



NIRB File No.: 21YN024
NPC File No.: 149435

June 2, 2021

Leah Pengelly
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
501 University Crescent
Winnipeg R3T 2N6

Sent via email: leahpengelly@gmail.com

Re: Notice of Screening for Department of Fisheries and Oceans' "Ecosystem Approach to Tremblay Sound (EAT) Program" project proposal

Dear Leah Pengelly:

On April 23, 2021 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen Department of Fisheries and Oceans' (DFO) "Ecosystem Approach to Tremblay Sound (EAT) Program" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **21YN024** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

INFORMATION REQUEST

On April 26, 2021, the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that sufficient information is provided to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and commence screening.

On May 10, 2021, the NIRB released a formal correspondence, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, requesting that the Proponent provide the Board with the information necessary in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. On May 28, 2021, the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Scope:

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125610.

Project:	Ecosystem Approach to Tremblay Sound (EAT) Program		
Region:	Qikiqtani		
Location:	Eclipse Sound, Tremblay Sound and Milne Inlet		
Closest Community:	Pond Inlet	Direction	Southwest
Summary of Project Description:	The Proponent intends to conduct marine ecosystem research and monitoring of the Eclipse Sound region, including Tremblay Sound and Milne Inlet. This field program consists of passive acoustic monitoring, remote biopsy and tagging of killer whales and photo identification of killer whales.		
Project Proposed Timeline:	July 17, 2021 to September 15, 2021		

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Installation of hydrophones and recorders to small bottom anchored moorings placed within Milne Inlet and Tremblay Sound to record ambient noise, shipping noise, and marine mammal vocalizations;
- Biopsy collection and satellite tag on killer whale;
- Research and monitoring activities by aluminium boat or zodiac to transport a team of four (4); and
- Activities carried out by Inuit field researchers from Pond Inlet.

Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry www.nirb.ca/project/125610 and include:

- *NPC Questionnaire, Application, and Conformity Determination*
- *NIRB Application*
- *Revised NIRB Application*
- *Project Description in English and Inuktitut*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by Department of Fisheries and Oceans project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **June 23, 2021**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca, via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125610.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-2594 or gdaoust@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Guillaume Daoust
Technical Advisor I
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (4): Public Notice of Screening (English, and Inuktitut)
Comment Forms (English, and Inuktitut)

cc: Distribution List
Stephen Williamson Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Natalie O'Grady, Government of Nunavut
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute

Adrian Paradis, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
Jane Chisholm, Parks Canada
Daniel Coombs, Fisheries and Oceans Canada