

**Timing:**

Decide the date you want to start your activity and try to send in your project description 90 days before that the date you have set to the Nunavut Parks Impact Assessment Specialist. If a NIRB screening is required and there isn't sufficient time to conduct one, your project will be delayed or cancelled.

Proposed Project Start Date: 2021/04/01

Project Contact(s):

Provide name, phone number and e-mail address of Project Lead / Manager and anyone else who could be contacted for information on the project

Project Lead: Angela Piercey, Park Manager, 1-867-252-3000 or 1-867-222-0154,
angela.piercey@canada.ca

What is the project about (aka objective)?

Give the project a name and provide one or two sentences to summarize the project

Project Title: Qausuittuq National Park, New Temporary Operational Camp at Dundee Bight + extension for using Dome Camp as a secondary camp.

1. New camp at Dundee Bight

Qausuittuq National Park's new temporary operational camp at Dundee Bight consists of a range of activities:

- Construction of a 16X18 hard shelter. It will be assembled in Dundee Bight to accommodate staff during the operational season. A second shelter will be constructed in the 2022 season to better accommodate staff.
- There will be tents and canvas shelters assembled for equipment storage and sleeping shelters, but not permanently.
- Aircraft access (fixed wing and helicopter) to and from the second camp location, which will be constructed in areas suitable to land safely depending on the type of aircraft being operated.
- Over snow vehicle access during snow covered times of the year.
- Exploratory hiking, day trips as well as multi-day trips from camp location.
- Overnighting- exploratory camping, holding in park meetings, and stakeholder meetings (Park Management Committee, community groups)
- Fuel Cache of approximately 5 drums of fuel during the months of April, May, June, July, and August. All fuel caches will have a BERM and Spill Kit on site. Any remaining fuel will be brought back to Resolute for proper storage.



2. Extension for using Dome Camp as a secondary camp

The “Qausuittuq National Park Temporary Operational Camp” (Dome Camp) project received recommendation from the NIRB and the NFU in 2016. The intent was to establish a temporary camp area for staff, visitors, and community members who are accessing the Park while determining if the area was suitable as a permanent location. The temporary camp (Dome Camp) was originally supposed to last for 3 years before being closed or transformed into a permanent location. Although decision was made to consider another location (Dundee Bight) for the establishment of a permanent camp, QaNP would like to keep on operating the Dome shelter as a secondary camp for safety and operational reasons (2022-2025).

Why are you doing this project (aka rationale)?

Examples: necessary for park operations, support visitor experience objectives, improve public safety, implement actions from the park management plan, recommendations from communities or Joint Park Management Committees, etc.

1. New camp at Dundee Bight

Qausuittuq National Park is located in an area that is deemed to have a higher concentration of Polar bears, and the need for a hard sided shelter and bear fence to keep people safe is of high importance. Dundee Bight is being considered for a more permanent camp, also as the main airstrip for staff operations. The airstrip in Dundee Bight is located on an old gravel river bed, which allows for better drainage, compared to Dome Camp’s clay and mud airstrip. The airstrip is oriented from North to South, whereas Dome Camp’s is East to West. The predominant winds observed in the park are North to South; which creates a problem for Twin Otters to land in Dome Camp with crosswinds (East to West) if an emergency evacuation is required.

These old gravel bars may be a good place to situate an operational base camp, since the area would have better drainage and would have running water from better water sources than those at Dome Camp, which require staff to haul water 1km from the lakes. The area around this strip presents good visitor, operational and ecological monitoring possibilities. The Dundee Bight area is rich with vegetation and wildlife which would allow staff to monitor the tundra ecosystem in sites that are valuable to the endangered Peary Caribou.

The new temporary operational camp at Dundee Bight will help support:

- The hard shelter itself will provide safe accommodation/shelter for staff, visitors, and community members who are accessing the area for operational, visitation, cultural or emergency purposes.
- Support Visitor experience objectives, by providing an area that can be used as a safe hard sheltered emergency or visitation shelter. The shelter will help staff and community members familiarize these areas, to help promote the park to visitors with a better understanding of the area that they are endorsing. Also, the project will ensure that Parks Canada is informing visitors of areas to enter and access the park, areas of cultural history, and safety information.
- Resource Conservation objectives by providing a safe area to be based out of while performing research activities, and supporting other projects associated with establishing ecological monitoring.



- Public safety objectives by gaining a better knowledge of the area and its hazards by accessing the park from an area that is safe and protected (hard sided shelter with an electric bear fence), while performing activities to help gain a better understanding of what visitors, community members, researchers, and Parks Canada Agency staff will be encountering while conducting and carrying out their activities.
- Objectives set out in the Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement for Qausuittuq National Park (IIBA). Some of these objectives include visitor access, areas of importance to Inuit, contaminated sites clean-up, training and development of staff, public safety, and management plan development.

2. Extension for using Dome Camp as a secondary camp

The dome shelter has and continues to provide safe accommodation and shelter for staff, visitors, and community members who are accessing the area for operational, visitation, cultural or emergency purposes. Dome Camp is well equipped with emergency camp gear, cookware, non-perishable foods and a first aid kit. In addition to all the above bullet points for Dundee Bight that are also applicable to Dome Camp:

- Dome Camp is shorter hiking distance to the Hoodoo's and Hoodoo's 2, also to the Cultural Resource site found in Graham Moore Bay. It will allow staff to conduct ecological integrity monitoring and impact assessments in these areas.
- Explore a hiking route between Dome Camp and the Potential Zodiac Landing Sites.

Where is the project occurring? (aka location)

Provide coordinates, route, etc. If you only know the general area, then identify that. A map showing this information is useful

1. Qausuittuq National Park, Dundee Bight

N 75°52.012' / W 099°53.011'

2. Qausuittuq National Park, Dome Camp

N 75°48.168' / W 101°17.489'

Who is involved? (aka personnel)

Identify the number of people that are going and who they represent. If you are not sure, use maximum numbers. Example: a maximum of 10 people -- approximately 3 staff (one from park, 1 CRM and 1 other), 3 elders, 3 youth and an outfitter.

Angela Piercey – Park Manager

Valerie Amarualik – Resource Conservation Technician

PM02 – Education Outreach Officer II

EG04 – Resource Conservation Officer II

Guide – Local outfitter

Guide – HTA recommended guide

Laborer from the community - Local

Summer Student - Local



How are you going to do it? (aka project activities)

This is where you need to put down enough details for someone who is unfamiliar with the project to get a good understanding of what is being done. So, for example, just stating that you are putting in new boundary signs doesn't tell anyone whether you are hiking in or going in by helicopter or whether you are doing it in phases by dropping supplies off by snowmobile and then hiking in later to install the signs. It also doesn't identify whether you are drilling holes, digging holes or using a sledgehammer to pound in poles. If some of the information is already written down somewhere else, then refer to the document rather than writing it all down again.)

Questions to consider:

- *How are you travelling?*
- *What equipment do you need?*
- *Do you need any fuel or hazardous materials? If so how will you handle and store them?*
- *Will you be leaving any materials behind? If so, how will they be stored and when and how will they be removed?*
- *Are there safety considerations? If so, how will you manage these?*

1. Site preparation/access activities:

Dundee Bight

Access to Dundee Bight will be in April 2021 by twin otter to deliver 5 drums of fuel and a BERM and Spill Kit. Dundee Bight will have 3 drums of gasoline and 2 drum of diesel. Construction material and equipment will be delivered in July 2021 and will be wrapped in Tyvek and Tarpaulin and then raised from the ground to prevent any water damage.

The second hard shelter will be delivered in July 2022, raised from the ground and wrapped in Tyvek and Tarpaulin.

Dome Camp

Dome Camp will not be operated in 2021, so activities will only resume in 2022. The current plan is to deliver 2 drums of gasoline and 1 diesel drum in April 2022. Park staff will visit Dome Camp twice a year, in the spring with snowmobiles and in the summer by aircraft

2. Dimensions of structures, size of excavation, area of disturbance, fill requirements

Dundee Bight

Bear fence – once erected the fence will encompass a 50'X50' area.

2x Hard shelter platform – 16'X18'

2x Hard shelter – 16'X18'

Dome Camp

Bear fence – 50'X50' area.

Dome shelter platform – 16'X16'

Dome shelter – 14' diameter shelter on top of the platform

Kitchen tent platform- 8'X10'

Shed with attached outhouse- 6'X8'

3. Construction activities, methods, materials, equipment to be used

Materials

- *Hard shelters / Dome shelter (pre-fabricated shelters with all accompanying hardware)*
- *Bear fences – are made out of fibreglass poles and high tensile wire. The poles will be pounded into the ground where they can be using a hand operated post pounder or using large rocks stacked to hold the posts vertical. If rocks are to be used to hold poles in place they will be scattered once the camp is taken down.*
- *Equipment to be used in constructing the platform will be battery operated power tools with the use of a portable generator to charge the batteries.*



4. Associated project work (e.g., paving, vegetation removal, excavation, etc.)
 - *The associated work for this project would be aircraft access and fuel caching of fuel drums.*
5. Changes to utilities, capacity or demand, new lines (i.e. water, electric, natural gas, wastewater)
6. Toxic or hazardous materials (e.g. cast in place concrete, chemicals, fuels, paints, solvents, explosives)
 - *Fuel – aviation fuel for aircraft; gasoline for generator use; propane and diesel for heating and cooking. A BERM and Spill Kit will be provided for Dundee Bight.*
7. Operational requirements: (materials, maintenance procedures, monitoring, waste & wastewater management requirements)
 - *Monitoring of the site to determine if the area is suitable for future use will be ongoing.*
 - *Camp will be low maintenance as it is a temporary simple style operation camp.*
 - *Waste will be flown out to Resolute whenever an aircraft is leaving the area.*
 - *Waste will be stored within the Bear fence during occupancy and stored in bear proof containers to minimize attractants, especially smells.*
 - *Spill kits will be kept on site in the event of a fuel spill.*
 - *Human waste will be flown out to Resolute at the end of each camp stay and stored in bear proof containers.*
8. Site modifications, structure removals, site reclamation activities
 - *At the end of the project all structures will be removed and any large rocks that were used to anchor down the bear fence or other structures will be replaced/scattered as to show minimal use of the area.*

When will the project take place? (aka schedule)

Give approximate timing for the project activities. If you are not sure, give a window and the length of time you expect it to take
Example – drop off building supplies by snowmobile in mid-May during patrol (date to be identified later).

This project will take place from April 1, 2021 – August 31, 2025. In April, the 5 drums of Fuel will be cached in Dundee Bight. On July 13th the construction material will be brought to Dundee Bight. Construction will take one day, currently scheduled for July 20-28. Weather/helicopter window of July 20-28.

Helpful information -- what steps are you taking to protect the natural and cultural resources? (aka mitigation)

The more information you provide on your proposed activity, the faster we'll be able to complete the conformity determination. You may already have included this information in the "How are you going to do it" section. If you have, you don't have to repeat it. If you are following standard procedures or best management practices, you can just refer to those without having to repeat them.

Examples: While camping we will follow the best management practices for guided activities and for using and storing fuel, we will follow the NFU Fuel Cache and Spill Response Plan.

Questions to consider:

- *Do you know of any ecological or cultural resources that could be affected by your activity? (Think of water quality, breeding seasons, species at risk, known cultural sites, Inuit harvest activities.)*
- *How are you planning to protect those ecological or cultural resources?*
- *What are you doing with human waste and garbage?*



Project Phases and Activities Table				
	Use this table to help identify phases of your project and associated activities.			
	Phases	Examples of Associated Activities	Y / N	Details
Project Components	Construction / Site Preparation	Supply and storage of materials	Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All materials will be flown in by aircraft. - Materials stored on site will either be stored in the dome shelter or bear proof containers.
		Burning	N/A	
		Clearing	N/A	
		Demolition	N/A	
		Disposal of waste	Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waste will be flown out to Resolute whenever an aircraft is leaving the area. - Waste will be stored within the Bear fence during occupancy and stored in bear proof containers to minimize attractants, especially smells. - Spill kits will be kept on site in the event of a fuel spill. - Human waste will be flown out to Resolute at the end of each camp stay and stored in bear proof containers.
		Blasting/ Drilling	N/A	
		Dredging	N/A	
		Drainage	N/A	
		Excavation	N/A	
		Grading	N/A	
		Backfilling	N/A	
		Use of machinery	N/A	
		Transport of materials/ equipment	N/A	
		Building of fire breaks	N/A	
		Use of Chemicals	N/A	
		Set up of temporary facilities	Y	The entire site is considered a temporary facility
		Other...		
	Operation/Implementation Decommissioning	Waste disposal	Y	Disposal of waste will follow the mitigations set out in Appendix 2 for Commercial Guiding Activities in the Northern National Parks of Canada
		Wastewater and grey water disposal	Y	Disposal of wastewater and grey water will follow the mitigations set out in Appendix 2 for Commercial Guiding Activities in the Northern National Parks of Canada
		Maintenance	Y	On-going maintenance of the site/temporary camp will be carried out to make sure that the area is not an area for attracting wildlife, especially Polar bears. Wildlife deterrent practices will be performed at the site according to best practices and Parks Canada policy.
		Use	Y	General use of Qausuittuq National Park will follow the mitigations set out in Best Management Practices for Guided Activities in the Nunavut Field Unit and the Canada National Parks Act, including the Rules and Regulations set out in the Act.

Simple Project Description Template



	Use/Removal of temporary facilities	Y	Use and removal of temporary facilities (camping, overnighing, base camp) will follow the mitigations set out in Best Management Practices for Guided Activities in the Nunavut Field Unit and the Canada National Parks Act, including the Rules and Regulations set out in the Act.
	Use of Chemicals	Y	Use of chemicals, especially fuelling of aircraft and caching of small amounts of fuel, will follow the best practices/mitigations set out in the Best Management practice for aircraft landings in the Nunavut Field Unit, including the Rules and Regulations set out in the Act.
	Active fire stage	N	
	Clean-up of prescribed burn	N	
	Planting	N	
	Culling	N	
	Vehicle Traffic	Y	Over snow vehicle use and aircraft use will follow the mitigations set out in the Best Management Practices for Guided Activities in the Nunavut Field Unit, Best Management practice for aircraft landings in the Nunavut Field Unit, and the Canada National Parks Act, including the Rules and Regulations set out in the Act.
	Other...		



Figure 1 Dundee Bight Airstrip: South facing North



Figure 2. Dundee Bight Airstrip: South facing North



Figure 3. Dundee Bight Airstrip. North Facing South, Start of runway.