

Roche Bay Summary of Operations June 2006 - November 2006

Introduction

The following report is meant to give a summary of the activities that occurred at the Roche Bay camp and surrounding area during the season from June 25, 2006 – November 15, 2006. The activities of the project are located in Roche Bay, Nunavut at 68°15′ – 68°30′ and 82°00′ – 84°00′. The project has three permits issued, a water use permit from the Nunavut Water Board, a land use permit from Inuit and Northern Affairs Canada and a land and water use permit from the Qikiqtani Inuit Association. This report is being issued to all three governing bodies as well as the Hall Beach Hunters and Trappers Association.

Activities

The season began with the construction of a 16 person camp in late June. The camp mobilization coincided with the first environmental surveys that were conducted by EBA Consulting. Equipment and materials for the initial setup were flown in by DC3 from Churchill, Manitoba. Throughout July, environmental surveys were undertaken and camp construction occurred as well as the clean up of previous sites. The drill team was assembled in early August, and then drill training began. In early September, supervisor training was given by the WCB and first aid training was given by 1984 Enterprises. Drilling began on September 23, 2006 and continued until November 3, 2006. Camp clean up and winterization took place from November 7-15th and the camp officially closed on November 15, 2006.



Simeonie Natseck and Adam Kautaq with the drill.

Clean up

There were three sites that needed to be cleaned up from previous Borealis activities. There is a site on top of one of the ore bodies where there were abandoned core racks, empty barrels and other miscellaneous pieces of heavy equipment. At the airstrip, there were empty barrels, scrap metal and right near the current camp site there were empty barrels, miscellaneous equipment and scrap metal.

Throughout the season, cleanup of all three sites was undertaken in stages, but not the entire cleanup was completed due to the lack of heavy machinery to move some of the miscellaneous equipment.

Presently, the old core rack site is about 90% cleaned up but there is some heavy equipment that remains because the means to move them is not currently available. Next season will include the mobilization of equipment as well as the leasing of a helicopter which will allow us to remove the remaining scrap. The core racks will remain where they are as the majority of the core drilled in 1982 is still stored there.

At the airstrip, there is some heavy equipment and 150 empty barrels. These have been piled and organized for easy expedition on empty planes that leave the site. Throughout the season, outbound planes have removed old barrels and scrap, and approximately 150 barrels and miscellaneous scrap have been removed from the site and disposed of in Rankin Inlet.

All of the barrels that were at the site near the camp have been removed and taken to the airstrip for transport out and only some scrap heavy equipment is left. The remaining items at all three sites will be removed from the area next July when a chartered sealift comes to Roche Bay to deliver materials.

Inspections

Once drilling began, there were three site visits and inspections done by the WCB, QIA and INAC. There was also a visit by the Hall Beach Hunters and Trappers Association. The inspections are as follows:

- WCB: Martin Van Rooy, September 17th, 2006. Approval to begin operations granted on September 23rd, 2006.
- QIA: Joe Amarualik and Matthew Akavak, September 28th, 2006.
- INAC: Kevin Robertson, September 26th, 2006.

Reports from these inspections are available upon request.

Environmental baseline studies

EBA Engineering and Consultants Ltd. conducted several studies as part of their baseline evaluation throughout the season. They include:

- fisheries
- hydrology
- water quality
- land mammals
- marine mammals
- raptors
- archaeology
- breeding birds
- vegetation

Reports on the results of these surveys are currently being compiled and will be available in early 2007.

Camp description

The camp was constructed by Ferguson Lake Lodge in July 2006. It consisted of seven basic wooden structures and an ablution shelter that were powered by a generator. The structures included:

- 1- 14x26ft. kitchen
- 1- 14x26ft. dry room
- 3- 16x14ft. sleeping quarters
- 1- 16x14ft. office
- 1- 14x12ft. medical tent
- 1 ablution shelter

These shelters have been emptied of valuables and nailed shut for the winter months. During the winter, the camp will be inspected regularly.



The Roche Bay camp in October.

On site communications

The communications devices that were available on site are as follows:

- 3 satellite phones (2 handheld, 1 fixed)
- Internet connection with VoIP (voice over internet protocol) services
- 3 x CB radios
- 4 x two-way radios

Local employment

During the season Roche Bay employed and trained eleven people from Hall Beach and other nearby communities. They are:

- Simeonie Natseck, Repulse Bay, drill foreman, level 2 supervisor
- Patrick Kunuk, Hall Beach, drillers' helper, level 1 supervisor
- Magaret Sharp, Rankin Inlet, cook
- Adam Kautag, Hall Beach, drillers' helper, level 1 supervisor
- Jose Saqpina, Hall Beach, driller, level 1 supervisor
- Mark Innukshuk, Rankin Inlet, driller, level 1 supervisor
- David Pissuk, Rankin Inlet, driller, level 2 supervisor
- Johnny Kopak, Igloolik, driller, level 2 supervisor
- Joseph Inooya, Igloolik, drillers' helper
- Lee Kipsigak, Hall Beach, drillers' helper in training
- Jonah Kipsigak, Hall Beach, drillers' helper in training

Throughout the winter Simeonie Natseck and Patrick Kunuk will be looking after our houses in Hall Beach and inspecting the camp. At present, Roche Bay plans on hiring at least half of those who were employed this season and plan on sending them for drill training in the South with Boart Longyear who will be contracted to do the drilling next season.



Training provided

The following training was provided to the workers in camp:

- Winkie (small core) drill training by Stanley Stewart, August 1-25, 2006.
- First aid training by 1984 Enterprises, September 20-22, 2006.
- Supervisor training by the WCB; three level 2 supervisors and four level 1 supervisors were certified.

Training for next season will include drill training with Boart Longyear and any refresher first aid courses or supervisor training that might be required.

Other people on site

- Danie Botes, Chief Operating Officer, Roche Bay
- Dirk Swartz, Chief Project Manager, Roche Bay
- Hendrik Bosman, Consulting Geologist
- Francois St. Pierre, Pilot, Bakers Narrow Air Service
- Mark Edwards, Pilot, Bakers Narrow Air Service
- Bruce Strachan, OFACC, 1984 Enterprises
- Larry Forrest, OFACC, 1984 Enterprises
- Keith Sharp, camp logistics, Ferguson Lake Lodge
- 8 scientists from EBA for environmental baseline studies, on rotation throughout the season
- Bill Gawor, Prospector
- Dave Klapstein, Pilot

Accident report (all filed with the WCB)

Unfortunately, this season did see a few reportable accidents, fortunately all mild. Full reports have been filed with the WCB, and they include:

- 2 mild burn victims
- 1 hairline fracture of a collarbone
- 1 mild knee injury

There was only need for one evacuation in the case of the fractured collarbone.

The burn victims were treated on site, and were taken to the nursing station in Hall Beach when the skin started peeling, causing discomfort, three days after the incident.

The knee injury was reported, but medical attention was declined by the employee, until a month later after the employee had left our employment.

Equipment on site

Below is a list of the equipment that was on site during the season. In certain cases the equipment has been relocated for the winter and is indicated in parentheses.

- Winkie drill set (rods, drill bits, apparatus)
- 5 All Terrain Vehicles
- 3 snowmobiles (in Hall Beach)
- Cessna 206 (back to base in Flin Flon, Manitoba)

- De Havilland DH3 (back on base)
- Boat 24 ft x 9ft
- 2 centrifugal pumps
- 2 Bronco positive displacement pumps
- 2 diesel fuel water heaters
- 1 washing machine
- 1 tumble dryer
- 2 Honda 2000W generators (Hall Beach)
- 1 x 6500W generator (Hall Beach)
- 2 x 2000W generators
- 1 x 950W generator of same make (Hall Beach)
- 6 kerosene heaters
- Tool kits, power drill, skill saw, cut-off saw (electric), jigsaw electric, air compressor (electric), angle grinder
- Incinerator
- Propane stove, gas grill, chest freezer, fridge, microwave
- Internet satellite dish
- 6 cylinder D oxygen tanks, 5 star sleeping bags (Hall Beach), first aid kits
- 800 ft 3/4 inch, low pressure rubber hose

Fuel

Throughout the season the following fuel was used:

- 8 x 100lb propane tanks
- 6 x 25 lbs propane tanks
- 40 barrels of diesel
- 60 barrels of aviation gasoline
- 60 barrels of regular automotive gasoline

The fuel was stored in Hall Beach and ferried to Roche Bay via motor boat. As such, there was never more than 30 barrels on site at any given time.

Spills

No spills to report.

Water use

Water was used for camp activities and for drilling. The total estimated water for camp use for the season is 10.1184 cubic meters and for drilling 3.6 cubic meters.

Community involvement

During the season, two town meetings were held. The first was in May, before operations began to inform the community of the Roche Bay activities and to hear concerns and answer questions. The second was held in November, near the end of our operations to hear any complaints and present contracting opportunities for next season.

Roche Bay plc provided both direct and indirect employment to the community of Hall Beach. Some of the drillers were employed from Hall Beach, a local contractor was employed to repair two houses that were purchased in town, and other labour was hired to transport equipment and materials between Hall Beach and Roche Bay.

Roche Bay plc worked with the Hall Beach Hunters and Trappers Association to overcome concerns about past messes that were left by a predecessor company, both at Roche Bay and at another location near Repulse Bay. The second location has plans in place to be cleaned up in the upcoming year and the sites at Roche Bay have been cleaned to a level that is now satisfactory to the HTA. Roche Bay plc also worked closely with the HTA and the Hamlet in matters of fuel storage, transportation and for finding local employment.

Conclusion

This season was quite short in terms of actual operation however a lot was accomplished in terms of training, relationship building, setup and cleanup. Plans for next season are underway and we hope to continue to work effectively and amicably with the town of Hall Beach.

