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Dave Parker
Project Officer
Public Works and Services
Box 1000
Iqaluit, NT

re there any changes planned in the water treatment facilities? \(\subseteq \text{No} \subseteq \text{Yes} \)

Re: Access Road for the Proposed Pangnirtung Sewage Treatment Facility

On behalf of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) I have reviewed the information submitted with the above application. DFO's assessment takes into consideration fish and fish habitat related concerns only.

On the basis of the information provided, it has been determined that the above project has the potential to affect fish or fish habitat pursuant to the <u>Fisheries Act</u>. Arctic charr migrate along the coastal waters of the Pangnirtung Fiord during the open water season and are fished by community members and tourists in the tidal zone in front of the town site (pers comm. Yves Bosse, Warden Service Manager, Parks Canada). It has also been reported that shellfish are harvested from this area by the community (pers comm. Yves Bosse, Warden Service Manager, Parks Canada). Thus the waters, which include the tidal zone, is considered fish habitat under the <u>Fisheries Act</u>.

At this time there is insufficient background information provided with this proposal about how the proponent plans to construct the lagoon. There have been no studies done to document the habitat of the area and how it will be affected by the project. No information has been provided on steps that the prononent will take to migate impacts. Based on the limited information provided for this proposal, DFO is advising you that an authorization under Section 35(2) of the Fisheries Act may be required before the project can proceed. Section 35(1) of the <u>Fisheries Act</u> states:

"No person shall carry on any work or undertaking that results in the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitet."

Fish Habitat under the Fisheries Act is defined as:

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"fish habitat" means spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply and migration areas on which fish depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes;

Our review of this proposal was for all phases, the access road and lagoon cells, therefore this proposal is considered to form a single project.

You have indicated that the project may not proceed. If this is the case please give DFO written notication of any changes to the above proposal. If MACA chooses to proceed, please contact this office so we can initiated the appropriate procedures for the authorization process.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments with respect to the above, please contact me at the number above.

Yours truly,

Margaret Keast

Area Hebitat Management Biologist, Iqalult

Gary Weber (Area Manager, DFO Nunavut Area) CC.

CC.

Dionne Filiatrault (Technical Advisor, Nunavut Water Board)

Jaida Edwards (Environmental Screener, Nunavut Impact Review Board) CC.