

Project Dashboard

Re-estimating the abundance of the Lancaster Sound (LS) polar bear subpopulation via genetic mark-recapture sampling (149332)

Proposal Status: Conformity Determination Issued

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NORTH BAFFIN QUESTIONNAIRE

GENERAL

Environmental Protection:

s3.13.8: The applicant undertakes to prevent any new occurrences of pollution, garbage and contamination at the site of the development.

YES

Removal of Fuel Drums:

s3.13.8: The applicant undertakes to remove all drums safely from the site and dispose of the drums in a safe manner.

YES

New Site Restoration and Clean Up:

s3.13.1 and Appendix H, s1: The applicant undertakes to clean up the site and restore the site to its natural condition to the greatest extent possible.

YES

Old Site Restoration and Clean Up:

s3.13.2: The applicant undertakes to clean up the site and restore the site to its original condition to the greatest extent possible, including any work required due to the applicant's action prior to this application.

YES

Low-Level Air Flights:

Appendix H, s3: Will the applicant avoid all low-level flights?

NO

i. If not, explain why such flights are or may be absolutely necessary.

Our research objective is sample polar bears - for that reason we will not be able to avoid low-level flights. In general, when searching we will fly at about 400 feet and when we encounter bears we will approach to 3-7m distances/altitudes. When we do not survey we will fly at higher altitudes (400-1500m) during ferry times.

ii. If such flights are or may be absolutely necessary, will they avoid disturbance to people and wildlife?

NO

iii. If not, explain why it is not possible to avoid such disturbance.

when we have to sample we cannot avoid short-term disturbance of the animals. We attempt to avoid disturbing people if we are aware where they are on the ice through local engagement of Hunters and Trappers assistants. There will be instances where we will not know where people are and the disturbance will be only short-term.

Caribou Protection Measures:

s3.3.7 and Appendix D: Will the applicant comply with the Caribou Protection Measures outlined in section 2.4.6 and in Appendix D?

YES

Caribou Water Crossings:

s3.3.7 and map: Will the applicant avoid, between May 15 and September 1, to construct any camp, cache any fuel or conduct any blasting within 10 km of any Designated Caribou Water Crossing identified

YES

Polar Bear Denning Areas and Walrus Haul-outs:

s3.3.8: Will the applicant keep its activities away from any polar bear denning area or walrus haul-out?

NO

HERITAGE RESOURCES

Reporting of Archaeological Sites:

s3.11.3 and Appendix H, s2 and s8: Will the applicant immediately report the discovery of all suspected archaeological sites to the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth (GN)?

YES

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Scientific Research:

s3.9.3: Does the project proposal involve scientific research?

YES

If yes, will the applicant integrate all available and relevant local and traditional knowledge when conducting its research?

YES

Consultation with Nunavut Research Institute:

s3.9.5: Has the applicant consulted with the Nunavut Research Institute about research topics that would benefit or interest local residents?

NO

ii. If no, explain why.

The work we conduct is a priority item of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board - communities wanted this work to be done so we are addressing already local issues and concerns of residents.

Local Services and Local Employment:

s3.9.4: Will the applicant rely on local services and employment where possible?

YES

i. Describe the services retained and the people to be employed.

we will hire 3-6 local field observers throughout the study area to assist us in searching for bears. These individuals will also learn how research operations work and what survey design is used for our study.

Communication on Scientific Research:

s3.2.8: The applicant will, at minimum, translate a summary of its work into Inuktitut and communicate with communities using language that is clear and non-technical. The results of all scientific re

YES