

# 1 Project Overview

## 1.1 Introduction and Project Location

Worley Canada Services Ltd., operating as Worley Consulting, has been retained by the Government of Nunavut – Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut (GN-TIN) to support the design of a Sealift in Arctic Bay, Nunavut (NU) (the Project, see Drawing 1-1). Dynamic Ocean Consulting Ltd. (Dynamic Ocean) is supporting Worley Consulting on the permitting requirements for the Project. To inform the design phase, a field program will be undertaken in summer 2026.

The intention of the Program will be to conduct geoscience and archaeological (potential, if required) baseline studies.

Arctic Bay is located on northern Baffin Island, on the Borden Peninsula, in the Qikiqtaaluk Region of NU (73° 1.885'N, 85° 85.308'W, see Figure 1-1).

## 1.2 Letter Intention

This is the Program application letter to support the acquisition of a Conformity Determination from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC), and to determine whether it complies with all terms and conditions of any applicable land use plans.

## 1.3 Project Name

Arctic Bay Sealift Field Program (hereafter referred to as the Program).



**Legend**

- Arctic Bay Sealift
- Project Footprint



0 37.5 75 150 km	N ▲
1:7,680,000	
Spatial Reference GCS: GCS WGS 1984 Datum: WGS 1984 Projection: Stereographic North Pole Map Units: Metre	Drawn: AW Edited: CL Approved: VBC

Arctic Bay Sealift Project

Figure 1-1

**Project Location**

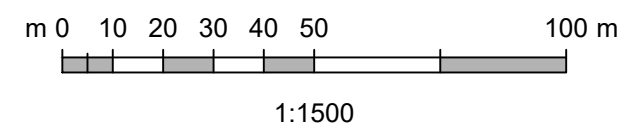


**KEY PLAN**  
1:20000

**LEGEND:**

- ⊙ **POWER / LIGHT POLE**
- x— **FENCE**
- **SWALE**
- - - **CULVERT**
- M **GATE**

**PLAN**  
1:1500



	GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT HAMLET OF ARCTIC BAY		
	<b>OCEANS PROTECTION PLAN SUBMISSION</b> <b>GENERAL ARRANGEMENT - SEALIFT RELOCATION</b>		
	Date: 25-JAN-23	Drawn by: CH	Edited by: CH
	App'd by: HGK		WorleyParsons Project No. 317071-00019
DRG No. <b>14-MA-DSK-0001</b>		REV <b>A</b>	
This drawing is prepared for the use of the contractual customer of WorleyParsons Canada Services Ltd. and WorleyParsons Canada Services Ltd. assumes no liability to any other party for any representations contained in this drawing.			

## 2 Proponent and Representative Details

Contact information for the applicant (proponent), representative, and field contact are provided in Table 2-1.

**Table 2-1: Proponent and Contact Information**

Information Request	Details
<b>Proponent and Applicant: Government of Nunavut (GN)</b>	
Name	Grant Woodbury Manager, Transportation Planning
Address	PO Box 1000 Station 200 Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
Telephone / Fax	1-867-975-6773
Email	<a href="mailto:GWoodbury1@gov.nu.ca">GWoodbury1@gov.nu.ca</a>
<b>Applicant Representative: Dynamic Ocean</b>	
Name	Laura Borden, MSc., RPBio. Senior Marine Scientist
Address	2901 Murray Street Port Moody, British Columbia (BC) V3H 1X3
Telephone / Fax	1-604-928-0193
Email	<a href="mailto:Laura@dynamicocean.ca">Laura@dynamicocean.ca</a>
<b>Field Contact: Worley Canada Services Ltd.</b>	
Name	Jeff Gibson, NU & BC P.L.Eng. Senior Associate Engineering Geologist
Address	Suite 200, 2930 Virtual Way Vancouver, BC V5M 0A5
Telephone / Fax	1-604-779-1884
Email	<a href="mailto:Jeffrey.gibson@worley.com">Jeffrey.gibson@worley.com</a>

### 3 Program Description

#### 3.1 Scope

The Program will be conducted prior to construction to support the permitting and design requirements of the Project. The Program includes a geotechnical investigation consisting of test pits at the Sealift site. Archaeological studies may be undertaken if required.

#### 3.2 Study Areas

The Program Study Areas will focus on the Sealift site.

There are two locations currently under consideration for the Sealift laydown area, and two locations under consideration for the Sealift ramp improvement (Figure 3-1). The Program will support refinement of which option for the detailed design phase of the Project.



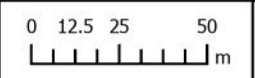
**Legend**

**Sealift Footprint**

- Laydown (Option 1)
- Laydown (Option 2)
- Ramp and Improved Road (Option 1)
- Ramp and Improved Road (Option 2)

**Study Area**

- Study Area



1:2,150

Spatial Reference  
 GCS: GCS North American 1983 CSRS  
 Datum: North American 1983 CSRS  
 Projection: Transverse Mercator  
 Map Units: Metre

Drawn: AW  
 Edited: CL  
 Approved: VBC

**Arctic Bay Sealift Project**

ID: 11.0001	Rev: B	Figure 3-1
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**Arctic Bay Sealift Study Areas**

### 3.3 Schedule

The Program will be carried out in the 2026 open-water season and will occur over a period of two days.

### 3.4 Personnel

The crew size is expected to be approximately two people. The primary Point of Contact (PoC) will be Jeff Gibson (see contact details in Section 2 (Table 2-1)).

### 3.5 Opportunities for Local Participation

The team will require local support such as wildlife monitors<sup>1</sup>, field assistants, trucks etc.

## 4 Consultation

### 4.1 Consultation Summary

The community has been informed about the proposed Program. In-person discussions about concerns with sealift operations and the need for its relocation began in 2021 as part of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)'s Small Craft Harbour project. Community consultations dedicated specifically to the Project and the proposed Program were held in March 2026.

A range of methods and materials were used to engage residents, hunters, fishers, and other stakeholders, including design workshops, meetings and interviews. These activities were supported by presentations, large posters, concept drawings, photographs, and maps. Consultations included design workshops with the Ikajutit Hamlet and the Hunters and Trappers Association (HTA), meetings with the Mayor and Hamlet Council, and one-to-one meetings with Hamlet staff and store managers.

Further consultations are planned to share results from the Program and a refined design concept with the community. Along with meetings with the Hamlet and HTA, these consultations will also include a public information booth at the Co-op, meetings with the Nauttisuqtiit (Guardians), Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI), Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) and interviews with key knowledge holders, providing residents with additional opportunities to learn about the Project and share their feedback.

Project information shared with the community to date includes:

- Project overview including funding and schedule.
- Consultation to date.
- Summary of community feedback.
- Sealift safety improvements concept.
- Proposed quarries and haul routes (including discussion on anticipated impacts during construction).
- Field activities.
- Permitting process including NIRB, DFO – Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program (FFHPP) and Transport Canada (TC) – Navigation Protection Program (NPP).

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<sup>1</sup> Wildlife monitors will be armed for polar bear protection.

#### 4.2 Proposed Use of Local and Inuit Knowledge (IQ)

Traditional land use and environmental knowledge from key knowledge holders including the HTA and the Nauttiqsuqtiit (guardians) will guide and complement the design and Program data collection. Verification meetings with knowledge holders will also be conducted after the Program is complete to discuss the results and verify that local knowledge has been accurately and appropriately interpreted and presented.

## 5 Project Map

See Figure 1-1 and Figure 3-1.

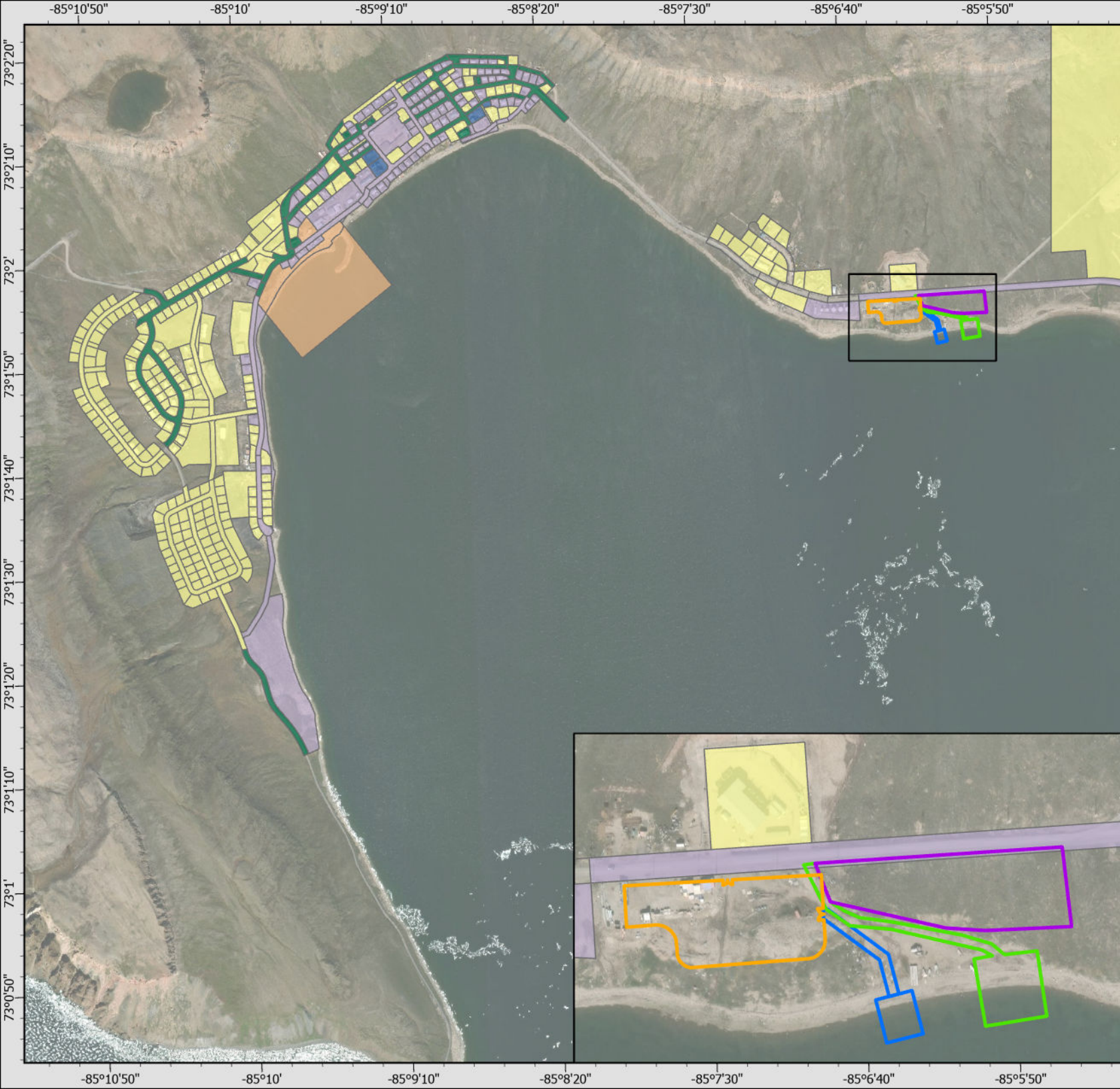
## 6 Land Use and Licensing

### 6.1 Land Use

The land use summary for the Program is provided in Table 6-1.

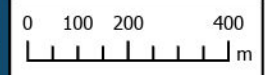
**Table 6-1: Land Use and Ownership**

<b>Administrative Boundary</b>	Qikiqtaaluk Region
<b>Planning Region</b>	Qikiqtaaluk Region
<b>Land Use</b>	Field activities which, by NPC’s descriptions, would be most closely categorized as scientific research.
<b>Land Ownership</b>	Untitled Municipal Land



**Legend**

- Sealift Footprint**
- Laydown (Option 1)
  - Laydown (Option 2)
  - Ramp and Improved Road (Option 1)
  - Ramp and Improved Road (Option 2)
- No Interaction**
- Commissioner's Land
  - Federal
  - Municipal
  - Private
  - Untitled Municipal



1:15,000

Spatial Reference  
 GCS: GCS North American 1983 CSRS  
 Datum: North American 1983 CSRS  
 Projection: Transverse Mercator  
 Map Units: Metre

Drawn: AW  
 Edited: CL  
 Approved: VBC

**Arctic Bay Sealift Project**

ID: 11.0002	Rev: B	Figure 6-1
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**Arctic Bay Sealift Land Based Jurisdictional Boundaries**

## 6.2 Permitting

Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) that may be required to issue permits or be engaged for the Program are summarized in Table 6-2. All permit applications that are required will be submitted once the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) Screening Decision Report (SDR) is issued.

**Table 6-2: Licenses and Permits Relevant to the Program**

Legislation	Authority Having Jurisdiction	Permit	Program Aspect	Required	Description
<b>Territorial Requirements</b>					
Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act, Article 11 <i>Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA)</i>	NPC	Conformity Determination	All.	Yes.	All activities within Nunavut are assessed to confirm conformity with approved Land Use Plans. The NPC is likely to refer the Program to the NIRB because it does not belong to a class of exempt works or activities set out in Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Agreement.
<i>Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act, Article 12</i> NuPPAA	NIRB	SDR	All.	Yes.	The NIRB is responsible for the assessment of ecosystemic and socioeconomic impacts of projects in the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA), and for monitoring of approved projects under Article 12 of the Nunavut Agreement. The impact assessment process for Nunavut was established under the NuPPAA. The Program will likely require a screening under Nunavut Agreement Part 4 by the NIRB (Screening), which are conducted over 45 to 60 calendar days, inclusive of a 21-day consultation period.  The NIRB application will be submitted once the NPC Conformity Determination is issued.
<i>Nunavut Scientists Act</i>	Nunavut Research Institute (NRI)	Research Registration	All.	Yes.	Under the <i>Scientist Act</i> , work contracted strictly to support community infrastructure requirements, without any academic or scientific research component, do not require a Scientific Research License from the NRI.  The NRI recommends projects to be registered with the Nunavut Research Portal to provide open access to information about work conducted in Nunavut (Isirvik, 2026).

Legislation	Authority Having Jurisdiction	Permit	Program Aspect	Required	Description
Schedule 2 of the Nunavut Water Regulations	Nunavut Water Board (NWB)	Water License	Withdrawal of fresh water.	No.	There will not be drilling in the Program, and therefore water withdrawal is not required.
<i>Territorial Lands Act</i> Land Use Territorial Regulations	GN-CS (Lands Division)	Land Use Permit (LUP)	Land-based activities on untitled municipal lands.	To be confirmed.	The Sealift Footprint (see Figure 6-1) is located on Untitled Municipal land, as defined in the Municipal Land Administration Policy (GN, 2023). Therefore, a LUP may be required.
<i>Nunavut Act</i> <i>Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act</i> Nunavut Archaeological and Palaeontological Sites Regulations (NAPSR)	GN-Department of Culture and Heritage (CH)	Class 2 Archaeologist Permit	Any activity that has the potential to interfere with areas of archaeological importance.	Dependent on location of ground interaction activities at the Sealift site (above Low-Water-Line (LWL)).	It is possible that an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) will need to be performed which will require a Class 2 Archaeologist Permit. If this is required, the AIA will be supported by a professional archaeologist recognized by the GN Territorial Archaeologist.
Federal Requirements					
<i>Fisheries Act:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 34.4(1).</li> <li>Section 35(1).</li> </ul> Marine Mammal Regulations (MMR) Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations (AISR)	DFO-FFHPP	Request for Review (RFR) to obtain a Letter of Advice (LoA)	Marine-based activities.	No.	An RFR is not required because it is not expected that there will be residual negative effects subsequent to the implementation of mitigation and monitoring measures outlined in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP). The EMP will be provided to the NIRB and other AHJs, which will outline the measures to be implemented to minimize negative environmental effects. Specific to the marine environment, this will include consideration for accidental spills.

Legislation	Authority Having Jurisdiction	Permit	Program Aspect	Required	Description
<i>Territorial Lands Act</i> Territorial Land Use Regulations	Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) <sup>2</sup>	LUP	Activities with ground interaction below Ordinary High Water Line (OHWL).	No.	Not expected to be required for the Program. Dynamic Ocean has engaged with CIRNAC on a similar program that would utilize the same equipment and were informed a LUP was not required (pers. Comm. Victoria Burdett-Coutts).

<sup>2</sup> The requirement for LUPs from CIRNAC will be dependent on the status of devolution.

## 7 Material Use

### 7.1 Equipment

Equipment expected to be required for the Program is summarized in Table 7-1. Exact specifications of the excavator will be determined closer to the Program, but the types of excavator used is not expected to change the potential environmental effects outlined in Section 8.

**Table 7-1: Equipment Requirements for the Program**

Activity	Equipment Used	Quantity	Size & Dimensions	Proposed Use
Test pits	Excavator	1	30 to 40 ton	The excavator will be used to dig test pits.

## 7.2 Fuel Use

Fuel use methods are outlined in Table 7-2.

**Table 7-2: Fuel use and storage methods**

Fuel	Number of Containers and Capacity	Total Amount of Fuel (L)	Proposed Use
Diesel	1	200	Excavator

## 7.3 Hazardous Materials

No hazardous materials are anticipated during the Program.

## 7.4 Water Use

No water usage is anticipated during the Program.

# 8 Environmental Management

Potential environmental effects and proposed mitigation measures are provided in Table 8-1.

**Table 8-1: Program Environmental Effects and Mitigation**

Environmental Effect	Mitigation
Disturbance to marine mammals and fish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Test pits in the intertidal area will be conducted in out-of-water conditions.</li> </ul>
Terrestrial wildlife and vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All field personnel will participate in wildlife safety training, including bear safety training. This will be carried out during the site orientation.</li> <li>• Waste material bins will be present to prevent scavenging by wildlife and feral animals, as well as to control odour.</li> <li>• All field personnel will be instructed that the feeding of terrestrial and marine wildlife is prohibited.</li> </ul>
Accidental spill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Spill Response Plan (SRP) will be in place during the Program.</li> <li>• All spills will be reported in accordance with the Spill Contingency Planning and Reporting Regulations by calling the 24-hour Spill Report Line at 867-920-8130.</li> <li>• Emergency response kits and spill kits will be onsite and will be appropriate to the type and quantity of fuel associated with the Program. Spill kits will contain materials appropriate for the potential products to be spilled, taking into consideration the surrounding environment and seasonal conditions. The emergency response kits will include appropriate Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) such as gloves and goggles.</li> </ul>
Water, sediment and air quality management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Machinery and equipment will be maintained in good working order to minimize emissions.</li> <li>• The footprint of the test pits is not expected to be impactful to the seabed, and turbidity generated following the Program once the tide rises is not expected to result in exceedances of the federal Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) Water Quality Guidelines (WQG) (CCME, 1999).</li> <li>• Test pits will be completed in out-of-water conditions and will be backfilled.</li> </ul>
Disruption of traditional use of proposed Study Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrival of the Program team will be communicated in advance of the Program. There are no aspects of work required that would modify the use of terrestrial or marine areas by local people.</li> </ul>

Environmental Effect	Mitigation
Disturbance of heritage resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If archaeological assessment is required during the Program, appropriate permits will be in place.</li> </ul>
Increased overall anthropogenic presence within Study Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The crew will be small, and they are conducting non-invasive short-term studies.</li> </ul>

## 9 Waste Management

Waste management for the Program will employ a ‘pack in, pack out’ policy. Bulk waste is not anticipated during the Program. Some non-combustible waste will be created from consumables during sampling (bottles, bags, gloves, etc.). Sewage and human waste will be managed using existing facilities.

Details of type of waste anticipated, and disposal methods is described in Table 9-1.

**Table 9-1: Type of Waste and Disposal Methods**

Type of Waste	Projected Amount Generated	Method of Disposal	Additional Treatment Procedures
Non-combustible wastes	Up to 10 large garbage bags	“Pack in, pack out”	N/A
Sewage and human waste	N/A	Existing facilities	N/A

## 10 References

- Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations*. SOR/2015-121. Last amended: June 4, 2021. Enabling Act: *Fisheries Act*. Available at: <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/sor-2015-121/FullText.html>. Accessed: June 2025.
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