



NIRB File No.: 25TN031
Commission File No.: 150659

May 6, 2025

Rosie Gregory
Operations Manager
Eagle-Eye Tours Inc.
4711 Galena St.,
Windermere, BC
V0B 2L2

Sent via email: rosie@eagle-eye.com

Re: Notice of Screening for Eagle-Eye Tours' "Wildlife Tours - 2025 Nunavut Trips" project proposal

Dear Rosie Gregory:

On April 15, 2025 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen Eagle-Eye Tours' "Wildlife Tours - 2025 Nunavut Trips" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan. On April 16, 2025 the NIRB received the complete application from the Proponent.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **25TN031** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Scope:

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/126173.

Project:	Wildlife Tours - 2025 Nunavut Trips
Region:	Qikiqtani and Kitikmeot
Closest Community:	Pond Inlet, Sanirajak and Cambridge Bay

Summary of Project Description:	The Proponent intends to conduct educational tourism activities near Pond Inlet, Sanirajak (Hall Beach) and Cambridge Bay to observe wildlife and birds.
Project Proposed Timeline:	May 24 to July 6, 2025

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Conduct tourism activities near Pond Inlet:
 - Use local accommodations and facilities;
 - Use of five (5) snowmobiles and komatik sleds to transport guests and equipment to camp site;
 - Set-up of tourism camp by local outfitter for five (5) nights;
 - Use of fuel for camp activities;
 - Use of water for camp activities;
 - Transport guests to floe-edge by snowmobiles and komatik sleds to observe wildlife (narwhal and polar bears);
- Conduct tourism activities near Sanirajak:
 - Use local accommodations and facilities;
 - Transport guest by boat to observe marine wildlife (walrus and bowhead whales);
- Conduct tourism activities at Cambridge Bay:
 - Use local accommodations and facilities;
 - Transport guests daily by car or van to various birding locations;
- Hiring of local guides where possible; and
- Disposal of wastes as appropriate at local community facilities.

Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/126173 and include:

- *Commission Conformity Determination*
- *Commission Application*
- *NIRB Online Application*
- *Non-Technical Summary in English, French, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by Eagle-Eye Tours' project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **May 16, 2025**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please note that *proposed* project-specific terms and conditions, should the project proceed, have been attached for consideration and comment ([Appendix A](#)).

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca, via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/126173.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the Kelli Gillard, Manager, Impact Assessment at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Cassel Kapolak
Manager, Public Registry
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Attachments: Appendix A: *Proposed* Project Specific Terms and Conditions

Enclosures (6): Public Notice of Screening (English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun)
Comment Forms (English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun)

cc: Distribution List
Wynter Kuliktana, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut
Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut
Sean Joseph, Government of Nunavut
Jonas Azonaha, Government of Nunavut
Jakub Garbarczyk, Government of Nunavut
Chrisopher Gerlach, Department of Economic Development - Government of Nunavut
Caroline Whittle, Department of Culture and Heritage - Government of Nunavut
Natalie D'Souza, Department of Environment - Government of Nunavut
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Adrian Paradis, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
Margaret Friesen, Northern Projects Management Office
Lisa Pirie, Canadian Wildlife Services
Maryse Mahy, Parks Canada

Appendix A: Proposed Project Specific Terms and Conditions

The following is a list of project-specific terms and conditions which, should the project proceed, may be recommended to be attached to any approval.

General

1. Eagle-Eye Tours (the Proponent) shall maintain a copy of the Project Terms and Conditions at the site of operation at all times and make it accessible to enforcement officers upon request.
2. The Proponent shall operate in accordance with all commitments stated in correspondence provided to the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC File No.: 150659), and the NIRB (Online Application Form, April 16, 2025). This information should be accessible to enforcement officers upon request.
3. The Proponent shall operate the site in accordance with all applicable Acts, Regulations and Guidelines.
4. The Proponent shall ensure that it meets the standards and/or limits as set out in the authorizing agencies' permits or licences as required for this project.
5. The Proponent shall ensure that all personnel, staff and contractors are adequately trained prior to commencement of all project activities, and shall be made aware of all operational plans, management plans, guidelines and Proponent commitments relating to the project.

Water courses/Water bodies (including fresh and marine waters)

6. The Proponent shall ensure that water extraction from any fish-bearing waterbody is done with appropriate care and caution. Small lakes or streams should not be used for water withdrawal unless approved by the appropriate authorizing agency.
7. The Proponent shall ensure that no disturbance of the stream bed, lakebed or the banks of any definable watercourse be permitted, except where deemed necessary for maintaining project-specific operational commitments or approved by a responsible authority in cases of spill management.
8. The Proponent shall not deposit, nor permit the deposit of any fuel, chemicals, wastes (including wastewater) or sediment into any water body. The Proponent should have in place an Emergency Spill Response Plan that is approved by the appropriate authorizing agency(ies).

Waste Management

9. The Proponent shall manage all hazardous and non-hazardous waste including food, domestic wastes, debris and petroleum-based chemicals (e.g., greases, gasoline, glycol-based antifreeze) in such a manner to avoid release into the environment and access to wildlife at all times until disposed of appropriately or at an approved facility.
10. The Proponent shall dispose of all combustible wastes as required by the appropriate authorizing agencies. All non-combustible wastes from the project site shall be removed to an approved facility for disposal.

Fuel and Chemical Storage

11. The Proponent shall locate all fuel and other hazardous materials a minimum distance away from the high-water mark of any water body and environmentally sensitive areas as required by the appropriate authorizing agencies. The materials shall be stored in such a manner as to prevent their release into the environment.
12. The Proponent shall use adequate secondary containment or a surface liner (e.g., self-supporting insta-berms and fold-a-tanks) when storing barreled fuel and chemicals at all locations.
13. The Proponent shall ensure that re-fuelling of all equipment occurs a minimum distance away from the high-water mark of any water body as required by the appropriate authorizing agencies.
14. All fuel and chemical storage containers must be clearly marked with the Proponent's name for ease of identification.
15. The Proponent shall have a Spill Contingency Plan in place at all fuel storage or transfer locations and shall ensure that appropriate spill response equipment and clean-up materials (e.g., shovels, pumps, barrels, drip pans, and absorbents) are readily available.
16. The Proponent shall follow the authorizing agencies' direction for management and removal of hazardous materials and wastes (e.g., contaminated soils, sediment and waste oil).
17. The Proponent shall ensure that wildlife deterrent systems are utilized at the time of a spill incident in order to avoid wildlife (terrestrial or marine) and migratory birds from being contaminated.
18. The Proponent shall ensure that all spills of fuel or other deleterious materials of 100 litres or more must be reported immediately to the 24-hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.

Wildlife – General

19. The Proponent shall not substantially alter or damage or destroy any wildlife habitat in conducting this operation unless otherwise authorized by the appropriate authorizing agencies.
20. The Proponent shall not chase, weary, harass or molest wildlife. This includes persistently circling, chasing, hovering over, pursuing or in any other way harass wildlife, or disturbing large groups of animals.
21. The Proponent shall not hunt or fish, unless proper Nunavut authorizations have been acquired.
22. The Proponent shall ensure that all wildlife have the right-of-way on any roads or trails. Vehicles are required to slow down or stop and wait to permit the free and unrestricted movement of wildlife across roads or trails at any location.

Migratory Birds and Raptors Disturbance

23. The Proponent shall carry out all phases of the project in a manner that protects migratory birds and avoids harming, killing or disturbing migratory birds or destroying, disturbing or taking their nests or eggs. In this regard, the Proponent shall take into account Environment and Climate Change Canada's *Avoidance Guidelines*. The Proponent's actions in applying the

Avoidance Guidelines shall be in compliance with the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and with the *Species at Risk Act*.

24. The Proponent shall not disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of any birds. If active nests of any birds are discovered or located (i.e., with eggs or young), the Proponent shall avoid these areas until nesting is complete and the young have naturally left the vicinity of the nest by establishing a protection buffer zone¹ appropriate for the species and the surrounding habitat.
25. The Proponent shall avoid the seaward site of seabird colonies and areas used by flocks of migrating waterfowl, a minimum distance away on the recommendation of the appropriate authorizing agencies.
26. The Proponent shall not pursue seabirds or waterbirds swimming on the water surface and shall avoid concentrations of these birds if encountered on the water.

Caribou and Muskoxen Disturbance

27. The Proponent shall avoid interfering with any paths or crossings known to be frequented by caribou during periods of migration as identified by current land use plans in place and/or by Inuit Qaujimaningit.
28. The Proponent shall not locate any operation or undertake activities that could block or cause any diversion to migration of caribou or muskoxen.
29. The Proponent shall immediately cease activities likely to interfere with the migration or calving of caribou or muskoxen until such time as the caribou or muskox have passed.

Road and Ground Disturbance

30. The Proponent shall not move any equipment or vehicles unless the ground surface is in a state capable of fully supporting the equipment or vehicles without rutting or gouging. Overland travel of equipment or vehicles must be suspended if rutting occurs.
31. The Proponent shall not move any equipment or vehicles without prior testing the thickness of the ice to ensure the lake, river or stream is in a state capable of fully supporting the equipment or vehicles.

Land Use and Restoration of Disturbed Areas

32. The Proponent shall use existing trails where possible during project activities on the land.
33. The Proponent shall ensure that the land use area is kept clean and tidy at all times.
34. The Proponent shall remove all garbage, fuel and equipment at the field season.

Camps

35. The Proponent shall ensure that all camps are located durable surfaces, such as gravel or sand that is consolidated and can withstand repeated, heavy use. Measures shall be put in place to prevent erosion, trail formation and damage to the ground.

¹ Recommended setback distances to define buffer zones have been established by Environment and Climate Change Canada for different bird groups nesting in tundra habitat and can be found at www.ec.gc.ca/paom-itmb.

36. The Proponent shall not erect camps or store materials on the surface ice of lakes or streams, except that which is for immediate use.

Marine-Based Activities

37. The Proponent shall ensure that noise be kept to a minimum and shall refrain from making sharp or loud noises, blowing horns or whistles and shall maintain constant engine noise levels.
38. The Proponent shall not visit cliffs used by nesting and breeding birds during the late afternoon or early evening hours during the months of August and September.
39. The Proponent shall not attempt to intersect or interfere with the movements of marine mammals. This includes ensuring that there are no wake zones within 250 metres and a minimum of 100 metre no go zone around marine mammals. Strategic positioning of vessels ahead of the path being traveled by mobile mammals and waiting for the mammals to pass is also prohibited.
40. When marine mammals appear to be trapped or disturbed by vessel movements, the Proponent shall implement appropriate measures to mitigate disturbance, including stoppage of movement until wildlife have moved away from the immediate area.
41. The Proponent shall maintain a distance of 100 metres if a Polar Bear is encountered on land or ice while conducting activities from a zodiac or other small craft; all interaction with Polar Bears should be avoided if possible.
42. The Proponent shall maintain a distance of 500 metres of a walrus haul out while conducting activities from a zodiac or other small craft.
43. The Proponent shall suspend all project activities should any dead fish or wildlife (both marine and terrestrial), or any injured wildlife be observed during any works or activities in and around the marine waters. Activities may only be resumed on the recommendation of the authorizing agencies.
44. The Proponent shall report all incidents, injuries or sightings of marine mammals to the appropriate authorizing agencies.

Vessel Craft-based Tourism

45. The Proponent shall ensure that all passengers (clients and staff) are aware of the Proponent's responsibilities and requirements regarding wildlife and wildlife habitat protection. This should include pre-landing briefings on wildlife sensitivities and potential hazards, proper wildlife viewing techniques and safety practices. The Proponent shall monitor to ensure all clients and staff are compliant.
46. While on the small craft, the Proponent shall limit viewing time of each concentration of marine mammals and avoid loud noises and rapid movement in order to minimize disturbance.

Heritage Sites

47. The Proponent shall ensure that archaeological and paleontological sites are not purposely or inadvertently disturbed by clients or staff as a result of project activities.
48. The Proponent shall ensure that all clients and staff are aware of the Proponent's responsibilities and requirements regarding archaeological or palaeontological sites that are

encountered during land-based activities. This should include briefings explaining the prohibitions regarding removal of artifacts, and defacing or writing on rocks and infrastructure.

Other

49. The Proponent should engage with local residents regarding planned activities in the area and should solicit available Inuit Qaujimaningit and information regarding current recreational and traditional usage of the project area which may inform project activities. Posting of translated public notices and direct engagement with potentially interested groups and individuals prior to undertaking project activities is strongly encouraged.
50. The Proponent shall ensure that project activities do not interfere with Inuit wildlife harvesting or traditional land use activities.
51. The Proponent should, to the extent possible, hire local people and access local services where possible.