









1. 2017-06-19  
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 South Baffin

3. 2017-06-19

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Harbour infrastructure	ገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ	5 tons	City Landfill	n/a
Harbour infrastructure	ገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ	500 litres	Return to south in sealed drums or lined bags, transported in shipping containers.	Disposed in accordance with regulatory procedures. Use local company if available
Harbour infrastructure	ገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ	1 ton	City Landfill	n/a
Harbour infrastructure	ገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ ለገጽ	Negligible	On site or City Landfill	n/a

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Impacts have been identified, assessed and categorized as per NIRB requirements for the SCH and Causeway Study Areas. The first step of the methodology involved the definition of construction activities and environmental components. Where there was an interaction between the construction activity and the environmental component, a potential environmental impact was identified. These potential environmental impacts were then assessed using the baseline data and information collected on the environmental components and experience, scientific literature and engineering documentation of the construction and operational activities. Where an impact was identified, mitigation measures were determined. Mitigation measures can include avoidance, minimization, restoration and offsetting. Mitigation measures were implemented through changes in engineering design, construction planning and additional specific measures. Monitoring has been defined to support these mitigations.



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The majority of the materials and equipment required for the construction of the Project will arrive on the annual sealift provided by Nunavut Eastern Arctic Shipping (NEAS) and Nunavut Sealink and Supply Inc. (NSSI). Dry sealift cargo is currently brought ashore by lightering barge and offloaded with front end loaders at the Sealift Beach at the north end of Koojesse Inlet. Construction materials for the Project will be stored in construction yard, although the location is not yet known as the Contractor has not been selected. It is anticipated that the Contractor will need to rent or arrange for the use of suitably zoned industrial property for the construction yard, probably along Akilliq Road, as there will not be sufficient storage space on the Project site at the start of construction. The Contractor will use the construction yard to store construction materials and equipment received from the Sealift Beach for the duration of the Project or until such time as there is sufficient space at the Project site. When construction materials are required at the SCH site they will be shipped from the construction yard. Rock will be transported by truck from the rock cut area near the existing causeway to the SCH site (see Figure 1 4). Construction personnel and miscellaneous consumables will arrive in Iqaluit through the Iqaluit Airport (YFB). YFB is a significant hub in the Canadian Arctic with scheduled passenger and cargo flights to several southern airports. Given the volume of flights between Iqaluit and the south, it is not anticipated that the Project will have an impact on airport operations or flight availability. Similar to sealift cargo, cargo arriving by air will be transported along Akilliq Road to the construction yard or directly to the SCH site (see Figure 1 4). Following completion of the Project, the level and type of marine use at the SCH and the existing causeway is not expected to vary significantly from current operations. However, the increased functionality of the existing causeway (all tide access) may shift more users to this facility.

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Construction personnel are anticipated to be housed locally and will be shuttled to and from the SCH site using crew vans or busses on a daily basis.

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The list of anticipated construction equipment, including size and proposed use, required for the construction of the Project is provided in Photo 1 1 and Table 1 3. Sample photos of key equipment are provided in Photo 1 1. Note that although the use of marine-based equipment is not currently anticipated as being required for construction; requirements may change depending on site conditions and the contractor's preferred work methods. Equipment used at the SCH or existing causeway following completion of the Project is not expected to change from current operations at either site.

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Water for construction use will be obtained from the existing water supply infrastructure in Iqaluit. It is anticipated that water will be delivered by the City trucked water service, local contracted water truck, or contractor's own water truck. The Project will not withdraw or discharge freshwater from or in the environment. Estimated water use during construction is only 2 m3 per day, for approximately 100 days (total) during construction. This excludes water use by construction personnel while off-site (at hotel/accommodations in Iqaluit). Water is anticipated to be needed for the following uses: Dust control to supplement other dust suppression techniques Drinking water and sanitary facilities Earthworks (for compaction if necessary) Equipment wash-down During operation of the SCH and existing causeway, water consumption by facility users is not expected to vary significantly from the current water demands.

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Excluding wastewater generated by construction personnel while off-site (at hotel/accommodations in Iqaluit), construction will not produce significant volumes of wastewater. Anticipated total wastewater production for the Project is expected to be approximately 200 m3, including both sewage (human waste) from on-site sanitary facilities and grey water (NPC, 2017b). Wastewater will be managed through holding tanks in the on-site sanitary facilities and lunch room and will be transported by either the City's sewage truck or the contractor's own sewage truck and disposed of in the City's existing sewage lagoon. During operation of the SCH and existing causeway, there will be no wastewater reception at either the SCH or causeway. Users of the facility will manage wastewater on their boats as per current operations.

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For the construction of the Project it is anticipated that the Contractor will use existing fuel infrastructure in Iqaluit for supply and storage. Fuel will be drawn from the City's fuel storage tanks on an as-needed basis using the Contractor's own fuel truck. Refuelling of mobile equipment will take place in designated fuelling areas within the construction yard and laydown area, once constructed, or at the mobile equipment's location on the Project site. Propane fuel may also be necessary for portable heaters. Propane will be delivered on the annual sealift and stored in the Contractor's laydown yard, secured in metal cylinders racks in a designated storage area. Estimated fuel consumption for the construction of the Project is presented in Table 1 5.

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Table 1 6 presents the anticipated chemical or hazardous materials required for the construction of the Project. During operation of the SCH and existing causeway, handling of chemicals and hazardous materials by facility users is not expected to vary significantly from the current operations.

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Approximately 30 workers will be required throughout construction. Approximately 350 work days are required to complete the Project. The workforce will be comprised of skilled and semi-skilled labour as follows: heavy equipment operators; crane operator; welder; marine deckhand; tug operator; mechanic; electrician; and general labourers. Work rotations are presently unknown and will be determined by the Contractor. Accommodations for non-local workers will be provided by existing hotel and short term apartment rentals during construction. A construction camp will not be required. During construction, the Project will utilize the existing scheduled sealift deliveries for mobilization of equipment and will use available flights to move the workforce to and from Iqaluit. The Project will comply with the newly revised CN's Nunavummi Nannginiqatunuk

Ikajuuti (NNI) Policy (April 1, 2017) (NNI, 2017) and aims to maximize participation of Inuit labour and Inuit owned businesses on the Project. The Project will also comply with all training requirements under the NNI Policy and offer necessary training to maximize Inuit participation in the Project. The Project has provided Nunavut Inuit with employment and training opportunities as wildlife monitors and field technicians since the initiation of the environmental and geotechnical baseline data collection and engineering design in 2016. Further, the Project has provided presentations and field training opportunities on geotechnical drilling and engineering design to Arctic College Environmental Technology students. The Project anticipates that the community will see further economic benefits and training opportunities with the hiring of local labour. In addition, there will be secondary economic benefits through the Project's expenditures in hotels and businesses.

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2.1 Consultation Objectives CGS and EDT have taken an integrated approach to consultation on the Project to ensure that development will serve the needs of the community including Nunavut Inuit, hunters, fishers, recreational users, residents, businesses and outfitters while staying within the allocated funding from the Governments of Canada and Nunavut. The integrated approach serves to solicit and consider feedback and recommendations from the community and users of the municipal breakwater and causeway. The Project is conducting a robust consultation program based on the following objectives: Support the Project through planning and design to execution and construction. Identify all potentially affected and interested parties as early as possible. Identify project effects and mitigation measures, including input to Project design and management plan procedures. Integrate community input and mitigate concerns and issues through design modifications and improvements. Integrate community values, interests and goals into engineering design of the marine infrastructure. Establish and maintain a positive relationship with Nunavut Inuit, residents, outfitters, community groups and others based on mutual respect. Ensure local knowledge and Inuit Qaujimatjuqangit (IQ) is valued and incorporated in Project design, assessment, and management planning. Provide timely and relevant information pertaining to the nature and scope of the Project, permitting process and engineering design. Provide meaningful opportunities for Nunavut Inuit, City Mayor and Council, community members, outfitters and others to review the proposed Project, ask questions, and provide input into its planning and design. The design and implementation of the consultation program has also been guided by the following Inuit Societal Values (ISV) and principles of IQ as set out by the GN (Government of Nunavut, 2013a): Inuuqatigiitsiarniq (respecting others, relationships and caring for people); Tunnganarniq (fostering good spirit by being open, welcoming and inclusive); Pijitsirniq (serving and providing for family or community, or both); Aajiqatigiinni (decision making through discussion and consensus); Pilimmaksarniq or Pijariuqsarniq (development of skills through practice, effort and action); Piliriqatigiinni or Ikajuqatigiinni (working together for a common cause); Qanuqtuurniq (being innovative and resourceful); and Avatittinnik Kamatsiarniq (respect and care for the land, animals and the environment).

2.2 Communities, Groups and Organizations The following community, groups, and organizations have been identified as being potentially affected by this Project: City of Iqaluit – Mayor and Council City of Iqaluit Departments – Planning and Development, Economic Development, Engineering and Sustainability, Emergency Services HTA Residents of Iqaluit (general public) Local businesses Sinaakuut Support Group (SSG) BWG Outfitters Recreational boaters

2.3 Regulatory Authorities, Boards and Inuit Association Consultation The Project team has engaged with relevant RAs from the federal, territorial, and municipal governments; Inuit Boards; and the regional Inuit Association. Engagement with these organizations is essential for ensuring compliance with all relevant legislation, policies and procedures. The following agencies and boards have received Project overviews and updates since the Project received funding in September 2016: Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) City of Iqaluit Planning and Development Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) GN Culture and Heritage NPC DFO NIRB INAC NWB TC Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) NRCan GN Department of Environment Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)

2.4 Consultation Overview The consultation program was designed to ensure that hunters, fishers, residents, and other community groups/organizations were consulted using a variety of methods and materials. This included formal and informal meetings, semi-structured interviews, workshops, a boaters' working group, shoreline residents' meetings, and public open houses. The materials used included presentations, pamphlets, community notices, non-technical project summaries, engineering design drawings, and maps that were written in English and Inuktitut. Community notices were provided in English, Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun and French as per GN policy. To date, the community has been very engaged in the Project and has provided input into design on numerous occasions. The input has been carefully considered and design modifications have been made based on feedback from design workshops with HTA, the BWG, meetings with shoreline residents and Open Houses. At the request of community members attending the Open House on March 1, 2017, the BWG was formed to provide input from various users (hunters, outfitters, recreational) directly to CGS, EDT, the Project's Lead Marine Engineer and consultation team. Attendees at the meetings were pleased to see these design modifications being made to reflect concerns and recommendations expressed by the community. CGS' collaborative approach to consultation has reflected ISV and the principles of IQ, in particular: respect for others; being open and inclusive; decision making through discussion and consensus; working together for a common cause; being innovative; and, having respect for the environment. The result has been a Project that meets the needs of the community and supports Pijitsirniq – serving and providing for family or community, or both. Table 2.1 outlines the key groups engaged as well as the method and dates of engagement. A detailed list of all consultation events and feedback received to date is provided in the Community Consultation Log, (Advisian, 2017d) as summarized in Section 7.5.

2.5 Concerns Expressed in Consultation and Strategies to Address Concerns Table 2.2 provides a summary of the concerns expressed by the community during consultation to date and a summary of the strategies employed to address the topics raised during consultation. The consultation program was very successful in gathering input from community residents, hunters, fishers and other users of the SCH. The input received resulted in design modifications to meet the needs of the community while respecting ISV and IQ. Further, the input received provided a basis for the development of mitigation measures to address concerns during construction and operation of the SCH, including development of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), as described in Section 7.3. As mentioned above, a detailed list of all consultation events and feedback received to date is provided in the Community Consultation Log (Advisian, 2017d), as summarized in Section 7.5.

2.6 Future Consultation CGS and EDT will continue to engage with the City leadership and administration, City Planning and Development, community members, the QIA and the HTA. Additionally, and as per the recommendation from QIA, CGS and EDT will engage with the Community, Land and Resources Committee (CLARC), as required. CGS and EDT will provide Project updates to the City Mayor and Council and continue to build on the positive and constructive relationship they have built with the community. Specifically, CGS and EDT will continue to work with the community and engage with the City, HTA and residents on: Engineering design. Permits, approvals and licenses. Construction schedule and sequencing of activities. Akilliik Road and causeway parking and road use. Beach shacks and parking at the municipal breakwater. Marine traffic and navigation. Contractor environmental and traffic management plans. City's services and delivery to shoreline homes along Sinaa Street. Employment and training opportunities. Operations planning including maintenance of the floating docks and facilities. Consultation will be ongoing throughout the life of the Project. Further consultation will be undertaken specific to the regulatory permitting processes as described in Section 1.2. In particular, as engineering design progresses, consultation will continue in relation to the City of Iqaluit rezoning, TC NPA and DFO FAA processes, if required. The NPA and FAA processes may require further consultation with TC, and DFO and may require further consultation with QIA, HTA and the community. Once the tender process is initiated for construction and the Contractor is engaged to construct the SCH, consultation with the community, HTA, City, hospital, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), CCG and outfitters will take place. This engagement will include timing and methodology of construction activities and traffic management as well as emergency services, community service delivery, security of the construction site, and equipment and material storage. Additionally, the Contractor will work with the community to maximize local labour force and business opportunities.

2.7 Traditional Knowledge Inuit traditional knowledge has been an essential component in the Project's design, decision-making and environmental screening processes. To date, IQ has been gathered during: One Project meeting with the HTA in September 2016. One key elder meeting in November 2016. Two design workshops with the HTA in November 2016 and March 2017. Two design workshops with the BWG in April and May 2017. The first meeting in September 2016 concentrated on updating the HTA on the proposed





centred on the Soper Heritage River and protects distinct landscapes and vegetation communities (Nunavut Department of Environment, 2008). The Study Areas do not occur within any Important Bird Areas (IBA) (IBA Canada, 2016), Key Bird and Habitat Sites (Environment Canada, 2014; NPC, 2016), or Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSA, Convention on Biological Diversity, 2017; DFO, 2011). Such areas do occur in the region but are >100 km from the SCH Study Area near the mouth of Frobisher Bay. The Meta Incognita Peninsula is a Wildlife Area of Special Interest, due to its importance as a nesting area for gyrfalcon and peregrine falcon (Nunami Stantec, 2012). It is 32,914 km<sup>2</sup> in size and includes the Study Areas and much of Frobisher Bay, Sylvia Grinnell Territorial Park, and Iqaluit. Figures showing the location of the designated areas described are provided within the Terrestrial and Human Environmental Baseline Report (Advisian, 2017a).

#### 4.1.2 Geological Site Conditions

The Study Areas are situated over the Pre-Cambrian rock of the Canadian Shield (Geological Survey of Canada, 2012), comprising granulite facies granitoids (de Kemp et al., 2006). Within Koojesse Inlet, the tidal flats were formed postglacially and the surface veneer is characterized by a mixture of fine silty sand with coarser sand and pebble clasts, with varying density and groupings of boulders (Hatcher et al., 2014). Along the immediate shoreline of the Study Areas, exposed bedrock and postglacial littoral and nearshore sediments deposited during sea-level regression are present (site observations; Allard et al., 2012). The geotechnical investigation confirmed that there are no serpentinite, argillite, or soapstone (as per the definition of carving stone within the Nunavut Agreement). During consultation with the HTA it was confirmed that carving stone is not collected in the Causeway Study Area and that the bedrock is granite, which is not typically used for carving and is abundant. An assessment of ARD and ML potential was conducted on rock samples representative of the major rock types identified within the proposed rock cut area for the Project. Static ARD/ML testing results indicated low long-term potential for acid generation and metal release to rock materials from the proposed rock cut locations. Methods and results (include lab analysis) are provided within the Terrestrial and Human Environment Baseline Report (Advisian, 2017a).

#### 4.1.3 Surface Features

The SCH Study Area is comprised of a low shoreline, characterized by a prominent bedrock outcrop to the immediate southeast. The municipal breakwater is a man-made feature and is extensively used summer and winter. The tidal flats are low gradient and are covered with boulders and cobbles of varying densities and groupings (Photo 3 1). Some isolated outcropping bedrock occurs at ground surface level within the tidal flats and these tidal flats extend seaward leading into the deeper channels of the inlet. The surface features at the Causeway Study Area comprise a prominent bedrock exposure that extends seaward from the shoreline. The existing causeway is also extensively used during the ice free months. The shoreline is characterized by whale-back outcrops, generally massive to blocky and inferred to be smoothed by glacial processes. There has been no significant shoreline change in the Study Areas due to natural events (erosion) and no significant erosion or deposition identified in the Study Areas (Hatcher et al., 2014). A review of the available aerial imagery did not identify any evidence of thermokarsts or standing water in the proposed Study Areas. Additionally no features were observed in the ground surface that may be derived from ice lenses such as cracks, and the surface at this location shows nothing that would be characterized as an esker or kame. No obvious surface features were observed associated with permafrost, however ice bodies in permafrost may be occasionally present in the shoreline sediments (Allard et al., 2012).

#### 4.1.4 Ground Stability and Permafrost

Iqaluit is in the Continuous Permafrost Zone; ground that remains at or below 0°C for at least two consecutive years (Tarnocai and Bockheim, 2011). The ground may consist of one or more of the following: soil, rock, ice or organic material. The permafrost of Baffin Island uplands has been estimated to be 400 to 700 m thick (Aarluk, 2012) with a surface active layer that can vary widely from less than 1 m in wet soils to greater than 5 m in rock outcrop. Permafrost conditions in Iqaluit are highly variable spatially and with depth (LeBlanc et al., 2015) and a generalised map (that does not show localized changes in permafrost) shows ice rich permafrost in the silt rich shoreline deposits at the SCH Study Area but not for the Causeway Study Area (Government of Nunavut, 2013b). Surficial mapping indicates that ice wedges in permafrost may be occasionally present in the postglacial shoreline deposits and that permafrost may also be present in the recent shoreline deposits (Allard et al., 2012). A permafrost monitoring borehole was established in Iqaluit in these relatively dry littoral and nearshore sediments (LeBlanc et al., 2015), although the exact location is unknown. Thermistor cable readings in this borehole showed the mean annual ground temperature (over five climatic years) is approximately -3.0°C at 8.0 m. The annual range of the ground temperature at this location is 7°C (from approximately 1.0°C to -6.0°C) and the estimated active layer thickness is approximately 1.50 m (LeBlanc et al., 2015). The geotechnical investigation undertaken in fall 2016 focused on soil conditions in the intertidal areas by drilling on the tidal flats. Boreholes drilled gave no indication of permafrost in boreholes drilled up to 10 m deep. Additionally, surficial geological mapping indicated that permafrost is not present within the intertidal deposits (Allard et al., 2012). A drilling and sampling program was conducted in 2017 to evaluate soil and rock conditions near the Causeway Study Area. The results will be reported in the Geotechnical Site Investigation Report (Advisian, in Progress).

#### 4.1.5 Hydrology

The Study Areas are located within the Frobisher Bay Watershed. This watershed lies between East Bluff (the southeastern extreme of Baffin Island on the Meta Incognita Peninsula), at the southern entrance to Frobisher Bay and an unnamed point on Hall Peninsula (at the northern entrance to Frobisher Bay (NWB, 2014). The Study Areas for the SCH and Causeway are predominately in the marine environment only extending a short distance beyond the shoreline. There are no freshwater waterbodies (e.g. lakes or creeks) occurring in the Causeway Study Area. At the SCH Study Area there is only an unnamed creek, which discharges between the proposed breakwaters of the SCH and flows across the tidal flats. The Project does not involve any changes to this creek.

#### 4.1.6 Air Quality

To determine baseline air quality for the area, previous air quality monitoring data collected in the City was reviewed. Air quality was monitored between June 14 and September 22, 2014 to investigate potential environmental and public health risks associated with a landfill fire in Iqaluit (Health Canada, 2014). Particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO), PM<sub>2.5</sub>-associated metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAHs), dioxins/furans, and polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs), were measured (Health Canada, 2014). The measurements were compared to Nunavut air quality standards (Government of Nunavut, 2011). The concentrations measured by Health Canada were over different averaging periods than those defined by Nunavut Air Quality Standards (Government of Nunavut, 2011). Therefore concentrations were compared to all averaging periods. Concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, and CO were below any of the Nunavut air quality standards (Table 4 1). SO<sub>2</sub> was at levels below the detection limit for the methods used. Occasional peaks in hourly average PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were observed as high as 85 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (Health Canada, 2014).

#### 4.1.7 Noise

Noise data specific to the Study Areas was not available. It is assumed that for the Study Areas, noise would be generated from a number of sources including automobiles, aircrafts and ATVs/snowmobiles that are used in the City. The SCH project site is adjacent to Sinaa Street, which is currently used frequently by trucks and other vehicles accessing the municipal breakwater and nearby residential and commercial properties. The area is also frequently used in winter by snowmobiles accessing the ice and is close to the airport. The Causeway Study Area is located near the existing bulk fuels and anchorage and receiving facilities at Inuit Head. The sources described may emit noise for short periods of time and noise effects diminish with distance from a source. For example, a jet (which likely would be the highest source of baseline noise) taking off produces an instantaneous noise level of approximately 130 dBA at 100 m distance. The City recently enacted a Noise by law #599 (City of Iqaluit, 2015a) that restricts construction activities overnight (11:00 pm to 7:00 am). The by-law does not include any restriction on noise levels.

#### 4.1.8 Climate Conditions

Iqaluit is located within the Northern Arctic Ecozone and is one of the coldest and driest landscapes in Canada (Ecological Stratification Working Group, (ESWG, 1995)). Climate is very cold and dry. Snow falls in all months of the year and persists on the ground for at least 10 months (September to June). Mean daily temperature is -9.3o C (Standard Deviation: ±3.7oC) over the year, but ranges from -26.9oC in January to 8.2o C in July (Government of Canada, 2016). Mean daily minimum and maximum temperatures in January are -30.9oC and -22.8oC respectively (Government of Canada, 2016). In July, mean daily minimum is 4.1oC and mean daily maximum is 12.3oC (Government of Canada, 2016). The freezing index for Iqaluit is approximately 6,500 degree days and the thawing index is approximately 1,000 degree days (Boyd, 1976). Average relative humidity is 76.7% and is slightly higher during the spring, summer, and fall (May to September) compared to the winter (December to February). Mean annual precipitation is 403.7 mm. Mean monthly precipitation ranges from 18.7 mm in February to 69.5 mm in August (Government of Canada, 2016). Precipitation mostly falls as snow (229.3 cm) with only 197.2 mm falling as rain (Government of Canada, 2016). On average, snow depth over the course of the year is 14 cm but ranges from 31 cm in April to being clear of snow during the summer (July to September) (Government of Canada, 2016). The nearest wind station to the Study Areas is the ECCC station at YFB (Climate ID 2402590) approximately 3 km north. During the open-water season, the most frequent winds are from the east-southeast through to south-southeast sectors (30.7% of the time), followed by winds from the northwest and north-northwest 25.0% of the time.



early or late spring (ECCC, 2016b). Because of natural variability in nesting, the timing could vary by up to ten days; moreover, the period above does not include a nest building phase which generally occurs two weeks prior (ECCC, 2016b). Although few birds were observed within the terrestrial portion of the Study Areas, several large congregations (each >500 individuals) of marine birds were observed approximately 1 km from shore off the existing causeway. These birds were congregated around some rocky islands at low tide and Inuit field technicians informed the ecologist they were foraging on sculpin (Family: Cottoidea). It is clear this nearshore environment near the Study Areas offers foraging habitat. However, nesting habitat for these marine birds is largely unsuitable. Many marine birds nest in large colonies on remote, precipitous cliffs and remote islands that are inaccessible to predators (Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 2016a, 2016b). Although the majority of marine birds are unlikely to be breeding in the Study Areas, 21 species could potentially use inter-tidal and nearshore habitats in the SCH Study Area for foraging (Advisian, 2017c). The use of this habitat may occur during migration on-route from breeding areas or during the breeding season when adults are brooding young. Given most marine birds are also migratory, it is expected most will only use this area for short periods of time to forage following breeding and on-route during migration. King eider (*Somateria spectabilis*), common eider (*Somateria mollissima*), long-tailed duck (*Clangula hyemalis*), and black guillemot (*Cephus grille*) have potential to forage in nearshore environments over-winter. However, these species are dependent on ice-free areas to access food; thus occur at the floe-edge (Gilchrist and Robertson, 2000). Given that freeze-up near Iqaluit is generally complete by November and lasts until break-up at the start of June (Advisian, 2017c), the over-wintering species that forage in nearshore environments are unlikely to occur at this time in Koojesse Inlet.

#### 4.2.4 Fish Habitat (including Marine Vegetation)

Intertidal surveys were conducted at low tide, and the subtidal seabed survey was conducted with a towed video camera. The details of survey methodology are provided in Advisian (2017c). The intertidal survey consisted of five perpendicular to shore transects conducted in the fall of 2015. The subtidal survey was conducted in the fall of 2015 and consisted of three transects which were perpendicular to shore. The substrates observed within the SCH Study Area were largely sand with scattered boulders in the intertidal and subtidal environment. Abundance and distribution of seaweed in the high to mid intertidal areas was low, which is characteristic of Arctic environments (Stephenson, 1954), due to ice scour. Typically, the ice scour also influences the shallow subtidal waters, where the daily tidal fluctuations will similarly scour the substrate. In the low intertidal there was a rapid increase in the density and coverage of rockweed (50 to 80%) with low densities of sugar wrack kelp (approximately 5 to 10%). In the subtidal, there were occasional patches of kelp observed in an otherwise low diversity area. Within the intertidal area where boulders were present outside of the boat basin, they typically were associated with cryptic species such as amphipods. A habitat map combining the results of the intertidal and subtidal field surveys is provided in Figure 4 2. The extent to which seaweeds provide three dimensional habitat for marine organisms has not been well studied in the Arctic, however, it is an established concept in temperate and tropical environments (Brown et al., 2011; Cristie et al., 2003; Warfe et al., 2008; Wikstrom and Kautsky, 2007). Włodarska-Kowalczyk et al. (2009) hypothesize that holdfasts of larger kelps provide refuge for organisms, such as amphipods, from ice scour events. It is likely that established seaweed beds are important for a variety of life stages of marine species occurring in the coastal waters of Koojesse Inlet, specifically as outlined in Section 4.2.5 for Arctic char (*Salvelinus alpinus*) and Arctic cod (*Boreogadus saida*), and for their prey. Furthermore, they are significant primary producers, and thus play an important role in a short open-water season (Glud et al., 2002). Seaweeds are not harvested by residents of Iqaluit. There were no targeted field surveys conducted in the Causeway Study Area, however, the area to the south was surveyed for the DSP Project and the substrate is similar. Seaweed cover in the low intertidal to the south of the existing causeway consists of rockweed (50 to 80%), with low densities of sugar wrack kelp (*Saccharina latissima*) and sieve kelp (*Agarum clathratum*, 5 to 10%) also observed. However, based on aerial imagery Google Earth (2006) the intertidal area within the Causeway Study Area has less seaweed and this is likely related to use and maintenance of the existing causeway (Figure 4 3). The subtidal substrate transitions to soft sediments (sand) with scattered and clustered boulders. The unnamed creek that discharges to the SCH, and is the only freshwater within the Study Areas, is not fish bearing and therefore freshwater fish habitat is not assessed further.

#### 4.2.5 Fish (including Migration/Spawning)

The coastal marine environment fronting the SCH and Causeway Study Areas is being used by migratory species such as Arctic char and Arctic cod. Arctic char are an important subsistence and commercial fishery species in Nunavut, who have both a lacustrine and amphidromous life history. Amphidromous Arctic char live primarily in fresh water, and migrate to the ocean for a short summer migration (~20 to 45 days) (Bégout Anras et al., 1999; Klemetsen et al., 2003). For familiarity of terms, the term anadromous will be used, while recognizing this important distinction. The primary purpose of the summer seaward migration is to increase energy reserves and during migration they may double their body mass (Jørgensen et al., 1997). Migration is typically over a relatively short period of ~20 to 45 days (Bégout Anras et al., 1999; Klemetsen et al., 2003). It is generally accepted that Arctic char migrating through Koojesse Inlet are from the Sylvia Grinnell River (SGR) and potentially from the Armshow River, where a research collaboration is underway between DFO and the HTA. The current program initiated in the open-water season of 2015 and is set conclude in 2019 (DFO, 2017). Spares et al. (2012) conducted an acoustic telemetry study in Frobisher Bay on Arctic char migrating from the SGR and Armshow River (24 km southwest of Iqaluit), which showed that Arctic char are migrating through the inner Koojesse Inlet. The eastward migration of the SGR fish stock is supported by the mark-recapture efforts of Vangerwen-Toyne et al. (2013). Spares et al. (2012) found that Arctic char spent the majority of time in less than 3 m of water and hypothesized this to be a strategy to optimize prey and temperature regimes. However, frequent diving behaviour into deeper waters (~10 m) also occurred, which was assumed to be motivated by food availability. Prey of Arctic char included fish (capelin, northern sand lance), crustaceans (mysids, amphipods, and decapods), polychaetes, and insects (Guiguer et al., 2002; Johnson, 1989; Moore and Moore, 1974; Rikardsen and Elliot, 2000). Spares et al. (2012) found that the most common prey for this species in Koojesse Inlet were amphipods. Amphipods were observed in the intertidal areas of the SCH Study Area during the 2015 Marine field survey, with higher densities noted in the in and around boulders and rocks. Arctic char spawn in freshwater in September and October over a gravel substrate, where eggs incubate under the ice for approximately six months, and spend their early life history in freshwater (DFO, 2014). The SGR is approximately 3 km west of Iqaluit. Based on research and IQ, the SGR Arctic char migration (Callagher and Dick, 2010) and associated fishing (IQ workshop) begins in late June. Residents of the City fish for Arctic char along most available coastline areas, which include areas within the SCH and Causeway Study Areas (Figure 4 3). Seine nets are the preferred fishing gear along the coastline of for both Study Areas (IQ Workshop: March 2017), however, along the east shore of Peterhead Inlet some angling may occur (Callagher and Dick, 2010). It is thought that Arctic char can be caught in numerous locations along the coast, and the Study Areas are not being targeted as a high density area for Arctic char (IQ Workshop: March 2017). Spares et al. (2012) concluded that SGR Arctic char do not migrate far from their natal river. From other studies in Nunavut, Arctic char prefer migrating along coastlines as opposed to across water bodies (Moore et al., 2016; Moore, 1975), and are typically found within 30 km from natal rivers (Bégout Anras et al., 1999). The SGR fishery is co-managed by the HTA, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB), Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., and DFO (Callagher and Dick, 2010) and is used for recreational and subsistence purposes only. There are no exploratory commercial fisheries occurring at this time. The commercial fishery for Arctic char from the SGR has been closed since the late 1960s, with the current fishery being exclusive to subsistence and recreational fishing (DFO, 2013). Arctic char fisheries are managed on the assumption that each river system supports a discrete fish stock (Kristofferson et al., 1984). Research is underway to study the SGR stock through the DFO-HTA SGR collaboration. Arctic cod (*Boreogadus saida*) are a pelagic marine species that are believed to be the single most important species in the trophic link between plankton, marine birds and marine mammals in the Arctic ecosystem (Welch et al., 1992). This species is exclusively marine, and the extent of their migratory behaviours are not fully understood, with the exception of a pre-spawning late summer migration to coastal waters (FAO, 2017). They are known to be concentrated at floe edges prior to break-up (Bradstreet, 1982; Gradinger and Bluhm, 2004). The floe edge in Frobisher Bay is located at the Frobisher Bay polynya (> 180 km southeast of the SCH Study Area). Arctic cod have the potential to be using the coastal waters of the SCH and Causeway Study Areas during the open-water season; however, they are likely to be more transient in nature than Arctic char. A large school of Arctic cod was observed southeast of the Causeway Study Area during the 2015 Marine field survey (Advisian, 2017c) (see Figure 4 2). Arctic cod are harvested for subsistence purposes, although not to the same extent as Arctic char, and the degree of their importance is more variable between communities. This species is considered to be inferior to Arctic char as indicated by the following quote, "The cod's poor diet and high water content leads to poorer tasting meat and shorter preservation," (Hurubise, 2016; p43, pers comm July 13 2015). While the primary effort for subsistence fishing targets Arctic



of 12.7% and the national average of 5.0%, this indicates that the City is growing quickly (Statistics Canada, 2017). According to 2011 census data, the total aboriginal population was 4,110 individuals, including 3,895 Inuit, which is 58.1% of the City's population (Statistics Canada, 2012). According to the 2011 National Housing Survey, of the total population 15 years and over, 17.0% were high school graduates (or equivalents); 6.9% held apprenticeship or trades certificates; and 20.4% had graduated from a University with a bachelor level degree or higher (Statistics Canada, 2013). According to 2011 Census data, the unemployment rate in Iqaluit was 9.2% and participation was 78.7% (Statistics Canada, 2012). These rates were not disaggregated further by cultural groups. However, according to Statistics Canada's 2015 Annual Labour Force Update for Nunavut, although Inuit accounted for about 80% of the working-age population in Nunavut that year, on average they accounted for only 68% of the total employed individuals in the Territory (Statistics Canada, 2016). Iqaluit enjoys a fairly diverse economy. As the government centre and territorial capital of Nunavut, government is the dominant employer and public administration jobs occupy 43.5% the workforce in Iqaluit (Statistics Canada, 2013). The traditional subsistence economy remains important in Iqaluit, albeit less so when compared to the smaller, more northern communities on Baffin Island (Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation, 2012). Many households still engage in subsistence activities at least part time (City of Iqaluit, 2015b).

#### 4.3.3 Land and Resource Use

##### 4.3.3.1 Harvesting

Land use information in and around the SCH and Causeway Study Areas obtained during the HTA design workshops and discussions with local hunters has been provided in Figure 4 4. Traditional subsistence activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering remain important in Iqaluit. However, information obtained from the HTA indicated that subsistence harvesting occurring within the City is limited and mainly involves fishing along the shoreline (Figure 4 4). Arctic char is an important species for subsistence and commercial fishing in Iqaluit. The HTA stated that typically hunters do not harvest bivalves in Koojesse Inlet because they are concerned about contamination from the wastewater treatment plant discharge and it would be a rare occurrence to see anyone harvesting clams in the area anymore (HTA Member pers. comm. March 2017). The availability of traditionally harvested foods (country food) is crucial in that it lowers the demand for imported food which is very costly and typically less nutritious. Additionally, the harvesting, preparation, and distribution of meat and skins provide important opportunities to maintain and enhance Inuit culture.

##### 4.3.3.2 Access and Navigation

Small craft access to Koojesse Inlet is predominately from the municipal breakwater at high tide, and at the existing causeway by boaters with trailers at low tide. The access to the municipal breakwater is within a residential neighbourhood and is accessed by both motorized and non-motorized boat users for traditional harvesting, outfitting and recreational activities. The road to the municipal breakwater provides access to residential homes and can become extremely congested during boat launching and take-out times (Photo 4 1). The road lacks sufficient parking areas and cars can line the shoulder of the road blocking access to residential houses (SSG pers. comm. November 2016), when waiting for access to the launching ramp. The congestion at the municipal breakwater is caused by the fact that people launch and return at the same time due to factors such as tides/winds, daylight hours, working hours and days of the week, in particular on Sunday (SSG pers. comm. November 2016). According to the HTA and local outfitters, approximately 60 to 70% of users have boat trailers. Local hunters without boat trailers depend on the high tides to access the water. A recent informal boat count by a local outfitter noted that of 231 boats counted, 191 (or 83%) were on trailers. It would appear that in the summer a "majority of these boats are launched just prior to being used and are taken back out of the water upon returning to the community," (Local Outfitter pers. comm. May 2017). For boat owners with trailers, the existing causeway is used as an alternative to the municipal breakwater for launching and take-out and provides some parking space for trucks with boat trailers (SSG pers. comm. November 2016). The road to the existing causeway, however, is unpaved and is in disrepair in numerous places which can prevent access by vehicles with trailers (HTA Member pers. comm. November 2016; SSG pers. comm. September 2016). Additionally, access to boats frequently requires a perilous scramble down the slippery riprap slope, in some cases with cargo and/or gasoline jerry cans, at either the municipal breakwater or the existing causeway (HTA Member pers. comm. November 2016). This is especially dangerous for tourists wishing to go out on boat tours with local outfitters (Outfitter Focus Group: November 2016) or for anyone with reduced mobility. Accessing the ice in Iqaluit is, at times, considered challenging by local hunters who have to adapt their routes and access due to changing ice conditions. Winter and spring access routes at the municipal breakwater and the existing causeway are provided in Figure 4 4. The existing causeway is a busy access point with an estimated 200 snowmobiles accessing from there some days in a typical season (HTA Member pers. comm. November 2016). During early summer it is very busy at the existing causeway because of the overlap of spring to summer access (qamutik, snowmobiles, and boats) (HTA Member pers. comm. November 2016).

##### 4.3.3.3 Tourism

There are several outfitting companies operating out of the City that offer boating, snowmobiling, kite skiing, hunting, dog sledding and river raft trips at the Katannilik Park (situated between Iqaluit and Kimmirut). Currently, outfitters mostly use the municipal breakwater or existing causeway to access the water. In the summertime there are many scenic places to go hiking, fishing, camping and berry picking, such as Sylvia Grinnell Park, the Road to Nowhere, and the seaside trail to Apex. The Qaummaarviit Territorial Historic Park offers a unique opportunity to see archaeological artifacts and learn about Thule culture. Iqaluit's Spring Festival, Toonik Tyme, is held every April and showcases traditional Inuit games and activities such as iglu building and seal skinning combined with musical performances, scavenger hunts, ice golf, and snowmobile races. According to the Community Economic Development Plan (City of Iqaluit, 2015b), almost 10,000 visitors pass through the doors of the Iqaluit Unikkaarvik Visitors Centre on a yearly basis. Despite increased traffic of tourist cruise ships in the region around Baffin Island, in 2016, only five cruise ship calls were expected over the cruising season in Iqaluit bringing an expected total of 671 visitors to the City (Government of Nunavut, 2016). Cruise ship passengers are usually tendered to shore at the municipal breakwater by zodiac boats (which provides easy walking access to the City) or at the existing causeway.

#### 4.3.4 Local and Regional Traffic Patterns

Iqaluit is a transportation and resource distribution hub that provides access to smaller communities through the connection of the international airport and the sealift delivery services (Chris West pers. comm. November 2016). YFB is owned by the GN and is currently undergoing major improvements including the construction of a new terminal building. First Air operates daily flights from Ottawa and Montreal to Iqaluit. Canadian North operates a daily flight from Ottawa to Iqaluit. Both airlines also offer service from Yellowknife to Iqaluit, via Rankin Inlet. Sealift is a vital link for all communities in Nunavut allowing residents to obtain their annual re-supply of goods and materials needed throughout the year. Sealift ships travel from several southern Canadian Ports with a variety of goods ranging from housewares, non-perishable items, construction materials, vehicles, and heavy equipment. Cargo barges are landed at the landing beach adjacent to the airport runway, approximately 1 km north of the municipal breakwater, where shipping companies offload cargo at the high watermark. A local contractor is responsible for storing the cargo within the beach laydown area and distributing the cargo within the town site. Sealift operations do not occur at the municipal breakwater or existing causeway. Fuel is supplied by coastal tanker via floating hoses at the existing fuel resupply facility at Innuvit Head. The fuel line from the facility to the tank farm runs to the west of the parking area at the existing causeway. The City Public Works department is responsible for road maintenance including street signs, culverts, and walkways. The majority of roads in Iqaluit are paved with secondary roads constructed of gravel. Roads accommodate two lanes of traffic and typically do not have sidewalks or pathways. The City currently has no public transportation, although taxi service is widely available.

#### 4.3.5 Community and Health

Wellness Health facilities and services in Iqaluit include a general hospital, public health facility, family practice clinic and non-contracted rehabilitative treatment, provided through the Timimut Ikajuksivik Centre. The Qikiqtani General Hospital is currently the only acute care facility in Nunavut and provides a range of in- and out-patient hospital services including 24-hour emergency services, in-patient care (including obstetrics, pediatrics and palliative care), surgical services, laboratory services, diagnostic imaging and respiratory therapy. Although community health and wellness is supported by public health programs and medical facilities, it is also intrinsically related to a sense of familial and cultural cohesion. Traditional activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering plus the associated activities of drying, fermenting and preserving food and preparing skins strongly contributes to the community's sense of shared cultural values and beliefs. Many residents in Iqaluit still practice and depend on harvesting activities to provide for their families. A more thorough discussion of community health and wellness in Iqaluit is provided in Advisian (2017a).

#### 4.3.6 Community Infrastructure and Services

According to the Nunavut Housing Corporation's Annual Report for 2015-2016, Iqaluit's current housing stock is at 35% to 40%, indicating a critical need for housing (Nunavut Housing Corporation, 2016). There are four well equipped hotels and a handful of Bed and Breakfasts and short term rentals available for visitors to Iqaluit. Municipal services for water and sewage are provided by either the utilidor piped system or trucked service. The municipal water source is Lake Geraldine which is located approximately 1.5 km northeast from the city centre. Given that the Lake Geraldine watershed has an estimated volume of water to support a population of 8,300 people, the



construction activities and construction vessels for the DSP Project and the improvements at the existing causeway will be restricted to a defined area that allows the existing navigation routes into the Sealift Beach, municipal wharf and existing causeway to be maintained. Once operational, there will be greater segregation of sealift vessels from the recreational boaters that will be using the SCH and causeway. Access and navigation will be improved by the DSP and SCH projects and therefore there is a positive impact. Discussions are underway with TC and all projects will go through the NPA process. With mitigation measures implemented, there will be no cumulative effects from the three projects. 6.4 Assessment of Transboundary Effects Potential project impacts identified in Section 5 are localized to within less than 10 km and are avoided or mitigated with the measures described. The closest territorial, provincial or international boundary to the Study Areas is the boundary with Quebec 270 km to the south west. The only activities that could be transboundary are transportation, including shipping. Transportation for additional equipment required for construction will be by existing scheduled sealift deliveries and scheduled flights will be used to move personnel to and from Iqaluit, as required. The operation of the SCH also does not include any additional marine traffic. Therefore transboundary impacts are not expected from the Project.



Project Map

