



NIRB Application for Screening #126197

Qikiqtarjuaq Coastal Baseline Study – Open Water Work 2025

Application Type: New

Project Type: Scientific Research

Application Date: Monday, June 9, 2025

Period of operation: from 2025-09-07 to 2025-09-21

Project Proponent: Christopher Lewis
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3B-630 Queen Elizabeth Way
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Canada
Phone Number:: 867-222-6206, Fax Number::

Operations Phase: from 2025-09-07 to 2025-09-21

Activities

Location	Activity Type	Land Status	Site history	Site archaeological or paleontological value	Proximity to the nearest communities and any protected areas
LFSP_- _Lewis_CoastalBaseline_2025	Sampling sites	Municipal	N/A	N/A	approx. 20 km from Qikiqtarjuaq

Community Involvement & Regional Benefits

Community	Name	Organization	Date Contacted
Qikiqtarjuaq	Nattivak Hunters and Trappers Association (Chair - Tommy Atsanik)	Nattivak Hunters and Trappers Association	2025-03-17

Authorizations

Indicate the areas in which the project is located:

Authorizations

Regulatory Authority	Authorization Description	Current Status	Date Issued / Applied	Expiry Date
Hunters and Trappers Associations/Organizations	letter of support for research as per article 5 of the Nunavut Agreement	Active	2025-03-17	2025-12-31
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	licence to fish for scientific purposes and animal use protocol	Applied, Decision Pending	2025-04-07	2025-10-15

Project transportation types

Transportation Type	Proposed Use	Length of Use
Water	vessel owned by a local operator/outfitter in Qikiqtarjuaq	

Project accomodation types

Community

Material Use

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

Equipment Type	Quantity	Size - Dimensions	Proposed Use
one vessel	1	~ 8 m	for transportation to and from the sample locations (vessel will be owned by a local outfitter)
scientific equipment to collect data	one (see proposed use)	1-2 cubic meters	- collection of water and phytoplankton samples with Niskin bottle samplers- collection of zooplankton with zooplankton nets (about 0.5 m in diameter) and small hand-held dip nets- collection of environmental information using vertical CTDs (Conductivity, Temperature, Depth; Castaway CTD, Sontek & RBR CTD)- collection of benthic invertebrates with a grab sampler, small dredge or by hand-shoreline seine- sample jars

Detail Fuel and Hazardous Material Use

Detail fuel material use:	Fuel Type	Number of containers	Container Capacity	Total Amount	Units	Proposed Use
Gasoline	fuel	0	0	0	Gallons	fuel will be limited to the capacity of the vessel (about 25 G)
not applicable	hazardous	0	0	0	Gallons	not applicable to our study

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
Information is not available				

Environmental Impacts:

The Baseline Program supports the collection of ecological data to describe the current state (baseline) of key coastal areas across Canada.

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

Marine sampling areas are adjacent to shipping routes and vessel traffic during the open water season. There is a National park to the South of our sampling sites and adjacent bird sanctuaries; however, none of our sample sites are within the boundaries of these areas. Some subsistence harvesting for seals, narwhal, fish, and clams occur within the general vicinity of this project. Some physical valued ecosystem components include a combination of physical (e.g., tides), biogeochemical (e.g., water characteristics), and substrate quality.

Description of Existing Environment: Biological Environment

The sampling areas overlap with important habitat for many marine mammals (e.g., seals, narwhal, Bowhead whales), fish (e.g., sculpins, Arctic Cod, Arctic Char), shellfish (e.g., sea urchins, clams) and a variety of coastal bird species. All of these species, including other lower trophic species (e.g., phytoplankton, zooplankton, invertebrates, seaweed) are valued ecosystem components.

Description of Existing Environment: Socio-economic Environment

All marine sampling locations are within approximately 20 km of the Hamlet of Qikiqtarjuaq. The sampling areas are also adjacent to a national park, bird sanctuaries, and some subsistence harvesting areas. These areas are also important to many outfitters and harvesters from Qikiqtarjuaq.

Miscellaneous Project Information

This federally mandated monitoring program has been developed through close consultation with many key stakeholders. Our local co-management partner in Qikiqtarjuaq, the Nattivak Hunters and Trappers Association, has been involved in all planning, completion, and reporting activities related to this project. An annual letter of support has been provided by the Nattivak HTA as per article 5 of the Nunavut Agreement. Annual reporting back to the community has happened in annual (at a minimum) public meetings. This project has also been closely coordinated through ongoing discussions and input from the Hamlet. Furthermore, there is a large outreach component to our work, which involves regular hands-on activities with students from the local school.

Identification of Impacts and Proposed Mitigation Measures

Sampling events and locations will be adjusted to avoid other vessel traffic/operations.

Cumulative Effects

n/a

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																									
Sampling sites		-	-	-	-	P	P	-	-	P	P	-	-		-	-	-	P	-		-	P	P	-	-
Decommissioning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

Project Location



List of Project Geometries

1	point	LFSP_-_Lewis_CoastalBaseline_2025
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