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Agenda

- Screening, review & monitoring — a quick recap
- Why NIRB monitors approved screening projects
- How NIRB monitors screening projects today
- Example: a screening project's annual report (24YN049)
- Where this could be heading — and getting ahead
- Questions & discussion



Screening, Review & Monitoring

- **Most proposals are screened** (within ~45 days) and approved with terms & conditions — no full review
- **Full reviews** are reserved for major projects and result in a Project Certificate
- **Monitoring can attach to either** — under NuPPAA, a Screening Decision or a Project Certificate may establish a monitoring program
- **For multi-year screenings** (exploration, research, energy), monitoring runs through an annual report required by the Screening Decision Report (SDR)

March IA Presentation:

https://www.nirb.ca/portal/dms/script/dms_download.php?fileid=360768



Why NIRB Monitors Screenings

- **Monitoring doesn't stop at approval** — NIRB also monitors screening projects already approved with terms & conditions
- It confirms conditions are followed and that effects stay within what was expected
- **Cumulative effects** — monitoring data builds the information base NIRB uses to understand impacts building up across the region
- **Informs future projects** — that information strengthens the assessment of the next proposals that come forward



Monitoring Screening Projects Today

- **Set by the SDR** — requirements live in the terms & conditions of the Screening Decision Report
- **Common plans** — Wildlife Mitigation & Monitoring Plan, Abandonment & Restoration Plan, Spill Contingency Plan
- **Community consultation** before activities begin
- **Annual report** submitted by March 31 each year
- **Lighter-touch** — focused on activities undertaken and compliance, not major-project-scale effects monitoring



Example: (24YN049)



- **The project** — West Kitikmeot Resources Corp., Field Research Program for the Grays Bay Road & Port Project
- **Annual report** — a comprehensive report by March 31 each year (first due March 31, 2026), to NIRB and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- **Contents include** — activities & maps (drill sites, fuel cache); community consultation; traditional land-use / harvesting log; wildlife & environmental monitoring; WMMP results; heritage sites; Inuit land use; and compliance with the Screening Decision
- **Plus** — an updated Wildlife Mitigation & Monitoring Plan and Spill Contingency Plan
- Links
 - SDR: https://www.nirb.ca/portal/dms/script/dms_download.php?fileid=353311&applicationid=126002&sessionid=8sifag2q3rf9s21n3i4de57qd6
 - Annual Report: https://www.nirb.ca/portal/dms/script/dms_download.php?fileid=359751&applicationid=126002&sessionid=8sifag2q3rf9s21n3i4de57qd6

Example: (24YN049)



encountered during land-based activities. This should include briefings explaining the prohibitions regarding removal of artifacts, and defacing or writing on rocks and infrastructure.

77. No activities shall be conducted in the vicinity (50 metres buffer zone) of any archaeological/historical sites. If archaeological sites or features are encountered, activities shall immediately be interrupted and moved away from this location. Each site encountered needs to be recorded and reported to the Government of Nunavut-Department of Culture and Heritage.

Other

78. The Proponent should consult with local residents regarding their activities in the area and solicit available Inuit Qaujimaningit and information that can inform project activities.
79. The Proponent shall ensure that project activities do not interfere with Inuit wildlife harvesting or traditional land use activities.
80. The Proponent should, to the extent possible, hire local people and access local services where possible.

MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

In addition, the Board is recommending the following:

Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan

1. Prior to the start of project activities, the Proponent shall submit an updated Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (WMMP) to the Nunavut Impact Review Board, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment and. At a minimum, this plan should include proposed template for a wildlife log/record of observations and proposed mitigation measures for caribou, migratory birds, grizzly bear and other sensitive species that may be encountered within the project area. The Proponent is encouraged to consult with the Government of Nunavut's Regional, regarding project schedule and timelines so as to ensure adequate mitigation of potential wildlife impacts.

Annual Report

2. The Proponent shall submit a comprehensive annual report with copies provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board, Kitikmeot Inuit Association, by March 31st of each year of permitted activities beginning March 31, 2026. The annual report must contain at least the following information:
 - a) A summary of activities undertaken for the year, including:
 - a map showing the approximate location of drill sites;
 - a map showing the location of the fuel cache;
 - a description of local hires, contracting opportunities and initiatives;
 - flight altitudes, frequency of flights and anticipated flight routes;
 - site photos;
 - b) A work plan for the following year, including any progressive reclamation work undertaken;

Example: (24YN049)



- c) A summary of community consultations undertaken throughout the year, providing copy of materials presented to community members, a description of issues and concerns raised, discussions with community members and advice offered to the company as well as any follow-up actions that were required or taken to resolve any concerns expressed about the project proposal;
- d) A log of instances in which community residents occupy or transit through the project area for the purpose of traditional land use or harvesting. This log should include the location and number of people encountered, activity being undertaken (e.g., berry picking, fishing, hunting, camping, etc.), date and time; and any mitigation measures or adaptive management undertaken to prevent disturbance;
- e) A discussion of issues related to wildlife and environmental monitoring, including the number of cease-work orders required as a result of proximity to caribou and any other wildlife;
- f) A brief summary of WMMP results as well as any mitigation actions that were undertaken. In addition, the Proponent shall maintain a record of wildlife observations while operating within the project area and include it as part of the summary report. The summary report based on wildlife observations should include the following:
 1. Locations (i.e., latitude and longitude), species, number of animals, a description of the animal activity, and a description of the gender and age of animals if possible.
 2. Prior to conducting project activities, the Proponent should map the location of any sensitive wildlife sites such as denning sites, calving areas, caribou crossing sites, and raptor nests in the project area, and identify the timing of critical life history events (i.e., calving, mating, denning and nesting).
 3. Additionally, the Proponent should indicate potential impacts from the project, and ensure that operational activities are managed and modified to avoid impacts on wildlife and sensitive sites.
- g) An analysis of the effectiveness of mitigation measures for wildlife;
- h) Summary of any heritage sites encountered during the exploration activities, any follow-up action or reporting required as a result and how project activities were modified to mitigate impacts on the heritage sites;
- i) Summary of its knowledge of Inuit land use in/near the project area and explain how project activities were modified to mitigate impacts on Inuit land use; and
- j) A summary of how the Proponent has complied with conditions contained within this Screening Decision, and all conditions as required by other authorizations associated with the project proposal.

Spill Contingency Plan

- 3. The Proponent shall update its Spill Contingency Plan to include the up to date emergency contact numbers for the Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment, Manager of

Example: How NIRB Reviews It

- **Receive** — the annual report is submitted and posted to the NIRB public registry
- **Check completeness** — did the proponent provide everything the SDR requires?
- **If deficient** — NIRB requests the missing information from the proponent
- **If complete** — NIRB confirms to parties that the report was received and is complete
- **Enforcement** — regulators act under their own permits, licences and authorizations
- *Today, unlike major projects, NIRB does not run a formal comment period seeking regulators' technical comments on a screening annual report.*



Where This Could Be Heading

Full reviews are reserved for major developments, projects of significant public concern, or untested technologies. However, some projects approved at the screening stage may still be large enough to require monitoring similar to that of major projects.

- **Examples** — mines are majority of examples to date
- **Still to be decided** — however, criteria above may apply to other infrastructure projects and are considered on a proposal by proposal basis
- **Early input matters** — comments during the 21-day screening comment period help shape any conditions



Where This Could Be Heading

NIRB's monitoring to date has been very short for projects issued terms and conditions from a screening level assessment

However, with larger projects with predictable impacts, may not satisfy the criteria for a Review level assessment but still warrant consistent observation through life of project – especially for major infrastructure projects

Just because a project receives specific funding or is categorized as a major project does not pre-determined by 'being on a list' or funding sources the NIRB's assessment pathway

federal impact assessment legislation (linkage to listed projects) does not apply to Nunavut

*NIRB is advocating for government coordination and NIRB finding to alleviate any possible delays in assessments to keep these political priorities.



Today's requirements — and the gaps for larger projects



Monitoring Requirements Now	Gaps to consider
Activity summary, maps & site photos	Effects measured against what was predicted
Wildlife observations & cease-work counts	Pre-set thresholds, adaptive management & cumulative effects
Largely environmental focus	Socio-economic effects on the community
One-time community consultation	Ongoing public & community engagement
Proponent's own compliance statement	Review by regulators

- **Getting ahead** — we're flagging this early so it's on your radar, not finalizing a new process
- **NIRB will decide internally** — how to handle larger screenings is still being worked through
- **Your voice is essential** — regulator input helps NIRB decide and makes monitoring work better
- **Mind the gaps** — especially ongoing public and community engagement, where community voice matters most





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