



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:	Passive Acoustic Monitoring and UAV Assessment of the Impacts of Shipping and Development on High Arctic Beluga Whales and Narwhals		
Proponent:	Fisheries and Oceans Canada		
Location:	Qikiqtani (North Baffin) Region		
Comments Due By:	May 18, 2022	NIRB #:	22YN021

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:

Your proposal has been reviewed to determine whether it is likely to result in the death of fish by means other than fishing and the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat which are prohibited under subsections 34.4(1) and 35(1) of the *Fisheries Act*; and, effects to listed aquatic species at risk, any part of their critical habitat or the residences of their individuals in a manner which is prohibited under sections 32, 33 and subsection 58(1) of the *Species at Risk Act*.

The *Fisheries Act* protects all marine mammals under the provisions of the *Marine Mammal Regulations* of the *Act*, which prohibits the disturbance of a marine mammal. The minimum distance requirements are in place to ensure marine mammals are not disturbed or harmed inadvertently while watching marine wildlife (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/mammals-mammiferes/watching-observation/index-eng.html>).

Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for this application?

When your proposed activities cannot follow the minimum distance requirements, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans may issue an authorization to disturb a marine mammal in some circumstances under the *Marine Mammal Regulations*. If your activity constitutes disturbance as defined by the *Marine Mammal Regulations*, you need to apply for authorization to disturb a marine mammal. The application form and further application instructions can be found at <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species->



[especies/mammals-mammiferes/section38/index-eng.html](https://www.nirb.ca/especies/mammals-mammiferes/section38/index-eng.html). Applications related to the production of audio-visual records should be submitted to NT-NUpermit@dfo-mpo.gc.ca at least 30 days before the proposed start date.

Do you support the project proposal? Yes ☒ No ☐ Any additional comments?

It is the proponent's Duty to Notify DFO if they have caused, or are about to cause, the death of fish by means other than fishing and/or the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat. Such notifications should be directed to FisheriesProtection@dfo-mpo.gc.ca or 1-855-852-8320.

If you have any questions please contact Rick Kiriluk at our Burlington office at 905-336-4560 or by email at Rick.Kiriluk@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Name of person commenting: Rick Kiriluk **of** Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Position: A/Team Leader – Triage and Planning **Organization:** Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Signature:  **Date:** May 11 2022