

Project Dashboard

1990s caribou camp and fuel cache clean-up (Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary) (149439)

Proposal Status: Conformity Determination Issued

Project Overview

Type of application: **New**

Proponent name:	Chevallier
Company:	ECCC-CWS

Schedule:

Start Date:	2021-08-06
End Date:	2023-08-10
Operation Type:	Seasonal

Project Description:

In the 1990s the territorial government (then NWT) had a caribou camp with fuel cache for doing caribou surveys. It was abandoned at some point. The abandoned camp/cache is located within the Ahiak (Queen Maud Gulf) Migratory Bird Sanctuary. The Ahiak Area Co-Management Committee for the Ahiak (Queen Maud Gulf) Migratory Bird Sanctuary which is responsible for the day to day management of the AMBS and provides advice to the federal minister of the Environment about this MBS has asked that it be cleaned up. ECCC's Canadian Wildlife Service (Northern Region) is considering the feasibility of cleaning this site up as part of the protected areas program's work because the abandoned site is within a MBS and this is an important protected area for not only migratory birds, but caribou, muskox and other wildlife important to Inuit. The abandoned site was last visited by CIRNAC inspectors in 2015. The site consists of at least 44 full drums of fuel (c. 1990s), and 23 partial or empty drums (c. 1990s) with no containment scattered across the camp site. Most of the drums are sunken into the ground (frozen in the active layer of the soil until late summer). There are also the remains of 2 wooden tent frames, 1 oil stove, jerry cans and various lumber and stove pipes scattered around the site. The site is located on a narrow spit of land between two large lakes and is not accessible by twin otter during the summer. This project proposes a crew of 4 visit the site via helicopter in August 2021 (or 2022 if cancelled due to COVID), camp on site for 5 days (1 day in, 3 working days, 1 day out), dig out all drums, and then sling all drums and wood and waste to a suitable location where it could be picked up by twin otter in 2022 (or 2023 if cancelled due to COVID) depending on PCSP's flight plans between March and September and taken to Cambridge Bay for disposal. The suitable twin otter pick up site is unknown; will need to be determined by the helicopter (or twin otter recon) if PCSP does not know of any existing locations within reasonable heli slinging distance from the abandoned site. It is also possible that the drums/waste could be picked up by twin otter on skis on Brichta Lake, but currently we are unsure of the feasibility of getting the pile of stuff from the spit down onto the lake ice during winter. Dates of all of this work are flexible, other than it must be done while the ground is thawed.

Personnel:

Persons:	4
Days:	5

Project Map

List of all project geometries:

ID	Geometry	Location Name
6974	point	caribou camp

Planning Regions:

Qikiqtani

Affected Areas and Land Types

Settlement Area

Project Land Use and Authorizations

Project Land Use

Site Cleanup/Remediation

Site Cleanup/Remediation

Licensing Agencies

CWS: Migratory Bird Sanctuary permit under the Migratory Bird Sanctuary Regulations

NIRB: 0

Other Licensing Requirements

No data found.

Material Use**Equipment**

Type	Quantity	Size	Use
Camping Equipment	4	na	Camping equipment for 4 persons during 5 days and 3 nights.
Tools	10	na	Pickaxe and shovels will be used to dig out the barrels from the ground. Other tools (screwdrivers, hammer, axe, handsaw) might be used to disassemble the tent frames.
Twin Otter	1	15m	To remove waste from the land to Cambridge Bay for disposal.
Helicopter	1	18*4m	An helicopter will be used to get in and out the camp site from Cambridge Bay.
Tents	5	3*3	one per person plus a kitchen tent
Generator	1	1*0.5m	To generate electricity
Empty Drum or Drum Overpack	2	1*0.5m	To contain potential leaking drum

Fuel Use

Type	Container(s)	Capacity	UOM	Use
Propane	2	20	Liters	For cooking
Gasoline	1	20	Liters	For a Generator/Electricity

Hazardous Material and Chemical Use

Type	Container(s)	Capacity	UOM	Use
No records found.				

Water Consumption

Daily Amount (m ³)	Retrieval Method	Retrieval Location
0.05	Bucket	Lake

Waste and Impacts

Environmental Impacts

The goal is to clean the area from any waste. The abandoned site was last visited by CIRNAC inspectors in 2015. They evaluated the waste remaining as follow: - 44 full drums of fuel (c. 1990s), - 23 partial or empty drums (c. 1990s), - the remains of 2 wooden tent frames, - 1 oil stove, - jerry cans - various lumber - stove pipes. This project proposes a crew of 4 visit the site via helicopter in August 2021 (if not cancelled due to COVID, in 2022 if cancelled), camp on site for 4-5 days (1 day in, 3 working days, 1 day out), dig out all drums, and then sling all drums, wood and waste to a suitable location where it could be picked up by twin otter in 2022 (if not cancelled due to COVID, in 2023 if cancelled) before snow fall and taken to Cambridge Bay for disposal. This will be a leave no trace camp and we will remove all waste with the exception of bodily waste and grey water. We expect the environmental impact to be negligible.

Waste Management

Waste Type	Quantity Generated	Treatment Method	Disposal Method
Combustible wastes	67	The remaining fuel contained in the barrel will be burn and the barrel crushed.	They will be taken to Cambridge Bay for disposal by a local company.
Greywater	200L	We will treat the pit with lime.	A small pit dug and then buried
Sewage (human waste)	4 persons x 5 days	Waste will be buried over	Cat holes