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Jan. 30, 2017

Larry Adjun
Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Organization
Kugluktuk, NU

Re: CAT-TRAIN project

Dear Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Organization,

This letter is to inform you about a research project we would like to do this spring. With assistance from the Kitnuna Corporation, we want to move three sea containers over the sea ice, and place them at spots we would like to study. The sea containers are research laboratories that have solar and wind power. The containers are owned by the Arctic Research Foundation (ARF), who have been testing them in Cambridge Bay for the last year.

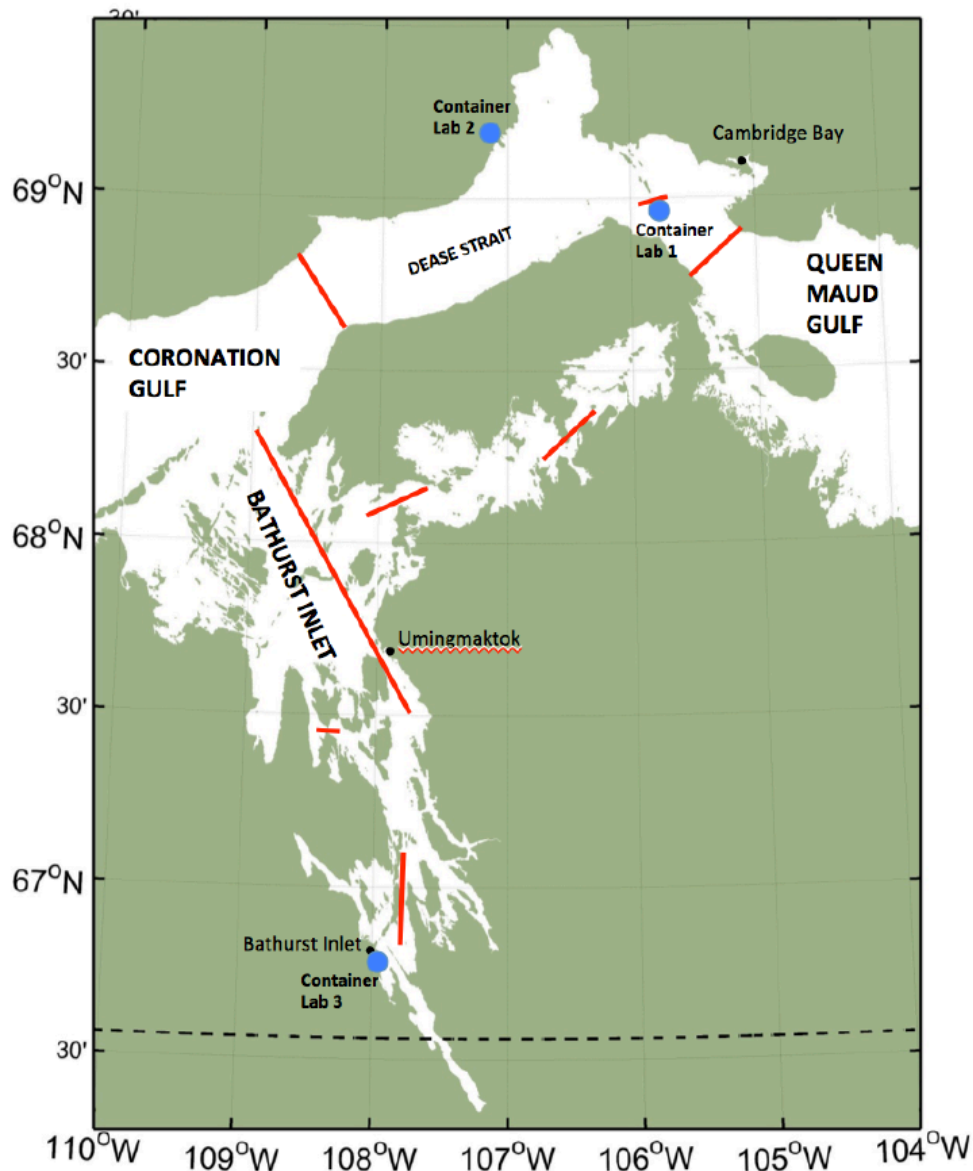


Photo: the ARF science containers at the DEW Line station near Cambridge Bay

The containers will support sea ice and oceanographic research from the University of Manitoba, and a weather station project from the University of Calgary. They will also support Arctic Char research conducted by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and University of British Columbia.

The three possible spots where we would like to place the containers are shown on the map below. Two of the containers will be near Cambridge Bay, and we have talked to the Ekaluktutiak HTO about them. We would like to put a third container in Bathurst Inlet, which is why we are informing the Kugluktuk HTO. We are still deciding exactly where to put the container in Bathurst Inlet, and your input would be greatly appreciated.

While we are moving the containers to these sites, we will collect ice and seawater samples. We will travel with guides or Canadian Rangers to make sure everything is done safely.



Map: Possible station locations, and proposed sampling transects.



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We will apply for all of the necessary permits to conduct the scientific research and place the containers on the land. Our applications will be through the Nunavut Research Institute, the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Nunavut Planning Commission, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada.

At this time, we are seeking support and input from the Kugluktuk HTO. We think that these containers may be useful for the community. For example, they could provide shelter, and power for travellers. We are hoping to have a weather station at each lab, which can be accessed on the internet. We also think they may be useful to improve communications on the land, and help with search and rescue.

The labs are designed to have a very low impact on the environment. They will sit on blocks, which will be the only points of contact with the ground. All of the solar panels and wind generators attach directly to the container. Any waste generated at the site (including human waste) will be bagged and removed.

The labs do have a diesel backup generator, which has a tank capacity of ~70L. We will have a spill kit at the labs in case some fuel is spilled, and there will be a "spill contingency plan" in place. This spill plan is required for our land use permit application, which we are currently working on for the Nunavut Planning Commission. There are also 15 large batteries in the labs. These batteries are "gel-mat" batteries. You may have one for your snowmobile or boat, sometimes they are called "gel-cell" or "AGM" batteries. They are much safer than normal car batteries, because they are non-spillable. Even if they become cracked, they will not leak acid.

If the Board can support this proposal with the current information, we ask you to sign the attached form so we can begin the licensing process. We are available by phone or email to answer any questions about this project.

We look forward to talking to you more about this soon.

Sincerely,

Brent Else

Assistant Professor, University of Calgary

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APPROVAL OF EKALUKTUTIAK HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS ORGANIZATIONS

Project title: CAT TRAIN project

Timeline: April 2017 - Dec 2017

Applicant & Affiliation:

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By signing this page, the chairperson or manager of the Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) board indicates that the applicant has informed the HTO about the nature of the project and that the Ekaluktutiak HTO supports the project.

EKALUKTUTIAK HTO – Cambridge Bay

_____ supports this project

Ekaluktutiak HTO Chairperson or Manager

Date