NIRB Application for Screening #126445
Arctic Bay Sealift Field Program

Application Type: New

Project Type: Scientific Research

Application Date: Monday, May 25, 2026

Period of operation: from 2026-06-30 to 2026-12-30

Project Proponent:

Grant Woodbury
Government of Nunavut
1126 Mivvik
Iqaluit Nunavut X0A 2H0
Canada
Phone Number:: 867-975-6773, Fax Number::

DETAILS

Non-technical project proposal description

English: 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 detailed design of a sealift facility in Arctic Bay, Nunavut (the Project). To inform the detailed design phase of the Project, a field program (the Program) will be undertaken in the 2026 open-water season. This Project Description (PD) is specific to the Program. The intention of the Program is to perform a geotechnical study at the Sealift site. Baseline archaeological studies may also be undertaken if required. Surveys will be conducted in the Sealift Study Area. A map depicting the Study Area is provided in Figure 3-1 of the NPC Application Letter. Consultations with the Hamlet and Hunters and Trappers Association has been undergoing since March 2026 and will continue throughout the lifecycle of the Project. Letters of support for the Project are provided in Appendix A of the NIRB Application Letter.

French: NA

Inuktitut: Worley Canada Services Ltd. (ᕗᐊᕐᓕ ᑲᓇᑕᒥ ᐱᔨᑦᑎᖅᑕᑕᖏᑦ ᑎᒥᖓᑦ), ᐊᐅᓚᓂᖃᖅᑐᑦ Worley Consulting (ᕗᐊᕐᓕ ᐅᖃᐅᔾᔨᒋᐊᖅᑏᑦ), ᐱᔭᐅᓯᒪᔪᑦ ᓄᓇᕗᑦ ᒐᕙᒪᒃᑯᓐᓄᑦ – ᐃᖏᕐᕋᔪᓕᕆᔨᒃᑯᑦ ᐊᐅᓚᔪᓐᓇᐅᑎᓕᕆᔨᒃᑯᓪᓗ ᓄᓇᕗᒻᒥ (GN-TIN) ᐃᑲᔪᕐᓗᑎ ᓇᓗᓴᐃᔭᖅᓯᒪᓂᖏᓐᓄᑦ ᓴᓇᓯᒪᓂᖓᓄᑦ ᐅᒥᐊᕐᔪᐊᑰᖅᑎᑕᐅᔪᓄᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᕕᒻᒥᑦ ᐃᒃᐱᐊᔪᒻᒥ, ᓄᓇᕗᑦ (ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖅ). ᖃᐅᔨᔾᔪᑎᒋᓗᒋᑦ ᓇᓗᓇᐃᔭᖅᓯᒪᓂᖏᑦ ᓴᓇᓯᒪᓂᖓᓄᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖑᓕᕐᓂᖓ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᒧᑦ, ᐱᓕᕆᕕᐅᔪᒥᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖅ (ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖅ) ᑲᒪᒋᔭᐅᓂᐊᖅᑐᖅ 2026–ᒥ ᐃᒪᐃᓐᓇᐅᓕᖅᑎᓗᒍ. ᑖᓐᓇ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᒧᑦ ᓇᓗᓇᐃᔭᖅᓯᒪᓂᖓ (PD) ᑐᑮᖓᓂᖃᖅᑐᖅ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᒧᑦ. ᐱᔾᔪᑎᒋᓇᓱᐊᖅᑕᖓ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖅ ᓄᓇᖓᓂ ᓇᓗᓇᐃᔭᖅᓯᒪᓂᖓᓄᑦ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᕐᓗᑎ ᐅᒥᐊᕐᔪᐊᑰᖅᑎᑕᐅᔪᓄᑦ ᓇᔪᖅᑕᐅᔪᒥᑦ. ᑐᓐᖓᕕᖏᓐᓄᑦ ᐃᑦᑕᕐᓂᓴᓕᕆᓂᕐᒧᑦ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᕐᓂᐅᔪᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖑᓂᐊᕐᒥᔪᑦ ᐱᑕᖃᕆᐊᖃᖅᑎᑕᐅᒍᓂ. ᖃᐅᔨᓴᕐᓂᖃᓂᐊᕐᒥᔪᑦ ᐅᒥᐊᕐᔪᐊᑰᖅᑎᑕᐅᔪᓄᑦ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᕐᕕᒋᔭᐅᔪᒥᑦ. ᓄᓇᖑᐊᖅ ᑕᑯᔅᓴᐅᑎᑦᑎᔪᖅ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᕐᕕᒋᔭᐅᔪᒥᑦ ᐱᑕᖃᖅᑎᑕᐅᔪᖅ ᐊᔾᔨᓐᖑᐊᒥᑦ 3-1 ᓄᓇᕗᕐᒥ ᐸᕐᓇᐃᔩᑦ (NPC) ᑐᔅᓯᕋᐅᑎᓕᐅᕈᓪᒧᑦ ᑎᑎᖅᑲᒥᑦ. ᑲᑎᒪᖃᑎᖃᕐᓂᐅᔪᑦ Hᐊᒻᒪᓚᒃᑯᓐᓂᑦ ᐊᒻᒪ ᐆᒪᔪᕐᓂᐊᑎᒃᑯᑦ ᑲᑐᔾᔨᖃᑎᒌᖏᓐᓂᑦ ᑲᑎᒪᖃᑎᖃᖃᑦᑕᖅᓯᒪᔪᑦ ᒫᑦᓯ 2026–ᒥᓂᑦ ᐊᒻᒪ ᑲᔪᓯᓂᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᑯᓂᐅᓂᓕᒫᖓᓄᑦ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖅ.

Inuinnaqtun: NA

Personnel

Personnel on site: 3

Days on site: 2

Total Person days: 6

Operations Phase: from 2026-06-30 to 2026-12-30

Activities

Location	Activity Type	Land Status	Site history	Site archaeological or paleontological value	Proximity to the nearest communities and any protected areas
Study Area	Researching	Commissioners	N/A	N/A	The field program will be conducted within the community of Arctic Bay.

Community Involvement & Regional Benefits

Community	Name	Organization	Date Contacted
Arctic Bay	Members, Design workshop	Ikajutit Hunters and Trappers	2026-03-26
Arctic Bay	Council	Hamlet of Arctic Bay	2026-03-26
Arctic Bay	Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)	Hamlet of Arctic Bay	2026-03-27
Arctic Bay	Manager	Arctic Bay Adventures	2026-03-27

Authorizations

Indicate the areas in which the project is located:

North Baffin

Authorizations

Regulatory Authority	Authorization Description	Current Status	Date Issued / Applied	Expiry Date
Nunavut Planning Commission	Conformity Determination	Active	2026-04-27	
Government of Nunavut, Community Services	Land Use Permit. Requirement to be confirmed	Not Yet Applied		
Other	GN-Department of Culture and Heritage (CH) Class 2 Archaeologist Permit. Requirement to be confirmed	Not Yet Applied		
Nunavut Research Institute	Research Registration	Not Yet Applied		

Project transportation types

Transportation Type	Proposed Use	Length of Use
Air	Field crew will travel to the program area by plane.	
Land	Field crews will travel by foot or local vehicles within the community.	

Project accomodation types

Community

Material Use

Equipment to be used (including drills, pumps, aircraft, vehicles, etc)

Equipment Type	Quantity	Size - Dimensions	Proposed Use
Excavator	1	30 to 40 tons	The excavator will be used to dig test pits.

Detail Fuel and Hazardous Material Use

Detail fuel material use:	Fuel Type	Number of containers	Container Capacity	Total Amount	Units	Proposed Use
Diesel	fuel	1	200	200	Liters	Excavator

Water Consumption

Daily amount (m3)	Proposed water retrieval methods	Proposed water retrieval location
0		

Waste

Waste Management

Project Activity	Type of Waste	Projected Amount Generated	Method of Disposal	Additional treatment procedures
Researching	Non-Combustible wastes	Limited (no bulk waste)	“pack in, pack out” policy	None required
Researching	Sewage (human waste)	Limited / regular amount	Use existing facilities	None required

Environmental Impacts:

Environmental impacts associated with the field programs are expected to be minimal. Potential impacts to terrestrial and marine habitat and wildlife may occur, however, all personnel will be accompanied by a local field assistant to confirm minimal disturbances. Minor disruptions to traditional land use may occur in the proposed study area, however, arrival of the research team will be advertised on local social media prior to arrival. There will be an increase in anthropogenic presence in the Study Area but the research team is relatively small and are conducting non-invasive short term studies. Please see Table 8-1 of the attached application letter.

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 of Existing Environment: Physical Environment

The Project is occurring within municipal boundaries in a developed area. Baseline studies of the physical environment will be conducted as a component of this geotechnical field program. Please see the attached application letter and Environmental Management Plan for further information.

Description of Existing Environment: Biological Environment

The Project is occurring within municipal boundaries in a developed area with minimal natural habitat, and sparse vegetation. The intertidal habitat mostly consists of cobbles and gravels, with minimal marine vegetations and invertebrate presence.

Description of Existing Environment: Socio-economic Environment

Arctic Bay has a population of 994 residents and saw an increase of approximately 14.5% since 2016 according to the 2021 Census data from Statistics Canada. In-person consultations with the community were conducted in 2021 as part of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)'s Small Craft Harbour (SCH) project and most recently through a dedicated consultation program specific to the Project in March 2026. Consultation will be ongoing throughout the life cycle of the Project. Please see Section 4 of the attached application letter.

Miscellaneous Project Information

Not applicable.

Identification of Impacts and Proposed Mitigation Measures

Potential impacts to terrestrial and marine habitat and wildlife may occur, however, all personnel will be accompanied by a local field assistant to confirm minimal disturbances. Minor disruptions to traditional land use may occur in the proposed study area, however, arrival of the research team will be advertised on local social media in advance. Please see the attached application letter and Environmental Management Plan for further information.

Cumulative Effects

Several projects are taking place nearby during the same timeframe as this Project. These primarily involve scientific research and tourism activities. Cumulative effects are expected to be minimal as Project components include mitigation measures designed to reduce potential impacts. Please see the attached

application letter and Environmental Management Plan for further information.

Impacts

Identification of Environmental Impacts

	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																									
-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
Operation																									
Researching		-	-	-	-	-	-	M	-	M	-	-	M		-	M	-	-	-		-	P	P	-	-
Decommissioning																									
-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-

(P = Positive, N = Negative and non-mitigatable, M = Negative and mitigatable, U = Unknown)

Project Location

List of Project Geometries

1	polygon	Study Area