



DFO File No.: NU-07-0045

Page 1 of 4

On June 7, 2010 the NIRB received an application from PC for a new Business Licence for the above mentioned project. After a thorough assessment of the application, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from the requirement for further screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and on June 9, 2010 reissued the original July 6, 2005 Screening Decision Report with *additional* terms and conditions as issued July 18, 2008.

On April 3, 2014 the NIRB received an application for a new Bird Sanctuary Permit from the CWS for the above mentioned project. After a thorough assessment of the new permit request, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from the requirement for further screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and on June 16, 2014 reissued the original July 6, 2005 Screening Decision Report with *additional* terms and conditions as issued July 18, 2008.

The current CWS application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (File No. 05AN089) and related file information are available from the NIRB's online public registry at the following location:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2005/05AN089-Quark%20Expeditions/>.

#### PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No.: 05AN089), the originally titled "Tourism Visitation" project was located within the Qikiqtani region and included visits to various Baffin communities from August 2 to September 10, 2005.

The activities and components associated with the originally screened proposal included:

- Cruise ship activities for approximately 200 passengers, staff, and crew throughout the Qikiqtani region using the *Kapitan Khlebnikov* ice class vessel;
- Visits to the communities of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord as well as Cape Hay and the Coburg Island (Nirjutiqavvik) National Wildlife Area reserve;
- Use of six (6) Zodiac vessels (small boats with a capacity of 10-12 people) to view birds in waters near the Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary and the Prince Leopold Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary;
  - Anchoring of the cruise vessel 1 kilometre off shore when Zodiac vessels in use; and,
- No landings proposed at bird sanctuaries.

The activities and components associated with the previous April 25, 2008 application for amendment and renewal included:

- Renew National Wildlife Area entry permit for an additional three years and include a new CWS Bird Sanctuary permit (No.: NUN-MBS-08-03);
- Alternating use of Zodiac vessels and two helicopters to transport passengers and staff from ship to shore;
- Tours within Quttinirpaaq National Park:

- Tanquary Fiord tour: enter the park via Tanquary Fiord, transport to shore by zodiac for visits to archaeological sites;
- Arctic Adventure tour: enter the park via Lady Franklin Bay, access Fort Conger site for day trip via helicopter;
- Additional ship landings at Iqaluit, Eureka, Pond Inlet, Clyde River, Qikiqtarjuaq, and Pangnirtung; and
- Additional archaeological landings at Beechy Island, Kekerton, Pim Island, Skraeling Island, and Dundas Harbour.

On June 7, 2010 Quark Expeditions applied for a PC Business Licence as part of its requirements for entering Parks Canada boundaries.

The activities and components associated with the April 3, 2014 CWS Bird Sanctuary Permit (NUN-MBS-14-10, NUN-NWA-14-06) and associated NIRB screening included:

- Operation of four cruise itineraries with additional stops including Kimmirut, Cape Dorset, Igloolik, Monumental Island, and the Frobisher Bay Expedition Stop as well as the following community and islands in the Kivalliq region: Coral Harbour, Coats Island, Marble Island and Walrus Island; and
- Authorized entry to the Prince Leopold Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary and Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary.

#### CURRENT APPLICATION:

Quark Expeditions is currently proposing to apply for new Bird Sanctuary Permit with the CWS to conduct cruises for an additional year, including the operation of two cruise itineraries using the *MV Sea Explorer* and *MV Sea Adventurer* vessels, carrying a maximum of 117 passengers and at least 13 staff personnel per ship.

Please note that Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA states that:

*“Any application for a component or activity of a project proposal that has been permitted to proceed in accordance with these provisions shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB unless:*

- (a) such component or activity was not part of the original project proposal; or*
- (b) its inclusion would significantly modify the project.”*

After completing a review of the information provided in support of the current, the NIRB is of the understanding that the proposed renewal does not change the general scope of the original project activities, and the exceptions noted in NLCA 12.4.3(a) and (b) do not apply. Therefore, this application is exempt from the requirement for screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original July 6, 2005 Screening Decision Report and *additional* terms and conditions as issued July 18, 2008 (enclosed).

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact Erika Zell, Assistant Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4622 or [ezell@nirb.ca](mailto:ezell@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ryan Barry  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Bill Davis, Quark Expeditions  
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board  
Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Jane Chisholm, Parks Canada

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 05AN089 (*July 6, 2005*)  
NIRB Amendment and Renewal Issued (*July 18, 2008*)