



March 11, 2026
NPC File No. 151096

Calvin Ehaloak

A/Manager, Public Registry
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
Cambridge Bay, Nunavut
By email: cehaloak@nirb.ca; info@nirb.ca;
gillard@nirb.ca

Lisa Pirie

Head, Protected Areas
Nunavut Regional Office
Canadian Wildlife Services (CWS)
Iqaluit, NU
By email: lisa.pirie@ec.gc.ca;
CWSPermitNorth-PermisNordSCF@ec.gc.ca

Richard Dwyer

Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board (NWB)
P.O. Box 119, Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0
By email: richard.dwyer@nwb-oen.ca
licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Natalie D'Souza

Manager, Land Use & Env. Assessment
Department of Environment (GN-ENV)
Iqaluit, Nunavut
By email: ND'Souza@gov.nu.ca;
landuseplanning@gov.nu.ca; envassessment@gov.nu.ca;
mleblanc-havard1@gov.nu.ca; jpynn@gov.nu.ca;
jneely@gov.nu.ca;
wildlife_research@gov.nu.ca

Luis Manzo

Director, Lands
Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA)
Rankin Inlet, NU
By email: dirlands@kivalliqinuit.ca;
LandsAdmin@kivalliqinuit.ca; aburton@kivalliqinuit.ca;
bosmond@kivalliqinuit.ca; mserra@kivalliqinuit.ca

Kyle Elliott

21111 Lakeshore
Ste Anne-de-Bellevue, QC H9X3V9
By email: kyle.elliott@mcgill.ca

Dear Calvin Ehaloak, Lisa Pirie, Richard Dwyer, Natalie D'Souza, Luis Manzo, and Kyle Elliot:

RE: NPC File No. 151096 [Adaptation to an ice-free summer by Arctic seabirds]

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. **Primary Land Use:** Scientific Research
2. **Project summary description:** Each year, the Proponent will monitor thick-billed murres and glaucous gulls at Coats Island to study behavior, health, and population trends. Up to 200 adult and 500 chick murres, along with 30 gull nestlings, will be banded, sampled, and measured. Selected murres will carry lightweight GPS, camera, and depth loggers (<2% body mass) to record movements and foraging activity, including collection of limited eggs, feathers, and tissues for toxicological analysis. UAV surveys will photograph colonies to evaluate disturbance and colony size...
3. **Summary of modifications:** Additional activities include deploying an uncrewed surface vehicle (SailBuoy) near the colony and moulting areas to measure fish distributions. The chick sample size will increase to 1,000, and geolocator use will expand to 120 birds, including 60 chicks. Fifteen birds will be fitted with subcutaneous satellite transmitters, and energy expenditure will be measured in 60 birds using subcutaneous heart rate loggers, doubly labelled water, and stomach temperature loggers.
4. **Associated NPC File No.:** 149023; **Associated NIRB File No.:** 01YN053
5. **Location:** Kivalliq Region; [Evans Strait and surrounding areas]

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) can be accessed online using the link below.

The NPC has completed its review of the above-noted project proposal. The NPC previously reviewed works and activities associated with the current proposal (conformity determination issued January 21, 2019). This conformity determination still applies. In addition, the associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB File No.: 01YN053).

The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project due to the increase in sample size and the expansion of geolocator use and logger deployment in the birds. It conforms to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan (KRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, G, and H of the KRLUP.

The above-noted project proposal requires screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the *Nunavut Agreement* as amended because it is for a component or activity that was not part of the original proposal, and its inclusion is a significant modification of the project.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:
<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/registry/registry.aspx?appid=151096>

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA)* to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the *NuPPAA*.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 447-4563

Sincerely,



Solomon Amuno, PhD
Senior Planner
Nunavut Planning Commission

Jurisdictional Note:

This conformity determination applies only to the components of the proposed project located within the Nunavut Settlement Area and under the Nunavut Planning Commission's statutory jurisdiction as defined in the Nunavut Agreement and the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA). Activities outside the NPC's jurisdiction remain subject to the review and regulatory processes of the relevant authorities. Proponents are responsible for identifying, contacting, and obtaining all required approvals from the appropriate regulators in every applicable jurisdiction to ensure compliance with all legislation, policies, and licensing requirements.