



2025-05-31 to 2029-02-28
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ᖃᓕᓗᓗᓂᓐᓂᓐ: The Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA), in collaboration with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) and the Nunavut General Monitoring Plan (NGMP), has established an aquatic cumulative effects monitoring program (CEMP) with the ongoing support of Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake, Whale Cove, Nauyasat, Arviat and Coral Harbour. This initiative aims to address core questions of community concerns: Is the water safe to drink? Are the fish safe to eat? The CEMP is a key component of the Inuu'tuti Initiative, a new program in the North designed to assess the cumulative effects of climate change, industrial development, and human activity on the aquatic environment within the Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake, Whale Cove, Nauyasat, Arviat and Coral Harbour watershed. Over four years, the program will conduct integrated monitoring of key sites of community importance, measuring environmental contaminants in water while evaluating their potential impacts on the local ecosystem. The program's overarching goal is to unite the principles of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) with scientific data collection to create a comprehensive monitoring framework. By working closely with local communities, the project will incorporate Traditional Knowledge through interviews with Elders and community members, alongside rigorous environmental sampling and analysis. This collaborative approach ensures that both scientific data and Indigenous perspectives guide decision-making, providing Nunavummiut with meaningful, reliable information about their environment. This program will enhance understanding of environmental changes across Kivalliq Region communities, strengthen community capacity in environmental monitoring, and support informed decision-making for the protection of water and food security in the region.

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Le Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA), en collaboration avec Relations Autochtones et Affaires du Nord Canada (RCAANC) et le Plan de surveillance générale du Nunavut (PSGN), ont établies un programme aquatique au centre autochtone sur les effets cumulatifs (CAEC) avec le support continu de Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake, Whale Cove, Nauyaat, Arviat et Coral Harbour. Cette initiative vise à adresser les questions fondamentales des préoccupations de la communauté : Est-ce que l'eau est potable? Est-ce que les poissons sont comestibles? Le CAEC est un élément essentiel de l'Initiative Inuu'tuti, un nouveau programme dans le Nord conçu pour évaluer les effets cumulatifs du changement climatique, le développement industriel et les activités humaines sur l'environnement aquatique dans les bassins hydrographiques de Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake, Whale Cove, Nauyaat, Arviat et Coral Harbour. Au fil de quatre ans, le programme va mener des surveillances intégrées des sites essentiels importantes pour les communautés, mesurer les contaminants environnementaux dans l'eau et évaluer leurs impacts potentiels sur l'écosystème local. L'objectif principal du programme est d'unir les principes d'Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) avec la collection de données scientifiques pour créer un système de surveillance compréhensif. En travaillant étroitement avec les communautés locales, le projet va incorporer le Savoir Traditionnel à travers des entrevues avec les Aînés et membres de la communauté, en même temps que l'échantillonnage et l'analyse environnemental rigoureuse. Cette approche collaborative assure que les données scientifiques et les points de vue Indigènes guident la prise de décision, en fournissant les Nunavummiut avec l'information significatif et fiable au sujet de leur environnement. Ce programme va améliorer la compréhension des changements environnementales au travers des communautés dans la région Kivalliq, renforcer la capacité communautaire dans la surveillance environnementale, et supporter la prise de décision informé pour la protection de sécurité hydrique et alimentaire dans la région.

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Inuinnaqtun: n/a

Operations Phase: from 2025-05-31 to 2029-02-28

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Arviat, Whale Cove, Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake	Sampling sites	Inuit Owned Surface Lands	n/a	n/a	20-30km
Naujaat	Sampling sites	Inuit Owned Surface Lands	n/a	n/a	20-30km
Coral Harbour	Sampling sites	Inuit Owned Surface Lands	n/a	n/a	20-30km

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Information is not available			

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Transportation Type	Vehicle	Length of Use
Water	Boat	
Land	ATV, snowmobile	

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Waste disposal	Other, Food Waste	Lunch eaten during field trip	Community waste disposal bins	None
Sampling sites	Other, Nitrile Gloves	100 pairs	Community waste disposal bins	None

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To our knowledge, there are no known environmental impacts from the use of our equipment and sampling activities on land, water and wildlife.

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

[illegible]

The sampling sites are all located within the Kivalliq region and were selected based on cultural significance for community members and are frequently used for fishing, camping, swimming, hunting, and collecting drinking water. Sites can be accessed on gravel roads by ATV in the summer and over snow and ice by snowmobile in the winter. The landscape can be described as Arctic tundra, mostly flat with rock outcrops. Permafrost and snow cover the region most of the year, only thawing in the summer months. The sampling sites in Arviat are located at: Maguse Lake, Amittuquyak/Amitturjuaq (Elizabeth Lake), Timmiaququvik (Goose Lake), Dion Lake, Fire Lake, Akkanaarjuk (Wolf Creek), and Iqalutsiuvijuaq (Disappointment Lake) within the Maguse watershed. The sites in Whale Cove are also located in the Wilson watershed from: Qamanaarjuk (White Rock Lake), Qatauyaktalik, and Anowtalik. In Chesterfield Inlet, First Lake, Amaruqtalik (Third Lake), Tasialuk (Fourth Lake), and Checkers Lake were selected from the Chesterfield Inlet watershed. The sampling sites in Rankin Inlet include the following water systems from the Wilson watershed: Ijiyigalik on Meliadine River, Meliadine Lake, and Diana River. Iqalugaarjuup Nunanga Territorial Park is located nearest the Meliadine River sampling site (approximately 5 km away). This park is used by Elders and Rankin Inlet community members to collect drinking water and berries, camping, hiking, picnicking, and fishing. Caribou migrate through the park twice per year. Archaeological artifacts such as stone structures from the Thule and modern Caribou Inuit are still found in the park. The sites in the Baker Lake area are located in the Baker Lake watershed and are as follows: Qamanugituaq (Prince River Bridge, Bridge to Nowhere), Nasaqtalik (White Hills Lake), and Baker Lake. Inuujaarvik Territorial Park is a campground located near Baker Lake and is important to community members as a gathering place and for traditional fishing, hunting, and storytelling. The nearest sampling site to the park is approximately 5 km away.

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Vegetation in the Kivalliq region consists mostly of small, cold-adapted tundra vegetation such as lichen, moss, grasses, shrubs, and berries. Large mammals include caribou, polar bears, grizzly bears, muskoxen, wolves, and wolverines. The barren-ground caribou (Napaqtuqangituqmiut Tutungit) can be found in the sampling site areas. They have been assessed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) as threatened in 2016 and under the Species at Risk Act (SARA) as “under consideration for addition.” There are four known herds in these areas: Ahiak, Qamanirjuaq, Wager Bay, and Lorillard. Grizzly bears (Akłait), Polar bears (Nanuq), and wolverines (Qavvik) have been assessed by COSEWIC and SARA as special concern. Small wildlife include Arctic foxes, lemmings, siksiks (Arctic ground squirrels), short-tailed weasels, Arctic hares, and migratory birds (sandhill cranes, snow geese, ptarmigans, horned larks, Lapland longspurs, etc.). Harris’s sparrow (Qupanuarjuk or Qupanuaq) has been assessed by COSEWIC as special concern in 2017 and is “under consideration for addition” by SARA. Additional sightings have been observed of the Hudsonian Godwit (Sigguraujaquqtujuq or Siguraujaqrkutujua) in areas of the sampling sites and are considered threatened by COSEWIC in 2019 and are “under consideration for addition” by SARA. The peregrine falcon (Kiggaviarjuk or Kigavik) was not considered to be at risk by COSEWIC in 2017, but was of special concern by SARA in 2012. The red-necked phalarope (Aupaluktuq

Saurraq or Aupaqtuq Saarvaq) and the short-eared owl (Siutikituq Ukpik) have been assessed as special concern by both COSEWIC and SARA. Fish species in the lakes and rivers sampled include lake trout, Arctic char, Northern pike, Arctic grayling, whitefish species, and ninespine stickleback.

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Community members in the Kivalliq region rely on Traditional Lands for subsistence harvesting such as berry and drinking water collection, caribou hunting, and fishing for lake trout and Arctic char. The sampling sites were selected based on cultural significance for community members. Sampling sites are located approximately 20 to 30 km away from communities. Elders have reported increased human activity at sites near Arviat, Baker Lake, and Whale Cove, such as more cabins, boats, and overfishing, leading to changes in land use patterns.

Miscellaneous Project Information

None

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To our knowledge, there are no known impacts from sampling activities on the community, their traditional hunting/fishing areas, and the environment.

Cumulative Effects

To our knowledge, there are no known impacts from sampling activities on the community, their traditional hunting/fishing areas, and the environment.

Impacts

[illegible][illegible]
$$(P = \langle b \rangle_{\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}}, N = \langle b \rangle_{\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}} \langle \mathcal{A} \rangle_{\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}}, M = \langle b \rangle_{\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}} \langle \mathcal{A} \rangle_{\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}}, U = \langle b \rangle_{\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}} \langle \mathcal{A} \rangle_{\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}})$$

This map illustrates the Eastern Arctic region of Canada, focusing on the provinces of Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. The Inuvialuit Settlement Area is delineated by a red dashed line, and the Gwich'in Settlement Area is shaded in brown. Key locations marked include Tuktoyaktuk, Repulse Bay, Chesterfield Inlet, Rankin Inlet, Whale Cove, Arviat, Baker Lake, and Coral Harbour. Water bodies shown include Queen Maud Gulf, Committee Bay, Foxe Basin, Foxe Channel, Roes Welcome Sound, Evans Strait, and Hudson Bay. The map also shows the borders of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

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| 1 | polyline | Arviat, Whale Cove, Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake |
| 2 | polyline | Nauyasat |
| 3 | polyline | Coral Harbour |