



Nunavut Field Unit
Box 278
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

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Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0
Via Email: info@nirb.ca

Parks Canada comments on 23YN023 proposal “High Arctic Cetacean Survey 2023”

Good afternoon

Thank you for the opportunity to review Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s proposal “Far North Fiber Marine Route Survey”. Survey activities will occur in the area that will become part of Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area and in proximity to Sirmilik National Park where there are a number of key migratory bird habitat areas. Parks Canada would like to recommend the following aerial setbacks which are consistent with those identified in the draft Nunavut Land Use Plan:

- Avoid known seabird colonies and areas of high bird concentrations by a minimum landward lateral distance of 1.5 km and a minimum seaward lateral distance of 3 km. If avoidance is not possible, maintain a minimum flight altitude of 3,500 ft (1,100 m).

Key seabird colony sites located within Sirmilik National Park and Tallurutiup Imanga include: Cape Hay and South Bylot Island (Bylot Island), Baillarge Bay (Borden Peninsula, Baffin Island), Hobhouse Inlet and Cape Liddon (south Devon Island), Buchan Gulf (east coast of north Baffin Island).

Maps for the seabird colonies may be found in:

https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2018/ecccc/CW69-1-114-eng.pdf

Maps for important marine habitat sites may be found in:

<https://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.570069/publication.html>

If you have any questions regarding this submission, please do not hesitate to contact me at nunavut-impactassessment@pc.gc.ca or 873-353-4849

Sincerely,

Jane Chisholm
Program / Policy Advisor