## Pêches et Océans Canada

Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program Arctic Region 301 – 5204 50th Ave. (Franklin) Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 1F2 Programme de protection du poisson et de son habitat Région de l'Arctique 301 – 5204 50th Ave. (Franklin) Yellowknife, Territoires du Nord-Ouest X1A 1E2

July 17, 2025

Your file Votre référence 3AM-IGL2131

**Subject:** 2024 Annual Report for the Hamlet of Igloolik's Type A Water Licence

To whom it may concern,

On April 17, 2025, the Nunavut Water Board invited parties to comment on the 2024 Annual Report for the Hamlet of Igloolik's type A Water Licence No: 3AM-IGL2131. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) has reviewed the documents in accordance with DFO's mandate and the following comment below.

## **Comment:**

The Hamlet of Igloolik 2024 Annual Water Licence Report briefly discusses the projects water withdrawal activities and the identification of a new water withdrawal location of Fish Lake for the community's drinking water. For water withdrawal, direct fish mortality can occur during water withdrawal activities through entrainment/impingement. In addition, excessive amounts of water withdrawn from waterbodies can impact fish through oxygen depletion, loss of over-wintering habitat and/or reductions in littoral habitat.

## **Recommendation:**

DFO recommends that the proponent review and follow DFO's protective measures for fish and fish habitat and standard codes of practice which can be found on DFO's website (<a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html</a> and <a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/practice-practique-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/practice-practique-eng.html</a>).

Proponents are asked to respect the NU in-water works restricted activity timing windows (Projects Near Water - Nunavut Restricted Activity Timing Windows for the Protection of Fish and Fish Habitat (dfo-mpo.gc.ca) to protect fish during spawning and incubation periods when spawning fish, eggs and fry are vulnerable to disturbance or sediment. The proponent should refer to DFO's Interim code of practice: End-of-pipe fish protection screens for small water intakes in freshwater available at <a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/codes/screen-ecran-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/codes/screen-ecran-eng.html</a> when using fish screens and if the water intake flow is up to 0.150 m<sup>3</sup>/s, or 150 liters per second (L/s).

For water withdrawal from watercourses, DFO recommends the proponent follow the Framework for Assessing the Ecological Flow Requirements to Support Fisheries In Canada (https://waves-vagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/Library/348881.pdf) and demonstrates that



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water withdrawal rate remains <10% of actual (instantaneous) flow and does not result in flows <30% of mean annual discharge (MAD).

In addition, the proponent should follow the DFO Protocol for Winter Water Withdrawal in the NWT (2010) and not withdraw more than 10% of under-ice water volumes (Microsoft Word - Water Withdrawal Protocol - Jan 05.doc).

If the proposal meets the criteria for a site specific review, as described on DFO's website ( <a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-003-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-review-demande-d-examen-003-eng.html</a>), they should complete and submit the request for review form available on the website( <a href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-004-eng.html">https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-004-eng.html</a>).

Yours sincerely,

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Fisheries and Oceans Canada