



NIRB File No.: 05YN073

CWS File Nos.: NUN-MBS-09-03; NUN-SCI-09-06

April 4, 2012

The Honourable Peter Kent
Minister of Environment
10 Wellington St., 28th Floor
Gatineau, QC, K1A 0H4
c/o Jason Akearok, Habitat Biologist
Canada Wildlife Service
Iqaluit, NU

Via email: jason.akearok@ec.gc.ca

Re: Application Exempt from the Requirement for Screening Pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Canadian Wildlife Service – Jim Leafloor’s “Arctic Goose Banding” project proposal

Dear Jason Akearok:

On March 6, 2012, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received the Canadian Wildlife Service – Jim Leafloor’s (the Proponent) “Arctic Goose Banding” project proposal from the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS). This application is for a renewal of the Proponent’s CWS Permit to Conduct Activities in a Migratory Bird Sanctuary and Permit for Scientific Take or Disturbance of Migratory Birds (CWS File Nos.: NUN-MBS-09-03; NUN-SCI-09-06).

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 05YN073) was received by the NIRB from the CWS (CWS File Nos. NUN-SCI-05-05; NUN-MBS-05-07) on May 3, 2005. The project proposal was screened by the NIRB in accordance with Article 12, Part 4 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) and, on June 7, 2005, the NIRB issued the enclosed 12.4.4(a) screening decision report to the Minister of Environment, Government of Canada, indicating that the project could proceed subject to the NIRB’s recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

On March 30, 2009, the NIRB received a renewal and amendment application from CWS (CWS File Nos.: NUN-MBS-09-03; NUN-SCI-09-06) for the Proponent’s “Arctic Goose Banding” project proposal. After a thorough assessment of the renewal request, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from the requirement for screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on May 20, 2009.

The current CWS application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (05YN073), subsequent Board decisions, and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2005/05YN073-Dale%20Casewell/>

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No.: 05YN073), the Canadian Wildlife Service – Dale Caswell's "Delineation of Population Structure in Central and Mississippi Flyway Canada Geese" was located in the Harry Gibbons, East Bay, Queen Maud Gulf, McConnell River, and Dewey Soper Migratory Bird Sanctuaries in Nunavut. The objective of the project was to determine the distribution of two species of Canada goose (large-bodied Canada goose and small-bodied Crackling goose) in northern Canada. The project was proposed to take place from July 15, 2005 to August 15, 2008.

The originally proposed project activities included:

- Six (6) researchers to be accommodated in tent frames, existing cabins or hotels within established while conducting project work;
- Use of a helicopter for personnel pick up and drop-offs and for locating wildfowl;
- Banding of Canada geese;
- Collecting DNA samples from Canada geese across their nesting range in Nunavut using various sources; and,
- Storage of a total of 21,730 litres of Jet A fuel and 110 litres of gasoline on site.

The additional components/activities associated with the Proponent's March 30, 2009 application for a renewal of the original Canadian Wildlife Service permits (CWS File Nos.: NUN-MBS-09-03; NUN-SCI-09-06) included:

- Twenty two (22) researchers to be accommodated in either tent frames, existing cabins or hotels within established municipalities while conducting project work;
- Use of a helicopter and/or ATV for personnel pick up and drop-offs and for locating wildfowl;
- Banding of six (6) different species of Arctic-nesting geese; and,
- Storage of a total of 16,400 litres of Jet A or B fuel at project sites (Perry River and Karrak Lake in Queen Maud Gulf, Coral Harbour on Southampton Island, Nikko Island in the Baffin Region, and McConnell River in the Kivalliq Region).

CURRENT APPLICATION:

The Proponent is currently applying for a renewal of Bird Sanctuary and Scientific permits from the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) in order to continue the "Arctic Goose Banding" project. The project is proposed to take place from July 1, 2012 to August 31, 2014.

Please note that Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA states that:

“Any application for a component or activity of a project proposal that has been permitted to proceed in accordance with these provisions shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB unless:

(a) such component or activity was not part of the original project proposal; or

(b) its inclusion would significantly modify the project.”

After completing a review of the information provided, the NIRB is of the understanding that the current application received from the CWS does not change the general scope of the original project activities, and the exceptions noted in NLCA 12.4.3(a) and (b) do not apply. Therefore, this application is exempt from the requirement for screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original Screening Decision Report dated June 7, 2005 (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kofi Boa-Antwi, Technical Advisor, at 867-983-4609 or kboa-antwi@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry
Executive Director

cc: Jim Leafloor, Canadian Wildlife Service
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
Stanley Anablak, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Robert St. Eloi, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 05YN073 (June 7, 2005)