



## COMMENT FORM FOR NIRB SCREENINGS

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has a mandate to protect the integrity of the ecosystem for the existing and future residents of Nunavut. To assess the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the project proposal, NIRB would like to hear your concerns, comments and suggestions about the following project proposal application:

<b>Project Proposal Title:</b>	Blue Star Gold Corp.		
<b>Proponent:</b>	Blue Star Gold Corp.		
<b>Location:</b>	Kitikmeot Region		
<b>Comments Due By:</b>		<b>NIRB #:</b>	<b>19EA019</b>

**Indicate your concerns about the project proposal below:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> no concerns<br><input type="checkbox"/> water quality<br><input type="checkbox"/> terrain<br><input type="checkbox"/> air quality<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>wildlife and their habitat</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> marine mammals and their habitat<br><input type="checkbox"/> birds and their habitat<br><input type="checkbox"/> fish and their habitat<br><input type="checkbox"/> heritage resources in area | <input type="checkbox"/> traditional uses of land<br><input type="checkbox"/> Inuit harvesting activities<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>community involvement and consultation</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> local development in the area<br><input type="checkbox"/> tourism in the area<br><input type="checkbox"/> human health issues<br><input type="checkbox"/> other: _____<br>_____<br>_____ |
|--|---|

**Please describe the concerns indicated above:**

On behalf of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board (BQCMB), we thank the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed Blue Star Gold Corp. Project (NIRB File 19EA019). The mandate of the BQCMB is to safeguard the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds, primarily in the interests of Indigenous peoples from Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan and Manitoba who have traditionally relied upon these herds, and to advise governments and caribou range communities on conservation and management of the herds and their ranges.

We note that the Proponent has listed the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Plan 2013–2022 (2014) as a relevant guidance document. The BQCMB has since released the updated [2023–2032 Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Plan](#)<sup>1</sup>, which is publicly available on our website and provides more current co-management guidance.

We also note that the Proponent’s plan does not specify that wildlife monitors will be Inuit from the region. We strongly recommend that the Proponent work with the community of Kugluktuk and relevant bodies (e.g., Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Organization) to hire Inuit wildlife monitors to ensure culturally informed and effective monitoring.

The BQCMB have heard concerns from Inuit communities about helicopter activity disturbing caribou, including displacement and altered movement during sensitive periods. In light of these concerns, we

<sup>1</sup> <https://arctic-caribou.com/wp-content/uploads/BQCMB-Caribou-Management-Plan-Report-2023-2032.pdf>

