



## **NIRB Application for Screening #126176**

### **Western Hudson Bay beluga population abundance estimate**

**Application Type:** New

**Project Type:** Scientific Research

**Application Date:** Tuesday, April 22, 2025

**Period of operation:** from 2025-07-18 to 2025-08-03

**Project Proponent:** Marianne Marcoux  
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Canada  
Phone Number:: 204-228-8042, Fax Number::

Operations Phase: from 2025-07-18 to 2025-08-03

## Activities

Location	Activity Type	Land Status	Site history	Site archaeological or paleontological value	Proximity to the nearest communities and any protected areas
Area surveyed to estimate the abundance of the WHB beluga population	Scientific/International Polar Year Research	Marine	N/A	N/A	Nunavut communities: Arviat, Whale Cove, Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet. Nunavut protected area: Kuugaarjuk Migratory Bird Sanctuary

## Community Involvement & Regional Benefits

Community	Name	Organization	Date Contacted
Arviat	Alex Ishalook	Arviat Hunters and Trappers Organization	2025-01-15

## Authorizations

Indicate the areas in which the project is located:

Authorizations

Regulatory Authority	Authorization Description	Current Status	Date Issued / Applied	Expiry Date
Canadian Wildlife Service	MBS permit application sent on 2025-01-31	Applied, Decision Pending		
Parks Canada	Wapusk National Park was contacted and since we won't be landing in the Park we don't need a permit	Active		
Hunters and Trappers Associations/Organizations	Letters of support have been received from 2 of the 4 Hunters and Trappers Organizations to date	Active		
Hunters and Trappers Associations/Organizations	We are waiting for letters of support from 2 of the 4 Hunters and Trappers Organizations. They were contacted on 2025-01-15.	Applied, Decision Pending		

### Project transportation types

Transportation Type	Proposed Use	Length of Use
Air	Twin Otters will be used to fly systematic survey lines	

### Project accomodation types

Community

## Material Use

Equipment to be used (including drills, pumps, aircraft, vehicles, etc)

Equipment Type	Quantity	Size - Dimensions	Proposed Use
Airplane: DeHavilland Twin Otter (DH-6)	2	65ft wingspan	We will use 2 twin otters to fly transect lines over survey strata across western and southern Hudson Bay.

### Detail Fuel and Hazardous Material Use

Detail fuel material use:	Fuel Type	Number of containers	Container Capacity	Total Amount	Units	Proposed Use
Aviation fuel	fuel	15	205	3075	Liters	Fuel will be cached by PCSP at airstrips prior to the survey.

### Water Consumption

Daily amount (m3)	Proposed water retrieval methods	Proposed water retrieval location
0		

# Waste

## Waste Management

Project Activity	Type of Waste	Projected Amount Generated	Method of Disposal	Additional treatment procedures
Aerial surveys	Sewage (human waste)	2L	Left on the land	Staff and observers may need to go to the washroom while landing to refuel.

## Environmental Impacts:

There will be no environmental impacts on the land as we will use airports to refuel, and already demarcated landing strips where fuel is regularly cached as needed. There will be minimal noise disturbance to wildlife as we fly at an altitude of 1000-2000ft.

# **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 of Existing Environment: Physical Environment**

**Description of Existing Environment: Biological Environment**

**Description of Existing Environment: Socio-economic Environment**

**Miscellaneous Project Information**

**Identification of Impacts and Proposed Mitigation Measures**

**Cumulative Effects**



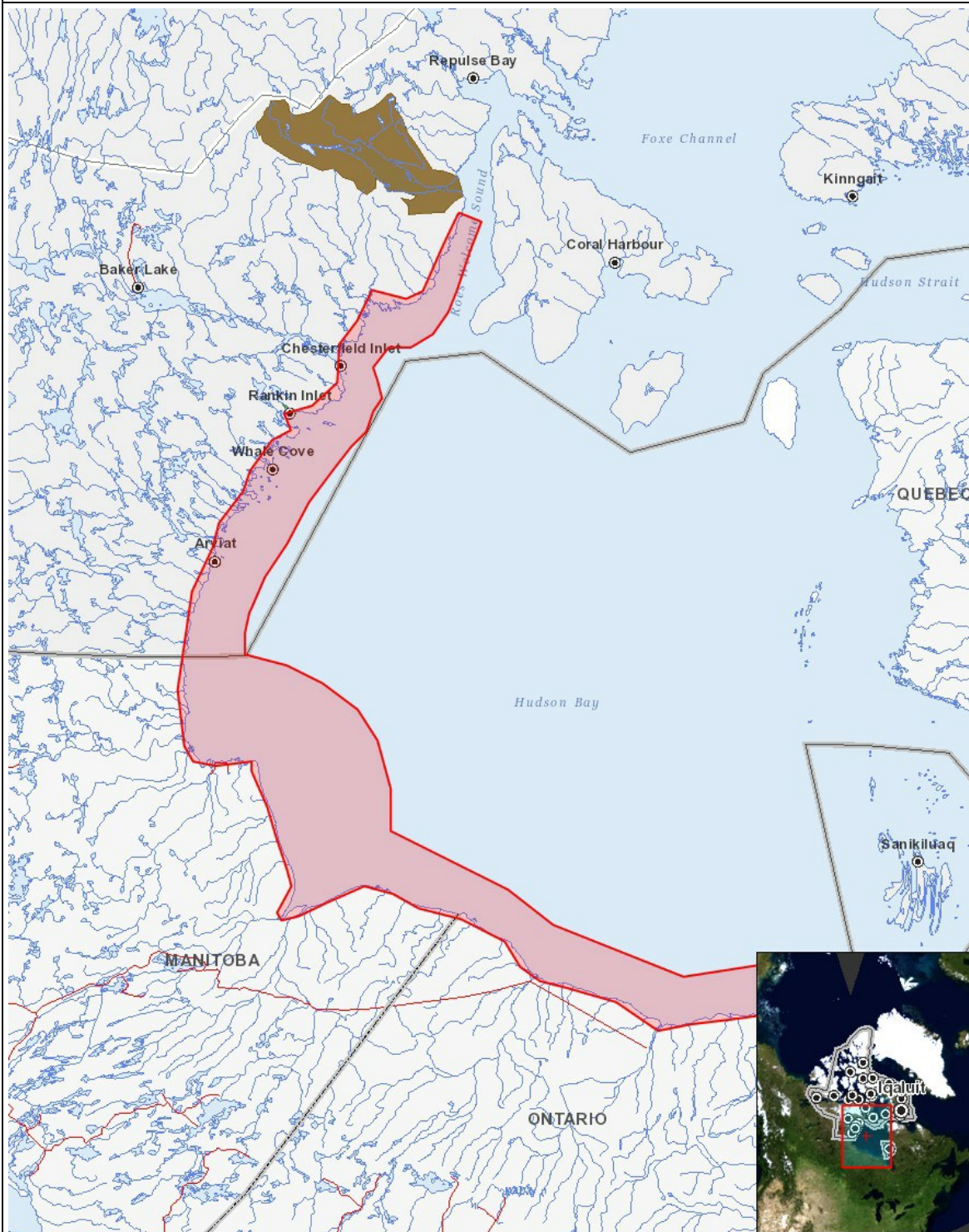
Impacts

Identification of Environmental Impacts

	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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operation																									
Scientific/International Polar Year Research		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	-	-	-
Decommissioning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

(P = Positive, N = Negative and non-mitigatable, M = Negative and mitigatable, U = Unknown)

## Project Location



## List of Project Geometries

1 polygon Area surveyed to estimate the abundance of the WHB beluga population