



NIRB File No.: 25YN053

NIRB Public Registry Link: www.nirb.ca/project/126202

Commission File No.: 150803

September 5, 2025

To: The Honourable Joanne Thompson, P.C.
Minister of Fisheries
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: joanne.thompson@parl.gc.ca; DFO.ARCEMTriage-TriageGEARC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Fisheries and Oceans Canada's "Movement and genetics of whales in the Canadian Arctic using satellite telemetry, tissue biopsies, and photogrammetry" Project Proposal

Dear Honourable Minister:

On June 11, 2025, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Fisheries and Oceans Canada's "Movement and genetics of whales in the Canadian Arctic using satellite telemetry, tissue biopsies, and photogrammetry" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). Pursuant to s. 92(4) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Minister extend the period for the submission of the Board's written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 25YN053.

On June 11, 2025, the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that sufficient information is provided to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and commence screening. On July 17, 2025, the NIRB received the required additional information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*. On July 22, 2025, the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties with a request for comments to be submitted for the Board's consideration by August 15, 2025.

Due to operational capacity, the NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days as set out in the *NuPPAA* and additional time is requested to complete the decision-making for this file. The NIRB anticipates screening of this project proposal will be completed by **September 19, 2025**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister for consideration; should any additional time be required

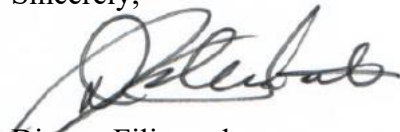
to conclude the screening process, the NIRB commits to providing further updates as deemed appropriate.

If this request is approved, the NIRB understands that the Minister will notify the Proponent and the NIRB of the extension.

All documents received and pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/126202.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,



Dionne Filiatrault
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Mark Gillespie, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Lootie Toomasie, Chair, Nunavut Water Board
Jose Audet-Lecoffee, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board