



Tehery-Wager Geoscience Project



Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Schedule of Activities	3
3. Location of undertaking and preliminary plan.....	3
4. Description of undertaking, camp infrastructure, and equipment.....	4
5. Fuels to be used	5
5.1. Description of undertaking:	5
5.2. Petroleum storage, inventory & transfer:.....	5
6. Spill contingency plan	6
6.1. Risk assessment and mitigation of risk:	6
6.1.1 Petroleum products and other fuels.....	6
6.2. Responding to failures and spills	6
6.2.1 Spill response contact list.....	6
6.2.2 Basic steps – Spill Procedure.....	7
6.2.3 Basic Steps – Chain of Command	7
6.2.4 Other contacts for spill response/assistance and further reporting	7
6.3. Taking action:.....	7
6.3.1 Spill Response Actions for Gasoline and Jet B Aviation Fuel	7
6.3.2 Spill Response Actions for Propane	8
6.4. Spill Equipment:	9
7. Water use and rights	10
7.1. Quantity of water involved:	10
7.2. Water rights of existing and other users of water:.....	10
7.3. Inuit water rights:.....	10
8. Waste and disposal methods	10
9. Methods of transportation	11
10. Components of the environment	11
10.1. Historical sites:	11
10.2. Wildlife:	11
10.2.1 Caribou	11
10.2.2 Mitigation measures to minimize impacts on caribou and other animals	12
10.2.3 Monitoring	13
11. Predicted environmental impacts and proposed mitigation measures.....	13
12. Proposed reclamation plan	14
13. Consultation and local hiring	14
14. Permits and licences.....	14
15. Contact information	1414
16. Location map.....	15

1. Introduction

The 2017 field work component of the Tehery-Wager Geoscience Project is being coordinated by the Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office (C-NGO) in collaboration with partners from the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) and universities. This work is a continuation of the geological mapping conducted in 2015 and 2016, and aims to fill in the last remaining gaps in mapping, and follow up on targets with economic potential and scientific interest. Field work will be conducted between June 22nd to July 5th based from a temporary field camp (FPB Camp, located adjacent to Nanuq Camp owned by Peregrine Diamond's Ltd). Staging will be done out of Baker Lake, and every effort will be made to use local Inuit-owned businesses to support this work.

Large areas of Nunavut lack basic geoscience information – maps, data, and modern geological interpretations – required by resource companies, community agencies, and land-use planners to make efficient exploration and infrastructure development decisions. The Tehery-Wager area, located west of Hudson's Bay, represents one of these areas and was designated a mapping priority in the Federal Government's 2013-2020 Geo-Mapping for Energy and Minerals Program.

The long-term outcome of this work is to reduce risks for exploration, resource development, and land use planning in the Tehery-Wager area. It will provide framework geoscience information and address regional geological problems through bedrock, surficial, stream sediment, and thematic studies. All information will be made publicly available using the latest in GIS and data dissemination technology.

2. Schedule of Activities

Small quantities of aviation fuel are already in place at the FPB camp and the Lorillard fuel cache, however more fuel is required for the summer work and will be mobilized in March or early April, 2017. The field crew will meet in Baker Lake by June 20th, and mobilization of field gear and crews to FPB Camp will commence on June 22nd. Field work will be conducted out of the FPB Camp between ~June 23rd to July 4th. Demobilization of the FPB camp will be conducted on July 5th. Both mobilization and demobilization will utilize a Turbo Otter, while daily transportation of crews during the field work will be supported by one L-3 helicopter. Demobilization of all full and empty fuel drums at the camp and cache sites will be completed before the end of July.

3. Location of undertaking and preliminary plan

The project will be conducted in all or parts of eight NTS (scale 1:250 000) map sheets (see map 1). Specifically, these map sheets include 46 D and E, and 56 A, B, C, F, G, and H. The area is known to support major habitats for the following species: caribou (i.e. Northeastern Keewatin caribou calving grounds), gyrfalcon, peregrine falcon, polar bear (including denning areas), and Arctic wolves. The

proposed field work will have minimal impact on the wildlife itself, or on the major habitats that support the wildlife. During the field work, fist-size rock samples will be collected using a rock hammer and chisel. In rare situations, a gas-powered rock saw with hand-operated water pump may be used to cut out samples where rock outcrops are too competent or flat-lying for the use of a hammer. There will be no drilling or mechanical excavation. No other material will be collected while taking geological observations (i.e. plant specimens, fossils, fish, etc.). Helicopter flying (above 300 m altitude) will be done in a responsive manner to minimize any disruption of the wilderness, particularly the wildlife.

Several archeological or spiritual sites (e.g., Daly Bay area), including tent rings and inuksuit, are known to occur within the proposed map area. There are also two known carving stone quarries in the Daly Bay area (64°09.434'N, 89°43.881'W; 64°15.039'N, 89°47.196'W). The proposed field work will not result in any disturbance to archeological, historical or carving stone sites, but efforts will be made to find new carving stone deposits within the project area.

4. Description of undertaking, camp infrastructure, and equipment

The C-NGO/GSC currently possess 23 drums of Jet-A aviation fuel being stored in Baker Lake. In March or early April 2017, 4 drums of fuel will be cached at Fehet Lake Cache, located at 64°37'15.0"N, 92°01'14.0"W, and 8 drums of fuel will be brought to the FPB Camp, located at 65°13'40.8"N, 91°05'27.6"W, where 2 drums remain from the 2016 work. The caching will require 3 Turbo Otter flights from Baker Lake. A second cache site at the 2015 Lorillard camp, located at 64°36'59.0"N, 90°06'22.0", currently has 12 drums remaining from the 2015/2016 work, and these will also be utilized during this summer's work. All three cache and camp sites are located on Crown Land.

The FPB Camp is located ~210 km north of Chesterfield Inlet and ~255 km northeast of Baker Lake, and used as base camp in 2016. The camp area is adjacent to Nanuq Camp, owned by Peregrine Diamonds Ltd. Our work will not use or concern or affect any of Peregrine Diamond's equipment, infrastructure, or land area covered under their Land Use Plan. The general FPB/Nanuq camp area comprises a tundra airstrip, optimal water supply (Lorillard River), and open views to observe for wildlife.

On June 22, two Turbo Otter loads will carry 5 passengers and all required field gear and supplies from Baker Lake to FPB Camp. Similarly, the L-3 helicopter and pilot will travel from Baker Lake to FPB Camp, carrying the necessary helicopter gear, tools, and supplies. Camp will consist of 6 individual Eureka tents for sleeping, and 2 dome-style Mountain Hardware tents to serve as a kitchen and office space. A single 5000W Honda generator will be used to supply power to computers and other devices required for data collection (camera batteries, field tablets, GPS devices, field printer, etc.) during daytime hours when crew are in camp. We will have supplementary power from portable solar panel and power-converter devices, which may be left open to charge while crew are away

from camp. The kitchen will consist of camping coolers for keeping food cold, plastic containers/shelves for storing food and kitchen supplies, two table-top Coleman stoves fueled with two 17L propane tanks, a plastic wash basin for doing dishes, and tables and chairs. Greywater will be disposed of in pits that will be dug >35m from a water body and covered with fill on a regular basis. All personal hygiene products will also be stored in the kitchen tent. A pit toilet will be dug to >1 m depth in an area of sandy soil located >80m away from any high-water line, and downstream/downslope from the potable water source. The pit will be covered with a wooden-frame and tarp-walled outhouse.

The Project Leader will handle most of the camp logistics including safety issues, camp maintenance, daily phone calls to our expeditor, and management of camp staff. Meaningful and engaging community collaboration will be a very important factor in the success of the project. Ongoing interaction with the Hamlets of Chesterfield Inlet and Baker Lake, the Kivalliq Inuit Association, and the Hunters and Trappers Organizations is expected. We plan to visit Chesterfield Inlet on June 18-19th to deliver new Traditional Place Names maps produced by the C-NGO, and update the Hamlet Council on the progress of the Tehery-Wager Geoscience Project. Similarly, while in Baker Lake we will deliver the new Traditional Place Names maps to the Hamlet Office, and provide an update prior to starting the field work. We will contract local businesses for groceries, expediting, interim accommodations, cargo shipping, and field supplies.

5. Fuels to be used

5.1. Description of undertaking:

A fuel cache will be established at the FBP Camp which will store no more than 18 drums (205 L each) of aviation fuel, 2 propane tanks (17 L each), and 2 jerry cans of gasoline (40 L each). The FBP fuel supply will be inspected daily. Spill kits will be established at all designated refueling sites.

The fuel caches at the 2015 Lorillard Camp and Fehet Lake sites will store no more than 18 drums of aviation fuel (205 L each). The helicopter will be outfitted with a small spill kit, so supplies are always available in the event of a spill during refuelling.

5.2. Petroleum storage, inventory & transfer:

At FBP camp and the cache sites, Jet B aviation fuel drums will be stored on the ground, with bungs rotated in a horizontal position, and secured so they do not roll. Electrical pumps supplied by the helicopter contractors will be used for the transfer of Jet B aviation fuel. Smoking, sparks, or open flames are prohibited in fuel storage and fuelling areas at all times. A manual pump will also be available if necessary.

Jerry cans containing gasoline for the generator, and the generator itself, will be stored in insta-berms. Transferring of fuel will be contained within a berm to minimize the impacts of potential spills

or leaks. Smoking, sparks, or open flames are prohibited in proximity to the generator and gasoline storage areas, and these areas will be inspected daily.

Propane tanks will be connected to Coleman stoves with standard rubber tubing and brass fittings. The tank valves will be closed when stoves are not in use. Tanks will be placed outside the kitchen tent.

6. Spill contingency plan

6.1. Risk assessment and mitigation of risk:

6.1.1 Petroleum products and other fuels

- 1) **Drummed products:** Leaks or ruptures may affect storage containers of petroleum products.
- 2) **Fuel containers:** Leaks or ruptures could affect plastic jerry cans containing gasoline.
- 3) **Propane cylinders:** Propane leaks may occur at the valves of propane containers.

Regular inspection and maintenance in accordance with recognized and accepted standard practices at the camp will reduce any risks identified above.

Propane tanks will be transported with appropriate Dangerous Goods documentation. Tanks will be stored and secured in an upright position. Valves will be checked regularly and sealed with Teflon tape, where required.

Spill response training will be provided to all personnel in camp, with particular attention to those individuals who will regularly be handling fuels. The training will include a presentation, mock spill, review of spill kit contents and their use, and reporting.

Spill kits will be positioned at all refueling stations, and held onboard the helicopter for use at the cache sites. A description of the contents and configuration of the fuel spill kits is provided in section 11.6.

6.2. Responding to failures and spills

6.2.1 Spill response contact list

24 hour Spill Report Line
(867) 920-8130

<http://env.gov.nu.ca/node/66>

INAC Water Resources Inspector
Iqaluit, NU
(867) 975-4295

Environment Canada
Iqaluit, NU
(867) 975-4644
24-hour pager (867) 766-3737

Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment
(867) 975-7700
Manager of Pollution Control and Air Quality
(867) 975-7748

Kivalliq Inuit Association
Lands Department
PO Box 340
Rankin Inlet, NU X0C 0G0
Phone: (867) 645-5725
Fax: (867) 645-2348

6.2.2 Basic steps – Spill Procedure

In the case of any spill or other environmental emergency, it is necessary to react in the most immediate, safe and environmentally responsible manner. No spill or incident is so minor that it can be ignored and every spill must be reported.

The basic steps of the spill response plan are as follows:

1. Ensure the safety of all persons at all times.
2. Identify and find the spill substance and its source, and, if possible stop the process or shut off the source of the flow.
3. Inform the on-site coordinator or his/her designate at once, so that he/she may take the appropriate actions. Appropriate action includes the notification of the spill to the 24-hour Spill line and AANDC Water Resource Officer, a copy of the Spill Report can be found in Addendum I.
4. Contain the spill or environmental hazard, as per its nature, and as per the advice of the Spill Line and the AANDC Water Resource Officer as required.
5. Implement any necessary cleanup and/or remedial action.

6.2.3 Basic Steps – Chain of Command

1. Immediately notify and report to the 24-hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130, and the Water Resource Officer at (867) 975-4295, Environment Canada personnel at (867) 766-3737, Kivalliq Inuit Association Land Use Inspector at (867) 645-5735
2. A Spill Report Form (Addendum 1) is filled out as completely as possible before or after contacting the 24 hour Spill Line.

6.2.4 Other contacts for spill response/assistance and further reporting

Nunavut Water Board.....	(867) 360-6338
Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Habitat Impact Biologist.....	(867) 979-8007
Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment.....	(867) 975-5910
Kivalliq Inuit Association, Land Use Inspector.....	(867) 645-5735

6.3. Taking action:

6.3.1 Spill Response Actions for Gasoline and Jet B Aviation Fuel

Act only if safety permits. Stop the source flow if safe to do so and eliminate all ignition sources.

Never smoke when dealing with these types of spills.

On Land

Build a containment berm using soil material or snow and place a plastic tarp at the foot of the berm for easy capture of the spill after all vapors have dissipated.

Remove the spill by using absorbant pads or excavating the soil, gravel or snow.

Remove spill splashed on vegetation using particulate absorbant material.

Contact regulatory agencies for approval before commencing with the removal of any soil, gravel or vegetation.

On Muskeg

Do not deploy personnel and equipment on marsh and vegetation.

Remove pooled gasoline or Jet B with sorbent pads and/or skimmer.

Flush with low pressure water to herd oil to collection point.

On advice from regulatory agencies, burn only in localized areas e.g., trenches, piles or windrows.

Do not burn if root systems can be damaged (low water table)

Minimize damage caused by equipment and excavation.

On Water

Contain spill as close to release point as possible.

Use containment boom to capture spill for recovery after vapors have dissipated

Use absorbent pads to capture smaller spills.

Use skimmer for larger spills.

On Snow and Ice:

Build a containment berm around spill using snow.

Remove the spill using absorbent pads or particulate sorbent material.

The contaminated ice and snow must be scraped and shoveled into plastic buckets with lids, 205 liter drums, or polypropylene bags

Storage and Transfer

All contaminated water, ice, snow, soil, and clean up supplies will be stored in closed, labeled containers. All containers will be stored in a well-ventilated area away from incompatible materials.

Disposal

Any contaminated material will be shipped to an appropriate and approved facility. The Department of Environment monitors the movement of hazardous wastes from generators, carriers to receivers, through a tracking document (Waste Manifest). A waste manifest will accompany all movements.

6.3.2 Spill Response Actions for Propane

Take action only if safety permits. Gases stored in cylinders can explode when ignited.

Never smoke when dealing with these types of spills.

On Land:

Do not attempt to contain the propane release

On Water

Do not attempt to contain the propane release

On Snow and Ice:

Do not attempt to contain the propane release

General

It is not possible to contain vapors when released.

Water spray can be used to knock down vapors if there is no chance of ignition.

Small fires can be extinguished with dry chemical or CO₂.

Personnel should withdraw immediately from the area unless the leak is small and can be stopped immediately upon being detected.

If tank is damaged, gas should be allowed to disperse and no recovery attempt should be made.

Personnel should avoid touching release point on containers since frost forms very rapidly.

Keep away from tank ends.

Storage and Transfer

It is not possible to contain vapors when released

Disposal

Any contaminated material will be shipped to an appropriate and approved facility.

The Department of Environment monitors the movement of hazardous wastes from generators, carriers to receivers, through a tracking document (Waste Manifest). A waste manifest will accompany all movements.

6.4. Spill Equipment:

Spill kits will be on site at all designated refuelling stations. Spill kits consist of:

- heavy PVC tarp, impermeable to Jet B aviation and gasoline spills, sized in accordance with fuel containers (12x14' for drums of Jet B, 4x4' for jerry cans of gasoline at generator station)
- aluminum stakes to secure impermeable tarp to ground
- particulate absorbent
- petroleum sorbent pads
- 2 pairs PVC gloves
- 2 pairs safety goggles
- disposable bags
- 1 shovel
- fire extinguisher per spill site

7. Water use and rights

7.1. Quantity of water involved

We estimate the total daily water use at 75 L per day (0.075 m³/day).

Water will be used for personal use (drinking and washing), and cooking and cleaning.

Water returned to source is estimated at < 50 L per day (<0.05 m³/day).

7.2 Water rights of existing and other users of water

The project will not affect the quality, quantity, or flow of water in the area. No other water rights user is known for the proposed camp areas.

7.3. Inuit water rights

The project will not affect the quality, quantity, or flow of water flowing through Inuit Owned Lands.

8. Waste and disposal methods

Sewage:

- The quantity of sewage for a maximum of 6 people in camp at any one time is estimated around 25 L per day (0.025 m³/day).
- Holes will be dug in the ground (gravel outwash) at least 35m from the nearest water source and downstream from the main camp. Tents or wooden structures will be used as toilet facilities and the holes will be filled as necessary.

Greywater:

- Greywater will be produced from washing dishes, washing clothes by hand, and personal hygiene. All detergents used will be environmentally friendly and biodegradable.
- The quantity of greywater for a maximum of 6 people in camp at any one time is estimated around 75 L per day (0.075 m³/day).

- Holes for greywater disposal will be dug in the gravel outwash plain next to the pit toilet and at least 35 m from the nearest water source. These holes will be filled in as necessary.
- All sleeping tents will be at least 150 m away from the kitchen tent and pit toilet.

Other:

- All other waste will be contained in wildlife-resistant containers and shipped out of camp on the June 28th supply flight, and during the July 5th demobilization. The waste will then be disposed of at a local municipal waste facility (Baker Lake).
- All fuel drums will be removed from the camp and cache sites, flown to Baker Lake, crushed, and loaded into a sea container to be shipped to Montreal for recycling.

9. Methods of transportation

One helicopter (L-3) will be used to drop off and pick up mapping crews at the beginning and end of each day. Once dropped off, crews will walk across the land along ~10 km transects to their helicopter pick-up destination. Other crews will conduct short traverses (<250 m) on foot from helicopter landing sites.

10. Components of the environment

10.1 Historical sites

Several archeological or spiritual sites (e.g., Daly Bay area) such as tent rings and inuksuit are known to occur within the proposed map area. There are also two known carving stone quarries in the Daly Bay area (64°09.434'N, 89°43.881'W; 64°15.039'N, 89°47.196'W). The proposed field work will not result in any disturbance to archeological, historical or carving stone sites, but efforts will be made to find new carving stone deposits within the project area.

10.2 Wildlife

The Tehery-Wager area is known to support habitats for caribou, gyrfalcons, peregrine falcons, polar bears, wolves and musk oxen. While some animals are more abundant than others, or require particular considerations, all interactions with animals will be avoided where possible. Advice and information from government biologists, members from the local Hunters and Trappers Organizations, and members of the communities of Chesterfield Inlet and Baker Lake was collected and incorporated into daily practices during the 2015 and 2016 field seasons. The 2017 field season intends to apply the same practices to wildlife encounters, monitoring, and mitigation measures.

10.2.1 Caribou

Habitats

The Tehery-Wager area hosts barren-ground caribou of the Lorillard and Wager Bay herds. Generally, the Lorillard population range extends between Baker Lake, Wager Bay, and Chesterfield Inlet, while

the Wager Bay population range extends from the base of Melville Peninsula to Chesterfield Inlet, and inland west of Brown Lake to Hayes River. The Lorillard herd has calving areas at the headwaters of the Lorillard River just south of Wager Bay and another near the confluence of the Lorillard River with Hudson Bay (Calef and Helmer 1981; Donaldson 1981; Heard et al. 1986, 1987; Ferguson and Vincent 1992; Campbell 2005). Calving grounds for the Wager Bay population are relatively diffuse, but annual calving areas were identified at the north shore of Wager Bay, the south shore of Repulse Bay, and the north and south shores of Lyon Inlet (Campbell 2005).

Potential impacts

Caribou calving and post-calving areas are of critical importance for maintaining healthy caribou populations. Disturbances within these areas can demographically impact caribou populations, for example by interrupting foraging or increasing calf mortality (resulting from reduced nursing times or decreased milk production in adult females). Low-level flying, take-offs and landings, ground movement, and general noise disturbances in calving and post-calving areas can stress the caribou by inducing fleeing, cow/calf separation, habitat shifts, decreased foraging and resting rates, and decreased reproductive success. Other negative responses, such as increased heart and metabolic rates and rumination disruptions, may also impact caribou populations, particularly during the critical calving and post-calving seasons when individuals are already physiologically stressed.

10.2.2 Mitigation measures to minimize impacts on caribou and other animals:

Caribou:

Project activities during the critical timing window for caribou calving and post-calving activities (May 15-August 15) are unavoidable as our work cannot be conducted on snow-covered ground. Thus, to minimize the potential impacts of our proposed activities on caribou and its habitat, we propose to undertake the following actions and programs to mitigate and manage impacts:

- The FPB Camp will be set up adjacent to existing infrastructure at Nanuq camp to minimize our footprint on the land. Visual and noise disturbances at the camp will be kept to a minimum.
- Staff will be guided on how to avoid interactions with wildlife.
- Helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft pilots will maintain minimum flight altitudes of 650 metres, except when landing.
- Areas with observed concentrations of caribou will be strictly avoided. In the event of encounters, flight altitudes will be increased to 1000 m and a lateral distance of 1.5 km will be maintained. If required, alternative field sites will be chosen.
- During foot traverses, noise disturbances (ex. rock sampling) will be kept to a minimum and will cease if caribou are encountered. Regular wildlife checks will be conducted on the ground.
- During helicopter traverses, the helicopter will shut down at each sampling site to minimize noise disturbances.

- Fuel for the 2017 field season will be positioned in March or April 2017 to avoid the calving and post-calving seasons of the caribou herds. This will mitigate any potential impact of this work to caribou during the critical May 15-August 15 timing period.

Musk ox:

To minimize impacts and potential encounters with musk oxen:

- Project activities will be carried out between June 22 and July 5, mostly outside the calving season for musk ox. This will mitigate potential impact of our project activities to musk oxen during this critical periods.
- We will take care to maintain a minimum distance of 200 m if musk oxen are encountered.

Raptors:

To minimize impacts and potential encounters with raptors:

- We will refrain from approaching nesting raptors during the critical nesting period (May – July 15) to minimize the risk of destroying active nests, birds or their eggs.
- Crews will maintain a minimum distance of 100 metres from nest sites during the last weeks of nesting (when chicks fly from the nest).
- Nesting birds of any kind will not be disturbed, particularly during conditions of poor weather (rain, snow, high winds) which can stress the chicks.

10.2.3 Monitoring:

We will monitor and report on any wildlife sightings in the study area during the time of operation. The reports will include information such as: locations and dates of any wildlife sightings, behaviours or actions taken by animals when encountered, and actions taken to avoid contact or disturbance. The reports will be sent to the Ecosystems Biologist, Wildlife Research Section, Box 209, Igloodik, Nunavut, X0A 0L0.

11. Predicted environmental impacts and proposed mitigation measures

No long-term environmental impacts are expected. With the permission of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada and the Kivalliq Inuit Association, we will set up a temporary, low-impact base camp for the duration of the mapping project from June 22nd to July 5th, 2017. One helicopter (L-3) will be the only vehicle stationed at the camp. A tundra airstrip already exists at Peregrine Diamond's Nanuq Camp for Turbo Otter landing. The helicopter will transport crews to field sites daily, while the Turbo Otter will be used to cache fuel, and transport crew and field supplies during mobilization, one supply flight on June 28th, and during demobilization.

The proposed work will not have any impact on the wildlife itself or on the major habitats that support the wildlife. Helicopter flying (above 300 m altitude) will be done in a responsive manner to minimize any disruption of the wilderness, particularly the wildlife.

12. Proposed reclamation plan

Demobilization of the 2017 FPB camp will entail removal of tents and gear, shipping out of all garbage to the municipal landfill site in Baker Lake, and repositioning of any overburden or soil to its original extent, where possible. The site will be thoroughly cleaned following demobilization and everything brought back to its original source (Ottawa or other). The fuel drums (full and empty) at all three sites will be hauled back to Baker Lake where empties will be crushed, loaded into a sea container, and shipped to Montreal for recycling.

13. Consultation and local hiring

Initial consultation for the Tehery-Wager Geoscience Project took place in June 2014 in Chesterfield Inlet, and in April 2015 in Baker Lake. Members of the Kivalliq Inuit Association, Hamlet Councils, Hunters and Trappers Associations, Community Land and Resources Councils, and the general public were all presented with the proposed 2015 and 2016 field plans in both Chesterfield Inlet and Baker Lake. Questions and concerns community members were answered to the best of our ability at the time, and advice from the community was sought to improve our plans and minimize our impacts on the communities, environment, and wildlife. This summer, prior to the start of the field work in June, we will be returning to Chesterfield Inlet and Baker Lake to provide newly published Traditional Place Names maps of the Western Hudson Bay/Chesterfield Inlet area, as requested by the Hamlet and people of Chesterfield Inlet.

While the previous camps required field assistants, camp cooks, and other personnel, the work planned for 2017 is minimal, both in terms of crew and timeframe. We will be most dependent on securing contracts for groceries, expediting services, accommodations before and after the field season, and air freight shipping.

14. Permits and Licences

The project proponent has contacted all necessary organizations to extend existing Land Use and research permits and licences, or apply for new permits and licenses where necessary. These include:

Nunavut Research Institute.....	Licence: 0300815N-M.....	Extension requested, in progress
Nunavut Impact Review Board....	Report: 15YN008.....	Extension requested, in progress
AANDC Land Use Permit.....	Permit: N2015N0029.....	Extension requested, in progress
Kivalliq Inuit Association.....	Land use Permit: K VX15N03.....	Extension requested, in progress
Nunavut Water Board.....	New application for Use of Waters and Deposit of Waste Without a License submitted	

15. Contact Information

Project Proponent:

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16. Location map

