



Demande de la CNER faisant l'objet d'un examen préalable #126187

Arctic Coast - Nunavut Community-based Monitoring 2025/2026

Type de demande : New

Type de projet: Scientific Research

Date de la demande : Friday, May 30, 2025

Period of operation: from 2025-06-21 to 2025-10-22

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DÉTAILS

Description non technique de la proposition de projet

Anglais: Arctic Coast is a community-monitoring program, led by DFO Winnipeg that is co-developed with local hunters and trappers boards to gather baseline data on coastal fishes and their habitats. For our 2025/2026 we will be requesting support from the Aqigiq HTO, Aiviq HTO, Nattivak HTA, Amaruq HTA (and Kangiqłiniq HTO if Chesterfield Inlet is not possible) to continue our community-based monitoring work (Kinngait, Chesterfield, Rankin) and/or collect environmental DNA to develop a protocol with the communities to monitor the expansion of salmon (Iqaluit, Qikiqtarjuaq and Kinngait). The community-based field programs will run at different times in the Kivalliq Region (Chesterfield July 20-Sept 1 once per week for up to 5 weeks; we will reach out to Rankin if Chesterfield work is not possible), and Kinngait (August 26-Oct 13; once per week for up to 5 weeks) in which community-based technicians will be asked to conduct fieldwork for approximately one day per week within the fieldwork time range. During the summer, crews will travel by boat to the same sites to set 6 panel multi-mesh gillnets in the water, collect benthic data using a ponar grab and plankton using a vertical tow. Gillnets in both seasons will be set for a maximum of 2 hours. In the winter, monitors will travel by snowmobile to sites to set 6 panel monofilament gill nets in the water for a maximum of two hours (Kinngait only) or collect fishes opportunistically by hook and line. We plan to have winter fieldwork in Kinngait begin January 25th, 2026 and continue approximately once per week for up to 5 weeks until March 15th, 2026. In Iqaluit we will not have a community-based structure but will rather be working with the DFO-Iqaluit office under the guidance of the Amaruq HTA to collect environmental DNA and temperature at two sites where salmon have been observed (August 19-24), at one of these sites we will be setting a gill net to potentially capture salmon and co-occurring species (char). Unlike work in Chesterfield and Kinngait, the Iqaluit work will not be community-based. In Qikiqtarjuaq as a component of the baseline program we will not be collecting fishes but eDNA at their established monitoring sites between September 6-28th, and potentially retrieving a temperature probe. There will be no fishes or physical samples collected from Qikiqtarjuaq between these dates. Any fish collected using subsistence methods during the program will be measured, photographed and samples sent to DFO biologists for further analyses at the Freshwater Institute in Winnipeg. The abundance of fishes in this area in the winter is largely unknown, and it is unlikely fishes caught for subsistence in the summer will be found here (Arctic Char, Whitefish) however, if monitors are able to collect other fishes (e.g., Saffron Cod, Greenland Cod, sculpins) at these sites it will provide valuable information on seasonal biodiversity change in each region. The aim is to collect 30 individuals per species, in each community, in each season. Once the target number of individuals per species has been reached the remainder will be live released. Monitors will be asked to travel to sites and collect information over the course of a few hours and return to town at the end of the day. These sites have been selected by the respective HTOs/HTA of each community, and the aim is that the same sites will be sampled in the summer and winter months. Among all programs there will be approximately 15 days of community-based fieldwork, 7 days of DFO-led fieldwork (Iqaluit and Qikiqtarjuaq). Depending on project funds, this is an annual community-based monitoring program funded in part by Marine Conservation Targets (DFO) to support the establishment of Marine Protected Areas and Indigenous Protected Conservation Areas.

Français: Arctic Coast [côte arctique] est un programme de surveillance communautaire dirigé par le bureau du MPO à Winnipeg, qui est élaboré conjointement avec des conseils locaux de chasseurs et de trappeurs et qui vise à recueillir des données de référence sur les poissons côtiers et leur habitat. Pour 2025-2026, nous ferons appel à l'OCT d'Aqigiq, l'OCT d'Aiviq, l'ACT de Nattivak, l'ACT d'Amaruq (et l'OCT de Kangiqłiniq si ce n'est pas possible pour Chesterfield Inlet) afin de poursuivre nos travaux de surveillance communautaires (Kinngait, Chesterfield, Rankin) et/ou de recueillir de l'ADN environnemental, en vue d'élaborer un protocole avec les communautés pour suivre l'expansion du saumon (Iqaluit, Qikiqtarjuaq et Kinngait). Les travaux sur le terrain des programmes communautaires auront lieu à différents moments dans la région de Kivalliq (à Chesterfield du 20 juillet au 1er septembre, une fois par semaine pour un maximum de cinq semaines; nous nous tournerons vers Rankin si les travaux avec la communauté de Chesterfield ne sont pas possibles), et à Kinngait (du 26 août au 13 octobre; une fois par semaine, pour un maximum de cinq semaines). On demandera aux techniciens de la communauté de mener des travaux sur le terrain environ une journée par semaine dans l'intervalle de temps prévu pour le travail sur le terrain. Pendant l'été, les équipages se

[illegible]

Post-Closure Phase: from 2025-10-23 to 2026-01-11

Activités

| Emplacement | Type d'activité | Statut des terres | Historique du site | Site à valeur archéologique ou paléontologique | Proximité des collectivités les plus proches et de toute zone protégée |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|---|--|--|
| Chesterfield Inlet - Sites selected by the AHTA for community-based monitoring | Researching | Marine | We will be returning to established monitoring sites selected by the Aqigiq HTO to gather baseline data relevant to the Southampton Island Area of Interest. These sites are sampled approximately once per week during the summer season, and repeated during the winter to compare seasonal variation in habitat parameters. These data will be used to develop indicators in the future. | N/A | Within approximately 5 km of the community of Chesterfield Inlet |
| Rankin Inlet - Sites selected by KHTO located on Thomson Island, Mevlin Bay and the Barrier Islands | Researching | Marine | We have worked with the Kangiqliniq HTO in previous years to sample sites selected by the HTO to study the coastal habitat and build capacity for community-based monitoring. They are sampled approximately once a week in the summer and repeated in the winter to compare seasonal variability. We do not currently anticipate sampling in Rankin Inlet this | N/A | Within approximately 15km of Rankin Inlet |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------|---------------------------|--|-----|---------------------------------------|
| | | | year, however if it is not possible to sample in Chesterfield Inlet we will attempt to repeat our sites in Rankin instead. | | |
| Kinngait - Sites selected by AHTA including Lona Bay, two coastal sites near the community, and two lakes | Researching | Marine | We are working with the Aiviq HTA to repeat sampling at sites selected by the HTA to study coastal habitats, but also develop tools to monitor range expanding salmon on Baffin Island. We have sampled these sites in the summer and winter approximately once a week in previous years, this year we will be focusing our research on salmon, which was a priority identified by the AHTA during consultations in January 2025 | N/A | Within approximately 10km of Kinngait |
| Iqaluit - Sites where salmon have been observed in Sylvia Grinnell and Cormack Bay | Researching | Inuit Owned Surface Lands | We will be visiting two sites (Sylvia Grinnell and Cormack Bay) to collect habitat data, eDNA, and fishes to address questions raised by the community regarding salmon. Salmon have been caught at these locations in recent years so we will be sampling these sites with permission from the Amaruq HTA to develop tools for monitoring salmon on Baffin | N/A | Within approximately 20km of Iqaluit |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------|--------|---|-----|--|
| | | | Island. We have not sampled these regions previously but local harvesters have identified these sites as potential habitat for salmon. | | |
| Qikiqtarjuaq - Sites also sampled by the baseline program for environmental DNA | Researching | Marine | We have been collaborating with the coastal environmental baseline program in Qikiqtarjuaq to develop tools for monitoring salmon on Baffin Island. We tested our protocols in September 2024 at pre-established sites by the baseline program and we will replicate these sites again. We will also attempt to retrieve two temperature loggers placed in rivers potentially suitable for salmon placed in 2024. | N/A | Within approximately 20km of Qikiqtarjuaq. |

Engagement de la collectivité et avantages pour la région

| Collectivité | Nom | Organisme | Date de la prise de contact |
|--------------------|----------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Chesterfield Inlet | Shawna Mullins | Aqigiq Hunters and Trappers Organization | 2025-04-30 |
| Cape Dorset | Annie Suvega | Aiviq Hunters and Trappers Association | 2025-01-21 |
| Iqaluit | Sally Mikijuk | Amaruq Hunters and Trappers Association | 2025-03-25 |
| Qikiqtarjuaq | Julie Kuksiak | Nattivak Hunters and Trappers Association | 2025-03-27 |

Autorisations

Indiquez les zones dans lesquelles le projet est situé:

Autorisations

| Organisme de régulation | Description des autorisations | État actuel | Date de l'émission/de la demande | Date d'échéance |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Pêches et Océans Canada | License to Fish for Scientific Purposes | Applied, Decision Pending | | |
| Pêches et Océans Canada | Animal Use Protocol | Applied, Decision Pending | | |

Project transportation types

| Transportation Type | Utilisation proposée | Length of Use |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Water | Community-based boats | |

Project accomodation types

Collectivité

Autre,

Utilisation de matériel

Équipement à utiliser (y compris les perceuses, les pompes, les aéronefs, les véhicules, etc.)

| Type d'équipement | Quantité | Taille – Dimensions | Utilisation proposée |
|-------------------|----------|---------------------|---|
| Gillnet | 1 | 60 m x 1.5 m | Any fish collected using subsistence methods during the program will be measured, photographed and samples sent to DFO biologists for further analyses at the Freshwater Institute in Winnipeg. The abundance of fishes in this area in the winter is largely unknown, and it is unlikely fishes caught for subsistence in the summer will be found here (Arctic Char, Whitefish) however, if monitors are able to collect other fishes (e.g., Saffron Cod, Greenland Cod, sculpins) at these sites it will provide |
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| Boats | 5 | <20ft | Up to two boats will be used in Kinngait/Iqaluit and one boat in Chesterfield to travel to field sites. Chesterfield Inlet and Kinngait will be small, community-based vessels owned and operated by the monitors. In Iqaluit the DFO |

| | | | |
|---------------|---|----|--|
| | | | Conservation and Protection vessel will be used alongside one community-based boat to travel to Cormack Bay for one overnight. The vessels will all be <20 ft |
| Snow machines | 2 | 2m | We anticipate the use of two community-based machines used in our winter fieldwork in Chesterfield Inlet. To only be used and operated by our community-based monitors |

Décrivez l'utilisation du carburant et des marchandises dangereuses

| Décrivez l'utilisation de carburant : | Type de carburant | Nombre de conteneurs | Capacité du conteneur | Quantité totale | Unités | Utilisation proposée |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------|---|
| Gasoline | fuel | 2 | 50 | 100 | Liters | To be used to travel to field sites in boats during the summer program and snow machine during the winter program |

Consommation d'eau

| Quantité quotidienne (m3) | Méthodes de récupération de l'eau proposées | Emplacement de récupération de l'eau proposé |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| 0 | | |

Déchets

Gestion des déchets

| Activités du projet | Type des déchets | Quantité prévue | Méthode d'élimination | Procédures de traitement supplémentaires |
|--|---|-----------------|-----------------------|--|
| Scientific/International Polar Year Research | Other, We do not anticipate leaving any waste during our field activities | n/a | n/a | n/a |

Répercussions environnementales :

We do not anticipate any impacts, as these are community-based monitoring programs where we will be working directly with community-based monitors and/or guardians. Potentially loss of equipment may occur while travelling on the land, particularly during the winter months. However, these occurrences are rare. We will have a direct impact on fish species, as we will be collecting fish for sampling and to study fish interactions. We have letters of support to conduct this work in Chesterfield, Kinngait and pending in Iqaluit and pending approval from the DFO animal care committee. We do not anticipate collecting more than 30 fish per species, and all fishes captured will be used in analyses.

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 de l'environnement existant : Environnement physique

Description de l'environnement existant : Environnement biologique

Description de l'environnement existant : Environnement socio-économique

Miscellaneous Project Information

We will not be setting up a camp in Kinngait or Chesterfield Inlet (we will be doing day trips from the community) however in Iqaluit we may do one overnight at a cabin near Cormack Bay if the opportunity permits.

Identification des répercussions et mesures d'atténuation proposées

Répercussions cumulatives

Impacts

Identification des répercussions environnementales

| | | 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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| - | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Exploitation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Researching | | P | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | - | - | - | N | - | | - | P | - | - | - |
| Désaffectation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Researching | | U | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | - | - | - | - |

(P = Positive, N = Négative et non gérable, M = Négative et gérable, U = Inconnue)

Site du projet



Liste des géométries de projet

- 1 polygon Rankin Inlet - Sites selected by KHTO located on Thomson Island, Mevlin Bay and the Barrier Islands
- 2 polygon Kinngait - Sites selected by AHTA including Lona Bay, two coastal sites near the community, and two lakes
- 3 polygon Iqaluit - Sites where salmon have been observed in Sylvia Grinnell and Cormack Bay
- 4 polygon Qikiqtarjuaq - Sites also sampled by the baseline program for environmental DNA
- 5 polygon Qikiqtarjuaq - Sites also sampled by the baseline program for environmental DNA
- 6 polygon Chesterfield Inlet - Sites selected by the AHTA for community-based monitoring