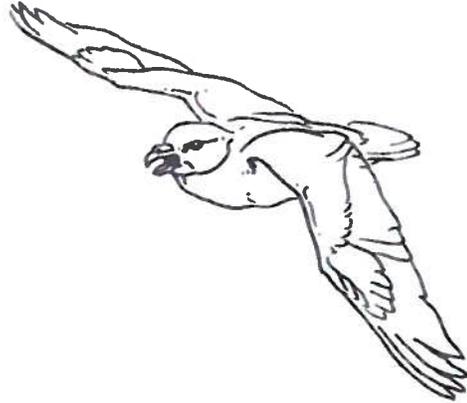




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Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Ms. Siu-Ling Han
Environment Canada, CWS

**RE: Amendment, Mallory CWS Permit NUN-SCI-06-01
NIRB Screening 06YN024**

Ms. Han,

I am requesting an amendment to my CWS Scientific Permit NUN-SCI-06-01, which was screened in 2006 and pertained to work conducted to catch seabirds and take samples to assess their health in the High Arctic. I am in the final year of this 3-year permit, and the only change being requested is that one new location be added to the permit, as described in the following. The original English summary for this work was:

Cape Vera (CV) is a key terrestrial and marine habitats for marine birds in the eastern Arctic, particularly Northern Fulmars and Glaucous Gulls at CV. We know very little about the biology of fulmars (a species thought to be sensitive to the effects of climate change) and for which Canada supports a significant part of the global population and thus has significant international responsibilities. In 2006 we plan to continue to study aspects of reproduction of fulmars and gulls at CV, and to test birds for avian diseases. The sampling will require that we capture birds (up to 50 gulls) and take a small blood sample and swab of the faeces for analysis, before releasing them. We also wish to attach satellite and VHF transmitters on gulls to track their movements and use of various habitats in the eastern Arctic, as we have successfully done last year. We will use the existing field camps established at Cape Vera and Prince Leopold Island.

At that time, the work was planned for 2 field sites, Cape Vera and Prince Leopold Island, and was approved. However, in 2008, we do not plan to work at Cape Vera (that project is complete for now), and instead we

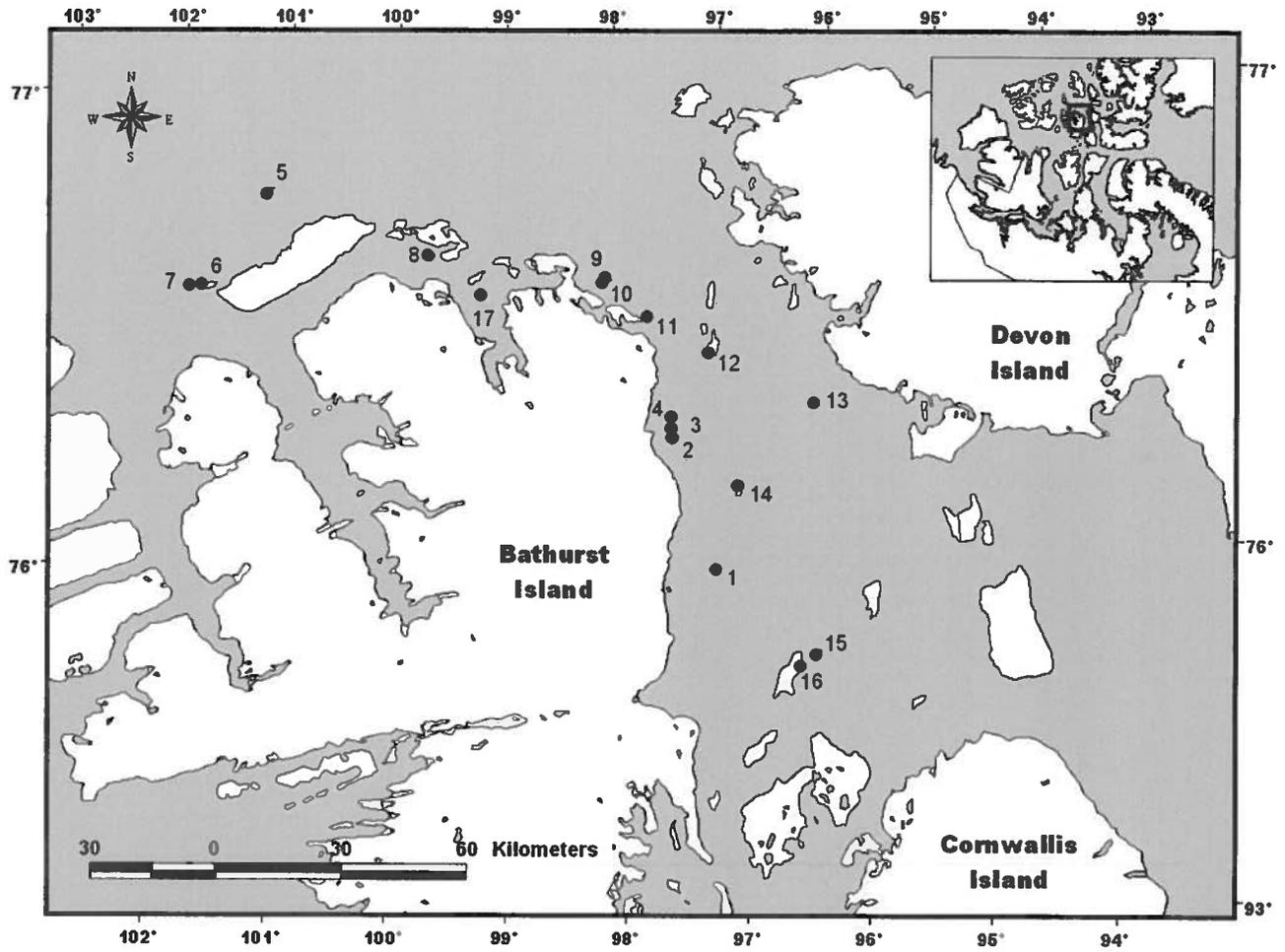
would like to work at a nearby field site north of Cornwallis Island (see attached map) to study Arctic Terns rather than Northern Fulmars.

We will only be doing the blood sampling and cloacal swabs mentioned in the summary above, as well as discrete observations of the birds – we will NOT be attaching any transmitters here as approved for the other species in the original application. So, in effect we are conducting a smaller, subset of the original work, on a different species. We are not conducting the more intrusive work on the terns (not attaching satellite transmitters).

We have submitted a GN territorial wildlife research permit request for this, and all of our permit requests (either federal or territorial permits) for this type of work have been approved since 2000. We met with the Hunters' and Trappers' Association of Resolute Bay (the only community near this new sampling location) to discuss this work in January 2006 (there were no objections to it), and we have FAXed them translated letters updating them on our results and proposed work in their vicinity last year (8 February 2007) and this year (28 March 2008). We have previously conducted traditional knowledge interviews on this seabird work in Resolute Bay (2004), and we have kept the community updated on our work through the annual, translated *Coastlines* information pamphlet.

Given that the community has consistently supported our seabird studies (since the 1970s), that they remain concerned about contaminants and health of wildlife near them, and that they have raised no objections to this work on other seabirds, I am hoping that you can amend the existing permit for this season. I will be submitting a new request for a multi-year permit starting in 2009.

Thank you,
Mark



Proposed site is island 15, ~ 140 km N of Resolute Bay

