



CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for Canadian Wildlife Service's "1990s Caribou Camp and Fuel Cache Clean-Up (Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary)" Project Proposal



Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence
20UN003
Our file - Notre référence
91727106

March 12, 2021

Guillaume Daoust
Technical Advisor I
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0
Via NIRB public registry

**Re: Notice of Screening and Comment request for Canadian Wildlife Service's
"1990s Caribou Camp and Fuel Cache Clean-Up (Ahiak Migratory Bird
Sanctuary)" Project Proposal**

Dear Guillaume Daoust,

On February 19, 2021 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on Canadian Wildlife Service's "1990s Caribou Camp and Fuel Cache Clean-Up (Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary)" Project Proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and offers the responses below as it pertains to the NIRB's request:

Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal;

Identification of Environmental Impacts Matrix

CIRNAC notes that the Proponent has not indicated any potential impacts in the Identification of Environmental Impacts Matrix in the Construction, Operation or Decommissioning fields. Particularly, it is unclear why the following fields were left empty:

- Designated environmental areas;
- Hydrology/Limnology;
- Water Quality;
- Surface and Bedrock geology;
- Sediment and soil quality;
- Vegetation;
- Wildlife, including habitat and migration patterns;
- Birds, including habitat and migration patterns;



- Aquatic Species, including habitat and migration spawning;
- Wildlife protected areas; and,
- Employment.

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent update the Identification of Environmental Impacts Matrix to reflect the proposed activities.

Potential for positive effects to Inuit beneficiaries through employment and training opportunities

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent prioritize the employment and training of local Inuit beneficiaries throughout the implementation of project activities. Such efforts will allow for positive effects to be realized by community members and the local Inuit population. It is noted that the communities of Cambridge Bay and Gjoa Haven are in close proximity to the Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary, and host the Ahiak Area Co-Management Committee. As a result, members of these communities should be prioritized in any employment and training opportunities related to the project proposal.

Consultation with interested parties

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent maintain open communication with the Municipalities of Cambridge Bay and Gjoa Haven, community members, and any local organizations who have an interest in project activities (e.g., Hunters and Trappers Organizations). Issues that should be considered in consultation activities include:

- Incorporation of Inuit knowledge or Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into project activities;
- Training and employment opportunities for community members; and
- Regular updates on the status of project activities, including the site's final clean-up and remediation status.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and looks forward to working with the NIRB and the Proponent throughout any further review phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Richard Bingley at (867) 975-4556 or by e-mail at Richard.Bingley2@Canada.ca.

Sincerely,



Felexce Ngwa
Manager, Impact Assessment

