

DETAILS

Non-technical project proposal description

- English: Who: Caroline Bouchard, Professor, Biology Department, Université Laval, Québec, Canada What: Uugaq (Arctic cod, *Boreogadus saida*) is a key species in Arctic marine ecosystems, a crucial food source for belugas, narwhals, and many species of seals and seabirds. In this project, we want to learn more about Frobisher Bay uugaq population, by studying its size structure, diet, and genetics. We will collaborate with the Iqaluit Cod Derby to collect whole uugaq (maximum 50) in May 2026. One or two members of Caroline Bouchard team will travel to Iqaluit and organise a shipping of the frozen fish to Université Laval for laboratory analyses. Why: Uugaq (Arctic cod, *Boreogadus saida*) is a key species in Arctic marine ecosystems, a crucial food source for belugas, narwhals, and many species of seals and seabirds. In this project, we want to learn more about Frobisher Bay uugaq population, by studying its size structure, diet, and genetics. Where: Next to Iqaluit, ice-fishing activities performed by Iqaluit residents. When: Fish sampling in May 2026.
- French: Qui : Caroline Bouchard, professeure au Département de biologie de l'Université Laval, Québec, Canada Quoi : L'uugaq (morue arctique, *Boreogadus saida*) est une espèce clé des écosystèmes marins arctiques, une source de nourriture essentielle pour les bélugas, les narvals et de nombreuses espèces de phoques et d'oiseaux marins. Dans le cadre de ce projet, nous souhaitons approfondir nos connaissances sur la population d'uugaq de la baie Frobisher en étudiant sa structure de taille, son régime alimentaire et sa génétique. Nous collaborerons avec le Derby de la morue d'Iqaluit pour ramasser des uugaq entiers (maximum 50) en mai 2026. Un ou deux membres de l'équipe de Caroline Bouchard se rendront à Iqaluit et organiseront l'expédition des poissons congelés à l'Université Laval pour des analyses en laboratoire. Pourquoi : L'uugaq (morue arctique, *Boreogadus saida*) est une espèce clé des écosystèmes marins arctiques, une source de nourriture essentielle pour les bélugas, les narvals et de nombreuses espèces de phoques et d'oiseaux marins. Dans le cadre de ce projet, nous voulons approfondir nos connaissances sur la population d'uugaq de la baie de Frobisher en étudiant sa structure de taille, son régime alimentaire et sa génétique. Où : À proximité d'Iqaluit, lors d'activités de pêche sur glace pratiquées par les résidents d'Iqaluit. Quand : Échantillonnage de poissons en mai 2026.
- Inuktitut: Kina: kiurulain puusaat, ilisaijimarik, uumajulirinirmut pilirivvik, silattuqsarvigjuaq laaval, kupaik, kanata Kisu: uugaq (ukiuqtaqtumi uugaq, *Boreogadus saida*) pimmarijuq uumajuq ukiuqtaqtumi imarmiutanut uumajunut, pimmaruulluni niqigijaulluni nanurnut, qilalugarnut, ammalu amisunut nattirnut ammalu tariurmiutanut timmianut. Tavvani piliriangujumi, ilikkannirumajugut vuruupisu paimi uugait qatsiuninginnik, qaujisarinnik angininginnik aqqiksimaninginnik, nirivaktanginnik, ammalu kinguvaaksanginnik. Piliriqatiqarniaqtugut iqalunni uugarnut saalaksarasuarniujumik nuattinasuarluta iluikkanik uugarnut (angilaangujuq 50) mai 2026. atausiq marruulluunniit ilagijaujut kiurulain puusaat tapiriinginnut iqalunnuurniaqtut ammalu aqqiksulituk aullaqtitauninginnik quangujut iqaluit silattuqsarvigjuanganut laval qaujisaqtauniarmata. Summat: uugaq (ukiuqtaqtumi uugaq, *Boreogadus saida*) pimmarijuq uumajuq ukiuqtaqtumi imarmiutanut uumajunut, pimmaruulluni niqigijaulluni nanurnut, qilalugarnut, ammalu amisunut uumajunut nattirnut ammalu tariurmiutanut timmianut. Tavvani piliriangujumi, ilikkannirumajugut vuruupisu paimi uugait qatsiuninginnik, qaujisarinnik angininginnik aqqiksimaninginnik, nirivaktanginnik, ammalu kinguvaaksanginnik. Nani: iqaluit saniani, sikumi iqalugasuarniq qanuiliurutaujut iqalummiunut. Qangakkut: iqaluit qaujisaqtauningit mai 2026-mi.

Personnel

Personnel on site: 2

Days on site: 4

Total Person days: 8

Operations Phase: from 2026-05-14 to 2026-07-19

Activities

Location	Activity Type	Land Status	Site history	Site archaeological or paleontological value	Proximity to the nearest communities and any protected areas
Koojesse Inlet	Scientific/International Polar Year Research	Marine	N/A	N/A	Near Iqaluit

Community Involvement & Regional Benefits

Community	Name	Organization	Date Contacted
Iqaluit	Charlie Nakashuk	Environment and Climate Change Canada	2026-03-25

Authorizations

Indicate the areas in which the project is located:

South Baffin

Authorizations

Regulatory Authority	Authorization Description	Current Status	Date Issued / Applied	Expiry Date
Nunavut Planning Commission	24-Apr-2026 Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) Dear Caroline Bouchard, You project proposal No 151149 was accepted for review. Please note that the timeline to complete the review of your project proposal is up to 45 days . You will be notified by email on the further progress of your project proposal, or if additional information is required. Nunavut Planning Commission	Applied, Decision Pending		
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Licence to Fish for Scientific Purposes	Applied, Decision Pending	2025-10-31	

Project transportation types

Transportation Type	Proposed Use	Length of Use
Air	commercial flights between Québec City and Iqaluit	

Project accomodation types

Community

Material Use

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

Equipment Type	Quantity	Size - Dimensions	Proposed Use
Cooler	1	65 x 35.8 x 35.8 cm	Collect and ship frozen fish

Detail Fuel and Hazardous Material Use

Detail fuel material use:	Fuel Type	Number of containers	Container Capacity	Total Amount	Units	Proposed Use
Dry ice	hazardous	1	10	10	Lbs	Shipping frozen fish

Water Consumption

Daily amount (m3)	Proposed water retrieval methods	Proposed water retrieval location
0	No water retrieved	

Waste

Waste Management

Project Activity	Type of Waste	Projected Amount Generated	Method of Disposal	Additional treatment procedures
Information is not available				

Environmental Impacts:

There will be a maximum of fifty Arctic cod removed from Frobisher Bay marine ecosystem. Population size of Arctic cod in Frobisher Bay is unknown but most likely very large compared to the number of fish removed, so we expect no detectable impact.

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

Frobisher Bay is a macrotidal, Arctic marine ecosystem on Baffin Island, Nunavut, characterized by extreme 7–11 m tides.

Description of Existing Environment: Biological Environment

Frobisher Bay marine ecosystem is characterised by sea-ice fauna, and high primary production during ice breakup. It supports key species like Arctic char, Arctic cod, other fish species, marine mammals, and sea birds.

Description of Existing Environment: Socio-economic Environment

Frobisher Bay provide crucial marine resources for Iqaluit residents.

Miscellaneous Project Information

N/A

Identification of Impacts and Proposed Mitigation Measures

There will be a maximum of fifty Arctic cod removed from Frobisher Bay marine ecosystem. Population size of Arctic cod in Frobisher Bay is unknown but most likely very large compared to the number of fish removed, so we expect no detectable impact.

Cumulative Effects

Frobisher Bay is experiencing rapid climatic and anthropogenic changes. Our study may help understand the cumulative effects of these factors on Arctic cod in the region.

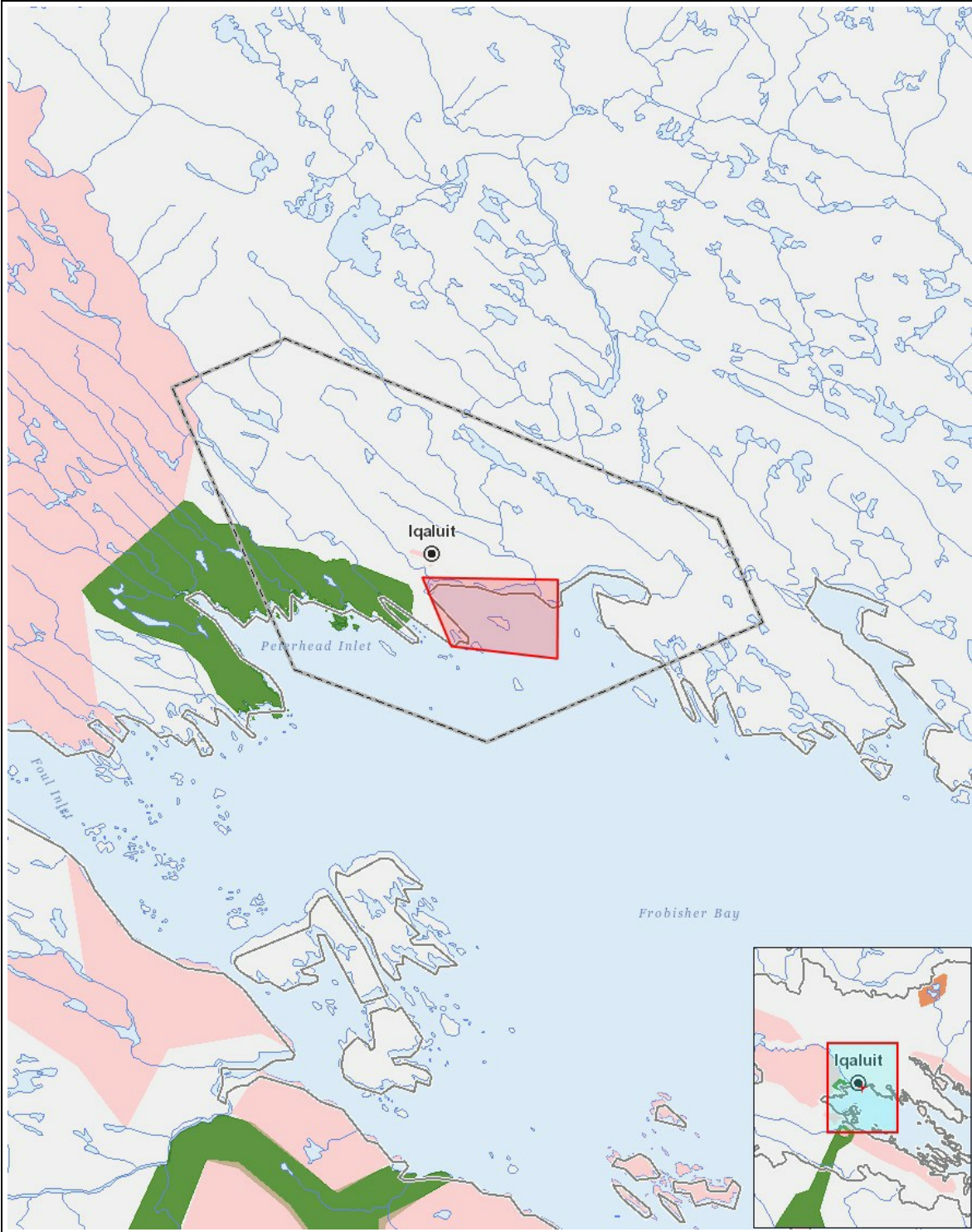
Impacts

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																									
Scientific/International Polar Year Research		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				U	-		-	-	-	-	
Decommissioning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

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

Project Location



List of Project Geometries

1	polygon	Koojesse Inlet
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