



NIRB File No. 10YN058

December 16, 2010

Amie Black
NWRC, Carleton University
1125 Colonel By Dr.
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H3

Via email: amie.black@ec.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Carleton University – Amie Black’s “Detecting Avian Cholera in the Hudson Bay Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima sedentaria*) in the Belcher Archipelago, Nunavut” project proposal

Dear Amie Black:

On December 14, 2010 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received your “Detecting Avian Cholera in the Hudson Bay Common Eider in the Belcher Island Archipelago” project proposal from the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS). The NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **10YN058** - please reference this file number in related future correspondence.

The objective of this proposed research project is to collect samples of Common Eiders over a three week period in the polynyas and leads at the southern end of the Belcher Island Archipelago near Sanikilauq in the Qikiqtani Region. The samples will be analysed for avian cholera, and will indicate whether the disease has reached the wintering grounds of Common Eiders in Nunavut and possibly where the disease originated from.

The proposed activities would include:

- Using snowmobiles to move five people and scientific equipment from a previously established camp near Sanikilauq to the study area;
- Using a helicopter for site to site pick-ups and drop offs;
- Collection and preservation of blood, feather, cloacal and choanal swabs, and tissue (liver, kidney, and lungs) samples from birds harvested by local hunters;
- Opportunistic collection of any dead eiders found in the study area; and
- Shipping samples to a lab at the Veterinary College in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec for cholera analysis.

It is understood that all sewage and waste water generated during the project would be disposed of in sumps at least 150 m from any water body. Combustible non-hazardous waste would be incinerated on site, and all other solid waste will be disposed of at an approved waste disposal site.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal (NIRB File No. 10YN058) can be obtained from the NIRB's ftp site at <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/10YN058-Carleton%20University%20Avian%20Chollera%20Study/01-APPLICATION/> including:

- *NIRB Part 1 Form in English*
- *NIRB Part 1 Form in Inuktitut*
- *CWS Application Form in English*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in Inuktitut*

Pursuant to Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the NIRB shall proceed to screen this project proposal. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process. The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access.

Be advised that the NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by your project proposal. Interested parties are encouraged to comment directly to the NIRB by **January 4, 2011**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic and socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please note that *proposed* project-specific terms and conditions, should the project proceed, have been attached for consideration and comment (**Appendix A**).

Please send your comments to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me directly at (867) 983-4609 or kboa-antwi@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kofi Boa-Antwi, M.Sc.
Assistant Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Jason Akearok, CWS

Attachments: Appendix A – *Proposed* Project Specific Terms and Conditions

Enclosed: Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)

Appendix A

Proposed Project Specific Terms and Conditions

The following is a list of project-specific terms and conditions which, should the project proceed, may be recommended to be attached to any approval.

General

1. Dr. Grant Gilchrist from Carleton University (the Proponent) shall maintain a copy of the Project Terms and Conditions at the site of operation at all times.
2. The Proponent shall forward copies of all permits obtained and required for this project to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) prior to the commencement of the project.
3. The Proponent shall operate in accordance with all commitments stated in correspondence provided to the NIRB (NIRB Part 1 Form, December 3, 2010) and to the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS Permit Application, November 29, 2010).
4. The Proponent shall operate the site in accordance with all applicable Acts, Regulations and Guidelines.

Water

5. The Proponent shall not use water, including constructing or disturbing any stream, lakebed or the banks of any definable water course unless approved by the Nunavut Water Board.

Waste

6. The Proponent shall keep all garbage and debris in bags placed in a covered metal container or equivalent until disposed of. All wastes shall be kept inaccessible to wildlife at all times.
7. The Proponent shall remove all wastes daily to an approved facility for disposal.

Fuel Storage

8. The Proponent shall locate all fuel and other hazardous materials a minimum of thirty-one (31) metres away from the high water mark of any water body and in such a manner as to prevent their release into the environment.
9. The Proponent shall store all chemicals in such a manner that they are inaccessible to wildlife.

10. The Proponent shall ensure that appropriate spill response equipment and clean-up materials (e.g., shovels, pumps, barrels, drip pans, absorbents, etc) are readily available during any transfer of fuel.
11. The Proponent shall report all spills of fuel, or other deleterious materials immediately to the 24 hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.

Wildlife

12. The Proponent shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this operation.
13. The Proponent shall not harass wildlife. This includes persistently worrying or chasing animals, or disturbing large groups of animals. The Proponent shall not hunt or fish, unless proper Nunavut authorizations have been acquired.
14. The Proponent shall not touch, feed or entice wildlife to approach by holding out or setting out decoys or any such devices, foodstuffs or bait of any kind.
15. The Proponent shall restrict aircraft/helicopter activity related to the project to a minimum altitude of 610 metres above ground level unless there is a specific requirement for low-level flying, which does not disturb wildlife and migratory birds.
16. The Proponent shall ensure that aircraft/helicopter do not, unless for emergency, touch-down in areas where wildlife are present.
17. The Proponent shall ensure all project staff are trained in appropriate bear/carnivore detection and deterrent techniques.

Other

18. The Proponent should, to the extent possible, hire local people and consult with local residents regarding their activities in the region.