



COMMENT FORM FOR NIRB SCREENINGS

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has a mandate to protect the integrity of the ecosystem for the existing and future residents of Nunavut. To assess the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the project proposal, NIRB would like to hear your concerns, comments and suggestions about the following project proposal application:

Project Proposal Title: Shift-eDNA	
Proponent: Université de Montpellier	
Location: Qikiqtani (North and South Baffin) Regions	
Comments Due By: March 17, 2022	NIRB #: 22YN004

Indicate your concerns about the project proposal below:

<input type="checkbox"/> no concerns	<input type="checkbox"/> traditional uses of land
<input type="checkbox"/> water quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Inuit harvesting activities
<input type="checkbox"/> terrain	<input type="checkbox"/> community involvement and consultation
<input type="checkbox"/> air quality	<input type="checkbox"/> local development in the area
<input type="checkbox"/> wildlife and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> tourism in the area
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> marine mammals and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> human health issues
<input type="checkbox"/> birds and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fish and their habitat	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> heritage resources in area	_____

Please describe the concerns indicated above:


Disturbance of Marine Mammals

Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for this application?

Section 7 of the Marine Mammal Regulations (Fisheries Act) prohibits the disturbance of marine mammals. Generally, disturbance is interpreted as disruption to an animal's normal life processes, resulting from intentional human activities (e.g., to pursue, accompany, overtake, encircle, approach repeatedly, hunt, disperse, drive or herd individuals or groups of marine mammals). This applies equally to divers, kayaks, motor boats and aircraft. Disturbance response thresholds vary among individuals, species and locations.

DFO recommends that watercraft should survey the area for Marine Mammals to avoid disturbing them. If marine mammals are encountered, and remain in the area, effort should be made to avoid disturbing them by rerouting, slowly navigating around their location at a reduced speed and maintaining their distance. The watercraft should not accelerate within 800 m of whales and 250 m for other marine mammals. The marine mammals should not be approached, in general, within 100 m for common species and 400 m for Species at Risk. Please see the distances set out in Section 5 of the Marine Mammal Regulations for additional setback based on



species and location (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-93-56/page-11.html#docCont).	
<p>Do you support the project proposal? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Any additional comments?</p> <p>It is your Duty to Notify DFO-FPP if you have caused, or are about to cause, serious harm to fish that are part of or support a commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fishery. Such notifications should be directed to http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/contact-eng.html.</p> <p>Additional information on marine mammals is available on our website: http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especies/mammals-mammiferes/watching-observation/index-eng.html.</p> <p>If you have any questions please contact Rick Kiriluk at our Burlington office by email at Rick.Kiriluk@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.</p>	
Name of person commenting:	<u>Rick Kiriluk</u> of <u>Fisheries & Oceans Canada</u>
Position:	<u>A/ Team Leader, Triage & Planning</u> Organization: <u>Fisheries & Oceans Canada</u>
Signature:	<u></u> Date: <u>March 10 2022</u>