



NOTICE OF SCREENING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NIRB File No.: 20YN007

Project Name: The “Coastal Surveys of Common Eider Nesting Islands in the Belcher Island Archipelago, Nunavut” project

Proponent Name: Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)

Project Type: Research Region: Qikiqtani (South Baffin) Region

Public Registry: www.nirb.ca Application No.: 125512

Comment Deadline: **April 27, 2020**

PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed “Coastal Surveys of Common Eider Nesting Islands in the Belcher Island Archipelago, Nunavut” project is located within the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region, approximately 125 kilometres (km) from Sanikiluaq. The Proponent intends to conduct population surveys for common eiders in Belcher Island Archipelago, including the Sleeper Islands in order to determine potential ecological changes in colony distributions and sizes. The program is proposed to take place from June to September 2020. The scope of this proposed project as identified by the NIRB includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Conduct surveys of common eider nests on nesting islands around Sanikiluaq
- Collect information on potential nest predators
- Opportunistic collection of polar bear feces and any carcasses or parts of birds found for disease analysis
- Use of boats to access study locations

Please visit the NIRB’s public registry online at the link above and look up NIRB File No.: **20YN007** to access all project information, maps, and public comment forms.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

You are invited to provide the NIRB with your comments regarding whether the proposed project is:

- likely to arouse significant public concern and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse ecosystemic or socio-economic effects and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities and, if so, why;
- a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and can be prevented/managed appropriately with known technology.

Parties are also invited to recommend any specific mitigation measures they feel would be appropriate, and to bring any other matter of importance related to this project proposal to the NIRB’s attention.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The NIRB has recently launched an updated online public registry, and parties can access project information as well as submit comments directly to the NIRB via www.nirb.ca. Comments can still be submitted directly to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca or via fax to (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding the proposed project or the NIRB’s screening process, please contact Mia Otokiak, Junior Technical Advisor toll-free at 1-866-233-3033 or motokiak@nirb.ca.