

Plain Language Summary

The seven sites of the Speers Lake bundle Project (the “Sites”) are located on Crown land in the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut. The Sites are uninhabited with varying amounts of recreation and subsistence use by locals and visitors. Site details including their location, historical use and summary of debris forming the cleanup plans for the Sites are provided in Table E-1 below.

Table E-1: Location and History of all Sites

Site	Distance from Kugluktuk	Coordinates	Site History	Debris Quantity
Speers Lake (WK097)	95 km from Kugluktuk	66° 59' 47" N and 115° 15' 08" W	Former exploration camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 229 m³ of debris • 3 lead acid batteries • and 347 fuel barrels, <u>11 of which contain fuel or fuel/water mix (2,050 L)</u>
Asiak River (WK154)	40 km from Kugluktuk	67° 37' 02" N, 114° 27' 54" W	Former exploration camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 m³ of debris • 9 empty fuel barrels • 2 m³ lead painted equipment
Kendall River (WK165)	90 km from Kugluktuk	67° 07' 02" N, 116° 07' 45" W	Former fishing outpost camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 m³ of debris • 1 empty fuel barrel and 2-20 L empty jerry cans
Tahiapik River (WK170)	100 km from Kugluktuk	67° 16' 54" N, 116° 07' 23" W	Former exploration camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29 m³ of debris • <u>12 empty fuel barrel</u> • <u>1 fuel barrel with unknown contents</u>
Impact Lake (WK176)	90 km from Kugluktuk	67° 34' 22" N, 117° 04' 38" W	Former exploration camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65 m³ of debris • 47 fuel barrels, <u>14 of which contain fuel or fuel/water mix (1,968 L)</u>
Coppermine Area (WK199)	50 km from Kugluktuk	67° 24' 11" N, 115° 09' 54" W	Former exploration camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 m³ of debris • 1 water tank, 2 propane tanks and 1 empty mini fuel barrel

Coppermine Area (WK210)	75 km from Kugluktuk	67° 29' 08.5" N, 116° 34' 20" W	Former exploration camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 43 m³ of debris • 122 empty fuel barrels, 2 mini fuel barrels, 1 jerry can, 1 compressed gas cylinder, 8 metal tanks, 1 propane tank • 3 fuel barrels with unknown contents
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All the Sites are under Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada’s (CIRNAC’s) responsibility. The project that is the subject of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) is the cleanup of the Sites (the “Project”). CIRNAC (the Proponent) will manage the Project that will involve the demolition of structures and the removal of hazardous and non-hazardous debris (as summarized in Table E-1 above).

Following the Remedial Options Analysis and the community engagement session, the recommended remediation option was southern off-site disposal of all hazardous debris and non-hazardous debris with the exception of rock cores and a concrete slab that will be left on-site and unpainted wood debris that will be burned on-site. Due to the challenging access to the Sites, equipment requirements will be kept to a minimum with only helicopter, float plane (Speers Lake site only) and fixed wing aircraft (via the nearby Hope Lake airstrip) assumed to be used to access the Sites. A small day camp is planned at the Speers Lake site to support the cleanup work and will include the use of ATVs and trailers to transport debris to staging areas for demobilization from the site.

The Project is expected to take approximately 1 summer season to complete, during summer 2026. The proposed work is expected to be completed over two parts encompassing the larger Speers Lake site (Phase 1), and the other six Sites (Phase 2, including Asiak River (WK154), Kendall River (WK165), Tahiapik River (WK170), Coppermine Area 199 (WK199) and Coppermine Area 210 (WK210)). Personnel and staff will likely be accommodated in Kugluktuk for most of the work with the exception of a small temporary camp at the Speers Lake site. Water, wastewater and waste management will be required for this small camp that is anticipated to accommodate 10 personnel. Wildlife monitors and labour will be sourced from local communities where possible.

In the short term, species and their habitats are expected to be minimally impacted. The majority of this impact will be in the form of disturbance from the presence of humans, aircraft, equipment and the accompanying noise, dust and activity. There is the possibility of more serious impacts from spills, fires, erosion and sedimentation and encounters with wildlife, however, these will be mitigated by the development of a comprehensive set of management plans developed, reviewed, and approved prior to commencing work.

Ultimately, any short-term negative impacts are anticipated to be offset by an overall improved environment and habitat to support species in their long-term future.

Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) is proposing to remediate seven sites located on Crown land in the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut. The seven sites included in the Speers Lake Bundle Project (the "Sites") are Speers Lake, Impact Lake, Asiak River, Kendall River, Coppermine Area WK199, Coppermine Area WK210, and Tahiapik River. All the Sites are under CIRNAC's responsibility. CIRNAC (the Proponent) will manage the Project that will involve the demolition of structures and the removal of hazardous and non-hazardous debris from all Sites.