

Wildlife/Land Management Policy for Overland Hauling

Peter's Expediting Ltd.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all overland hauling operations undertaken by Peter's Expediting Ltd. in Nunavut are conducted in such a way as to avoid, minimize, and manage adverse impacts on wildlife, wildlife habitat, and ecological processes — in accordance with the Nunavut Wildlife Act and co-management regimes involving Inuit harvesting rights.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all overland haul routes, transportation of goods, equipment, or materials, including support and access roads, used by Peter's Expediting Ltd. within the territory of Nunavut. It covers planning, preparations, active hauling, maintenance, and decommissioning phases. It includes operations that intersect or run near wildlife-sensitive areas (for example migration corridors, calving grounds, dens, protected areas) and applies to employees, contractors and subcontractors.

3. Legislative & Cultural Context

- The Nunavut Wildlife Act establishes a comprehensive regime for management of wildlife and their habitats in Nunavut, including values of interconnectedness of humans, animals and plants, and implementation of the Inuit harvesting rights.
- The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) and associated co-management partners (Hunters and Trappers Organizations, Regional Wildlife Organizations) involve Inuit leadership in wildlife conservation decisions.
- The policy must respect Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (traditional Inuit knowledge) and the free and unrestricted harvesting rights of Inuit under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA).

Therefore, this policy aligns with both legal requirements and local community/Inuit values.

4. Objectives

- Prevent direct harm to wildlife (injury or mortality) caused by hauling operations.
- Minimize disturbance to wildlife behaviour, habitat use and migration corridors.
- Reduce habitat degradation (e.g., disturbance of vegetation, creation of unwanted trails/off-road disturbances) related to haul routes.
- Promote safe coexistence of hauling operations and wildlife, including respect for Inuit harvesting activities.
- Ensure compliance with all relevant territorial and federal wildlife laws, regulations and co-management agreements.

- Foster cooperation with local communities, Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs), Regional Wildlife Organizations (RWOs), and wildlife authorities.
- Monitor, report and continuously improve wildlife protection performance associated with hauling operations.

5. Guiding Principles

- **Avoidance first:** Where possible, haul routes and timing should avoid key wildlife habitat, migration periods, calving/denning areas.
- **Mitigation:** When avoidance is not possible, implement measures to reduce impact (e.g., speed reduction, signage, timing restrictions, habitat restoration).
- **Adaptive management / science-based decision-making:** Use available wildlife data, monitoring results and Inuit traditional knowledge to guide decisions and adjust operations.
- **Respect for Indigenous rights:** Recognize and incorporate Inuit harvesting rights and local/traditional use of land and wildlife in planning and implementation.
- **Transparency and accountability:** Document wildlife-related incidents, corrective actions, and ensure periodic review of performance.
- **Habitat stewardship:** Maintain the integrity of habitats affected by haul operations and ensure rehabilitation where necessary.

6. Management Measures

6.1 Route Planning & Design

- Before establishing or using haul routes, conduct a wildlife-sensitivity assessment (with input from local Inuit Elders with intimate knowledge of area to be traveled) to identify: migration corridors, denning/calving areas, sensitive wetlands and protected lands.
- Wherever feasible, avoid routes through critical habitats (e.g., key caribou calving grounds, denning sites of polar bear).
- Choose alignment to minimize fragmentation of habitat, unnecessary vegetation clearing, and avoid new off-road tracks.
- Incorporate seasonal restrictions: e.g., avoid hauling during calving or migration windows of major species.
- Design haul roads/tracks to minimize width, disturbance, and ensure proper drainage to avoid habitat degradation or erosion.
- Follow snow and ice minimums during operation. Snow minimum 48 inches. Ice minimum 18 inches. If snow or ice melt below minimums, overland hauling season will end until the following winter.

6.2 Vehicle Operation & Traffic Management

- Apply and enforce speed limits in wildlife-sensitive zones (8 miles/hour or lower).
- Restrict or avoid hauling during dusk/dawn/night in areas known for increased wildlife movement if safety and context permit.
- Require drivers to remain on designated haul routes—no off-road driving unless authorized and supervised.
- Maintain vehicles to prevent leaks (fuel, oil), reduce noise and avoid unintended disturbance of wildlife and their habitats.
- Minimize stopping and idle time in sensitive zones; if stop is necessary, ensure location has minimal risk to wildlife and habitat.

6.3 Training, Awareness & Local Engagement

- Provide training to all drivers, contractors and site personnel on: local wildlife species, signs of wildlife movement, sensitivity zones, incident reporting, and Inuit harvesting rights.
- Engage with local Inuit Elders early in planning and during operations to gather input on wildlife presence, traditional use and concerns.
- Encourage use of local Inuit knowledge about wildlife behaviour and seasonal patterns to inform operational decisions.

6.4 Wildlife Incident Management

- Establish a **Wildlife Incident Report (Appendix A)**: any collision with wildlife, near-miss, or habitat disturbance event must be reported immediately to the Environmental Manager and local conservation office.
- Maintain a **Wildlife Incident Log (Appendix B)** which captures date/time/location/species (if known)/circumstance/corrective action.
- Conduct causal analysis for incidents, implement corrective measures (e.g., route change, speed reduction).
- Where required, cooperate with the Department of Environment – Government of Nunavut and NWMB for investigation and regulatory follow-up.
- In the case of urgent wildlife hazard (e.g., large animal on route, den collapse), operations in that zone must cease until the situation is assessed and mitigated.

6.5 Habitat Protection & Restoration

- Avoid unnecessary vegetation clearing or disturbance along haul routes.
- Prevent creation of new, unauthorized trails off the main haul route.
- Ensure that any disturbed areas are rehabilitated with native species and restored to pre-disturbance condition or better, in consultation with local communities.

- Prevent waste, fuel spills, debris along route; implement spill prevention and response measures.
- Monitor roadside habitat for erosion, invasive species introduction, vegetation loss.

6.6 Monitoring, Collaboration & Reporting

- Conduct regular monitoring (at least annually, more frequent if high-risk) of wildlife presence/activity around haul routes and whether mitigation measures are effective.
- Partner with local Inuit Elders to share observations, gather Inuit knowledge, and adjust operations as needed.
- Perform a formal review of this policy and its implementation every 12 months (or sooner after a major incident) and update accordingly.

7. Roles & Responsibilities

- **Environmental Manager:** Overall responsibility for wildlife policy implementation, monitoring, reporting, and liaison with wildlife authorities.
- **Fleet / Logistics Manager:** Ensures drivers and subcontractors comply with haul route wildlife mitigation measures, speed/traffic controls, signage and route training.
- **Drivers & Operators:** Must adhere to route restrictions, speed limits, stay on designated tracks, report wildlife sightings or incidents immediately.
- **Contractors / Subcontractors:** Required to comply with this policy and all related environmental management plans; non-compliance may lead to corrective action or contract termination.
- **Community Liaison / Inuit Relations:** Engages with local Inuit Elders, gathers Inuit knowledge, arranges training/awareness, and ensures community concerns are reflected in operations.

8. Compliance, Legal & Cultural Obligations

- Operations must comply with the Nunavut Wildlife Act and associated regulations.
- Respect Inuit harvesting rights under the NLCA and ensure that haul operations do not impede or conflict with community harvesting or land-use practices.
- Where hauling passes through or near protected or co-managed areas (e.g., National Wildlife Areas, Migratory Bird Sanctuaries), coordinate with the relevant management authorities and adhere to permit/authorization requirements.
- Non-compliance with this policy or wildlife laws may result in disciplinary measures, contract termination, regulatory enforcement actions or reputational damage.

9. Performance Indicators & Review

- KPIs may include: number of wildlife collisions or near-misses; number of wildlife incidents reported; number of training sessions completed; number of route changes or mitigation actions implemented; condition of vegetation/habitat along haul routes year-on-year.
- A full review of this policy and its implementation shall be conducted no less than every 12 months or sooner if a significant wildlife incident occurs.
- Lessons learned shall be documented and operational procedures updated accordingly.

10. Effective Date & Approval

This policy is effective as of **[Insert Date]** and shall remain in force until amended or replaced.

Approved by: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____



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Wildlife Incident Report Form

Section 1: General Information

Date of Report: _____

Time of Report: _____

Person Reporting Incident: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Community: _____

Section 2: Incident Details

Date of Incident: _____

Time of Incident: _____

Location of Incident: _____

(Provide GPS coordinates if available or describe nearest landmark)

Type of Location:

☐ Community area

☐ Camp / Outpost

☐ On the land / travel route

☐ Other (specify): _____

Section 3: Wildlife Involved

Species: _____

Number of Animals: _____

Sex (if known): ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Unknown

Age class (if known): ☐ Adult ☐ Juvenile ☐ Calf/Cub ☐ Unknown

Was the animal tagged or collared? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide tag/collar number: _____

Section 4: Description of Incident

(Describe what happened — e.g., animal encounter, aggressive behaviour, property damage, injury, animal mortality, vehicle collision, etc.)



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Section 5: Actions Taken

(Describe what actions were taken — e.g., scared animal away, reported to Conservation Officer, dispatched animal, etc.)

Was the animal killed or injured? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe: _____

Section 6: Human Safety and Property Damage

Were any people injured? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe injuries and medical attention provided:

Was there any property or equipment damage? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Section 7: Follow-up and Notifications

Reported to Conservation Officer? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of Officer: _____

Date and Time Reported: _____

Other Agencies Notified (if applicable):

☐ RCMP

☐ Local Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO)

☐ Other (specify): _____

Section 8: Additional Comments

Signature of Person Reporting: _____

Date: _____