

Abandonment and Restoration Plan
ARCTIC WATCH LODGE
Prepared for Nunavut Water Board
Revised 2019 and Revised in 2023

Version 3.0

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The Abandonment and Restoration Plan applies to Arctic Watch Lodge, run by Weber Arctic Expeditions Ltd. on Somerset Island, Nunavut, 74°04.5' north 93°46 east. The project is on a crown land lease land and the airstrip is on Inuit Owned Land.

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Introduction

This abandonment and restoration plan has been prepared for Arctic Watch Wilderness Lodge. The fly-in camp is located at 74° 04.181' North and 93° 48.633' West in Cunningham inlet on Somerset Island. The closest community is Resolute Bay located 80 km north on Cornwallis Island.

The camp supports a population of up to 40 people and is open seasonally between mid-June and mid-August depending upon the program supported. Arctic Watch Lodge has operated since 1992 as a tourist establishment. There is no plan to cease operations as a tourist establishment.

Abandonment and Restoration overview

An abandonment of Arctic Watch Lodge and restoration of the site should take two weeks and would be executed in 2 phases. In phase 1, all of the equipment and infrastructure would be consolidated to the crown lease area. In Phase 2 all equipment would be moved to an appropriate area on the beach of Cunningham Inlet on Somerset Island to be removed by sea lift. This spot would be agreed upon by Sea Lift Company and the field supervisor. The abandonment and restoration would take place following the final season of operation and after the departure of the beluga whales population. The plan will be applied by, Arctic Watch personnel under the supervision of the field supervisor.

Equipment on site

- Fridge
- Stove
- Grill
- Kitchen, pots, pan, dishes, etc.
- Dishwasher (2)
- Tables, chairs, etc..
- Freezers with food (3)
- Boxed food
- Washer (2)
- Hot water furnace (3)
- Water pump (electric)
- Water tank 800 gal
- Water pump (gasoline)
- Water lines
- First Aid equipment
- Office supplies
- Small trailer for Quad (4)
- Miscellaneous materials
- Heating furnaces (6)
- Mercedes Unimog Truck (2)
- Skid steer-John Deere 317 (1)
- Compactor-Cat CB224E (1)
- Quads (16)
- Electrical wire and fixtures
- Plumbing and fixtures
- Generator (3)
- 8'X 16' Wooden Cabins (2)
- 12 x 16' Wooden Cabin (2)
- 12 x 12 Wooden cabins (4)
- Main Lodge – Fabric Walls and aluminum frame
- 12'X12' fabric tents (19 Units)
- Tent frames (19 Units)
- 12'X120' fabric tents (3 Units)
- Tent frames (2 Units)

Phase 1

Consolidating Infrastructure

In phase I, all infrastructure on IOL (the airstrip) will be returned to the lodge by using machinery (skid steer & Unimog truck). The fuel berm and its contents will be dismantled and packed in appropriate containment and brought to the lodge to stage for being taken away by sea lift. Soil contaminated by hydrocarbons and unnoticed before abandonment will be treated as per the spill contingency plan. The wind sock tower will be brought down, dismantled and brought back to the lodge to prepare for being shipped away.

Abandonment of the airstrip and trails

All trails surrounding the lodge have no man made markers and will return to their previous state on their own. The airstrip will remain useable but unmanned with no supporting infrastructure. Fuel, fuel berm and machinery will all be removed from Cunningham Inlet as per Phase 2 instructions.

Phase 2

Tear down

All the reusable equipment (tents, tent metal frames, stoves, mattresses, kitchen stove, other kitchen appliances and equipment, showers, hot water tank, etc) will be packaged and transported by machinery, already on site, to the coast where it will be picked up by sea lift. Machinery will be driven to the waters edge at a pre-determined location for pick up by sea lift. Wooden buildings will be dismantled and wood products will be burned. A clean up of the ash will take place afterwards to ensure that all metal hinges ,screws and nails are picked up and packaged for shipping.

Dismantling systems

Water pumps, tanks and hoses will be drained, dismantled and packaged and taken to the coast as well.

Wood structures like the cabins, shelves, tent wooden floors, main lodge wood floor, beds and tables will be dismantled and burned. Nails, screws, anchors and other non-combustible parts will be recovered, packaged and added to the outgoing cargo on sea lift

Dismantling the tents (Sprung structure), all of the equipment to required to dismantle the tents is already at arctic watch lodge. Fabric is to be slackened and a hydraulic jack can remove the pins from the ground. The buildings are to be packaged and trucked to the predetermined pickup on the coast

The generator shed will be inspected for remaining hazardous waste (oil, grease) and will be drained of its fuel. Remaining waste fuel and oil will be collected in the containers labeled for that usage and used through the summer. The shed will be dismantled. The soil will be inspected for contamination. Electrical wires, sockets, etc. will be removed.

The fuel storage area consists of segregated groups of drums with empties apart from full drums and propane cylinders. These are to be transported to staging area for pick up by sea lift

Remaining waste fuel, stored in a labeled drum will taken to a fuel outlet or discharge that accepts this type of fuel (Yellowknife). Chemicals stored on site will consist of oil, grease and household cleaners. Upon camp closure, any unused, oil or grease will be moved along with half empty containers will be taken off site to be properly disposed in an approved discharge. Empty containers will be incinerated or shipped to Resolute Bay.

Waste Facility and Incinerator

Once the camp is entirely dismantled, all remaining combustible waste stored at this site will be burned. The incinerator will be dismantled, reusable parts will be dismantled and shipped south.

The black water sump will be filled back and levelled.

The vehicles and machinery will be taken to the staging area to be removed by sealift after everything else has been dismantled. All vehicles in working order will be driven and any non-functional vehicles will be taken down by other machinery.

Documentation

Photos of camp prior to building will be taken. Monitoring will be done during occupancy and photos taken. Once the site is restored, it will again be documented with photos. Soil contaminated by hydrocarbons not noticed before abandonment will be treated as per the spill contingency plan.

Appendix

Arctic watch lodge Close up Procedure (normally takes place in mid August)

Arctic Watch Lodge Close Up Procedures

1. Stack all furniture in Great Room, put away books, lay plastic tarp on the floor
2. Bring up kayaks, clean, store in Great Room
3. Clean, deflate and store the rafts in Great Room
4. Empty dozer of hydraulic and transmission oil, fuel, cover with tarp, fluids are put in plastic fuel containers stored in Generator Shack (Storage area has secondary containment)
5. Flush with water and empty all toilet
6. Blow water from cabin lines
7. Put covers on windows and doors
8. Put all linen and towels in water proof bags
9. Empty and put away fuel pumps, close drums
10. Put compacter under box on airstrip
11. Park Unimog in courtyard, change oil in planetary wheel housing, cover with tarp
12. Empty (almost) big fuel tank, close all valves. (This means that the fuel used up in the normal course of operation so that the tank is almost empty by the time we shut down)
13. Put dry food into freezers
14. Package left over food to give away in Resolute
15. Close up Refrigeration unit
16. Wash and clean kitchen
17. Wash and clean bathrooms

18. Empty sewage trailer, store in Great room
19. Put fuel stabilizer in all gas engines
20. Check / change oil in all ATVs
21. Cover windows and doors
22. Store all ATVs, trailers, boats in Great Room (secondary containment is put on the floor of the Great Room as sometime some of the ATVs leak small amounts of oil)
23. Clean and store grey water system in Court yard. lay drains on the ground away from potential snow drifts
24. Take down rope from the ferry, remove the Invincible from the river
25. Check to ensure all drums with fuel are tightly closed and place on the side
26. Pull up water pump, empty lines, store pump in garage, drain holding tanks, lay water lines on the ground away from potential snow drifts
27. Run generator until fuel tank is almost empty, turn off the generator, close the fuel line.
28. Put out pots of diesel throughout buildings
29. Bring garbage to Resolute (or Yellowknife)
30. Empty ashes from incinerator and bag ready for shipping to Yellowknife. (This is sometimes done in the spring before start up as it is not always possible to ship out ashes at the end of the season.)