Demande de la CNER faisant l’objet d’un examen préalable #126355

Arctic Coast - Nunavut Community-based Monitoring 2026/2027

Type de demande : New

Type de projet: Scientific Research

Date de la demande : Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Period of operation: from 2026-06-21 to 2026-10-22

Promoteur du projet:

Darcy McNicholl
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
501 University Crescent
Winnipeg MB R3T2N6
Canada
Téléphone :: 4312773609, Télécopieur ::

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 2026/2027 we will be requesting support from the Arviat HTO, Aqigiq HTO, Nattivak HTA, Amaruq HTA (and Aiviq HTA if funding allows) to continue our community-based monitoring work 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, and Arviat from July 25th-Sept 1 approximately once a 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 (Arviat and Chesterfield only) or collect fishes opportunistically by hook and line. In Iqaluit we will be working with a community-based monitor and 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 the Sylvia Grinnell River, Bay of Two Rivers and Cormack Bay to collect salmon DNA and monitor water temperature. 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. 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 2026-2027, nous ferons appel à l'OCT d'Aqigiq, l'OCT d'Aiviq, l'ACT de Nattivak, l'ACT d'Amaruq afin de poursuivre nos travaux de surveillance communautaires (Kinngait, Chesterfield, Arviat) 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 et Arviat du 20 juillet au 1er septembre, 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 rendront en bateau aux mêmes sites pour placer six filets maillants à panneaux multiples dans l'eau. Ils recueilleront des données benthiques à l'aide d'une benne Ponar et prélèveront du plancton au moyen d'un trait vertical. Pour les deux saisons, les filets maillants seront en place pendant un maximum de 2 heures. En hiver, les surveillants se rendront aux sites en motoneige pour placer six filets maillants monofilament dans l'eau pendant un maximum de deux heures (Chesterfield et Arviat seulement) ou pour capturer des poissons de façon opportuniste à la ligne et à l'hameçon. À Iqaluit nous travaillerons plutôt avec le bureau du MPO à Iqaluit, sous les conseils de l'ACT d'Amaruq, pour recueillir de l'ADN

environnemental et prendre des lectures de la température dans deux sites où des saumons ont été observés. À Qikiqtarjuaq, dans le cadre du programme de base, nous ne recueillerons pas de poissons, mais nous prélèverons de l'ADNe entre le 6 et le 28 septembre aux sites de surveillance établis, et nous récupérerons peut-être une sonde de température. Tout poisson prélevé à l'aide de méthodes de pêche de subsistance pendant le programme sera mesuré et photographié, et des échantillons seront envoyés aux biologistes du MPO pour d'autres analyses à l'Institut des eaux douces de Winnipeg. L'abondance des poissons dans cette zone en hiver est essentiellement inconnue, et il est peu probable qu'on trouve dans cette zone des poissons qui y sont capturés à des fins de subsistance l'été (omble chevalier, grand corégone). Toutefois, si les surveillants sont en mesure de capturer d'autres poissons (p. ex. navaga jaune, morue du Groenland, chabots) à ces sites, cela fournira des renseignements utiles sur les changements saisonniers de la biodiversité dans chaque région. L'objectif est de recueillir 30 individus par espèce, pour chaque communauté et chaque saison. Une fois que le nombre d'individus visé par espèce aura été atteint, les autres individus seront relâchés vivants. On demandera aux surveillants de se rendre sur les sites et de recueillir des données pendant quelques heures, puis de revenir en ville à la fin de la journée. Ces sites ont été sélectionnés par les OCT/ACT respectives de chaque communauté, et l'objectif est que les mêmes sites soient échantillonnés l'été et l'hiver. Pour l'ensemble des programmes, il y aura environ 15 jours de travail de terrain mené par les communautés et 7 jours de travail sur le terrain dirigé par le MPO (Iqaluit et Qikiqtarjuaq). Ce programme de surveillance communautaire annuel est financé en partie au titre des objectifs de conservation marine (MPO) pour appuyer la création d'aires marines protégées et d'aires protégées et de conservation autochtones.

Inuktitut: ᐅᑭᐅᑕᖅᑐᒥ ᐃᒪᐅᐸ ᑭᓚᓕᖅᓂᓂ ᓄᓇᓕᒻᒧᑦ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᖅᑕᕐᓂᖅ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖓᔪᖅ, ᑐᑭᒧᐊᖅᑎᑕᐅᔪᖅ ᐃᒪᖏᐅᑕᓕᕆᔨᐅᑦ ᖃᓄᐃᑦ ᓄᓇᓕᒻᒥ ᐅᓪᓗᐊᓂᐊᕐᓂᖅᐸᑦ ᖃᑐᐃᓂᖅᑎᖅᑎᑦᑎᓕᐅᕐᓂᖅ ᓄᓇᓕᒻᒥ ᐅᒪᔨᓂᐊᕐᓂᖅᐸᑦ ᖃᑐᐃᓂᖅᑎᖅᑎᑦᑎᓕᐅᕐᓂᖅ ᑐᑭᓯᐅᑎᓂᒃ ᑐᓴᖅᓯᒪᓕᕆᓂᖅ ᑐᑭᓯᐅᑎᓂᒃ ᐃᒪᐅᕐᓂ ᐊᑐᖅᑐᖓᓂᒃ ᑐᓴᖅᓯᒪᓕᕆᓂᖅ ᑐᑭᓯᐅᑎᓂᒃ ᐃᒪᐅᕐᓂ ᐊᑐᖅᑐᖓᓂᒃ ᐊᑐᖅᑐᖓᓂᒃ (ᐊᒻᒪ ᐊᐃᐃᖅ ᐅᒪᔨᓂᐊᕐᓂᖅᐸᑦ ᖃᑐᐃᓂᖅᑎᖅᑎᑦᑎᓕᐅᕐᓂᖅᐸᑦ ᐱᓇᐅᔭᖅᑎᖅᑕᐅᓂᕐᓂᒪᓂᖅ ᐱᕕᓂᕐᒥᔪᖅᑐᑦᑕᓂᖅᐸᑦ) ᐅᖃᐅᔨᓴᖅᑎᑕᐅᓂᕐᓂᒪᓂᖅ ᐃᓕᓴᕐᓂᖅᐸᑦ ᐊᑐᖅᑐᖓᓂᒃ ᐃᒪᐅᕐᓂ

ᓴᐳᒥᕆᐅᔨᑦ ᓇᒋᔭᓂᖏᑦ ᐊᐦᒪ ᓄᓇᖅᖃᖅᑐᕐᓯᓚᐅᓂᑦ ᓴᐳᒥᕆᐅᔨᑦ ᓇᒋᔭᓂᖏᑦ.

Inuinnaqtun: N/A

Personnel

Personnel on site: 5
Days on site: 5
Total Person days: 25
Operations Phase: from 2026-06-21 to 2026-10-22
Operations Phase: from 2026-06-21 to 2026-10-22
Closure Phase: from 2026-10-23 to 2027-01-11
Post-Closure Phase: from 2027-01-20 to 2027-03-21

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
Kinngait - Sites selected by AHTA including Lona Bay, two coastal sites near the community, and two lakes	Researching	Marine	We have been working with the Aiviq HTA to monitor coastal sites selected by the community since 2020. We hope to replicate these sites this summer if funding permits.	N/A	Approximately 5-10 km to Kinngait.
Iqaluit - Sites where salmon have been observed in Sylvia Grinnell	Researching	Inuit Owned Surface Lands	We began monitoring suitable habitat for salmon and collecting environmental DNA near Iqaluit, in the Sylvia Grinnell River in the summer of 2025. We hope to return to this site in 2026 to repeat sampling and replace temperature loggers.	n/a	Approximately 5 km
Qikiqtarjuaq - Sites also sampled by the baseline program for environmental DNA	Researching	Inuit Owned Surface Lands	We began monitoring suitable habitat for salmon and collecting eDNA near Qikiqtarjuaq in 2024, we have gathered a years worth of data in 2025 and we hope to replicate this dataset in the fall of 2026 as a collaboration with the baseline program	n/a	Approximately 30 km from Qikiqtarjuaq, and 5 km from the national park boundary
Chesterfield Inlet - Sites selected by the AHTA for community-based monitoring	Researching	Marine	We have been working with the Aqigiq HTO since 2023 conducting community-based monitoring at sites selected by	n/a	Approximately 5 km from Chesterfield Inlet

			the HTO in the summer and winter months. We aim to replicate sampling effort in the summer and winter of the 2026/2027 year.		
Arviat - Sites selected by the Arviat HTO for community-based monitoring	Researching	Marine	We met with the Arviat HTO in January 2026 to request support to include their community in our community-based monitoring program. We have conducted winter monitoring in February 2026, and we aim to repeat sampling effort at these same sites in the summer of 2026.	n/a	Approximately 5 km.
Cormack Bay (Iqalugaajuk) - Site selected by Amaruq HTA for eDNA monitoring	Researching	Inuit Owned Surface Lands	We visited this site for the first time in August 2025 to gather environmental DNA and temperature data relevant to monitoring salmon. We hope to collaborate with the Amaruq HTA again in 2026 to repeat sample collection at this site.	n/a	Approximately 100 km from Iqaluit
Bay of Two Rivers - Site selected by Amaruq HTA for eDNA monitoring	Researching	Inuit Owned Surface Lands	We began sampling this site in August 2025 at the suggestion of the Amaruq HTA to collect environmental DNA. We hope to repeat sampling at this site in 2026.	n/a	Approximately 30 km from Iqaluit.

Engagement de la collectivité et avantages pour la région

Collectivité	Nom	Organisme	Date de la prise de contact

Arviat	Nicole Issakiark	Arviat Hunters and Trappers Organization	2025-10-22
Chesterfield Inlet	Shawna Mullins	Aqigiq Hunters and Trappers Organization	2025-10-23
Cape Dorset	Annie Suvega	Aiviq Hunters and Trappers Association	2025-10-25
Iqaluit	Sally Mikijuk	Amaruq Hunters and Trappers Association	2025-02-03
Qikiqtarjuaq	Lootie Kooneeliusie	Nattivak Hunters and Trappers Association	2025-09-26

Autorisations

Indiquez les zones dans lesquelles le projet est situé:

Kivalliq
South Baffin

Autorisations

Organisme de régulation	Description des autorisations	État actuel	Date de l'émission/de la demande	Date d'échéance
Hunters and Trappers Associations/Organizations	Support letter from the Aqigiq HTO for summer monitoring	Active	2026-02-10	
Hunters and Trappers Associations/Organizations	Support letter from the Arviat HTO for summer monitoring	Active	2026-02-10	
Pêches et Océans Canada	Approved Animal Use Protocol for the 2026 sampling year	Active	2026-02-02	
Hunters and Trappers Associations/Organizations	Support to repeat sampling near Iqaluit by the Amaruq HTA	Applied, Decision Pending		
Hunters and Trappers Associations/Organizations	Support to repeat sampling near Qikiqtarjuaq by the Nattivak HTA	Not Yet Applied		

Project transportation types

Transportation Type	Utilisation proposée	Length of Use
Water	By community hired boats	

Project accomodation types

Collectivité

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
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

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
Researching	Other, Misc	<1kg	Bring materials back to town	We do not anticipate any significant waste from our projects, other than packaging for equipment that will be contained while working and brought back to town.

Répercussions environnementales :

We do not anticipate any substantial environmental impacts from our projects as they are community-led and the samples gathered (fish and benthic samples) are minimal and supported by the HTOs to establish baselines for monitoring. The overall benefit of collecting the samples will have a positive impact on their management and conservation in the future.

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

Identification des répercussions et mesures d'atténuation proposées

Répercussions cumulatives

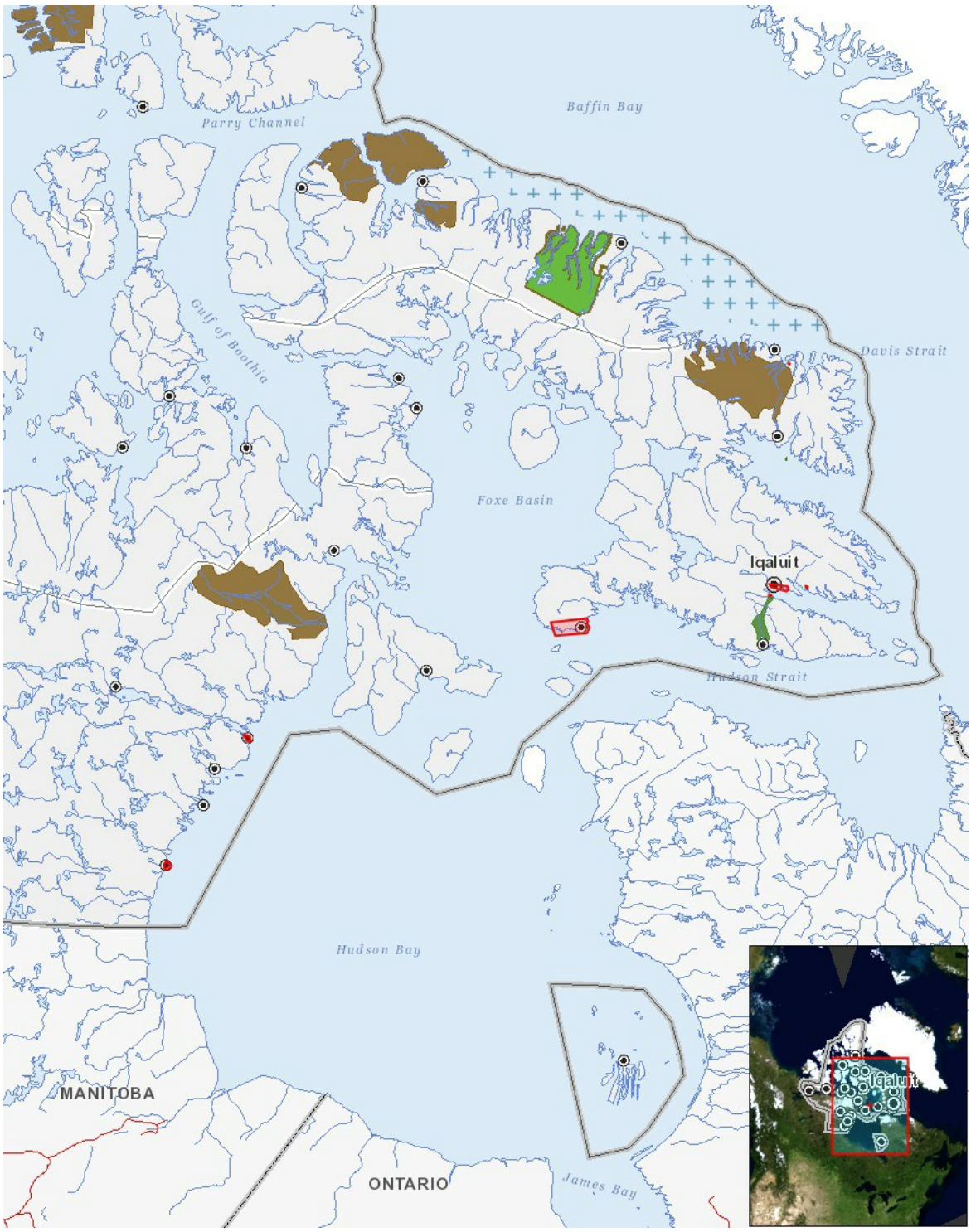
Impacts

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	-		-	-	-	-	-
Désaffectation																									
-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-

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

Site du projet



Liste des géométries de projet

1	polygon	Kinngait - Sites selected by AHTA including Lona Bay, two coastal sites near the community, and two lakes
2	polygon	Iqaluit - Sites where salmon have been observed in Sylvia Grinnell
3	polygon	Qikiqtarjuaq - Sites also sampled by the baseline program for environmental DNA
4	polygon	Chesterfield Inlet - Sites selected by the AHTA for community-based monitoring
5	polygon	Arviat - Sites selected by the Arviat HTO for community-based monitoring
6	polygon	Cormack Bay (Iqalugaajuk) - Site selected by Amaruq HTA for eDNA monitoring
7	polygon	Bay of Two Rivers - Site selected by Amaruq HTA for eDNA monitoring