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National Wildlife Research Centre
Carleton University
1125 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, ON K1S 5B6

January 15, 2024

NWB Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Dear Manager:

Please find attached an application for water use without a license, as well as project descriptions in both English and Inuktitut for research conducted at East Bay, Nunavut. This work was previously covered under Nunavut Water Board License 8WLC-PCE2324.

Please note the approval can be made out to Dr. Grant Gilchrist, however, any questions you have regarding this application can be directed to myself, Holly Hennin (holly.hennin@ec.gc.ca).

Thank you very much for your consideration of this application, and please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Holly Hennin
Wildlife Technician
Environment and Climate Change Canada

Project Description

The mainland camp is located on a gravel ridge and will be accessed via Twin otter aircraft with Tundra tires which will land on a nearby gravel esker. The crew (up to 7 people) will use an ATV to shuttle gear to the camp which consists of 3 cabins and 1 tent. The Island camp is also located on a gravel ridge but accessed by boat/skidoo from the mainland camp, or by helicopter. It consists of 4 cabins and will be occupied by up to 12 people. At both camps, small gas generators will power the laptops and VHF radios and recharge any batteries required.

Water use at both camps is generally restricted to personal/camping use – cooking, drinking and washing; on the mainland it will be hauled to camp using buckets, and on the island it will be collected as needed by melting snow or sea ice and storing the melt water until it is needed. Grey water from washing dishes and human waste will be disposed of in gravel sumps >100m from flowing water and buried at the end of the field season.

The camps are set up to house the researchers who are observing and banding locally nesting birds they are studying, for the duration of the field season. Only a single element of the field work plan will involve working directly with bodies of water and this will involve collecting invertebrate samples by hand from freshwater ponds near the mainland camp to analyze carbon transfer in the food web, in relationship to climate change. Ponds chosen for sampling will contain NO fish, and only negligible amounts of water may be transferred during sampling with a hand held net (<0.5 L per day) via absorption into the net.

