



April 13, 2026
NPC File No. 151132

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Dear Calvin Ehaloak, Richard Dwyer, DFO, Cory Barker, Jared Ottenhof and Mark Gillespie:

RE: NPC File No 151132 [Movement and genetics of whales in the Canadian Arctic using satellite telemetry, tissue biopsies, and photogrammetry.]

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. **Primary Land Use:** Marine-based marine research
2. **Project summary description:** Ongoing environmental and anthropogenic changes in the Canadian Arctic have raised concerns regarding the capacity of marine mammal populations to adapt to these new and expanding stressors. To assess and mitigate potential impacts from stressors like climate change and the expansion of high Arctic marine shipping activities, a better understanding of contemporary marine mammal stocks, behaviour, and movements in the Canadian High Arctic is needed.
3. **Summary of modifications:** Collection of biological information and tissue samples from subsistence harvested marine mammals.
4. **Associated NPC File Nos.:** 150803 and 150978 **Associated NIRB File No.:** 25YN053
5. **Location:** Kitikmeot and Qikiqtani Regions; [Gulf of Boothia and Cumberland Sound]

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. The NPC has determined that this project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan, and the works and activities listed above were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board including drone photography and crossbow deployed of biopsy darts (NIRB File No.: 25YN053).

The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB because the NPC is of the understanding that the inclusion of biological information collection and tissue sampling from subsistence harvested mammals does not change the general scope of the original or previously amended project activities, and the exceptions noted in Section 12.4.3 (a) and (b) of the *Nunavut Agreement* do not apply.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal to the regulatory authorities identified by the proponent. Project materials are available at the following address:
<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/registry/registry.aspx?appid=151132> .

This decision applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 979-3444.

Sincerely,



Goump Djalogue, MCIP, RPP
Manager of Planning and Implementation

Jurisdictional Note:

This conformity determination applies only to the components of the proposed project located within the Nunavut Settlement Area and under the Nunavut Planning Commission's statutory jurisdiction as defined in the Nunavut Agreement and the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA). Activities outside the NPC's jurisdiction remain subject to the review and regulatory processes of the relevant authorities. Proponents are responsible for identifying, contacting, and obtaining all required approvals from the appropriate regulators in every applicable jurisdiction to ensure compliance with all legislation, policies, and licensing requirements.