



SCREENING DECISION REPORT NIRB FILE No.: 18YN041

NPC File No.: 148887

August 2, 2018

Following the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB or Board) assessment of all materials provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of University of Manitoba's "Characterizing Iqaluit's baseline municipal wastewater containment loadings to the marine environment" is not required pursuant to paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*).

Subject to the Proponent's compliance with the terms and conditions as set out in below, the NIRB is of the view that the project proposal is not likely to cause significant public concerns, and it is unlikely to result in significant adverse environmental and social impacts. The NIRB therefore recommends that the responsible Minister accepts this Screening Decision Report.

OUTLINE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT

- 1) REGULATORY FRAMEWORK
- 2) PROJECT REFERRAL
- 3) PROJECT OVERVIEW & THE NIRB ASSESSMENT PROCESS
- 4) ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT PROPOSAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 3 OF *NuPPAA*
- 5) VIEWS OF THE BOARD
- 6) RECOMMENDED PROJECT-SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS
- 7) OTHER NIRB CONCERNS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
- 8) REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS
- 9) CONCLUSION

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The primary objectives of the NIRB are set out in Section 12.2.5 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and are confirmed by s. 23 of the *NuPPAA*:

Nunavut Agreement, Article 12, Section 12.2.5: In carrying out its functions, the primary objectives of NIRB shall be at all times to protect and promote the existing and future well-being of the residents and communities of the Nunavut Settlement Area, and to protect the ecosystemic integrity of the Nunavut Settlement Area. NIRB shall take into account the well-being of the residents of Canada outside the Nunavut Settlement Area.

The purpose of screening is provided for under s. 88 of the *NuPPAA*:

NuPPAA, s. 88: The purpose of screening a project is to determine whether the project has the potential to result in significant ecosystemic or socio-economic impacts and, accordingly, whether it requires a review by the Board...

To determine whether a review of a project is required, the NIRB is guided by the considerations as set out under s. 89(1) of *NuPPAA*:

NuPPAA, s. 89(1): The Board must be guided by the following considerations when it is called on to determine, on the completion of a screening, whether a review of the project is required:

- (a) a review is required if, in the Board's opinion,
 - i. the project may have significant adverse ecosystemic or socio-economic impacts or significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities,
 - ii. the project will cause significant public concern, or
 - iii. the project involves technological innovations, the effects of which are unknown; and
- (b) a review is not required if, in the Board's opinion,
 - i. the project is unlikely to cause significant public concern, and
 - ii. its adverse ecosystemic and socioeconomic impacts are unlikely to be significant, or are highly predictable and can be adequately mitigated by known technologies.

It is noted that s. 89(2) of the *NuPPAA* provides that the considerations set out in paragraph 89(1)(a) prevail over those set out in paragraph 89(1)(b) of the *NuPPAA*.

As set out under s. 92(1) of the *NuPPAA*, upon conclusion of the screening process, the Board must provide its written report the Minister:

NuPPAA, s. 92(1): The Board must submit a written report to the responsible Minister containing a description of the project that specifies its scope and indicating that:

- (a) a review of the project is not required;
- (b) a review of the project is required; or
- (c) the project should be modified or abandoned.

Where the NIRB determines that a project may be carried out without a review, the NIRB has the discretion to recommend specific terms and conditions to be attached to any approval of the project proposal pursuant to paragraph 92(2)(a) of *NuPPAA* as follows:

NuPPAA, s. 92(2) In its report, the Board may also

- (a) recommend specific terms and conditions to apply in respect of a project that it determines may be carried out without a review.

PROJECT REFERRAL

On June 28, 2018 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen University of Manitoba's (UofM) "Characterizing Iqaluit's baseline municipal wastewater containment loadings to the marine environment" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), which noted that the project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **18YN041**.

PROJECT OVERVIEW & THE NIRB ASSESSMENT PROCESS

1. Project Scope

The proposed "Characterizing Iqaluit's baseline municipal wastewater containment loadings to the marine environment" project is located within the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region, approximately five (5) kilometres (km) south from Iqaluit. The Proponent intends to conduct research to measure contaminants at sites in Frobisher Bay influenced by waste water effluent. The program is proposed to take place from August 2018 to March 2022.

As required under s. 86(1) of the *NuPPAA*, the Board accepts the scope of the Characterizing Iqaluit's baseline municipal wastewater containment loadings to the marine environment project as set out by University of Manitoba in the proposal. The scope of the project proposal includes the following undertakings, works, or activities:

- Deployment and retrieval (after two (2) weeks) of passive samplers in water column in Frobisher Bay and in Iqaluit's drinking water source in various seasons;
- Collection of water samples (two (2) litres);
- Use of boat or snowmobile to collect samples;
- Disposal of combustible and non-combustible wastes in the community of Iqaluit; and
- Accommodations and use of facilities in the community of Iqaluit.

2. Inclusion or Exclusion to Scoping List

The NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB proceeded with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

3. Key Stages of the Screening Process

The following key stages were completed:

Date	Stage
June 28, 2018	Receipt of project proposal and referral from the NPC
June 28, 2018	Information request
July 06, 2018	Proponent responded to information request
July 06, 2018	Scoping pursuant to s. 86(1) of the <i>NuPPAA</i>
July 12, 2018	Public engagement and comment request

4. Public Comments and Concerns

Notice regarding the NIRB's screening of this project proposal was distributed on July 12, 2018 to community organizations in Iqaluit, as well as to relevant federal and territorial government agencies, Inuit organizations and other parties. The NIRB requested that interested parties review the proposal and the NIRB's *proposed* project-specific terms and conditions, and provide the Board with any comments or concerns by July 23, 2018 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 or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

The following is a summary of the comments and concerns received by the NIRB:

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)

- Concerns about fuel storage and handling; and
- Recommend Proponent store fuel and conduct re-fueling of equipment at a minimum of thirty-one (31) metres away from high water mark of any water body.

5. Comments and Concerns with respect to Inuit Qaujimaningit, Traditional, and Community Knowledge

No concerns or comments were received with respect to Inuit Qaujimaningit or traditional and community knowledge in relation to the proposed project.

ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT PROPOSAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 3 OF *NuPPAA*

In determining whether a review of the project is required, the Board considered whether the project proposal had potential to result in significant ecosystemic or socio-economic impacts.

Accordingly, the assessment of impact significance was based on the analysis of those factors that are set out under s. 90 of the *NuPPAA*. The Board took particular care to take into account Inuit Qaujimaningit, traditional and community knowledge in carrying out its assessment and determination of the significance of impacts.

The following is a summary of the Board's assessment of the factors that are relevant to the determination of significant impacts with respect of this project proposal:

1. *The size of the geographic area, including the size of wildlife habitats, likely to be affected by the impacts.*

The size of the geographic area for the project proposal is within five (5) kilometres (km) of the City of Iqaluit. The proposed research activities would occur at sampling sites within Frobisher Bay and in the City of Iqaluit's drinking water sources. The project footprint also includes travel to the research sites via snowmobile or small boat depending on the season. The proposed activities and may take place within habitats for far-ranging marine mammals, fish species and migratory birds, as identified by mapping sources and expert knowledge.

2. *The ecosystemic sensitivity of that area.*

The proposed project would occur within an area with no particular identified ecosystemic sensitivity. However, this area has been identified as having value and priority to the local community for:

- i. Traditional land use activities,
- ii. Marine mammals, especially seals and beluga whale;
- iii. Polar Bear;
- iv. Clams; and
- v. Fish.

3. *The historical, cultural and archaeological significance of that area.*

Neither the Proponent nor any parties that submitted comments for this project identified any known areas of historical, cultural and archaeological significance associated with the project area. The proposed research activities would only include travel via boat or snowmobile on existing trails, as well as the use of passive water samplers and the collection of approximately two (2) litres of water to sample, which would create low potential for disruption of any archeological sites in the area.

4. *The size of the human and the animal populations likely to be affected by the impacts.*

Although no significant public concerns were raised during the public commenting period, the NIRB notes that the close proximity of the proposed activities to the City of Iqaluit, and areas used by residents for recreational/traditional pursuits, could potentially contribute to public concern developing. A term and condition has been recommended to direct engagement with the community, hunters and trappers organizations and interested parties, as well as the posting of public notices to ensure residents are aware of the research activities being or to be conducted.

5. *The nature, magnitude and complexity of the impacts; the probability of the impacts occurring; the frequency and duration of the impacts; and the reversibility or irreversibility of the impacts.*

As the "Characterizing Iqaluit's baseline municipal wastewater containment loadings to the marine environment" project is a proposed research project with a small geographic scope with only seven (7) water sampling locations. Based on evidence from other projects involving

water sampling and the limited travel by small boats, the potential adverse impacts are likely to be localized, of low magnitude, reversible, and mitigable with due care.

6. *The cumulative impacts that could result from the impacts of the project combined with those of any other project that has been carried out, is being carried out or is likely to be carried out.*

The proposed project would take place within a 100 kilometre (km) radius to a number of other projects that are currently active, in addition to other projects proposed and currently undergoing assessment by the Board as listed in Table 1 below. The potential for cumulative impacts to marine mammals, fish, migratory and non-migratory birds, and Species at Risk such as Polar Bear resulting from the research activities and other projects occurring in the region has been identified and considered in the development of the NIRB's recommendations. However, it is noted that this project is not likely to result in residual or cumulative impacts. Terms and conditions recommended for each of these projects are expected to reduce any residual impacts, and as such would limit or eliminate the potential for cumulative effects to occur.

Table 1: Project List

NIRB Number	Project Title	Project Type
<i>Proposed Developments – undergoing assessment</i>		
16TN052	Silversea Cruises Ltd.	Tourism
<i>Active Projects</i>		
17XN021	Iqaluit Marine Infrastructure – Deep Sea Port	Infrastructure
17XN022	Iqaluit Marine Infrastructure – Small Craft Harbour	Infrastructure
18XN001	Bridge to Nowhere-Repair Abutments	Community Infrastructure
18YN015	Arctic Driftwood as a proxy record of environmental change: a pilot study	Research
18YN016	Churchill Marine Observatory-Environmental Observing (CMO-EO) System	Research
18YN029	URI Northwest Passage Project 2018	Research
<i>Past Projects</i>		
16YN010	Ancient DNA in Lake Sediment	Research
17UN006	Iqaluit Airport – Approach Lighting Replacement	Infrastructure
17YN019	Iqaluit MET mast	Research
17XN070	Iqaluit Bulk Fuel Storage Tank Farm Upgrade	Fuel
17UN025	Former Iqaluit Metal Dump Remediation	Remediation
17AN031	Canada C3 – Students on Ice	Research
17YN041	A Coastal, Pan-Canadian Collection of plants, microalgae and marine invertebrates for the Canadian Museum of Nature	Research

7. *Any other factor that the Board considers relevant to the assessment of the significance of impacts.*

No other specific factors have been identified as relevant to the assessment of this project proposal.

VIEWS OF THE BOARD

In considering the factors as set out above in the screening of the project proposal, the NIRB has identified a number of issues below and respectfully provide the following views regarding whether or not the proposed project has the potential to result in significant impacts. In addition, the NIRB has proposed terms and conditions that would mitigate the potential adverse impacts identified.

Administrative Conditions:

To encourage compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and assist the Board and responsible authorities with compliance and effects monitoring for project activities, the following project-specific terms and conditions have been recommended: 1-4.

Ecosystem, wildlife habitat and Inuit harvesting activities:

Issue 1: Potential adverse impacts to marine mammals and their habitat from the noise associated with the use of small boat for transportation to research sites.

Board views: As discussed above in the assessment of factors relevant to this project proposal, the potential for impacts is applicable to a small geographic area with only seven (7) water sampling locations and samplers would only be deployed for two (2) weeks. The activities may overlap with seasonal home ranges of many marine wildlife species, such as seals and beluga whale; however, any resulting impacts from the research activities and project-related noise would be expected to be short-term, temporary only and low magnitude and occur in select locations in the marine environment and at water sources.

The Proponent would also be required to follow the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, *Migratory Birds Regulations*, *Species at Risk Act*, and the *Wildlife Act (Nunavut)* (see Regulatory Requirements section).

Recommended Mitigation Measures: Specific and general measures have been recommended to mitigate any potential adverse impacts including recommending measures such as requiring the Proponent to ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat and that they do not harass wildlife in conducting this operation. The NIRB recommends the following terms and conditions to mitigate the potential adverse impacts to wildlife 8 through 12.

Issue 2: Potential adverse impacts to surface water quality, fish and fish habitat, from proposed research activities, potential fuel spills from the use of a boat for transport of equipment and personnel to the proposed research sites.

Board views: There is the potential for the project to adversely impact surface water quality, fish and fish habitat from the research activities. The potential for impacts is applicable to small geographic areas within the project footprint and the probability of impacts occurring is considered to be low, with potential adverse effects anticipated to be low in magnitude, infrequent in occurrence and reversible in nature.

The Proponent would be required to follow the *Fisheries Act* (see Regulatory Requirements section).

Recommended Mitigation Measures: The following terms and conditions are recommended to mitigate the potential adverse impacts from fuel use, and transportation associated with the research activities by ensuring the Proponent follow appropriate refuelling procedures and remove all equipment and garbage: 5, 6, and 7.

Issue 3: Potential adverse impacts to public and traditional land use activities in the area due to transportation of personnel and equipment to the proposed project sites and research activities.

Board Views: Due to the project's proximity to Iqaluit, there is the potential for adverse impacts to arise as a result of the research activities overlapping with traditional land use and harvesting activities from community members. The project activities are limited to the short period of time and limited to specific locations where the activities would occur, and if situations arise where the project may interfere with traditional land use, a term and condition has been recommended to ensure minimal impacts to traditional land use activities.

Recommended Mitigation Measures: Term and condition 13 is recommended to ensure that the affected communities and organizations are informed about the project proposal and term and condition 14 has been recommended to ensure that project activities do not interfere with Inuit wildlife harvesting or traditional land use activities in the area. In addition, terms and conditions 8 through 12 have been recommended to minimize interference with the movements of wildlife.

Socio-economic effects on northerners:

Issue 4: Potential positive impacts to the local community from the sourcing of accommodations for personnel within the community, purchasing of local goods and services and hiring and training of local guides and field technicians.

Board Views: Potential positive impacts to the local community from the sourcing of accommodations for personnel within the community and purchasing of local goods and services. It is noted that the Proponent has committed to hiring and training local guides and field technicians which would contribute to capacity building to collect data into the future. The Proponent also encourages members of the public to get in touch with them with ideas or concerns they may have related to wastewater in Nunavut.

Recommended Mitigation Measures: Terms and conditions 13 and 15 have been recommended to ensure the Proponent continues to inform the community of the research activities and findings as well as provide community members with information to ensure a successful local hiring opportunity.

Significant public concern:

Issue 5: No significant public concern was expressed during the public commenting period for this file.

Board Views: Follow up consultation and involvement of local community members is expected to mitigate any potential for public concern resulting from project activities.

Recommended Mitigation Measures: Term and condition 13 is recommended to ensure that the affected community and organizations are informed about the project proposal, and to provide the Proponent with an opportunity to proactively address or mitigate any concerns that may arise from the project activities findings.

Technological innovations for which the effects are unknown:

No specific issues have been identified associated with this project proposal.

In considering the above factors and subject to the Proponent's compliance with the terms and conditions necessary to mitigate against the potential adverse environmental and social effects, the Board is of the view that the proposed project is unlikely to cause significant public concern and its adverse ecosystemic and socioeconomic impacts are unlikely to be significant, or are highly predictable and can be adequately mitigated by known technologies.

RECOMMENDED PROJECT-SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Board is recommending the following specific terms and conditions to apply in respect of the project:

General

1. University of Manitoba (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 Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC File No.: 148887), and the NIRB (Online Application Form, July 6, 2018).
4. The Proponent shall operate the site in accordance with all applicable Acts, Regulations and Guidelines.

Waste Disposal

5. The Proponent shall keep all garbage and debris in bags until disposed of at an approved facility. All such wastes shall be kept inaccessible to wildlife at all times.

Fuel Storage

6. The Proponent shall ensure that appropriate spill response equipment and clean-up materials (e.g., shovels, pumps, barrels, drip pans, and absorbents) are readily available during any transfer of fuel or hazardous substances, when refueling equipment.
7. The Proponent shall ensure that all personnel are properly trained in fuel and hazardous waste handling procedures, as well as spill response procedures. All spills of fuel or other deleterious materials of any amount must be reported immediately to the 24 hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.

Wildlife - General

8. The Proponent shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this operation.
9. The Proponent shall not harass wildlife. This includes persistently circling, chasing, hovering over pursuing or in any other way harass wildlife, or disturbing large groups of animals.
10. The Proponent shall not hunt or fish, unless proper Nunavut authorizations have been acquired.
11. The Proponent shall ensure that all project personnel are made aware of the measures to protect wildlife and are provided with training and/or advice on how to implement these measures.

Migratory Birds and Raptors Disturbance

12. The Proponent shall not disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of any birds. If nests are encountered and/or identified, the Proponent shall take precaution to avoid further interaction and or disturbance (e.g., a 100 metres buffer around the nests). If active nests of any birds are discovered (i.e., with eggs or young), the Proponent shall avoid these areas until nesting is complete and the young have left the nest.

Other

13. The Proponent should engage with local residents regarding planned activities in the area and should solicit available Inuit Qaujimaningit and information regarding current recreational and traditional usage of the project area which may inform project activities. Posting of translated public notices and direct engagement with potentially interested groups and individuals prior to undertaking project activities is strongly encouraged.
14. The Proponent shall ensure that project activities do not interfere with Inuit wildlife harvesting or traditional land use activities.
15. The Proponent should, to the extent possible, hire local people and access local services where possible.

OTHER NIRB CONCERNS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is also recommended that:

Change in Project Scope

1. Responsible authorities or Proponent shall notify the Nunavut Planning Commission and the NIRB of any changes in operating plans or conditions, including phase advancement, associated with this project prior to any such change.

Bear and Carnivore Safety

2. The Proponent should review the Government of Nunavut's booklet on Bear Safety, which can be downloaded from this link: http://gov.nu.ca/sites/default/files/bear_safety_-_reducing_bear-people_conflicts_in_nunavut.pdf. Further information on bear/carnivore detection and deterrent techniques can be found in the "*Safety in Grizzly and Black Bear Country*" pamphlet, which can be downloaded from this link: http://www.enr.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/web_pdf_wd_bear_safety_brochure_1_may_2015.pdf.
3. There are polar bear and grizzly bear safety resources available from the Bear Smart Society with videos on polar bear safety available in English, French and Inuktitut at <http://www.bearsmart.com/play/safety-in-polar-bear-country/>. Information can also be obtained from Parks Canada's website on bear safety at the following link: <http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/pn-np/nu/quttinirpaaq/visit/visit6/d.aspx> or in reviewing the "*Safety in Polar Bear Country*" pamphlet, which can be downloaded from the following link: http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/pn-np/nu/quttinirpaaq/visit/visit6/~media/pn-np/nu/auyuittuq/pdf/shared/PolarBearSafety_English.ashx.
4. Any problem wildlife or any interaction with carnivores should be reported immediately to the local Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment Conservation Office (Conservation Officer of Iqaluit, phone: (867) 975-7780)

Species at Risk

5. The Proponent review Environment and Climate Change Canada's "Environment Assessment Best Practice Guide for Wildlife at Risk in Canada", available at the following link: http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual_sara/files/policies/EA%20Best%20Practices%202004.pdf. The guide provides information to the Proponent on what is required when Wildlife at Risk, including *Species at Risk*, are encountered or affected by the project.

Migratory Birds

6. The Proponent review Canadian Wildlife Services' "Key migratory bird terrestrial habitat sites in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut", available at the following link: <http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/317630/publication.html> and "Key marine habitat sites for migratory birds in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories", available at the following link: <http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/392824/publication.html>. The guide provides information to the Proponent on key terrestrial and marine habitat areas that are essential to the welfare of various migratory bird species in Canada.
7. For further information on how to protect migratory birds, their nests and eggs when planning or carrying out project activities, consult Environment and Climate Change Canada's Incidental Take web page and the fact sheet "Planning Ahead to Reduce the Risk of Detrimental Effects to Migratory Birds, and their Nests and Eggs" available at <http://www.ec.gc.ca/paom-itmb/>.

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

The Proponent is also advised that the following legislation may apply to the project:

Acts and Regulations

1. The *Fisheries Act* (<http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/F-14/index.html>).
2. The *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and *Migratory Birds Regulations* (<http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/M-7.01/>).
3. The *Species at Risk Act* (<http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/S-15.3/index.html>). Attached in **Appendix A** is a list of Species at Risk in Nunavut.
4. The *Wildlife Act (Nunavut)* and its corresponding regulations (<http://www.canlii.org/en/nu/laws/stat/snu-2003-c-26/latest/snu-2003-c-26.html>).
5. The *Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act* (<http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/A-12/>).

CONCLUSION

The foregoing constitutes the Board's screening decision with respect to the University of Manitoba's (UofM) "Characterizing Iqaluit's baseline municipal wastewater containment loadings to the marine environment". The NIRB remains available for consultation with the Minister regarding this report as necessary.

Dated August 2, 2018 at Iqaluit, NU.



Marjorie Kaviq Kaluraq, A/Chairperson

Attachments: Appendix A: Species at Risk in Nunavut

Appendix A

Species at Risk in Nunavut

Due to the requirements of Section 79(2) of the Species At Risk Act (SARA), and the potential for project-specific adverse effects on listed wildlife species and its critical habitat, measures should be taken as appropriate to avoid or lessen those effects, and the effects need to be monitored. Project effects could include species disturbance, attraction to operations and destruction of habitat. This section applies to all species listed on Schedule 1 of SARA, as listed in the table below, or have been assessed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), which may be encountered in the project area. This list may not include all species identified as at risk by the Territorial Government. The following points provide clarification on the applicability of the species outlined in the table.

- Schedule 1 is the official legal list of Species at Risk for SARA. SARA applies to all species on Schedule 1. The term “listed” species refers to species on Schedule 1.
- Schedule 2 and 3 of SARA identify species that were designated at risk by the COSEWIC prior to October 1999 and must be reassessed using revised criteria before they can be considered for addition to Schedule 1.
- Some species identified at risk by COSEWIC are “pending” addition to Schedule 1 of SARA. These species are under consideration for addition to Schedule 1, subject to further consultation or assessment.

If species at risk are encountered or affected, the primary mitigation measure should be avoidance. The Proponent should avoid contact with or disturbance to each species, its habitat and/or its residence. All direct, indirect, and cumulative effects should be considered. Refer to species status reports and other information on the species at risk Registry at <http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca> for information on specific species.

Monitoring should be undertaken by the Proponent to determine the effectiveness of mitigation and/or identify where further mitigation is required. As a minimum, this monitoring should include recording the locations and dates of any observations of species at risk, behaviour or actions taken by the animals when project activities were encountered, and any actions taken by the proponent to avoid contact or disturbance to the species, its habitat, and/or its residence. This information should be submitted to the appropriate regulators and organizations with management responsibility for that species, as requested.

For species primarily managed by the Territorial Government, the Territorial Government should be consulted to identify other appropriate mitigation and/or monitoring measures to minimize effects to these species from the project.

Mitigation and monitoring measures must be undertaken in a way that is consistent with applicable recovery strategies and action/management plans.

Schedules of SARA are amended on a regular basis so it is important to check the SARA registry (www.sararegistry.gc.ca) to get the current status of a species.

Updated: September 2017

Terrestrial Species at Risk ¹	COSEWIC Designation	Schedule of SARA	Government Organization with Primary Management Responsibility ²
Migratory Birds			
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Special concern	Schedule 1	ECCC
Eskimo Curlew	Endangered	Schedule 1	ECCC
Harlequin Duck (Eastern population)	Special Concern	Schedule 1	ECCC
Harris's Sparrow	Special Concern	Pending	ECCC
Horned Grebe (Western population)	Special Concern	Schedule 1	ECCC
Ivory Gull	Endangered	Schedule 1	ECCC
Peregrine Falcon	Special Concern (<i>anatum-tundrius</i> complex ³)	Schedule 1 - Schedule 3	ECCC
Red Knot (<i>islandica</i> subspecies)	Special Concern	Schedule 1	ECCC
Red Knot (<i>rufa</i> subspecies)	Endangered	Schedule 1	ECCC
Red-necked Phalarope	Special concern	Pending	ECCC
Ross's Gull	Threatened	Schedule 1	ECCC
Rusty Blackbird	Special Concern	Schedule 1	ECCC
Short-eared Owl	Special Concern	Schedule 1	ECCC
Vegetation			
Blanket-leaved Willow	Special Concern	Schedule 1	Government of Nunavut
Felt-leaf Willow	Special Concern	Schedule 1	Government of Nunavut
Porsild's Bryum (Moss)	Threatened	Schedule 1	Government of Nunavut
Arthropods			
Traverse Lady Beetle	Special Concern	Pending	Government of Nunavut
Terrestrial Wildlife			
Caribou (Barren-Ground population)	Threatened	Pending	Government of Nunavut
Dolphin and Union Caribou	Special Concern	Schedule 1	Government of Nunavut
Grizzly Bear (Western Population)	Special Concern	Pending	Government of Nunavut
Peary Caribou	Endangered	Schedule 1	Government of Nunavut
Peary Caribou (High Arctic Population)	Endangered	Schedule 2	Government of Nunavut
Peary Caribou (Low Arctic Population)	Threatened	Schedule 2	Government of Nunavut
Wolverine	Special Concern	Pending	Government of Nunavut
Wolverine (Western population)	Non-active	Pending	Government of Nunavut
Marine Wildlife			
Atlantic Walrus	Special Concern	Pending	DFO
Beluga Whale (Cumberland Sound population)	Endangered	Schedule 2	DFO
Beluga Whale (Eastern High Arctic – Baffin Bay population)	Special Concern	Pending	DFO
Beluga Whale (Eastern Hudson Bay population)	Endangered	Pending	DFO

Beluga Whale (Southeast Baffin Island – Cumberland Sound population)	Endangered	Schedule 2	DFO
Beluga Whale (Western Hudson Bay population)	Special Concern	Pending	DFO
Bowhead Whale (Eastern Arctic population)	Endangered	Schedule 2	DFO
Bowhead Whale (Eastern Canada – West Greenland population)	Special Concern	Pending	DFO
Killer Whale (Northwest Atlantic / Eastern Arctic populations)	Special Concern	Pending	DFO
Narwhal	Special Concern	Pending	DFO
Polar Bear	Special Concern	Schedule 1	Government of Nunavut/DFO
Fish			
Atlantic Cod, Arctic Lakes	Special Concern	Pending	DFO
Atlantic Wolffish	Special Concern	Schedule 1	DFO
Bering Wolffish	Special Concern	Schedule 3	DFO
Blackline Prickleback	Special Concern	Schedule 3	DFO
Fourhorn Sculpin	Special Concern	Schedule 3	DFO
Fourhorn Sculpin (Freshwater form)	Data Deficient	Schedule 3	DFO
Northern Wolffish	Threatened	Schedule 1	DFO
Roundnose Grenadier	Endangered	Pending	DFO
Spotted Whitefish	Threatened	Schedule 1	DFO
Thorny Skate	Special Concern	Pending	DFO

¹ The Department of Fisheries and Oceans has responsibility for aquatic species.

² Environment Canada (EC) has a national role to play in the conservation and recovery of Species at Risk in Canada, as well as responsibility for management of birds described in the Migratory Birds Convention Act (MBCA). Day-to-day management of terrestrial species not covered in the MBCA is the responsibility of the Territorial Government. Populations that exist in National Parks are also managed under the authority of the Parks Canada Agency.