

Proposal Status: Conformity Determination Issued

[Overview Documents](#)

[Project Overview](#)

Type of application: New

Proponent name:

Mitch Weegman

Proponent company:

University of Saskatchewan

Project Description:

This project seeks approval for a 5 year period (June 2025-August 2029) to establish a temporary camp annually at Anderson Bay on Victoria Island (~40 km southeast of Cambridge Bay) to study the population dynamics of lesser snow geese and Ross's geese (i.e., light geese). My hope is this becomes a long-term project (25 years) because of the importance of multi-decadal data to informing our understanding of waterfowl population biology. While light goose demography was studied nearly continuously since 1991 at Karrak Lake (Queen Maud Gulf [Ahiak] Migratory Bird Sanctuary) by Ray Alisauskas, the colony has declined rapidly and logistics are increasingly difficult. At the same time, the colony at Anderson Bay has increased rapidly over the last 10 years. Information about the population dynamics of light geese is required by the Canadian and US governments, the Arctic Goose Joint Venture and the four migratory bird flyways of North America for robust population management. Earlier this year, funders and I decided to move camp from Karrak to Anderson Bay and propose to begin a comprehensive program that links light goose population dynamics with ecosystem impacts (including on sea ducks such as king eiders) to continue to provide information to managers for decision-making.

[Project Schedule](#)

Start Date:

2025-06-01

End Date:

2029-08-01

[Project Map](#)

List of project geometries:

Id

Geometry

Location Name

[16875](#)

polygon

Anderson Bay snow goose and Ross's goose nesting colony, where I propose to study the birds annually May-August. We will select a temporary camp site in June 2025, within the highlighted polygon.

NPC Planning regions:

No Approved Plan

[Project Land Use and Authorizations](#)

Project Land Use:

Scientific Research

Scientific Research

Temporary Structures

Licensing Agencies:

Government of Canada - Canadian Wildlife Service

Government of Nunavut - Department of Environment

Nunavut Water Board

Kitikmeot Inuit Association

[Material Use](#)

Equipment:

Type

Quantity

Type

Use

Helicopter

1

12x10x3 m

I propose to study build a temporary camp at Anderson Bay, and will sling all equipment/supplies to Anderson Bay via helicopter from Cambridge Bay. The helicopter will carry 6 people from Cambridge Bay to Anderson Bay. The camp will be temporary, built in June 2025 and taken down/completely removed by late July 2025. The demobilization will also happen via helicopter.

Fuel Use:

Type

Container

Capacity

Use

Aviation fuel

8

55

We will refuel the helicopter at Cambridge Bay airport.

Hazardous Material and Chemical Use:

Type

Container

Capacity

Use

No data found

Water Consumption:

Daily Amount (m²)

Retrieval Method

Retrieval Location

Near temporary camp at Anderson Bay (camp site will be selected in June 2025).

In buckets from melt rivers

Waste and Impacts

Environmental Impacts:

Local sewage and food waste will be generated at a temporary camp at Anderson Bay annually. Local sewage and food waste could disrupt the local ecosystem if deposited on the surface of the land. I propose to bury sewage and food waste in latrine pits and immediately cover it with native material. After a few years, the pits are re-vegetated. This ensures minimal impact on the land and ecosystem. If burying food waste is not acceptable, I will fly it out via slinging and helicopter, to be disposed in Cambridge Bay.

Waste Management:

Waste Type

Quantity Generated

Treatment Method

Disposal Method

Combustible wastes

120 kg annually

The estimate of 120 kg annually comes from an estimate of 0.25 kg of food waste produced per person per day, a crew of 8 people and a temporary camp of 60 days annually. This estimate is from Ray Alisauskas's long-term camp at Karrak Lake.

I propose to either bury food waste in latrine pits near camp at Anderson Bay, or fly out waste via slinging from a helicopter at the end of each field season. The buried waste would be covered with native material, same as described for burying sewage.

Sewage (human waste)

480 kg annually

The 480 kg of sewage is estimated from an average of 1 kg of sewage produced per day person, 8 people in a camp for 60 days annually.

I propose to bury sewage in latrine pits near camp at Anderson Bay. The pits are immediately covered with native material. From work at Karrak Lake (a long-term camp studying snow geese, led by Ray Alisauskas), after a few years, revegetation was evident.