᐅᓪᓗᒃᑯᑦ ᐊᐅᓪᓚᖅᑎᓪᓗᒋᑦ (ᓛᕐᓗ ᓄᓇᒦᑦᑕᕆᐊᖃᙱᓪᓗᑎᒃ) ᑕᒪᐃᓐᓂᒃ ᓄᓇᓕᖕᓂ. ᐊᐅᓚᑦᑎᓂᖃᕐᓂᐊᖅᑐᑦ ~7-ᒥᑦ 15-ᒧᑦ ᐅᓪᓗᓄᑦ ᐊᑯᓐᓂᖓᓂ ᐊᐅᒍᓯ 1-ᒥᑦ ᐅᑐᐱᕆ 30-ᒧᑦ (ᖃᖕᒐᒃᑰᓪᓚᑦᑖᕐᓂᖓ ᐊᒻᒪᓗ ᑕᐅᑐᒃᑕᑐᐊᖅᑲᑲᐃᓐᓇᕐᓂᖅ ᑐᙳᕙᖃᕐᓗᑎᒃ ᐊᑐᐃᓐᓇᐅᓂᖏᓐᓄᑦ ᓄᓇᓕᖕᓂ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᖅᑏᑦ, ᓯᑯ ᖃᓄᐃᓕᖕᒐᓂᖓ ᐊᒻᒪᓗ ᐊᕿᑰᑉ ᐃᓚᖕᒐᓂ ᐆᒪᔪᐃᑦ ᐊᔾᔨᒌᖕᓂᖏᑦ). ᑖᒃᑯᐊ ᐊᖏᔫᑏᑦ ᑐᓂᔭᐅᓚᐅᖅᑐᑦ ᑖᔅᓯᒧᖕᒐ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᒃᓴᒧᑦ ᐊᖏᔪᓂᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖅᖅᐳᑦ ᐊᓯᔾᔨᕈᓇᕐᓂᖃᕐᑯᓪᓗᒋᑦ ᒪᓕᒍᓇᕐᓂᕐᒥᑦ ᓄᓇᓖᑦ ᐊᑐᓕᕐᑯᔭᖏᓐᓂᑦ, ᑭᓯᐊᓂ ᑭᒻᒐᖅᑐᐃᕝᕙᑦ ᐊᖏᓂᖅᐸᒥᑦ ᐅᖕᒐᓯᖕᓂᓕᖕᒥᑦ ᐊᐅᓪᓚᕝᕙᐅᔪᓇᖅᑐᒥᑦ. ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖃᔾᔮᖕᒋᑦᑐᒍᑦ ᓴᐳᒻᒥᔭᐅᓯᒪᔪᓂᒃ ᐅᕝᕙᓗᓐᓃᑦ ᑲᓇᑕᒥ ᒥᙳᐃᖅᓯᕙᓐᓂ, ᐆᑦᑑᑎᒋᓗᒍ, ᓴᓪᓕᓂ ᓄᓇᒥ ᐱᓕᕆᓂᐅᔪᑦ ᑲᔪᓯᓂᐊᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᐃᕙᐅᐸ ᕿᑭᖅᑖᓗᐊᓂ ᐊᒻᒪᓗ ᓯᒡᔭᒧᐊᔾᔭᓇᓂ ᐊᐸᑑᕐᔪᐊᖅ ᑎᕐᒥᐊᖃᕐᕙᖕᒐᓂ. ᑕᒪᕐᒥᒃ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖑᔪᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᖃᑎᖃᐃᓐᓇᕐᓂᐊᖅᐳᑦ ᓄᓇᓕᖕᓂ ᐊᖑᓇᓱᒃᑐᓕᕆᔨᒃᑯᓐᓂ/ᑲᑐᔾᔨᖃᑎᒌᓐᓂᒃ ᐅᒥᐊᓕᐅᖅᑎᓂᒃ, ᐅᒥᐊᓂᒃ ᐅᓯᔨᒃᓴᓂᒃ ᐊᒻᒪ ᓯᓚᒥ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᖅᑎᒃᓴᓂᒃ ᐱᓕᕆᖃᑦᑕᕐᓂᐊᖅᑐᓂᒃ. 2025–ᒥ ᓯᓚᒥ ᐱᓕᕆᓐᓇᒥ ᐊᐃᕚᑦ ᓯᓚᒥ ᐱᓕᕆᓂᕆᔭᐅᔪᖅ (ᐊᔾᔨᓕᐅᕆᓂᖅ, ᓂᕙᙵᑖᓕᖅᓱᐃᓂᖅ, ᐊᔾᔨᓕᐅᕈᑎᓂᒃ, ᖁᓕᒥᒌᕋᖓᓂᒡᓗ) ᐃᑲᔪᖅᑐᖅᑕᐅᓯᒪᔫᖅ ᑕᒪᐃᓐᓂᑦᑎᐊᖅ ᓄᓇᓕᓕᒫᓂᑦ, ᑭᓯᐊᓂ ᓇᐅᔿᑦ ᐃᑲᔪᖅᑐᐃᓚᐅᙱᓚᑦ ᐊᑐᖅᐸᙶᓂᕐᒥᒃ ᖃᖓᑕᔪᓐᓇᖅᑐᓂᒃ ᖃᖓᑕᔪᓐᓇᖅᑐᓂᒃ. ᕿᓚᓗᒐᓕᕆᓂᕐᒧᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖅ ᐃᑲᔪᖅᓱᖅᑕᐅᑦᑎᐊᖅᓯᒪᔪᖅ ᐃᒡᓗᓕᖕᒥ ᐊᖑᓇᓱᒃᑐᓕᕆᔨᒃᑯᓐᓂ ᐊᒻᒪ ᑭᙵᕐᓂ ᐊᖑᓇᓱᒃᑐᓕᕆᔨᒃᑯᓐᓂ. ᐃᒪᕐᒨᖅᑐᓄᑦ, ᓴᓂᕋᔭᒃ ᐃᑲᔪᖅᑐᐃᓯᒪᔪᖅ ᐃᓕᓯᓂᖕᒥᑦ ᓄᑖᒥᑦ ᖃᓂᒋᔭᖕᒐᓂᑦ ᓄᓇᓕᐅᑉ, ᕿᓚᓗᒐᑦ ᐊᖏᖅᑕᐅᓂᖕᒧᑦ ᑎᑎᖅᑲᖅ ᑭᙵᓂᑦ ᐃᓗᓕᖃᖅᐳᖅ ᐃᒪᖕᒧᑦ ᐅᖃᕈᑎᒥᑦ ᑕᒪᐃᓐᓄᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᓄᑦ, ᐃᑲᔪᖅᑐᐃᔪᕐᓗ ᑎᑎᖅᑲᖅ ᓴᖅᑭᑦᑎᒃᑲᓐᓂᕐᓂᐊᕐᓗᓂ 3-4 ᐃᒪᖕᒨᖅᑐᓂᑦ ᐅᖁᓚᐅᑎᓂᑦ ᐅᑕᖅᑭᔪᖅ ᐃᒡᓗᓕᖕᒧᑦ (ᐅᖃᐅᓯᒃᑯᑦ ᐃᑲᔪᖅᑐᖅᑕᐅᓯᒪᓕᖅᐸᑕ).

Personnel

Personnel on site: 16

Days on site: 30

Total Person days: 480

Operations Phase: from 2025-07-25 to 2025-10-22

ᐱᓕᕆᐊᕆᔾᐅᓂᐊᖅᑐᑦ

ᓇᒥ	ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑑᒥᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖃᕐᓂᐊᖅᐸ	ᑭᒃᑯᑦ ᓄᓇᖁᑖᓂ	ᑐᓴᐅᒪᔭᒃᓴᑦ ᓄᓇᐅᑉ ᖃᓄᖅ ᐊᑐᒐᐅᓚᐅᖅᓯᒪᔭᕆᐊᖓᓐᓂᒃ	ᐃᑦᓴᕐᓂᑕᖃᕐᕕᐅᕙᓚᐅᖅᐸ ᐃᓄᖕᓄᑦ ᓇᔪᖅᑕᐅᖃᑦᑕᕐᓂᑰᕙᓗ ᑕᐃᑦᓱᒪᓂᑐᖃᐅᓕᖅᑐᖅ	ᖃᓂᓐᓂᖅᐹᖅ ᓄᓇᓕᕝᔅᐅᔪᖅ ᐊᒻᒪᓗ ᓴᐳᒻᒥᒃᓃᕕᐅᕙᓗ ᓱᓇᓄᑦ
Coral Harbour, Naujaat, Sanirajak and Igloolik	Researching	Marine	Community lead walrus work has been done for the last couple years. This will be the first year doing beluga work in Igloolik.	None known	Within 200 km of the nearest community, conducting day trips from the community. We will not be conducting our work in protected areas or national parks, for example, the Coral Harbour field work will only occur at Walrus Island and will not encroach on the Coats Island Bird Sanctuary.
Kinngait	Researching	Marine	Community led walrus and beluga work was conducted last year. Baffinland shipping operations will begin in the area in the next few years.	None known	Within 200 km of Kinngait, conducting day trips from the community.

ᓄᓇᓕᐅᑉ ᐃᓚᐅᖃᑕᐅᓂᖓ ᓄᓇᓖᑦᑐ ᐊᕕᒃᑐᖅᓯᒪᐅᕐᓂᖓᓄᑦ ᐃᑲᔪᑕᐅᔪᓐᓇᖅᑐᑦ

ᓄᓇᓕᒋᔭᖅ	ᐊᑏᑦ	ᑲᑐᔾᔨᐊᖃᑎᖏᒋᔭᖅ	ᖃᖓᓗ ᑐᓴᖅᑎᑕᐅᓚᐅᕆᐊᖕᒋᓐᓂᒃ
ᑭᙵᒐᐃᑦ	Annie Suvega	Aviq Hunters and Trappers Organization	2025-01-30
ᓇᐅᔻᑦ	Dolly Mablik	Hunters and Trappers Organization	2025-01-06
ᓴᓂᕋᔭᒃ	Paul Nagmalik	Hunters and Trappers Association	2025-01-22
ᐃᒡᓗᓕᒃ	Billy Pauloosie	Hunters and Trappers Association	2025-01-25
ᐃᒡᓗᓕᒃ	Noah Nakoolak	Aiviit Hunters and Trappers Organization	2025-01-23

ᓚᐃᓴᓐᓃᑦ ᐱᒍᓐᓇᐅᑏ ᐊᓐᒋᖅᑕᐅᓯᒪᔪᑦ

ᓇᒦᕆᐊᓐᒋᓐᓂᒃ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᕆᕝᕕᐅᓂᐊᖅᑐᑦ ᑎᑎᕋᕐᔪᒋᑦ:

ᓚᐃᓴᓐᓃᑦ ᐱᒍᓐᓇᐅᑏ ᐊᓐᒋᖅᑕᐅᓯᒪᔪᑦ

ᒐᕙᒪᒋᔭᐅᔪᑉ ᐊᕕᒃᑐᖅᓯᒪᐅᕐᓂᖓᓐᓂ ᒪᓕᒐᕐᓅᖓᔪᓂᒃ ᐱᖁᔭᕐᓅᖓᔪᓂᒡᒎ ᑲᒪᔩᑦ ᐱᔪᓐᓇᐅᑎᑖᕈᑎᓂᒃ ᓚᐃᓴᓐᓯᓄᑦᑐ ᑲᔪᓯᒃᑲᐃᔩᑦ	ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑐᓪᓚᑎᐅᕙ ᓚᐃᓴᓐᓯᑖᕈᑕᐅᔪᖅ ᐱᔪᓐᓇᐅᑎᑖᕈᑕᐅᔪᖅ ᐊᓐᒋᖅᑕᐅᔪᕐᑑᓐᓃᑦ	ᒫᓐᓇ ᖃᓄᐃᓕᖓᕙ	ᐅᓪᓗᒥ ᑐᓂᔭᖅ/ ᑐᒃᓯᖅᑑᑕᐅᓚᐅᖅᓯᒪᔪᖅ	ᑭᓪᓕᖅᑲᕐᕕᖓ
ᑲᓇᑕᒥ ᐃᖃᓗᓕᕆᔩᑦ ᑕᑎᐅᓕᕆᔩᓪᓗ	Fish for Scientific Purposes Permit, Animal Use Protocol Permit, Authorization to disturb a marine mammal	Not Yet Applied		
Hunters and Trappers Associations/Organizations	Walrus work - Support letters from the Hunters and Trappers Organization/Associations in Coral Harbour, Igloolik, Kinngait, Naujaat and Sanirajak	Active		
Hunters and Trappers Associations/Organizations	Beluga work - Support letters from the Hunters and Trappers Organization/Associations in Igloolik and Kinngait	Active		

Project transportation types

Transportation Type	ᓱᓇᒨᑦ ᐊᑐᖓᐅᓂᐊᖅᐸ	Length of Use
Water	Motor boats will be used during day trips from the community	

Project accomodation types

ᓄᓇᓕᒥᔭᖅ

ᐊᑐᒐᐅᓂᐊᖅᑐᖅ

ᐱᕐᑯᑦ ᐊᖏᔪᖅ ᐊᑐᖅᑕᐅᓂᐅᓴᔪᖅ ᐃᓚᖃᓯᐅᑎᓗᒋᑦ ᐃᑰᑕᐃᑦ, ᒥᓪᓗᐊᕈᑏᑦ, ᖃᖓᑕᓲᖅ, ᓄᓇᓯᐅᑦ ᐊᓯᖏᓪᓗ

ᐊᖏᔪᖅ ᐱᕐᑯᑦ ᐊᑐᒐᐅᓂᐊᖅᑐᖅ ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑑᓂᖓ	ᖃᑦᓯᐅᕙᑦ	ᐊᖏᓂᖏᑦ - ᐳᖅᑐᓂᖏᑦ	ᓱᓇᒨᑦ ᐊᑐᒐᐅᓂᐊᖅᐸ
Boats	10	TBD	Two boats will be required in each community for access to walrus and beluga areas and deployment of tags, biopsies, and hydrophones. Boats are either contracted through the local Hunters and Trappers Organizations or Inuit owned outfitters (if available).
CO2 airgun/biopsy dart	10	22 mm dart	Two airguns will be used in each area to collect biopsies (skin and blubber samples) remotely
Hyrdrophone	5	530mm x 60mm	Hydrophones will be deployed around Igloolik, Sanirajak and Kinngait. The purpose is to collect and record underwater noise, shipping, and vocalizations from marine mammals.
Drone	5	12x9.5x3.3 inches	Drones will be flown opportunistically over haul outs to access walrus numbers and proportions of adults and calves. Drones will also be used to assess beluga whale behaviour and body condition.
Crossbow	8	35.5 inches	Two crossbows used for deploying satellite tags and biopsy darts.

ᑎᑎᕋᐅᓯᕆᓗᒍ ᐅᖅᓱᒃᓴᐃᑦ ᐊᑦᑕᓇᖅᑐᖅᑖᕐᓗ ᐊᑐᖅᑕᐅᓂᐊᕐᓂᖏᑦ

ᓱᓇᒨᑦ ᐅᖅᓱᒃᓴᒡᒥᐊᖅ ᐊᑐᒐᐅᓂᐊᖅᐸ	ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑐᓪᓚᕆᐅᕙ ᐅᖅᓱᒃᓴᒡᒥᐊᖅ	ᖃᑦᓯᐅᕙᑦ ᐅᖅᓱᒃᓴᖃᐅᑏᑦ	ᐆᒃᓴᐅᑉ ᐃᒪᖅᑎᕆᔭᓐᓂᕐᓂᖓ	ᑲᑎᓪᓗᒍ	ᐆᒃᓴᐃᑦ ᐊᒥᒌᓂᖏᑦ	ᓱᓇᒨᑦ ᐊᑐᒐᐅᓂᐊᖅᐸ
Gasoline	fuel	287	25	7175	Liters	The amount of fuel needed will vary depending on the boat and type of engine and number of successful field days- here we estimated ~205 liters for

						a 7 hour day trip for a double- prop. boat205 liters x 7 days x 5 communities= ~7,175 liters

ᐃᒪᖅ ᐊᑐᖅᑕᐅᔨᒪᖅᑐᖅ

ᐅᓪᓗ ᑕᒧᖅ ᐊᑐᖅᑕᐅᓂᐊᖅᑐᖅ	ᖃᓄᖅ ᐃᒥᖅᑕᖃᖅᑕᕐᓂᐊᖅᐸᑦ	ᓇᑭᑦ ᐃᒥᖅᑕᖃᖅᑕᕐᓂᐊᖅᐸᑦ
0		

ᐊᖏᑕᑯᑦ

ᐊᖏᑕᑯᓕᓂᐊᕐᓂᖅ

ᐱᓕᓐᐊᓐᖏᐅᔾᓚᔾᔪᒍᑦ ᐱᓕᓐᐊᓐᖏᐅᓂᐊᖅᑐᖅ	ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑐᖅ ᐊᖏᑕᑯᖅ	ᖃᓄᐅᑎᒋ ᐊᖏᑕᑯᑦ ᓴᖅᑭᐊᓂᐊᖅᑐᓐᖏᐅᓐᓄᑦ	ᖃᓄᐅᖅ ᐊᖏᑕᖅᑕᐅᓂᐊᖅᐸ	ᓴᓗᒻᒪᖅᓴᐅᑎᖏᓴᖏᓐᓂᐅᓂᐊᖅᑐᑦ
Information is not available				

ᐊᐸᑎᒥᐅᑕᓂᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᖏᑐᖅᑕᐅᓯᒪᔪᑦ

No adverse environmental impacts are expected based on this project.

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

ᐃᓕᓴᕆ ᐊᐸᑎᐅᐸ ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑐᓪᓗᐊᑕᓂᖅ: ᓄᓇᐅᐸ ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑐᑕᓂᖅ

No adverse environmental impacts are expected based on this project.

ᐃᓕᓴᕆ ᐊᐸᑎᐅᐸ ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑐᓪᓗᐊᑕᓂᖅ: ᐅᒪᔨᖏᑕᖃᖅᓂᖅ

ᐃᓕᓴᕆ ᐊᐸᑎᐅᐸ ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑐᓪᓗᐊᑕᓂᖅ: ᐃᓄᓕᓗᓂᕐᒧᖅᓴᑦ-ᐱᐸᓕᐊᔨᓕᓗᓂᕐᒧᖅᓴᑦ

Miscellaneous Project Information

Monitoring walrus and beluga is especially important because Baffinland Iron Mines plans to ship ore from its Mary River mine on Baffin Island using a railway south to Steensby Inlet. This could include an all-season deep-water port, and ice-breaking ore carriers travelling through Foxe Basin and Hudson Strait. This project is important for gathering baseline data on marine mammals in Hudson Strait.

ᓀᓗᓴᐃᖏᑕᐅᓂᕐᒥᑦ ᐊᑲᑐᖏᑕᐅᓯᒪᔨᑦ ᖃᓄᐃᑦᑐᕆᓂᕐᒥᑦ ᕿᓚᐅᒥᐅᔨᓯᖏᑕᐅᓂᐊᖅᓂᕐᒥᓪᓗ

This project is a collaboration with the HTO/HTA, ongoing discussions and joint planning will ensure timing of this study does not coincide with the subsistence hunt.

Cumulative Effects

Impacts

ᓇᓗᓇᐃᖅᑕᐅᓂᖏᑦ ᐊᐸᑎᒥᐅᑕᓄᑦᑐᑦ ᐊᖅᑐᖅᑕᐅᓯᒪᔪᑦ

	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
ᐱᓇᓂᖅ																									
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ᐅᓴᖃᑦᑕᕐᓂᖅ																									
Researching		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-		-	P	-	-	-
ᐃᑐᑦᑎᓗᓂᖅ																									
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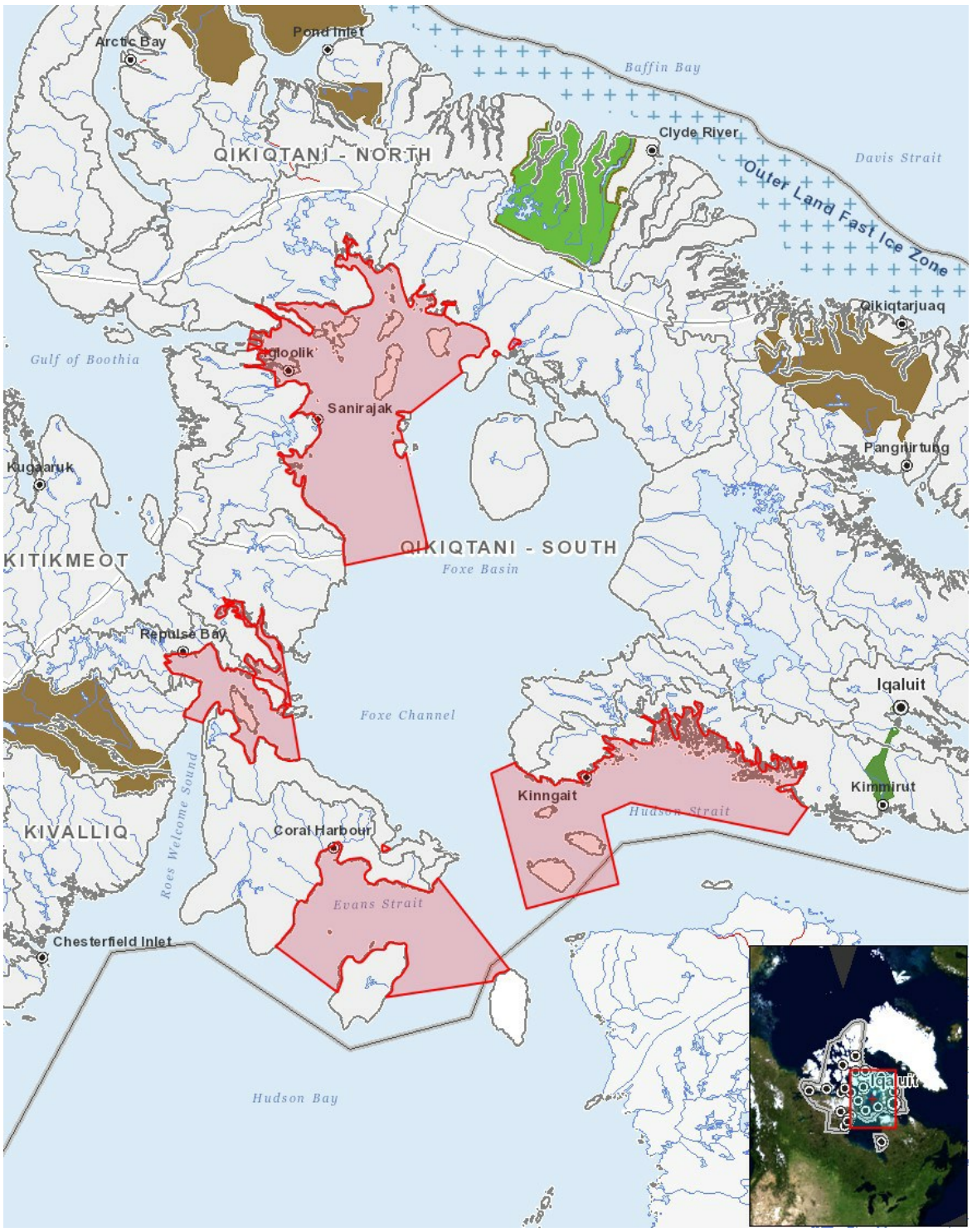
(P = ᐊᑲᐅᓇᑭᐱᓇᓚᖅᑐᑦ, N = ᐊᑲᐅᖏᓐᓴᐸᑕᐅᓇᓚᖅᑐᑦ ᕿᓪᐅᒥᐊᓴᖅᑐᖅᑕᐅᓇᓚᖏᑦᑐᓪᓗ, M = ᐊᑲᐅᖏᓐᓴᐸᑕᐅᓇᓚᖅᑐᑦ ᕿᓪᐅᒥᐊᓴᖅᑐᖅᑕᐅᓇᓚᖅᑐᓪᓗ, U = ᖃᐅᔨᒪᓚᓐᓂᑐᖅ)

ᓇᒋᒪᖏᑦᑐᖅ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᒃᑲᐅᔾᔨᖏᑦ



List of Project Geometries

1	polygon	Kinngait
2	polygon	Coral Harbour, Naujaat, Sanirajak and Igloolik