



Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board

7 May 2015

Sophia Granchinho
Senior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board
Cambridge Bay NU X0B 0C0

By e-mail: info@nirb.ca

Dear Ms. Granchinho:

NIRB 15YN019: CBC Filming – Wild Canadian Year Productions project proposal

I am writing on behalf of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board (BQCMB) to provide comments and recommendations concerning the proposal by CBC's Wild Canadian Year Productions to film in the Queen Maud Gulf Migratory Bird Sanctuary during June and July 2015 and 2016. The BQCMB is commenting on this proposal because of concerns related to the location and timing of the project with respect to barren-ground caribou, as the Proponent proposes to operate on the Beverly and Ahiak caribou calving and post-calving areas during the calving and immediate post-calving period (June 18 – July 10). It is crucial that this project not cause disturbance to these animals.

We have reviewed the permit application materials and the terms and conditions which the NIRB proposes to recommend for inclusion in any approval, if the project proceeds. We support those listed under "Wildlife – General" and "Other" and recommend additions to address the following points:

- The proposed period of project activities is a very sensitive time when disturbance to caribou cows and newborn calves can be deadly. The Proponent must be made aware of the vulnerability of the animals and instructed to take the utmost care to avoid disturbance to caribou cows and calves during this period.
- When caribou cows and calves are present, no overflights by aircraft at altitudes less than 300m above ground level should be permitted.
- The Proponent should ensure that movements of caribou are not blocked or diverted.
- The Proponent should be directed to consult with local people and people from Baker Lake prior to beginning their activities in the calving and post-calving areas.
- Permit conditions should specify that people from the regional and Baker Lake HTOs should be hired as monitors to observe the operation, provide advice for avoiding disturbance to caribou and report to their HTOs and to NIRB on project activities.

If you have any questions about these comments and recommendations, please contact BQCMB contract biologist Leslie Wakelyn (wakelyn@theedge.ca).

Sincerely,

Earl Evans
BQCMB Chairperson