

Executive Summary

We are proposing to conduct biological research in the southern Belcher Island Archipelago, Nunavut. We have a cabin located at 55° 49' 21" N 79° 53' 55"W which we hope to use as a base camp during our study.

We hope to work with local Inuit hunters to collect swabs, tissue, feather, and blood samples from eiders over-wintering in the polynyas and leads near Sanikiluaq. These samples will be analysed for avian cholera, and will indicate whether the disease has reached the wintering grounds of Common Eiders in Nunavut and possibly where the disease originated from. They will also inform us about what other breeding areas the disease may be carried to by infected birds over-wintering in the polynya.

Using snowmobiles, we hope to accompany hunters to their hunting grounds for 1-3 weeks between January and March. During this time, we would be collecting snow and ice to melt for drinking water and to wash dishes.

We also hope to conduct summer field work, the scope of which is yet to be determined. During that time we would use water from a nearby pond for dish washing, and drinking if it is determined to be safe for consumption. If not safe for consumption we would source our drinking water from the closest creek or transport it to the site from the town of Sanikiluaq.

The quantity of water we would use is minimal, approximately 0.05 m³/day. We would generate approximately 2L of sewage per day and 0.05 m³/day of grey water. Sewage and grey water will be disposed in sumps located > 150m above the high tide line where possible. We will also generate a minimal amount of solid waste, which we will transport back to Sanikiluaq to be disposed of in the municipal landfill.

Considering the small number of people involved in this project (5 or less), the short period of time we plan to be on the land (1-3 weeks), and the minimal amount of water we plan to use, we do not expect that our activities will negatively affect anyone. A small fuel spill is a possibility as we use kerosene, gas, and white gas in our daily activities. To mitigate the effects of a possible spill we have developed a spill contingency plan, and have a spill kit at the site.

We hope to conduct our winter field research for 1-3 weeks from January to March, dependent on licence and permit approvals.

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To: Nunavut Water Board

I authorize Amie Black to act as my representative regarding applications for
Nunavut Water Board Licences and reports.

Regards,



Grant Gilchrist, applicant

Date: 3 December 2010