



NOTICE OF SCREENING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NIRB File No.: 21YN006

Project Name: The “Contaminants in Seabirds in the Baffin Bay – Davis Strait Region” project
Proponent Name: Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
Project Type: Research Region: Qikiqtani (North Baffin) Region
Public Registry: www.nirb.ca Application No.: 125579
Comment Deadline: **May 3, 2021**

PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed “Contaminants in Seabirds in the Baffin Bay – Davis Strait Region” project is located within the Qikiqtani (North Baffin) region, approximately 200 kilometres (km) from Pond Inlet and Qikiqtarjuaq. The Proponent intends to conduct research on contaminants, including plastic pollution, legacy contaminants, and oil-related contaminants, in seabirds in Baffin Bay along the Davis Strait region. The program is proposed to take place from June 2021 to September 2021. The scope of this proposed project as identified by the NIRB includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Work with local hunters to collect approximately 60 murres, 60 fulmars, 60 guillemots, 60 kittiwakes and 60 eiders which would be frozen and shipped to Iqaluit to be dissected by the Nunavut Arctic College students;
- Use of locally sourced boats (two (2) boats in each Pond Inlet and Qikiqtarjuaq) to transport personnel to research sites;
- Overnight temporary camping locations to be determined by the boat captains as required; and
- Research is proposed in both Akpait and Qaqqulluit National Wildlife Areas with appropriate guides as well as Prince Leopold Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary.

Please visit the NIRB’s public registry online at the link above and look up NIRB File No.: **21YN006** 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.