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Dear Cassel Kapolak, Fish & Fish Habitat Protection Program, Jared Ottenhof, Carson Gillis, and Brent Young:

**RE: NPC File No. 150780 [ECWG Bowhead Whale Photo Identification and Biopsy Sampling]**

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

1. NEW Marine-based scientific research activities: The main objectives of this study are updating abundance estimates of the Eastern Canada-West Greenland bowhead population and collecting photographs for photo-identification studies.
  - a. Use of small boats to access study area
  - b. Use of crossbow for biopsy sampling
  - c. Use of drones to collect photographs and video
2. Timing, Duration, & Personnel:
  - a. 20 days over period 16 June to 31 August 2025
  - b. 11 personnel for a total of 220 person-days
3. Location: Qikiqtani Region; [West Foxe Basin, near communities of Igloodik and Sanirajak; East coast Baffin Island, near Clyde River]

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 completed its review of the above-noted project proposal and has determined that it conforms to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendices C, H, and I of the NBRLUP.

The above-noted 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 with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:  
<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/registry/registry.aspx?appid=150780>.

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA)* to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination 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. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits, and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the *NuPPAA*.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the email address or telephone number below.

Sincerely,



**Daniel Haney** (he/him) | ᑕᓄᐅᐅᐅ ᑲᐱᐱᓄ

Senior Planner

Nunavut Planning Commission

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