



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Pêches et Océans
Canada

Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program
Arctic Region
301 – 5204 50th Ave. (Franklin)
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
X1A 1E2

Programme de protection du poisson et de son habitat
Région de l'Arctique
301 – 5204 50th Ave. (Franklin)
Yellowknife, Territoires du Nord-Ouest
X1A 1E2

July 25, 2025

Your file *Votre référence*
25XN030

Our file *Notre référence*
25-HCAA-01363

Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360 (29 Mitik St.)
Cambridge Bay, NU
X0B 0C0

Subject: Government of Nunavut's Qikiqtarjuaq Marine Infrastructure Project Proposal

To whom it may concern,

On July 03, 2025, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on the Government of Nunavut's Qikiqtarjuaq Marine Infrastructure Project proposal (NIRB file number: 25XN030). The Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) has reviewed the information submitted to NIRB and considered the potential environmental effects of the proposed project based on its mandate, i.e. the management, protection and conservation of fish and their habitats pursuant to the *Fisheries Act* and the *Species at-Risk Act*.

DFO is of the opinion that the proposed project warrants an in-depth analysis in relation to our mandate, specifically its potential impacts on fish and fish habitat. This is due to the inclusion in the project proposal of the construction and operation of structures near or in fish habitat (e.g., a deep-sea port facility). DFO's technical expertise pertaining to the *Fisheries Act* and the *Species at-Risk Act* will support the NIRB's assessment of this project's potential effects on the receiving environmental and on the valued ecosystem components.

If more information is required, please contact Nicholas Wasilik at Nicholas.Wasilik@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Harper
A/ Senior Biologist
Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program
Arctic Region
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Cc: Nicholas Wasilik, DFO