



NIRB File No.: 26YN051
NIRB Public Registry link:
www.nirb.ca/project/126480
NPC File No.: 151247

July 29, 2026

Elan Chalmers
Government of Nunavut
PO Box 100, Stn 700
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: echalmers@gov.nu.ca

Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request for Government of Nunavut's "Gjoa Haven Municipal Drinking Water Source Investigative Fisheries Study" project proposal

Dear Elan Chalmers:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has commenced screening¹ the project proposal.

By copy of this letter, NIRB invites regulators, interested parties, and community members or groups potentially affected by the proposal to view the application and comment directly to the NIRB by August 19, 2026.

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

The application can be viewed on NIRB's online registry www.nirb.ca/project/126480 where a comment form is available, or comments can be also submitted to info@nirb.ca, or by fax.

¹ 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)

Scope of proposal

Location	Kitikmeot region, at the municipal drinking water source within the municipal boundaries of Gjoa Haven.
Objective	The Proponent intends to conduct fish sampling activities to collect information on fish species presence and relative abundance to determine how the source can continue to support the community's drinking water needs while protecting fish and fish habitat, and to support future upgrades to the municipal drinking water system.
Timeline	July 10, 2026, to September 10, 2026 (one-time, two (2) month research activity).

The scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- **Undertakings, Works and Activities**
 - Fish sampling using non-lethal methods such as trap nets, electrofishing, and if needed, angling with barbless hooks.
 - Fish would be measured, weighed, and released alive.
- **Equipment and Fuel Use**
 - Transportation to and around the sampling locations by truck, ATV, non-motorized boat and or on foot depending on site conditions; and
 - Refueling of vehicles would be done prior to conducting activities, and no fuel is anticipated to be stored on site.
- **Water Use and Waste**
 - Minimal waste such as disposable gloves and fishing line is anticipated and would be brought back to town and disposed of at the local municipal waste site.
 - Water is expected to be withdrawn during the process of fish collection but would be returned to the lake and no water consumption is anticipated.

Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List

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.

Questions about the NIRB's work should be directed to the undersigned at 1-866-233-3033 EXT 575 or dsim@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Dustin Sim
Screening Officer
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Nidhi Singh, Nunavut Water Board
Abid Jan, Nunavut Water Board
Cory Barker, Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Tannis Bolt, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut
Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut
Natalie D'Souza, Government of Nunavut
Sean Joseph, Government of Nunavut
Adrian Paradis, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
Melissa Alexander, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
Alexie Baillargeon, NPMO
José Audet-Lecouffe, Fisheries and Oceans Canada