

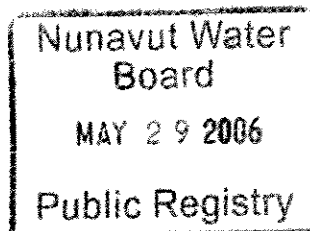


Environment Environnement  
Canada Canada

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29 May 2006

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Attention: Richard Dwyer and Sylvia Novoligak

Re: NWB-3BC-MIN - Mingo Lake Project - Campsite - Dan Utting & Marc St-Onge - Canada-Nunavut  
Geoscience Office & Geological Survey of Canada.

NIRB 06CN047 - Southwest Baffin Intergrated Geoscience Project - Dan Utting & Marc St-Onge - Canada-  
Nunavut Geoscience Office & Geological Survey of Canada.

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the information submitted with the above applications.

EPO's contribution to your request for specialist advice is based on the mandated responsibilities for the enforcement of Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (CEPA), and the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA) and *Regulations* and the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). On the basis of the information provided, EC believes that the above noted project has the potential to affect fish pursuant to the *Fisheries Act* and migratory birds pursuant to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and *Regulations*.

#### Comments and Recommendations

- The proponent shall ensure that any chemicals, fuel or wastes associated with the proposed land use permit application do not enter waters frequented by fish. It is a requirement of Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act* that all effluent discharged into water frequented by fish, be non-deleterious
- Operational practices for the handling of fuels and hazardous fluids should be posted and made available to all personnel required to work on site and should outline a clear path of response
- Drip pans should be used when refuelling any equipment on site and at all tent heating fuel locations. An appropriate spill kit with absorbent material should be located at all fuel transfer sites
- All fuel containers must be properly sealed and stacked in an upright position to prevent the possibility of spills and leaks. When storing barrelled fuel at a location, EC encourages the use of a secondary containment rather than relying on "natural depressions". Self supporting insta-berms are available from various suppliers within Canada.
- All sumps for camp sewage and grey water shall be located above the high-water mark of any water body and in such a manner as to prevent the contents from entering any water frequented by fish. All sumps shall be backfilled at the end of each field season, and contoured to match the existing landscape.

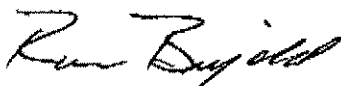
The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) of Environment Canada has reviewed the above-mentioned submission and makes the following comments and recommendations pursuant to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (the *Act*) and *Migratory Birds Regulations* (the *Regulations*), and the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA).

- Section 6 (a) of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* states that no one shall disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of migratory birds. Therefore, CWS recommends that all activities be conducted outside the migratory bird breeding season, which extends from approximately May 15 to July 31. These dates are approximate, and if active nests (i.e. nests containing eggs or young) are encountered outside of these dates the proponent should avoid the area until nesting is complete (i.e. the young have left the vicinity of the nest)
- If activities are permitted to occur during the breeding season, CWS recommends that the proponent confirm there are no active nests (i.e. nests containing eggs or young) in the vicinity of their operations before activities commence. If active nests of migratory birds are discovered, the proponent should halt all activities until nesting is completed (i.e. the young have left the vicinity of the nest)
- In order to reduce disturbance to nesting birds, CWS recommends that aircraft used in conducting project activities maintain a flight altitude of at least 610 m during horizontal (point to point) flight
- In order to reduce disturbance to resting, feeding, or moulting birds, CWS recommends that aircraft used in conducting project activities maintain a vertical distance of 1000 m and minimum horizontal distance of 1500 m from any observed concentrations (flocks / groups) of birds
- CWS recommends that camp waste be made inaccessible to wildlife at all times. Camp waste can attract predators of migratory birds (e.g., foxes and ravens) to an area if not disposed of properly. Incineration of camp waste is a recommended option
- Section 35 of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* states that no person shall deposit or permit to be deposited, oil, oil wastes or any other substance harmful to migratory birds in any waters or any area frequented by migratory birds
- All mitigation measures identified by the proponent, and the additional measures suggested herein, should be strictly adhered to in conducting project activities. This will require awareness on the part of the proponents' representatives (including contractors) conducting operations in the field. Environment Canada recommends that all field operations staff be made aware of the proponents' commitments to these mitigation measures and provided with appropriate advice / training on how to implement these measures
- Implementation of these measures may help to reduce or eliminate some effects of the project on migratory birds, but will not necessarily ensure that the proponent remains in compliance with the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (the *Act*) and *Migratory Birds Regulations* (the *Regulations*). The proponent must ensure they remain in compliance with the *Act* and *Regulations* during all phases and in all undertakings related to the project.

EPO should be notified of changes in the proposed or permitted activities associated with this application.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4744 or ron.bujold@ec.gc.ca with any questions or comments.

Yours truly,



Ron Bujold  
Environmental Assessment Technician

cc: Stephen Harbicht (Head, Assessment & Monitoring, EPO)  
Mike Fournier (Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, A&M, EPO)  
Colette Spagnuolo (Environmental Assessment/Contaminated Sites Specialist, A&M, EPO)