



**NIRB File No.: 24YN009**  
NPC File No.: 150212

March 7, 2024

Julia Beak  
Canadian Wildlife Service  
933 Mivvik Street, Suite 301  
Iqaluit Nunavut X0A 0H0

Sent via email: [julia.beak@ec.gc.ca](mailto:julia.beak@ec.gc.ca)

**Re: Notice of Screening for Canadian Wildlife Service's "Hantzsch Island Thick-Billed Murre Surveys" project proposal**

Dear Julia Beak:

On February 6, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen Canadian Wildlife Service's (CWS) "Hantzsch Island Thick-Billed Murre Surveys" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), which noted that the project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan.

On February 27, 2024, the NIRB received the complete application from the Proponent.

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 **24YN009** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

#### 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/125888](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125888).

<b>Project:</b>	Hantzsch Island Thick-Billed Murre Surveys
<b>Region:</b>	Qikiqtani

<b>Location:</b>	Hantzsch Island				
<b>Closest Community:</b>	Iqaluit	<b>Distance (approximate)</b>	270 kilometres (km)	<b>Direction</b>	northwest
<b>Summary of Project Description:</b>	The Proponent intends to conduct research on Thick-billed murre colonies using camera and a drone for research purposes. The project will take place in July/August in 2024 and 2025 over 1-3 days.				
<b>Project Proposed Timeline:</b>	July 2024 to August 8 2025				

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

- Use of a boat to transport personnel and equipment to project location;
- Use of a drone to record thick-billed murres and other breeding seabirds on the island;
- Use of a camera to record thick-billed murres and other breeding seabirds on the island;
- Use of 200 liters of gasoline for the boat; and
- Any waste created will be disposed of in an approved facility in Iqaluit.

### ***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/125888](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125888) and include:

- *Commission Application and Conformity Determination*
- *NIRB Application*

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 CWS project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **March 28, 2024**.

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](mailto: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/125888](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125888).

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4616 or [femingak@nirb.ca](mailto:femingak@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Francis Emingak  
Technical Advisor I  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

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

cc: Distribution List  
Dustin Fredlund, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.  
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.  
Connor Goddard, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut  
Diane Lapierre, Government of Nunavut  
Caroline Whittle, Government of Nunavut, (GN-CH)  
Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Government of Nunavut (GN-DOE)  
Drikus Gissing, Government of Nunavut (GN-DOE)  
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute  
Lisa Pirie-Dominix, Canadian Wildlife Service  
Alasdair Beattie, Fisheries and Oceans Canada