

# Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Options and Recommendations



Draft - 2014



Nunavut Planning  
Commission

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### Purpose

This document has been prepared to inform the draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (the Plan). It offers policy direction for land and resource use in the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA) that:

- recognizes competing land use interests and provides a balanced response that builds on strengths and opportunities in the Territory;
- promotes economic opportunities, environmental management, conservation initiatives, and community priorities;
- reflects direction, priorities and values provided by planning partners, existing planning policy and pertinent land use and development reports; and
- is flexible enough to respond to changing priorities and additional information.

This document is intended to evolve over time to include additional information as it becomes available.

### Guiding Policies, Objectives and Goals

This document is guided by the five goals contained in the Commission's Broad Planning Policies, Objectives and Goals;

- Strengthening Partnership and Institutions;
- Protecting and Sustaining the Environment;
- Encouraging Conservation Planning;
- Building Healthy Communities, and
- Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development.

These Goals and the associated Policies and Objectives lay the foundation for the policy options and recommendations contained in this document.

### Considered Information

Direction provided in the existing planning policy framework, pertinent land use and development reports, input from Planning Partners as well as existing land and resource use in the NSA direct the policy options, recommendations and decisions contained in this document.

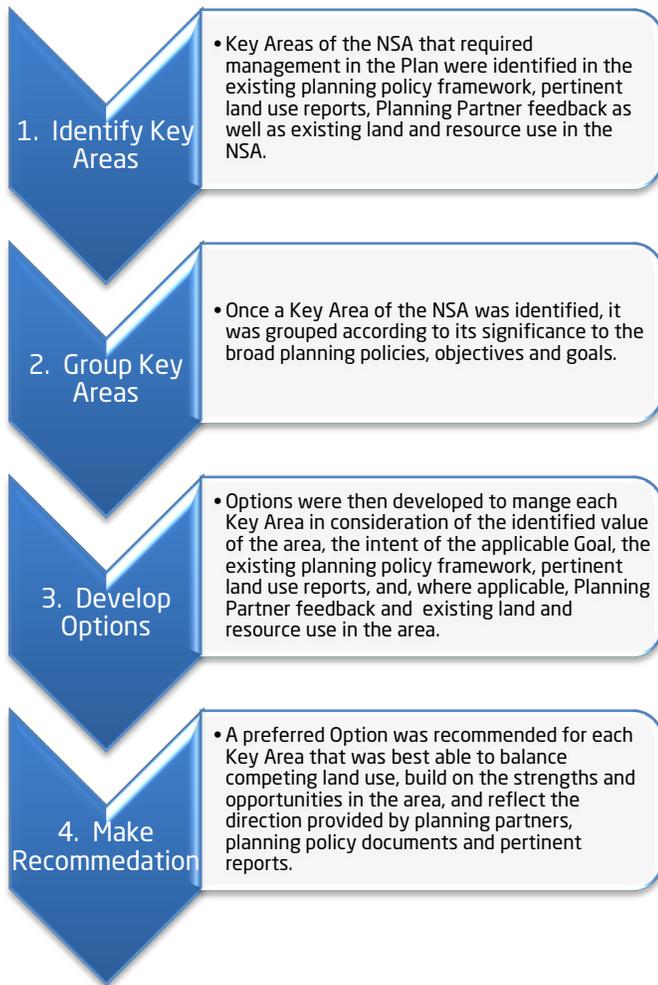
Accordingly, the options, recommendations and decisions in this document build upon the direction provided by:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement;
- The Nunavut Planning Commission's Broad Planning Policies, Objectives and Goals;
- The North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan;
- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan;
- Canada's Northern Strategy: Our North, Our Heritage, Our Future;
- Terriplan's Socio Demographic and Economic Sector Analysis;
- The Commissions Use and Occupancy Mapping data;
- Government, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and Regional Inuit Association strategies, policies, management plans and reports;
- Municipal Land Use Plans for the Nunavut Settlement Area;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy;
- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions;
- Working Together for Caribou, the GN's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values;
- Feedback received from Planning Partners;
- Existing land and resource use in the NSA;
- Recommendations from the June 2012 Independent Third Party Review;
- Results of the 2012-2014 Community Consultation Tour and Planning Partner Consultations; and
- Priorities and values of residents.

## Decision making framework

Policy options and recommendations contained in this report have been formulated based on best available information, best practices of planning theory and professional practice and recommendations from the June 2012 Independent Third Party Review in particular the need to manage expectations in the first generation Nunavut Land Use Plan.

Policy decisions were formulated using a four step decision making framework:



## General Options Considered

Four general options are considered for each Key Area. Three Options, Protected Area, Special Management Area and Mixed Use each represent a Land Use Designation. The fourth option is not a Land Use Designation but provides direction to regulatory authorities to implement when considering Project Proposals.

### Option 1- Protected Area:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.

- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

### Option 2 - Special Management Area:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

### Option 3 - Mixed Use:

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

### Option 4 - Direction to Regulatory Authorities:

- Direction to Government departments, agencies and other regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The general option chosen for each key area will be specifically tailored to reflect the unique information considered for each key area.

# Chapter 2

## Protecting and Sustaining the Environment

*“The goal of protecting and conserving Nunavut’s air, land and water, i.e. the environment, including wildlife and wildlife habitat, is of critical importance to the sustainability of Nunavut’s communities, Inuit culture and the continuation of a viable long-term economy.”*

### Introduction

Protecting and Sustaining the Environment is one of five planning Goals in the Nunavut Planning Commission’s Broad Planning Policies, Objectives and Goals. It is the primary aim of this Chapter to provide a practical policy direction that is able to support this Goal.

Specifically, this Chapter;

- identifies key areas of Nunavut that are critical to the protection and conservation of the environment, including wildlife and wildlife habitat;
- provides options for managing these key areas;
- recommends a preferred option for the management of these areas that is best able to support the Goal of Protecting and Sustain the Environment and build on the direction provided by planning policy, pertinent reports and feedback from Planning Partners; and
- translates the preferred option into a language that a Land Use Plan can articulate and implement.

### Key Areas and Issues

Areas and issues of the NSA identified by the Commission as important to promoting the protection and conservation of the environment are;

- Key Migratory Bird Habitat Sites;
- Caribou Habitat;
- Polar Bear Denning Areas;
- Walrus Haul-Outs;
- Atlantic Cod Lakes;

- Marine Areas of Importance;
- Transboundary Considerations; and
- Climate Change.

### Key Migratory Bird Habitat Sites

(see Map 1 - Map 54)

The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS), under Environment Canada, has provided the Commission with the location of key bird habitat sites in the NSA. These areas have been identified by CWS for their importance to sustaining and supporting terrestrial and marine bird populations in the NSA.

Some of the Key Migratory Bird Habitat Sites are located in areas where there are competing land uses and/or areas where other Planning Partners have identified other types of land use activity.

The following information has been considered for all the key migratory bird habitat sites:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including wildlife habitat;
- It is a policy of the Commission’s Goal of Protecting and Sustaining the Environment to respect and consider sites of ecological significance that are not officially protected, such as: polynyas, key migratory bird sites, Ramsar sites, and critical habitat that has been identified but not yet declared;

It is an objective of the Commission’s broad planning policies, objectives and goals that any proposed restrictions on land use are achieved with the least possible impact on undiscovered mineral resources, while taking into account environmental and social objectives;

- Inqirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Key Habitat Sites for Migratory Birds in the Nunavut Settlement area submitted to the Commission from Environment Canada;

- EC states that it will review project proposals in key migratory bird habitat sites with an additional level of scrutiny, to ensure conformity with the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and Regulations;
- CWS recognizes two categories of bird sites: Red Sites and Yellow Sites:
  - Red Sites (Highly Risk Intolerant):
    - Are legislated protected areas under the Migratory Birds Convention Act or the Canada Wildlife Act; and/or
    - Support a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate; and/or
    - host greater than 5% of a national population of a species exhibiting population declines as of 2005; and/or
    - have been identified, or are anticipated to be identified, as critical habitat for a migratory bird species listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA);
  - Yellow Sites (Moderately Risk Intolerant):
    - support 5% - 10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005; or
    - support 1 - 5% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are exhibiting population declines as of 2005; and
- CWS recommends access restrictions for the Red Sites and other forms of management for the Yellow Sites

The following information is also relevant for some of the key bird habitat sites:

- Some sites contain IOL and it is NTI's direction that development activity should not be restricted on IOL; and

Some sites are located within the boundaries of the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan. The

KRLUP identifies healthy wildlife populations as vital to Inuit. It places an emphasis on the protection and preservation of wildlife and wildlife habitat. The Keewatin Region is recognized for containing significant habitat for bird populations, which is nationally and internationally recognized.

## KIVALLIQ REGION

### Coats Island Lowlands

(see Map 1)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying criterion:**
  - Contains 1-5% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Black-bellied Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Semipalmated Sandpiper)
  - Hosts 5%-10% of a national population of a species NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Dunlin, Purple Sandpiper)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Peregrine Falcon (Special Concern), Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area; International Biological Program Site
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping, cruise ship tourism, biological research, harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds)

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, fish, marine mammals, shellfish, potential economic development, existing economic development, and no oil and gas development; and
- The site contains some IOL.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

## Boas River

(see Map 2)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying criterion:**
  - Contains 5%-10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Lesser Snow Goose)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Inland waterfowl (Lesser Snow Goose)
  - Also important at site: coastal waterfowl (Atlantic Brant), marine shorebird (Red Phalarope)
- **Site details:**
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
  - Species at risk: Red Knot ssp. *rufa* (Endangered); Polar bear (Special Concern)
- **Current human activities at site:**

- Harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The site contains a portion of a MBS;
- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, shellfish, drinking water, cultural values, potential economic development, no oil and gas development, and protection; and
- The site contains some IOL.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

## McConnell River

(see Map 3)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying criterion:**
  - Contains 5% to 10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting declines as of 2005 (Ross' Goose)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Waterfowl (Ross' Goose)
  - Also important at site: Shorebird (e.g. Semipalmated Sandpiper)
- **Site details:**
  - Non-binding designations: Ramsar Wetland of International Importance; Important Bird Area
  - Species at risk: Short-eared Owl (Special Concern); Polar bear (Special Concern)
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Cruise ship tourism; mineral Claim (iron ore); contaminated site remediation; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Cruise ship tourism; mineral exploration; contaminated site remediation; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; increased physical, auditory, and visual disturbance related to mining exploration activity; increased auditory and visual disturbance related to a higher volume of air traffic to support remediation activities
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; increased physical, auditory, and visual disturbance related to mining exploration activity; increased auditory and visual disturbance

related to a higher volume of air traffic to support remediation activities

- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds);
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Migratory Birds);
  - EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds)

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity, and a burial site;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, birds, fish, marine mammals, fishing river or lake, land mammals, drinking water, cultural values, impacts, and protection;
- The site surrounds a MBS;
- The site has an Arctic char area of abundance;
- The site is in a community water supply watershed;
- The site contains prospecting permits;
- The site includes a proposed transportation corridor; and
- The site contains some IOL.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

## Middle Back River

(see Map 4)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying criterion:**
  - Contains 5%-10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Canada Goose, subspecies *maximus*)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Waterfowl
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Wolverine (Special Concern), Grizzly Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Mineral claims (uranium); harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Mineral exploration; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Increased auditory and visual disturbance related to a higher volume of air and ground traffic to support mineral exploration; increased physical, auditory, visual disturbance related to mining exploration activity
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Disturbance-related disruption of bird feeding, incubation, brood-rearing, resulting in loss of eggs and/or young
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds)

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, land mammals, wildlife, cultural values, contaminated sites, potential economic development, and protection;
- The site contains some IOL;
- The site has mineral claims; and
- The site is adjacent to the Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.

- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

### Frozen Strait

(see Map 5)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying criterion:**
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Common Eider)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seaduck
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: none
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks

(Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, bird, fish, marine mammals, shellfish, fishing river or lakes, land mammals, wildlife, drinking water, cultural values, contaminated sites, potential economic development, existing economic development, no oil and gas, and protection; and
- The site contains limited IOL

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## KITIKMEOT REGION

### Adelaide Peninsula

(see Map 6)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**

- Contains 1-5% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that ARE exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Long-tailed Duck, King Eider)
- Contains 5%-10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Canada Goose, Lesser Snow Goose)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Inland Seaduck
  - Waterfowl
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Wolverine (Special Concern), Grizzly Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: none
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds)

Additional considerations:

- The site contains some IOL;
- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, birds, fish, land mammals, wildlife, drinking water, cultural values, existing economic development, and protection; and
- The site is adjacent to Queen Maud Gulf Bird Sanctuary.
- The area includes core caribou calving areas.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

### Melbourne Island

(see Map 7)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains 1-5% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that ARE exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Red Phalarope)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Wolverine (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: none
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds)

Additional considerations:

- The site is all IOL;

- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, fish, land mammals, cultural values, and existing economic development; and
- The site has UOM activity and there is an adjacent possible caribou sea ice crossing.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

### South Eastern Victoria Island

(see Map 8)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains 5%-10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Canada Goose, King Eider)
  - Contains 1-5% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that ARE exhibiting populations declines as of 2005 (Long-tailed Duck)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Waterfowl
  - Inland Seaduck
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Red Knot ssp. *rufa* (Endangered); Short-eared Owl (Special Concern); Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: none
- **Current human activities at site:**

- Shipping; municipality; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; municipality; contaminated site remediation; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; increased auditory and visual disturbance related to a higher volume of air traffic to support municipality and remediation activities; ground traffic related to growth of municipality
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for bird-aircraft collisions originating from air traffic at low altitude or too close from concentration of birds
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds)

Additional considerations:

- The site contains some IOL;
- The site is in an Arctic char area of abundance and has a commercial fishery;
- The site has North Warning System sites, land remediation areas and a community water supply watershed;
- The site has UOM activity and encompasses a community;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, land mammals, and existing economic development; and
- The site is adjacent to a possible caribou sea ice crossing.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.

- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

### Bathurst / Elu Inlet

(see Map 9)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Common Eider, Thayer's Gull)
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' than the population can tolerate (Common Eider)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seaduck, Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (special concern), Peregrine Falcon (special concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area; International Biological Programme Site
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; mining lease; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; mine construction and mineral production; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activity:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships; potential from dredging of channel to support large ship access; increase in air traffic

disturbance related to mining activities; human disturbance from mining activities

- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct or indirect impact on seabird food sources; potential for bird-aircraft collisions originating from air traffic at low altitude or from flying too close to concentration of birds; Zii. Disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The site contains IOL;
- The site is in an Arctic char area of abundance and has mineral leases;
- The site has UOM activity and possible caribou sea ice crossings; and
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, birds, fish, marine mammals, shellfish, land mammals, drinking water, cultural values, impacts, and existing economic development.
- A portion of the area falls within an identified high potential mineral area.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird

populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Kagloryuak River

(see Map 10)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contain habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Red Knot)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Red Knot spp. *rufa* (Endangered), Polar Bear (Special Concern), Short-eared Owl (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: NWT portion of key habitat site zoned as a community conservation zone
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None (NU portion of site)
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - None (NU portion of site)
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - None (NU portion of site)
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - None (NU portion of site)
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include caribou; and
- The site has mineral claims and mineral leases.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Lambert Channel

(see Map 11)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Pacific Common Eider)
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Pacific Common Eider)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seaduck
- **Site details:**
  - Critical polynya habitat and critical spring staging, moulting, breeding area for Pacific Common Eider
  - Species at risk: Short-eared Owl (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; contaminated site remediation; marine cable installation; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; air traffic

related to contaminated site remediation - associated activities; human disturbance related to contaminated site remediation - associated activities; alteration of seabed due to dredging

- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for bird-aircraft collisions originating from air traffic at low altitude or too close from concentration of birds; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; loss of benthic prey for seaducks/waterfowl and seabirds
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks) EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity and is in an *anadromous coregonids* area of abundance;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, birds, fish, river or lake of interest, land mammals, cultural values, and existing economic development; and
- The site has North Warning System sites and land remediation areas; and
- The site contains some IOL.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Nordenskiöld Islands

(see Map 12)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Common Eider)
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Common Eider)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seaduck
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: None
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; contaminated site remediation
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; air traffic related to contaminated site remediation - associated activities; human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; contaminated site remediation - associated activities
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for bird-aircraft collisions originating from air traffic at low altitude or too close from concentration of birds
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks) EC-CWS

Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, fish, marine mammals, land mammals, cultural values, impacts, contaminated sites, potential economic development, existing economic development, and no shipping.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Rasmussen Lowlands

(see Map 13)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contain habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Red Knot)
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper)
  - Host more than 5% of a national population of one or more species exhibiting population

declines as of 2005 (Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper)

- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird. Also important at site: Seabird (Sabine's Gull); Watefowl (Tundra Swan, Greater White-fronted Goose)
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Red Knot ssp. *rufa* (Endangered); Peregrine Falcon (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area; Ramsar Wetland of International Importance
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - None
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Migratory Birds\*); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds);
  - \*the more general migratory birds mitigations are used here because Sabine's Gulls are not cliff-nesting, colonial seabirds

Additional considerations:

- The site contains some IOL;
- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, birds, fish, marine mammals, land mammals, wildlife, cultural values, potential economic development, existing economic development, and protection;
- The site has prospecting permits;
- The site has a North Warning System site and a land remediation site; and
- The site is a RAMSAR site, which is an international agreement on important wetland management.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.

- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

T

he following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## QIKIQTAALUK REGION

### Cape Graham Moore

(see Map 14)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains 5% to 10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Black-legged Kittiwake, Thick-billed Murre)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar bear (Special Concern); Peregrine Falcon (Special Concern); Red Knot ssp. *islandica* (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; commercial fishing; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activity:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; risk of

bycatch from potential commercial fishing activities

- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setback (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, marine mammals, cultural values, existing economic development, no shipping, and protection;
- The site's marine component is in the proposed Lancaster Sound NMCA and in a MBS;
- The site contains IOL, which is on the MBS portion and considered below;
- The site has possible oil and gas potential;
- Commercial fishery potential; and
- A small portion of the site is left when the proposed NMCA and MBS are removed. Remaining area is in Outer Land Fast Ice Zone.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

## Cape Hay (outside of Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary)

(see Map 15)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains 5%-10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Black-legged Kittiwake, Thick-billed Murre)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabirds
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern), Peregrine Falcon (Special Concern), Red Knot ssp. *islandica* (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding Designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; commercial fishing
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; risk of bycatch from potential commercial fishing activities
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds);

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, wildlife, cultural values, impacts, existing economic development, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection;
- The site's marine component is completely within the proposed Lancaster Sound NMCA; and

- The site's terrestrial component is completely within Sirmilik National Park.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

## Cape Liddon

(Map 16)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains 5%- 10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Northern Fulmar)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabirds
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding Designations: Important Bird Areas; International Biological Program site
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; commercial fishing
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; risk of

bycatch from potential commercial fishing activities

- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Northern Fulmar); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds);

Additional considerations:

- The existing planning policy framework;
- The site is partially in the proposed Lancaster Sound NMCA;
- The area has UOM activity and a possible sacred site;
- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, fish, marine mammals, impacts, existing economic development, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection; and

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

## Frobisher Bay

(see Map 17)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Local knowledge experts indicate the importance of Frobisher Bay for nesting seaducks/waterfowl and seabirds, as well as the importance of the resource-rich polynya and sea-ice floe edge areas for overwintering and migrating seaducks/waterfowl and seabirds.
  - Expert opinion indicates the importance of Frobisher Bay for seaducks/waterfowl and seabirds.
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird (e.g. Thick-billed Murre), Seaduck/Waterfowl (e.g. Common Eider)
- **Site details:**
  - Important polynya for seaducks and seabirds. Loks Land may support Nunavut's largest known colony of Razorbills. Dovekies congregate at the south end of Frobisher Bay in late summer.
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern), Harlequin Duck (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: International Biological Programme Site (Hantzsch Island), Important Bird Area (Hantzsch Island)
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; mineral claim; cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; mineral exploration; cruise ship tourism; commercial fishing; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activity:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increase in air traffic disturbance related to mineral exploration activities; human disturbance from mineral exploration activities; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships; risk of bycatch from potential commercial fishing activities
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds and seaducks from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial (All Seabirds) (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds) (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks);

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity and burial sites;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, fish, marine mammals, land mammals, cultural values, impacts, contaminated sites, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection;
- The site has a North Warning System site;
- The site contains some IOL; and
- There are prospecting permits on the adjacent shore.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

### Hell Gate and Cardigan Strait

(see Map 18)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains 5%- 10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Northern Fulmar)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabirds. Also important at site: Seaducks (e.g. Common Eider), Coastal Waterfowl (e.g. Brant)

- **Site details:**
  - Non-binding Designations: Important Bird Areas (Cape Vera, North Kent Is, Calf Island), International Biological Programme site
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Biological research; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; biological research; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; human and terrestrial traffic disturbance related to research activities
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Northern Fulmar); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds) EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks);

Additional considerations:

- The existing planning policy framework; and
- The site has UOM activities;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, birds, marine mammals, cultural values, impacts, potential economic development, existing economic development, and protection.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

### North Spicer Island

(see Map 19)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains 1% to 5% of the national populations of one or more migratory birds species that ARE exhibiting populations declines as of 2005 (Atlantic Brant)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Waterfowl
- **Site details:**
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; contaminated site remediation
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; disturbance from aircraft related to contaminated site remediation
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for bird-aircraft collisions originating from air traffic at low altitude or too close to concentration of birds
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Sea-level Coastal Nesters); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, walrus, fish, cultural values, and protection.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.

- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

### Prince Leopold Island (outside of the Migratory Bird Sanctuary)

(Map 20)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains 5%- 10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Black-legged Kittiwake, Northern Fulmar)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabirds
- **Site details:**
  - Major seabird feeding area and adjacent to large seabird colonies.
  - Species at risk present: Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding Designations: Important Bird Area, International Biological Programme site
  - A large portion of site falls within the proposed Lancaster Sound National Marine Conservation Area.
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; biological research
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; biological research
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism and biological research; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships

- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Northern Fulmar); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- The site is partially in the proposed Lancaster Sound NMCA;
- The site encircles a MBS;
- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include polar, birds, fish, marine mammals, land mammals, wildlife, cultural values, impacts, existing economic development, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection; and
- The site is adjacent to IOL;

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

### Scott inlet

(see Map 21)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**

- Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains 5%- 10% of the national population of one or more migratory bird species that are NOT exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Northern Fulmar)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk present: Polar bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding Designations: Important Bird Area
  - Candidate for Territorial Park status
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Northern Fulmar); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include birds, drinking water, cultural values, impacts, potential economic development no oil and gas, shipping, and protection; and
- The site contains IOL.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

### Seymour Island (outside of Migratory Bird Sanctuary)

(see Map 22)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Moderately risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Feeding area adjacent to nesting colony for migratory bird species listed as Endangered on Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act (Ivory Gull)\*
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabirds
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk present: Ivory Gull (endangered)
  - Non-binding Designations: Important Bird Area, International Biological Programme site
  - This site provides feeding habitat for the Ivory Gull.
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Ivory Gulls);
  - \* Based on current knowledge of Ivory Gull feeding behaviour, and level of human activity at this site, It is classed in the 'moderately risk intolerant' category. EC recommends this site be re-assessed once additional information on

Ivory Gull feeding behaviour is acquired or as new industrial activities are proposed.

Additional considerations:

- The existing planning policy framework;
- The site has the potential for oil and gas related activities;

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given that the area is considered to be moderately risk intolerant and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

## Abbajalik and Ijutuk Islands

(see Map 23)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (American Dovekie)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Only known Dovekie breeding colony in Nunavut
  - Species at risk: None
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**

- Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships

- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, birds, fish, marine mammals, drinking water, cultural values, existing economic development, and protection; and
- The site has a total area of approximately 17 km<sup>2</sup>.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Baillarge Bay

(see Map 24)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**

- Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Northern Fulmar)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; 3. harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Northern Fulmar); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- The site's terrestrial component is partially located in Sirmilik National Park and the site's marine component is partially within the proposed Lancaster Sound NMCA;
- The site has UOM activity and shipping;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, birds, fish, marine mammals, cultural values, impacts, existing economic development, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection; and
- The site contains a small portion of IOL.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.

- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

### Belcher Islands Polynyas

(see Map 25)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Host more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Common Eider ssp. *sedentaria*)
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Common Eider ssp. *sedentaria*)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seaduck
- **Site details:**
  - Critical breeding islands and critical wintering polynyas
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; mineral exploration (iron ore) lease; municipality; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; mineral production and mine construction; marine cable installation; municipality; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries

- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships; increase in air traffic disturbance related to mining activities; human disturbance from mining activities; alteration of seabed due from dredging for marine cable
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; potential for bird-aircraft collisions originating from air traffic at low altitude or too close from concentration of birds; loss of benthic prey for seaducks/waterfowl and seabirds
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks),

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, shellfish, fishing river or lake, land mammals, wildlife, drinking water, cultural values, contaminated sites, existing economic development, transportation and infrastructure, and protection;
- Portions of the area have been identified for high mineral potential; and
- The site's terrestrial component is all IOL.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of

that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Buchan Gulf

(see Map 26)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Northern Fulmar)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area; International Biological Programme Site
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; commercial fishing
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; risk of bycatch from commercial fishing activities anticipated
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds due to increase of traffic; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Northern Fulmar); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- The site is a turbot area of abundance;
- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, birds, marine mammals, drinking water, cultural values, contaminated sites, existing economic development, and protection; and
- The site contains IOL.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Cape Searle / Reid

(see Map 27)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Northern Fulmar and Thick-billed Murre)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Peregrine Falcon (Special Concern), Polar Bear (Special Concern)

- Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; commercial fishing; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; risk of bycatch from commercial fishing activities anticipated
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds due to increase of traffic; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Northern Fulmar); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, cultural values, impacts, existing economic development, transportation and infrastructure, and protection;
- The site has a North Warning System site and a land remediation site;
- The site has two NWAs; and
- The sites terrestrial component is all IOL.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Cheyne Islands

(see Map 28)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Ross's Gull)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Ross's Gull (Threatened)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Sea-level Coastal Nesters) (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include cultural values, and existing economic development;
- The existing planning policy framework;

- The site's three islands are part of the Bathurst Island proposed National Park.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Creswell Bay

(see Map 29)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contain habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a species listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Peary Caribou)
  - Hosts more than 5% of a national population of one or more species exhibiting population decline as of 2005 (Buff-breasted Sandpiper)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird
  - Also important at site: Seabirds (e.g. Northern Fulmar, Black-legged Kittiwake), Inland Seaduck (King Eider, Long-tailed Duck)
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Peary Caribou (Endangered), Red Knot spp. *islandica* (Special Concern), Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area, International Biological Programme site
- **Current human activities at site:**

- Land-based tourism; shipping; marine cable installation; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Land-based tourism; shipping; cruise ship tourism; marine and terrestrial cable installation; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Increased human disturbance related to tourism; marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; alteration of seabed and lakebeds, ponds due from dredging for marine, freshwater, terrestrial cable
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; loss of benthic prey for shorebirds, seabirds, and seaducks
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds)

Additional considerations:

- The site is an Arctic char area of abundance;
- The site has UOM activity, burial sites and a possible sacred area;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, marine mammals, land mammals, wildlife, drinking water, cultural values, impacts, existing economic development, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection; and
- The site's terrestrial component is IOL.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and

- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

### East Axel Heiberg Islands

(see Map 30)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Hosts more than 5% of a national population of one or more species exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Red Knot ssp. *islandica*)
  - Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for Peary Caribou which is listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act*
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird
- **Site details:**
  - Important habitat for Peary Caribou
  - Species at risk: Peary Caribou (Endangered), Red Knot spp. *islandica* (special concern)
  - Non-binding designations: none
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; coal exploration license
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; coal exploration
- **Threats to birds from current/future activity:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships; human disturbance from mineral prospecting/mining activities anticipated; increase in air traffic disturbance related to mineral prospecting/mining activities anticipated.
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; higher potential for bird-aircraft

collisions originating from air traffic at low altitude or from flying too close to concentration of birds; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young.

- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds);
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Migratory Birds);
  - EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds);

Additional considerations:

- The existing planning policy framework;
- The site contains IOL;
- The site has possible oil and gas potential;
- The site has the potential for coal related activities;

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Eastern Devon Island

(see Map 31)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**

- Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Ivory Gull)

- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Ivory Gull (Endangered)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Threats to birds from current /future activities at site:**
  - None
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Ivory Gull); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Ivory Gull); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds),

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, and existing economic development; and
- The existing planning policy framework.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Eastern Jones Sound

(see Map 32)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Ivory Gull)
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Thick-billed Murre, Black-legged Kittiwake)
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Thick-billed Murre)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Ivory Gull (Endangered), Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designation: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; commercial fishing; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; risk of bycatch from commercial fishing activities anticipated
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- The existing planning policy framework;
- Portions of the site are in the proposed Lancaster Sound National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA);
- Portions of the site are in the Nirjutiqavvik National Wildlife Area (NWA);

- The site has adjacent prospecting permits;
- The site has UOM activities;
- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, birds, fish, marine mammals, wildlife, cultural values, impacts, contaminated sites, existing economic development, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection; and
- The site is used for shipping.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Eastern Lancaster Sound

(Map 33)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Black-legged Kittiwake, Northern Fulmar, Thick-billed Murre)
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Thick-billed Murre)

- Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Ivory Gull)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Important stopover during migration for many migratory bird species
  - Important feeding site - floe edge and polynya
  - Important area for many species of marine mammals
  - Species at risk: Ivory Gull (Endangered), Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; commercial fishing; cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships; risk of bycatch from commercial fishing activities anticipated
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, wildlife, cultural values, impacts, existing economic development, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection; and
- The area is mainly in the proposed Lancaster Sound NMCA.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.

- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

### Fosheim Peninsula

(see Map 34)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Hosts more than 5% of a national population of one or more species exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot)
  - Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a species listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Peary Caribou)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Peary Caribou (Endangered), Red Knot spp. islandica (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Coal exploration license; shipping; weather station/military base
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Coal exploration; shipping; weather station/military base
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Human and terrestrial traffic disturbance related to mining-exploration, military, and weather station activities; air traffic

disturbance related to mining exploration, military, and weather station activities; marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships

- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; potential for bird-aircraft collisions originating from air traffic at low altitude or too close from concentration of birds
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds)

Additional considerations:

- The existing planning policy framework;
- The site contains IOL;
- The site has potential for coal related activities;
- The site has possible oil and gas potential;
- The site provides suitable habitat high-arctic habitat for Peary caribou and muskox;
- The site includes Canadian Forces Station (CFS) Eureka, and;
- The Nunavut Impact Review Board (the NIRB) previously recommended that coal exploration in the area, as proposed, was not appropriate.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Foxe Basin Islands

(see Map 35)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contain habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Red Knot, Ross's Gull)
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Dunlin, Red Phalarope, White-rumped Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone, Purple Sandpiper, Long-tailed Jaeger, Sabine's Gull, Atlantic Brant)
  - Hosts more than 5% of a national population of one or more species exhibiting population decline as of 2005 (Dunlin, Red Phalarope, Ruddy Turnstone)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird, Shorebird, Waterfowl
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Red Knot spp. *rufa* (Endangered), Ross's Gull (Endangered), Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include cultural values, and protection; and

- The site has possible oil and gas potential;

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Great Plain of the Koukdjuak

(see Map 36)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Red Knot)
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, Red Phalarope, Red Knot, Ruddy Turnstone, White-rumped Sandpiper, Lesser Snow Goose)
  - Hosts more than 5% of a national population of one or more species exhibiting population decline as of 2005 (American Golden-Plover, Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, Red Phalarope, Red Knot, Ruddy Turnstone)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird, Waterfowl. Also important at site: Coastal Waterfowl (Atlantic Brant)
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Red Knot spp. *rufa* (Endangered)

- Non-binding designations: Ramsar Wetland of International Importance; International Biological Programme Site; Important Bird Area

- **Current human activities at site:**

- None

- **Anticipated human activities at site:**

- Shipping

- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**

- Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping

- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**

- Disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution

- **Recommended setbacks:**

- EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The site has an Arctic char area of abundance;
- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, birds, fish, marine mammals, river or lake of interest, wildlife, drinking water, cultural values, contaminated sites, existing economic development, and protection;
- The site is adjacent to a MBS on both sides; and
- The site has some IOL.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird

populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Grinnell Peninsula

(see Map 37)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contain habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Ivory Gull)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Ivory Gull (Endangered)
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - None
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include caribou.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and

- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Hobhouse Inlet

(Map 38)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Northern Fulmar)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: International Biological Programme Site; Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; commercial fishing
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships; risk of bycatch from commercial fishing activities anticipated
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Northern Fulmar); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds);

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include walrus, fish, marine mammals, land mammals, wildlife, cultural values, impacts, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection; and
- The area is in the proposed Lancaster Sound NMCA;

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Inglefield Mountains

(see Map 39)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Ivory Gull)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Ivory Gull (Endangered)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - None

- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - None
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Ivory Gull)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear and existing economic development;
- The existing planning policy framework;
- The site is comprised of different areas; and
- One of the areas contains IOL.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Markham Bay

(see Map 40)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the

percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Common Eider)

- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seaduck
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity, burial sites and a possible sacred site;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, shellfish, land mammals, drinking water, cultural values, contaminated sites, potential economic development, and protection; and
- The site contains some IOL.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of

that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Nasaruvaalik Island

(see Map 41)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contain habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Ross's Gull)
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Ross's Gull)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
  - Also important at site: Seaduck (Common eider)
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Ross's Gull (Threatened)
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds) (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds) (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds) (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include cultural values, existing economic development, and protection; and
- The existing planning policy framework.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## North Water Polynya

(see Map 42)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Ivory Gull)
  - Contains species with population >10% of national population (Black-legged Kittiwake, Thick-billed Murre, Ivory Gull)
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' (Thick-billed Murre)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird, Seaducks (Common Eider)
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Ivory Gull (Endangered); Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**

- Shipping; cruise ship tourism
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; commercial fishing
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; risk of bycatch from commercial fishing activities anticipated
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding birds resulting in compromised energetics; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds);

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, and existing economic development;
- The existing planning policy framework;
- Within the NSA, the site is comprised of two areas and is considered biologically diverse; and
- The site has oil and gas production potential.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Northwestern Brodeur Peninsula

(see Map 43)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Ivory Gull)
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of a migratory bird species (Ivory Gull)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Ivory Gull (Endangered)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Mineral claim
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Mineral claim
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Air traffic disturbance related to mining exploration activities
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Potential for bird-aircraft collisions originating from air traffic at low altitude or from flying too close to concentration of birds; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Ivory Gull)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include marine mammals, wildlife, and potential economic development;
- The site is comprised of three areas that are each approximately 1 km<sup>2</sup> in size; and
- The site has active mineral claims.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;

- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Sabine Peninsula

(see Map 44)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a species listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Peary Caribou)
  - Also expected to qualify as 'site containing 5 to 10% of one or more species listed as declining as of 2005', pending field studies in summer 2014.
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird (e.g. Purple Sandpiper), Waterfowl (e.g. high arctic Brant)
- **Site details:**
  - High quality Arctic wetland - an oasis among dry uplands
  - Species at risk: Peary Caribou (Endangered), Red Knot spp. *islandica* (Special Concern), Buff-breasted Sandpiper (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; oil and gas exploration and production
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from oil and gas exploration
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities direct

loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; increased risk of oil blow outs and/or spills, causing acute oil pollution

- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The existing planning policy framework;
- The site has the potential for oil and gas related activities and other future economic development.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 2 was chosen given the economic potential of the area and that setbacks have been developed to manage land use within the vicinity of the area.

## Sleeper Islands

(see Map 45)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Common Eider)
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Common Eider)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seaduck

- **Site details:**
  - Virtually all of Hudson Bay subspecies of Common Eider overwinter and breed here, and in the Belcher Island polynyas
  - Species at risk: None
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from ships
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The site contains mostly IOL;
- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, land mammals, drinking water, cultural values, existing economic development, and protection; and
- The site is partly in an area of equal use and occupancy.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Western Cumberland Sound Archipelago

(see Map 46)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Host more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Iceland Gull)
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Common Eider)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird, Seaduck
- **Site details:**
  - Largest breeding concentration of Iceland Gulls in Canada
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern), Beluga Whale (Endangered, schedule 2, SE Baffin Island/Cumberland Sound population)
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; mineral claim; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; mineral exploration; commercial fishing; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; risk of bycatch from commercial fishing activities anticipated; air traffic disturbance related to mineral exploration; human and terrestrial traffic disturbance related to mineral exploration; risk of bycatch from commercial fishing activities anticipated
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct

loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch; potential for bird-aircraft collisions originating from air traffic at low altitude or from flying too close to concentration of birds

- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The site contains IOL;
- The site has UOM activity, burial sites and possible sacred sites;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, shellfish, river or lake of interest, wildlife, drinking water, cultural values, impacts, contaminated sites, potential economic development, existing economic development, no shipping, and protection;
- The site has mineral claims and prospecting permits;
- Importance of Clearwater Fiord to the residents of Pangnirtung;
- The site has both an Arctic char and shrimp area of abundance.

Option 1 is recommended for the area outside of the area identified for high mineral potential:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 1 for the bird populations identified above during the issuance of permits, licences and authorizations.

Option 1 was chosen given that the area is considered to be highly risk intolerant and that access to uses that are incompatible with the protection of environmental values should be restricted.

## Caribou Habitat

(see Map 47 - Map 51)

Caribou are an essential part of northern ecosystems and Inuit cultural heritage. Most caribou rely on vast ranges at different times of the year.

## Calving and Post-Calving Areas

(see Map 47)

Calving and post-calving areas are generally acknowledged as areas where caribou are particularly vulnerable to disturbance and the need for uninterrupted foraging is greatest.

Considered Information for managing calving and post-calving areas:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including wildlife habitat.
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Protecting and Sustaining the Environment to manage land use in and around areas of biological importance.
- The Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB), Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board (BQCMB), Nunavut's three regional wildlife boards (Kivalliq Wildlife Board, Kitikmeot Wildlife Board and Qikitarjuaq Wildlife Board), the five Kivalliq Hunters and Trappers Organizations, Aboriginal organizations outside of Nunavut (Athabasca Denesuline Né Né Land Corporation, Fort Smith Metis Council, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation, Northwest Territory Metis Nation, Sayisi Dene First Nation) and other organizations (GNWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources, WWF, Mining Watch Canada) have recommended protection of caribou calving and post-calving areas;
- Caribou cows and calves are most sensitive to disturbance during the calving and post-calving season;
- Delineating calving and post-calving areas together reduced habitat fragmentation;

- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan prohibits development activities on all public lands and waters in caribou calving areas during calving season. Development should be restricted to avoid disturbing caribou.
- The North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan prohibits development in calving areas during calving season. Identifies caribou calving areas as significant areas.
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- Working Together for Caribou, the GN's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values;
- There is some mineral activity in caribou calving and post-calving areas;
- It is an objective NPC's broad planning policies, objectives and goals that any proposed restrictions on land use are achieved with the least possible impact on undiscovered mineral resources, while taking into account environmental and social objectives;
- Some areas contain IOL;
- 17.1.3 Inuit Owned Lands shall, to the extent possible, provide for a mix of the characteristics outlined above in order to secure balanced economic development. However, the relative weighting of the characteristics with respect to any particular community or region shall turn on the actual or potential economic opportunities at hand and the particular community or regional preferences;
- Some areas have qualities that have been recognized as important to promoting other Goals;
- The Commission recognizes the Caribou Protection Measures designed and implemented by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC);

- Recently used calving and post-calving areas are defined as all areas known to be used by caribou within the last 20 years based on tracking caribou (collared cows) by telemetry; and

**NOTE:**

- *The National Park awaiting full establishment in Wager Bay (Ukkusiksalik) contains caribou calving and post-calving areas;*
- *The Queen Maud Gulf MBS contains caribou calving areas;*
- *The Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary contains caribou calving and post-calving areas and is assigned a Protected Area designation below; and*
- *The area being considered for a national park in the Kitikmeot Region in the Bluenose Lake area contains caribou calving and post-calving areas.*

**Recommendation for Caribou Calving and Post-Calving Areas**

Option 1 is recommended for **caribou calving and post-calving areas that have not been identified for high mineral potential:**

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas have been identified by planning partners and communities noted above as areas requiring protection.

Option 2 is recommended for **caribou calving and post-calving areas that overlap with high mineral potential:**

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to mitigate impacts on caribou calving and post-calving areas.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of calving and post-calving areas is maintained.

**Sea Ice Crossings**

(see Map 48-50)

Some caribou herds migrate across the frozen sea ice to reach their calving areas. These herds are vulnerable to changing sea ice conditions, and disturbance by ice breaking.

Considered Information for managing caribou sea ice crossings:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including wildlife habitat.
- For the crossing in the Coronation Gulf, there is concern about ice breaking. In the transcripts for the GN's consultation on its Draft Caribou Management Strategy, HTOs in Cambridge Bay are concerned about community resupply; however, community resupply is exempt from screening by NIRB;
- There is some UOM and mineral activity in caribou sea ice crossings;
- The Commission recognizes the Caribou Protection Measures designed and implemented by AANDC;
- The Fall Caribou Crossing has been identified for its historic significance and is assigned an Protected Area designation below;
- Dolphin Union heard trans-island movements have been identified (Victoria Island);
- Peary caribou trans-island movements have been identified (Prince of Wales, Somerset and Boothia Peninsula);
- Peary caribou trans-island movements within the Bathurst Island Complex have been identified; and

- Some areas contain IOL.

### Recommendation for Caribou Sea Ice Crossings

Option 3 is recommended:

- Allows all uses.
- May identify priorities and values that should be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to mitigate impacts of project proposals with ship traffic on spring and fall caribou sea ice crossing.

Option 3 was chosen for these areas given that limited information is available regarding timing of sea ice crossings to formulate specific management options.

### Polar Bear Denning Areas

(see Map 51)

Polar bears are integral to the marine ecosystem and an important part of Inuit culture and economies. Spending most of their life on the sea ice, polar bears are considered susceptible to climate change.

Polar bear denning areas are important coastal habitats where females give birth and feed their cubs. The majority of dens are located on land within 50km of the coast, although multi-year ice is also used in the winter.

Considered Information:

- The polar bear is designated under the Species at Risk Act as a species of Special Concern;
 

NIRB has advised that consideration should be given for polar bear habitat. Further, that attention should be given to the risk for potential habitat fragmentation;
- Nunavut Wildlife Resource and Habitat Values Report, 2012;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- WWF has provided comment that there should be restrictions on denning areas, polar bear summer retreat habitat, and polar bear sea ice habitat. It

is recommended that all uses be permitted but with seasonal restrictions based on regional dates informed by Inuit knowledge and research. For approved projects, it should be recommended that proponents consider wildlife impacts outside of the seasonal restrictions;

- Reflects the priorities and values of residents;
- Was included in the results of the 2012-2014 consultation tour and planning partner consultations; and
- Reflects the International Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears.

### Recommendation for Polar Bear Habitat

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to mitigate impacts on polar bear habitat.

Option 2 was chosen to reflect feedback received from government agencies and residents and to mitigate impacts on this unique indicator species.

### Walrus Haul-Outs

The Atlantic walrus plays a major role in the ecological function of the marine ecosystem and is an important part of the traditional subsistence economy for the Inuit of Nunavut. Habitat requirements for walrus are very specific requiring sea ice and shallow water habitat in the winter and congregate in the summer and fall to “haul out” on-low, rocky shores.

(see Map 52)

Considered information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including wildlife habitat;

- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan and the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan state that “Development activities shall be restricted near polar bear denning areas and walrus haul-outs”;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- Results of the 2012-2014 Community Consultation Tour and Planning Partner Consultations;
- Information provided by the DFO on the Fox Basin AOI marine area as a central aggregation area for walrus;
- The Atlantic Walrus is being considered for listing under the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA); and
- The habitat requirements for walrus are very specific, requiring ice or land nearby to ‘haul out’.

### Recommendation for Walrus Haul-Outs

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to mitigate impacts on walrus haul-outs.

Option 2 was chosen to reflect feedback received from residents and government agencies given that the habitat requirements for walrus are very specific, requiring ice or land nearby to ‘haul out’.

## Atlantic Cod Lakes

(see Map 53 - Map 55)

Small landlocked populations of Atlantic Cod have been identified in three coastal saltwater lakes on south-eastern Baffin Island. These populations are significant because they are genetically distinct from marine populations and from each other.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including wildlife habitat.
- The GoC’s direction that these cod are no longer being considered for listing as a species of special concern under SARA;
- Priorities and values of the residents;
- it is a policy of the Commission’s Goal of Protecting and Sustaining the Environment to protect the integrity of ecosystems, flora and wildlife habitats, paying special attention to species at risk, and critical habitats;
- Two of the three lakes are on IOL and it is NTI’s direction that development activity should not be restricted on IOL;
- DFO’s direction that no restrictions are needed on these lakes;
- One of the sites is in and another is adjacent to the Western Cumberland Sound Archipelago key bird habitat site;
- As the combined surface area of the lakes is approximately 20 km<sup>2</sup>, they comprise a small and unique habitat;

### Recommendation for Cod Lakes

Option 3 is recommended:

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) has indicated that these populations of land locked Atlantic Cod are no longer being considered for listing as a species of special concern under SARA. The DFO has further indicated that commercial fishing should be allowed on these lakes. Based on the DFO submission it is recommended that the Atlantic Cod Lakes be considered Option 3: Mixed Use, and not be identified in plan.

## Marine Areas of Importance

(see Map 56-57)

### **Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs)**

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) has provided the Commission with the location of Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs) in the NSA. These areas have been identified for their ecological and/or biologic importance to the marine environment. Upon suggestion from the DFO, the Commission has included EBSAs in the DNLUP.

The designated EBSA's are a work in progress. In the future, as available science, traditional knowledge, and an understanding of these areas expand, DFO may be able to provide additional information to NPC to assist with the designation and recommendations for these areas.

#### Considered Information:

- It is a policy of the Commission's Goal of Protecting and Sustaining the Environment to respect and consider sites of ecological significance that are not officially protected, such as critical habitat that has been identified but not yet declared;
- The EBSAs were identified through a technical process, combining the best available and traditional knowledge. They were evaluated against a specific set of criteria, including: uniqueness; aggregation; fitness consequence; resilience and naturalness;
- The evaluation considered to create the EBSA's considered a number of published local and traditional ecological knowledge (LEK/TEK) reports;
- For most EBSAs there was a relatively high degree of confidence that the areas contained ecologically and/or biologically significant features;
- The NWMB's direction that identifying EBSAs allows for most of the important marine mammal areas to be noted and contributes to more effective protection of marine wildlife;
- As defined by DFO, EBSAs are not meant to be a general strategy for protecting all habitats and marine communities; rather a tool to call attention to areas that have particularly high ecological or biological significance to allow appropriate management;
- DFO does not provide policy guidance on the management of all EBSAs (only those where a higher degree of risk aversion is needed);

- In light of the information gaps that exist, a precautionary approach is required to ensure that future conservation options are not foreclosed in areas that have been identified as ecologically or biologically significant. It holds out the possibility of relaxing restrictions once the area is better understood;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services; and
- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.

### **Recommendation for EBSAs**

Option 3 is recommended:

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that should be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to mitigate impacts on Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas.

Option 3 was chosen for these biologically important areas because of the large geographic area and limited information is available to formulate specific management options.

### **Polynyas**

Polynyas are areas of persistent open water surrounded by sea ice. The Commission was provided with the location of polynyas in the NSA by both the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and the World Wildlife Foundation (WWF). Following feedback received from community consultation and recommendations from planning partners (DFO, PCA, WWF) polynyas have been included as values in the DNLUP.

The location of polynyas may change over time due to climate change and other environmental factors, however they should continue to be highlighted and their location be reviewed as part of the periodic review.

## Considered Information:

- It is a policy of the Commission's Goal of Protecting and Sustaining the Environment to respect and consider sites of ecological significance that are not officially protected, such as polynyas;
- Polynyas are widely distributed across the Canadian Arctic Archipelago and are an important component the physical and the biological systems in ice-covered seas;
- Polynyas are important areas for wildlife as they provide areas access between the ocean and the atmosphere for many species and are nutrient rich, biologically productive areas;
- Polynyas are all highly sensitive the impact of human activities on these environments should be minimal;
- Industry seeks clarification on how management activities in polynyas would impact marine shipping;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy; and
- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.

## Recommendation for Polynyas

Option 3 is recommended:

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that should be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to mitigate impacts on polynyas.

Option 3 was chosen for these biologically active areas given that limited information is available to formulate specific management options.

## Transboundary Considerations

### Impacts outside the NSA

(see Map 58)

Activities occurring in the NSA may impact areas outside the NSA. The Great Bear Lake watershed has been identified as an important ecological and cultural area in the Sahtu region of the Northwest Territories, and a portion of the watershed is within the NSA.

Considered Information for the Great Bear Lake Watershed:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, and cultural factors and priorities;
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Protecting and Sustaining the Environment to encourage the inter-jurisdictional management of land, air, and water resources;
- A portion of the Great Bear Lake watershed is within the NSA, and it has been identified as an important ecological and cultural area in the Northwest Territories. A management plan which has no legal force has been developed to manage the area;
- The approved Sahtu Land Use Plan includes provisions to manage the area;
- There are active mineral claims in the portion within the NSA; and
- There is UOM activity within the area.

### Recommendation for the Great Bear Lake Watershed

Option 3 is recommended:

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that should be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to mitigate impacts on the Great Bear Lake Watershed.

Option 3 was chosen given that a small portion of the watershed is within the NSA and that limited information is available to formulate specific management options.

### Land use outside the NSA

Activities occurring outside the NSA may impact areas inside the NSA. The Commission is concerned about the potential transboundary impacts on the NSA from oil and gas exploration and hydroelectric development in adjacent areas.

#### Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, and cultural factors and priorities;
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Protecting and Sustaining the Environment to encourage the inter-jurisdictional management of land, air, and water resources;
- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan requires that "The possible cumulative impacts of additional hydroelectric power development in Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec on the ecosystem of Hudson Bay, James Bay and Hudson Strait must be examined before more hydroelectric development proceeds.";
- Nunavut Marine Council requested that the National Energy Board not proceed with seismic activity related to oil and gas activity in the Baffin Bay and Davis Strait until a strategic environmental assessment is complete;
- Community of Sanikiluaq expressed concerns regarding hydro development in the James Bay in Quebec;

#### Recommendation for Managing Land Use Outside the NSA

Option 4 is recommended:

- Direction to Government departments, agencies and other regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Direction** Government departments and agencies will request that NIRB either undertake, or be directly involved in the screening and review of seismic research and oil and gas exploration and development in areas adjacent to the NSA.

Option 4 reflects the fact that the Commission does not have jurisdiction over these areas.

## Climate Change

Climate change is an important consideration in the NSA. Changing ice conditions may have an impact on residents' use of the land, and many wildlife populations can be affected by changes to the unique habitat that

they rely on. Transportation and infrastructure are also susceptible to impacts from changing ice and permafrost conditions.

#### Considered Information:

- it is a policy of the Commission's Goal of Protecting and Sustaining the Environment to, where appropriate, provide direction to the Nunavut Impact Review Board, government regulatory authorities, and Inuit land managers to manage climate change issues;
- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan states: "Concerns related to ... climate change are valid, but ... are beyond the scope of a regional land use plan.";

At this time there are no agreed upon terms that would be appropriate to implement through a land use plan; and

- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services.

#### Recommendation for Climate Change

Option 4 is recommended:

- Direction to Government departments, agencies and other regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to address the Commission's objectives on climate change during the review of Project Proposals.

Option 4 is recommended as it best supports the Commission's objectives related to climate change as outlined in the Commission's broad policies, objectives and goals.

# Chapter 3

## Encouraging Conservation Planning

*“The Goal of Encouraging Conservation Planning is described as: forming an important part of the land and resource management regime in Nunavut. Conservation planning recognizes that Parks and Conservation Areas may be established through legislation. The protection of other Areas of Interest may also be achieved through the application of zoning in the land use plan. The purpose of conservation planning is to protect the natural environment, culturally significant areas and special places for the benefit of Nunavummiut and all Canadians. This will be achieved by recognizing the general desirability to establish Parks in the Nunavut Settlement Area, supporting Conservation Area initiatives of Government, and by protecting Areas of Interest under the authority of the land use plan.”*

### Introduction

Encouraging Conservation Planning is one of five planning Goals in the Nunavut Planning Commission’s Broad Planning Policies, Objectives and Goals. It is the primary aim of this Chapter to provide a practical policy direction that is able to support this Goal.

Specifically, this Chapter;

- identifies key areas of Nunavut that are critical to encouraging conservation planning;
- provides options for managing these key areas;
- recommends a preferred option for the management of these areas that is best able to support this Goal; and
- translates the preferred recommendation into a language that a Land Use Plan can articulate and implement.

### Key Areas and Issues

Areas and issues of the NSA identified by the Commission as important to encouraging conservation planning are;

- National Parks Awaiting Full Establishment;
- Proposed National Parks;

- The proposed Lancaster Sound National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA);
- Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary;
- Migratory Bird Sanctuaries (MBSs);
- National Wildlife Areas (NWAs);
- Historic Sites; and
- Heritage Rivers.

### Parks Awaiting Full Establishment

(see Map 59-71)

PCA and the GN have identified and provided the Commission with areas awaiting full establishment as National and Territorial Parks.

National Parks include:

- Ukkusiksalik National Park; and
- Ward Hunt Island

Territorial Parks include:

#### **Baffin Region**

- Katannilik Territorial Park (Kimmirut/Iqaluit)
- Mallikjuaq Territorial Park (Cape Dorset)
- Sylvia Grinnell Territorial Park (Iqaluit)
- Pisuktinu Territorial Park Campground (Pangnirtung)
- Tamaarvik Territorial Park Campground (Pond Inlet)
- Taqaiqsirvik Territorial Park Campground (Kimmirut)
- Tupirvik Territorial Park Campground (Resolute Bay)

#### **Kitikmeot Region**

- Kugluk (Bloody Falls) Territorial Park (Kugluktuk)
- Ovayok Territorial Park (Cambridge Bay)
- Northwest Passage Territorial Park (Gjoa Haven)

#### **Kivalliq Region**

- Iqalugaarjuup Nunanga Territorial Park (Rankin Inlet)

- Inuujaarvik Territorial Park Campground (Baker Lake)

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including Parks and Conservation Areas.
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Encouraging Conservation Planning to provide for the establishment and continued protection of the ecological integrity of Parks and Conservation Areas;
- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan supports the creation of a national park in the Wager Bay area (Ukkusiksalik National Park)
- There are mineral claims and prospecting permits adjacent to Ukkusiksalik National Park;
- PCA has requested that these areas be protected from development that is incompatible with National Parks;
- PCA has advised that these areas are under land withdrawals;
- 4 of the Territorial Parks Awaiting Full Establishment are outside municipal boundaries.
- Municipal plans manage land use within municipal boundaries.
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services; and
- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.

**Recommendation for National Parks Awaiting Full Establishment**

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas have been identified as future National Parks and lands have been withdrawn in the areas.

**Recommendation for Territorial Parks Awaiting Full Establishment**

Option 1 is recommended for **areas outside municipal boundaries:**

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas have been identified as Candidate Territorial Parks and lands have been withdrawn in the areas.

Option 3 is recommended **areas inside municipal boundaries:**

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

Option 3 was chosen based on the ability of municipal land use plans to manage land use.

**Proposed Parks**

(see Map 72- 74)

PCA and the GN have identified proposed Parks in the NSA. One is proposed in the Kitikmeot Region in the Bluenose Lake Area and is contiguous to the existing Tuktut Nogait National Park. Another one is the proposed Qausuittuq National Park in the Qikiqtaaluk Region on northern Bathurst Island. Finally, the GN has identified a proposed territorial park, the Aggutinni Study Area, near Clyde River.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including Parks and Conservation Areas.
- It is an objective of the Commission’s Goal of Encouraging Conservation Planning to provide for the establishment and continued protection of the ecological integrity of Parks and Conservation Areas;
- The North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan supports the creation of a national park on Bathurst Island;
- The Bluenose Lake Area contains IOL;
- The Bathurst Island and Bluenose Lake areas include possible caribou calving and post-calving areas;
- PCA has advised that the proposed park in the Bluenose Lake Area has no agreed upon boundary or land withdrawal;
- PCA has advised that there is no agreement with the community that the Blue Nose Lake area should be a National Park;
- PCA has advised that the proposed Bathurst Island National Park has a land withdrawal for the terrestrial portions of the national park study area;
- PCA has advised that there is now a proposed boundary for the Bathurst Island National Park;
- PCA has advised that “The area east of the proposed Qausuittuq NP boundary (currently covered by a land withdrawal) should be protected from development as decided by the Senior MERA Committee in 2002 (moratorium on mineral exploration and development until the Peary caribou recover and/or their fate is otherwise determined.)”;

- Peary Caribou on Bathurst Island are listed as endangered under the Species at Risk Act;
- PCA has advised that PCA and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) are currently in the process of negotiating an IIBA for a National Park on Bathurst Island;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services; and
- Tunngasajji, the GN’s Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions. supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.

**Recommendation for Proposed National Parks**

Option 1 is recommended for the **Blue Nose Lake Area Proposed National Park:**

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that this area has been proposed as a National Park.

Option 1 is recommended for the **proposed Qausuittuq National Park on Bathurst Island and adjacent area:**

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.

- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that this area has been proposed as a National Park and land withdrawals have been identified in support of a national park. As well there are adjacent areas that are important to supporting the integrity of the park.

### Recommendation for Proposed Territorial Parks

Option 1 is recommended for the **Aggutinni Study Area**:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that this area has been proposed as a Territorial Park.

### Proposed National Marine Conservation Areas

(see Map 75)

The Commission recognizes PCA's initiative to establish a National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA) in Lancaster Sound.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including Parks and Conservation Areas;
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Encouraging Conservation Planning to provide

for the establishment and continued protection of the ecological integrity of Parks and Conservation Areas;

- The North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan identifies Lancaster Sound as "essential to the survival of several million seabirds, which occur in concentrations not found elsewhere in the Arctic. The biophysical richness of the central part of the region around Lancaster Sound makes it an ecosystem of international significance. The NBRLUP also identifies Lancaster Sound as having the highest known oil and gas potential of the sedimentary basins of the Arctic islands;
- The area is adjacent to Similik National Park;
- The area contains extensive UOM activities;
- The areas includes numerous key bird habitat areas;
- PCA has advised that there is a boundary for the Proposed Lancaster Sound NMCA;
- PCA has advised that the only outright prohibitions that would apply under the *Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act* are mineral and petroleum exploration and development, and ocean dumping;
- PCA has advised that there is no agreement with communities that the area should be a NMCA;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services; and
- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.

### Recommendation for the Proposed Lancaster Sound NMCA

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Hydro development; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that this area is under consideration to be established as a NMCA.

## Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary

(see Map 76)

The Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary was established in 1927 and supports a wide variety of wildlife.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including Parks and Conservation Areas;
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Encouraging Conservation Planning to provide for the establishment and continued protection of the ecological integrity of Parks and Conservation Areas;
- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan supports the restriction of development activities;
- GoC has advised that the Sanctuary is likely an important movement corridor for many species expanding their ranges northward;
- The lands are withdrawn;
- The Thelon River is a Canadian Heritage River;
- There is an adjacent key bird habitat site; and
- There are adjacent mineral claims;

### Recommendation for the Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;

- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that this area already has a land withdrawal in place.

## Migratory Bird Sanctuaries

(See Map 77 - Map 89)

Migratory Bird Sanctuaries (MBSs) are important to supporting and protecting migratory birds in the NSA. EC-CWS identifies the following MBSs: Seymour Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Prince Leopold Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Dewey Soper Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Queen Maud Gulf Migratory Bird Sanctuary, East Bay Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Harry Gibbons Migratory Bird Sanctuary, and McConnell River Migratory Bird Sanctuary.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including Parks and Conservation Areas.
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Encouraging Conservation Planning to provide for the establishment and continued protection of the ecological integrity of Parks and Conservation Areas;
- Some sites are located within the boundaries of the NBRLUP. The NBRLUP places an emphasis on protecting wildlife and wildlife habitat and ensuring impacts on wildlife are minimized;
- Some sites are located within the boundaries of the KRLUP. The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan identifies healthy wildlife populations as vital to Inuit. It places an emphasis on the protection and preservation of wildlife and wildlife habitat for use by future generations.
- EC-CWS has advised the Commission that there should be limited access to MBSs;
- There is IOL in some of the MBSs;
- NTI has advised the Commission that activity should not be restricted on IOL;
- Working Together for Caribou, the GN's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values; and

- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.

### Recommendation for MBSs

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** Refer to each designated bird sanctuary below and Table 1 to identify the setbacks that need to be applied.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas are existing established Conservation Areas.

## KIVALLIQ REGION

### East Bay Migratory Bird Sanctuary

(see Map 77)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Common Eider)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seaduck (Common Eider)
  - Also important at site: Waterfowl (Lesser Snow Goose), Seabird (Black Guillemot), shorebird (e.g. Red Phalarope)
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designation: Important Bird Area

- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Biological research; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Research; cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Increased human disturbance related to permitted activities; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity, a possible sacred site, burial sites and possible caribou calving and post-calving areas;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, shellfish, impacts, potential economic development, no oil and gas, and protection; and
- The site surrounds a MBS;
- The site has prospecting permits; and
- The site contains some IOL.

### Harry Gibbons Migratory Bird Sanctuary

(see Map 78)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Lesser Snow Goose)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Inland waterfowl (Lesser Snow Goose)
  - Also important at site: Shorebird (e.g. Red Phalarope)
- **Site details:**

- Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern)
- Non-binding designations: International Biological Programme Site; Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - None
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, shellfish, cultural values, potential economic development, no oil and gas, and protection.

### McConnell River Migratory Bird Sanctuary

(see Map 79)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
  - Contains 5 - 10% of the national population of a species NOT exhibiting declines as of 2005 (Ross' Goose)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Waterfowl
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern), Short-eared Owl (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Ramsar Wetland of International Importance; International Biological Programme Site; Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**

- Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, birds, fish, marine mammals, fishing river or lake, land mammals, drinking water, cultural values, impacts, and protection.

### KITIKMEOT REGION

#### Queen Maud Gulf Migratory Bird Sanctuary

(see Map 80)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
  - Hosts more than 5% of a national population of one or more species exhibiting population declines as of 2005 (American Golden Plover, Dunlin, Semipalmated Sandpiper)
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Ross's Goose, Snow Goose, American Golden Plover, Dunlin, Pectoral Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird
  - Also important at site: Inland Seaduck (e.g. King Eider), Waterfowl (e.g. Greater White-fronted Goose)
- **Site details:**
  - Most extensive wetland in mid-Arctic
  - Species at risk: Wolverine (Special Concern), Grizzly Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Ramsar Wetland of International Importance; International Biological Programme Site; Important Bird Area

- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; biological research; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; biological research; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; human, aerial and terrestrial traffic disturbance related to research activities; air traffic disturbance related to potential research activities
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds) (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Migratory Birds) (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The site has UOM activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, birds, fish, land mammals, wildlife, drinking water, cultural values, contaminated sites, existing economic development, and protection;
- The site has a North Warning System site and land remediation site, which are assigned Building Healthy Communities designations below.

## QIKIQTAAALUK REGION

### Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary

(see Map 81)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
  - Supports a percentage of a national population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Thick-billed Murre)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird (including Black-legged Kittiwake)
  - Waterfowl (Greater Snow Goose)

- Shorebird (e.g. Ringed Plover)
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Red Knot spp. *islandica* (Special Concern), Peregrine Falcon (Special Concern), Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Part of Migratory Bird Sanctuary is contained within Sirmilik National Park
  - Non-binding designations: International Biological Programme Site, Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Land-based tourism; shipping; cruise ship tourism; biological research; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Land-based tourism; shipping; cruise ship tourism; biological research; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Human and terrestrial traffic disturbance related to land-based tourism activities; marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds);
  - Note that the Nunavut Land Use Plan does not apply within Sirmilik National Park.

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, wildlife, cultural values, impacts, contaminated sites, existing economic development, transportation and infrastructure, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection.

### Dewey Soper Migratory Bird Sanctuary

(see Map 82)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**

- Legislated protected area under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
- Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Red Knot)
- Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, Red Phalarope, Red Knot, Ruddy Turnstone, White-rumped Sandpiper, Lesser Snow Goose)
- Hosts more than 5% of a national population of one or more species exhibiting population decline as of 2005 (American Golden-Plover, Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, Red Phalarope, Red Knot, Ruddy Turnstone)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird
  - Also important at site: Waterfowl (Lesser Snow Goose, Atlantic Brant)
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Red Knot spp. *rufa* (Endangered)
  - Non-binding designations: Ramsar Wetland of International Importance; International Biological Programme Site; Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - None
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

## Prince Leopold Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary

(see Map 83)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Black-legged Kittiwake, Northern Fulmar).
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern)

- Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area; International Biological Programme Site, UNESCO World Heritage Site
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; biological research
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; biological research; commercial fishing
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; risk of bycatch from commercial fishing activities anticipated
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Northern Fulmars); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, birds, fish, marine mammals, land mammals, wildlife, impacts, existing economic development, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection.

## Seymour Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary

(see Map 84)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
  - Contains habitat likely to be identified as Critical Habitat for a migratory bird listed as 'endangered' or 'threatened' under the *Species at Risk Act* (Ivory Gull)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Largest known Ivory Gull colony in Canada
  - Species at risk: Ivory Gull (endangered)

- Non-binding designations: International Biological Programme Site; Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - None
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Ivory Gull)

- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Working Together for Caribou, the GN's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values; and
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;

### Recommendation for NWAs

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

**Terms:** Refer to each designated wildlife area below and Table 1 to identify the setbacks that need to be applied.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas are existing established Conservation Areas.

## QIKIQTAAALUK REGION

### Akpait National Wildlife Area

(see Map 85)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Canada Wildlife Act*
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Thick-billed Murre, Northern Fulmar)
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the

## National Wildlife Areas

(see Map 85 - Map 89)

National Wildlife Areas (NWAs) have been identified and provided to the Commission by the GoC. These areas are: Polar Bear Pass National Wildlife Area, Nirjutiqavvik National Wildlife Area, Ninginganiq National Wildlife Area, Qaulluit National Wildlife Area, and Akpait National Wildlife Area.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including Parks and Conservation Areas.
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Encouraging Conservation Planning to provide for the establishment and continued protection of the ecological integrity of Parks and Conservation Areas;
- Some sites are located within the boundaries of the NBRLUP. The NBRLUP places an emphasis on protecting wildlife and wildlife habitat and ensuring impacts on wildlife are minimized;
- GoC has advised the Commission that NWAs require special management and limited access;
- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.

percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Thick-billed Murre)

- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (special concern), Peregrine Falcon (special concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area; International Biological Program Site
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism
- **Threats to birds from current/future activity:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk of oil spills and operational releases originating from ships
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Northern Fulmar); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, birds, cultural values, and impacts.

### Ninginganiq National Wildlife Area

(see Map 86)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Canada Wildlife Act*
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird (Northern Fulmar, Dovekie)
- **Site details:**
  - National Wildlife Area established to protect Bowhead Whale habitat; largest known concentration of Bowhead Whales
  - Species at risk: Peregrine Falcon (Special Concern), Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: None
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries

- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to whales and birds from current/future activity:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for whale and bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for animal-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding animals resulting in energetic losses; direct loss of animals due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds);

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, walrus, bird, fish, marine mammals, drinking water, cultural values, existing economic development, transportation and infrastructure, and protection.

### Nirjutiqavvik National Wildlife Area

(see Map 87)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Canada Wildlife Act*
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Thick-billed Murre, Black-legged Kittiwake)
  - Supports a percentage of a national species population equal to or greater than the percentage of 'sustainable loss' that the population can tolerate (Thick-billed Murre)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Species at risk: Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Important Bird Area; International Biological Programme Site
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism;
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**

- Shipping; cruise ship tourism; commercial fishing
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping; risk of bycatch from commercial fishing activities anticipated
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include polar bear, birds, marine mammals, cultural values, existing economic development, and protection.

### Polar Bear Pass National Wildlife Area

(see Map 88)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Canada Wildlife Act*
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Shorebird (e.g. red phalarope, white-rumped sandpiper), Seaduck (e.g. King Eider), Waterfowl (e.g. Greater Snow Goose)
- **Site details:**
  - High arctic wetland of exceptional biological diversity
  - Species at risk: Peary Caribou (Endangered), Red Knot spp. *islandica* (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: Ramsar Wetland of International Importance; International Biological Programme Site
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Biological research; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**

- Biological research; shipping; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Human disturbance related to biological research; marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from shipping
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, walrus, marine mammals, polynyas, cultural values, contaminated sites, existing economic development, and protection.

### Qaulluit National Wildlife Area

(see Map 89)

CWS noted the following:

- **Category:**
  - Highly risk intolerant
- **Qualifying Criterion:**
  - Legislated protected area under the *Canada Wildlife Act*
  - Hosts more than 10% of a national population of one or more migratory bird species (Northern Fulmar)
- **Feature bird group:**
  - Seabird
- **Site details:**
  - Largest Northern Fulmar colony in Canada
  - Species at risk: Peregrine Falcon (Special Concern); Polar Bear (Special Concern)
  - Non-binding designations: International Biological Programme Site, Important Bird Area
- **Current human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries
- **Anticipated human activities at site:**
  - Shipping; cruise ship tourism; commercial fishing; harvesting and ancillary activities by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries

- **Threats to birds from current/future activities at site:**
  - Marine traffic/shipping disturbance as the area experiences increasing ship traffic; increasing human disturbance related to cruise ship tourism; risk for oil spills and operational releases originating from ships; risk of bycatch from commercial fishing activities anticipated
- **Potential consequences for bird populations:**
  - Higher potential for bird-ship collisions originating from all shipping activities; disruption of feeding and nesting birds resulting in loss of eggs and/or young; direct loss of birds due to contaminants and pollution; potential for direct loss of seabirds from fishing bycatch
- **Recommended setbacks:**
  - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Northern Fulmar); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- Priorities and values of residents include birds, cultural values, transportation and infrastructure, and protection.

## Historic Sites

(see Map 90 - 104)

The National Historic Sites have been identified and provided to the Commission by the GoC. These sites are: Kodlunarn Island, Inuksuk, Bloody Falls, Igloolik Island Archaeological Sites, Port Refuge, Blacklead Island Whaling Station, Kekerten Island Whaling Station, Wreck of the HMS Breadalbane, Beechey Island Sites, Erebus and Terror, Fall Caribou Crossing, and Arvia'juaq and Qikiqtaaluk.

The Territorial Historic Sites have been identified by the Commission from the Historical Resources Act. These sites are: Dealy Island, Beechey Island, Fort Conger, and Marble Island. Options were not considered for Fort Conger as it is in Quttinirpaq National Park.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account cultural factors and priorities.
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Encouraging Conservation Planning to provide for the establishment and continued protection of the ecological integrity of Parks and Conservation Areas;

- The North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan identifies historic sites having significant cultural value;
- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan recognizes the importance of protecting historic sites;
- Some of the sites occur on IOL;
- The GoC has advised the Commission that they would like all activities in the NSA to take into consideration impacts to commemorative integrity and cultural resources of National Historic Sites;
- National historic sites can be found in almost any setting, from urban or industrial locales to wilderness environments, requiring the need for flexibility in incorporating National Historic Sites (NHS) in all zones and allowing for the preservation of their heritage value.
- The GN has advised the Commission that they place importance on the protection of areas of historic and cultural value;
- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Working Together for Caribou, the GN's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values; and
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;

## Recommendation for the Historic Sites

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas are of historic significance and have been designated through legislation.

## Heritage Rivers

(See Map 105 - Map 107)

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) is Canada's national river conservation program. It promotes, protects and enhances Canada's river heritage, and ensures that Canada's leading rivers are managed in a sustainable manner. There are currently three designated Canadian Heritage Rivers within the NSA: the Thelon, Kazan, and Soper. Management plans are in place to manage the unique heritage values of the three designated Canadian Heritage Rivers.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account cultural factors and priorities;
- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Working Together for Caribou, the GN's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Encouraging Conservation Planning to provide for the establishment and continued protection of the ecological integrity of Parks and Conservation Areas;

- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan recognizes the importance of the heritage resources;
- Management plans have been developed by the GoC and the GN in consultation with communities;
- The GoC's comments that the management plans contain policies and practices that ensure that the rivers' development, management and use are consistent with CHRS objectives and guidelines;
- The management plans for the Thelon and Kazan heritage rivers identify a 1km buffer along the river;
- The management plan for the Soper River applies to the watershed of the river;
- The GN Parks and Special Places manages the CHRS system in Nunavut; and
- The Thelon Heritage River is Baker Lake's community drinking water supply and is considered in the Community Drinking Water Supplies section of this document.

*NOTE:*

- *A significant portion of the Soper River is within Katannilik Territorial Park;*
- *A portion of the Thelon River is within the Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary, which is assigned a Protected Area designation above; and*
- *A portion of the Kazan River is within the Fall Caribou Crossing National Historic Site, which is assigned a Protected Area designation above.*

### Recommendation for the Heritage Rivers

The Commission believes that the direction provided in the management plan for the particular river should be the guiding principle when recommending an Option for management. The management plans are the result of extensive consultation.

Option 1 is recommended for the **Soper River watershed outside of Katannilik Territorial Park:**

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.

- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that it supports the management of Katannilik Territorial Park and reflects the uses anticipated and direction provided in the Soper River management plan.

Option 2 is recommended for the **Kazan River** and **Thelon River**:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** The NWB, where appropriate, needs to mitigate the impacts of the following project proposals on the waters flowing into the heritage river to ensure that the integrity of the river system is maintained:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the water system is maintained.

# Chapter 4

## Building Healthier Communities

*“The promotion and strengthening of Inuit culture and heritage is integral to the goal of building healthy communities in Nunavut. It is also one of the fundamental objectives of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). Protection and promotion of the well-being of Nunavut’s residents and communities is the primary purpose of land use planning under Article 11 of the NLCA, is implicit in other NLCA provisions, and is an inherent goal in land use related territorial and federal statutes and policies.”*

### Introduction

Building Healthy Communities is one of five planning Goals in the Nunavut Planning Commission’s Broad Planning Policies, Objectives and Goals. It is the primary aim of this Chapter to provide a practical policy direction that is able to support this Goal.

Specifically, this Chapter;

- identifies key areas of Nunavut that are critical to building healthier communities;
- provides options for managing these key areas;
- recommends a preferred option for the management of these areas that is best able to support this Goal; and
- translates the preferred recommendation into a language that a Land Use Plan can articulate and implement.

### Key Areas and Issues

The following areas and issues have been identified for their significance to building healthy communities and the well-being of Nunavut’s residents:

- Community Areas of Interest;
- Community Land Use Areas;
- Transportation infrastructure;
- Unincorporated communities;
- Alternative energy sources;

- Community drinking water supplies;
- Land remediation;
- Contaminated Sites;
- Aerodromes;
- DND Establishments; and
- North Warning System sites.

### Community Areas of Interest

(see Map 108 - 117)

The management of areas of particular significance for ecological, cultural, social, archaeological, historic, research, restoration of environment integrity or other similar purposes are a key aspect of building healthier communities. In the absence of legislation, the Commission supports the identification and management of these areas through land use planning. In many instances, important areas identified by communities are included in other key areas identified throughout this plan. The following areas have been identified by communities as important areas that do not have significant overlap with other areas discussed in the plan:

- Hiukitak River (Bathurst Inlet and Umingmaktok)
- Duke of York Bay (Coral Harbour and Repulse Bay)
- Foxe Basin Marine Area of Interest (Igloolik)
- Moffett Inlet (Arctic Bay)
- Nettiing Lake (Cape Dorset, Pangnirtung)
- Walrus Island (Coral Harbour)

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account cultural factors and priorities;
- It is a policy of the Commission’s Goal of Building Healthy Communities to support Inuit social and cultural needs and aspirations by providing special management to areas of cultural importance;
- It is an objective NPC’s broad planning policies, objectives and goals that any proposed restrictions on land use are achieved with the least possible impact on undiscovered mineral resources, while taking into account environmental and social objectives;

- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Working Together for Caribou, the GN's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;

### Hiukitak River

#### Additional Considerations:

- The KIA's efforts to protect the area from mining activity to preserve the cultural significance of the area;
- The GoC's comments that the Hiukitak River belongs under the heading Community Areas of Interest in the Plan;
- The site contains IOL and crown land;
- The area contains historic caribou calving and post-calving areas; and
- A portion of the area is contained within the Queen Maud Bird Sanctuary.
- The NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines, TMAC Resources, the Nunavut Impact Review Board and the Nunavut Water Board expressed support for protecting the area;

#### Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

#### The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;

- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given the importance of the area to residents and that it recognizes the support from a number of other planning partners to protect this area.

### Duke of York Bay

#### Additional Considerations:

- Duke of York Bay was identified as an area of interest by the communities of Coral Harbour and Repulse Bay. An interest in tourism was also identified in the area.
- DFO community consultation data and reports identified this area as important for biodiversity, fishing, and general habitat. The area includes habitat for seals, beluga, char, polar bear, bearded seal, ringed seal, shellfish, walrus, narwhal, killer whale, bowhead whale, and walrus.
- The area has UOM activity including sacred sites, overnight sites, and harvesting/hunting areas.
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, shellfish, drinking water, cultural values, potential economic development, existing economic development, no oil and gas, and protection.
- The Frozen Strait bird area abuts the entry to Duke of York Bay.
- This area is adjacent to a large polynya as identified by the WWF.
- This area contained polar bear summer retreat habitat as identified by GN. This area is adjacent to polar bear winter concentration habitat as identified by GN.

#### Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Hydro development; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given the importance of the area to residents.

### Foxe Basin Marine Area of Interest

Additional considerations:

- DFO community consultation data and reports identified the Foxe Basin area as important for biodiversity including birds, seals, polar bear, and walrus. The area includes general habitat, migration, and birthing grounds for much wildlife.
- This area has UOM activity including birth sites, overnight sites, and hunting and harvesting activity.
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bears, walrus, birds, fish, marine mammals, wildlife, cultural values, impacts, potential economic development, no transportation and infrastructure, no shipping, and protection.
- This area is crossed by a large polynya as identified by the WWF.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Commercial shipping;
- Cruise Ships
- Hydro development; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given the importance of the area to residents.

### Moffett Inlet

Additional considerations:

- Community residents are concerned about the impacts of helicopter activity, cruise ships, and ice breaking in Admiralty Inlet.
- DFO community consultation data and reports identified Moffat Inlet as a source of arctic char, and habitat for Greenland shark, narwhal, bowhead whales, bearded seals, harp seals, ring seals. Killer whales and beluga whales also use this area.
- The area has UOM activity including sacred sites and hunting and harvesting activity.
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, polar bear, birds, fish, marine mammals, river or lake of interest, land mammals, wildlife, cultural values, impacts, contaminated sites, potential economic development, existing economic development, no oil and gas, no shipping, and protection.
- This area is adjacent to polar bear summer retreat habitat.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Commercial shipping;
- Cruise ships;
- Hydro development; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given the importance of the area to residents.

### Nettiling Lake

Additional considerations:

- DFO community consultation data and reports identified this area as important for fish and seals including general habitat and migration corridors.

- The area has UOM activity including overnight sites, and harvesting/hunting areas.
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, birds, fish, marine mammals, shellfish, river or lake of interest, wildlife, drinking water, cultural values, contaminated sites, potential economic development, existing economic development, and protection.
- The Great Plain of Koukdjuak bird habitat borders the lake. Dewey Soper Migratory Bird Sanctuary is approximately 65 km to the southwest of the Lake. Portions of the Western Cumberland Sound Archipelago bird habitat are approximately 20 and 50 km east of the Lake.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- Hydro development; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given the importance of the area to residents.

### Walrus Island

Additional considerations:

- DFO community consultation data and reports identified this area as important for arctic cod and walrus including walrus haul-outs and aggregations.
- The area has UOM activity including a sacred area and hunting/harvesting.
- Priorities and values of residents include walrus, marine mammals, cultural values, existing economic development, no oil and gas, and protection.
- This area contained polar bear summer retreat habitat as identified by GN. This area is adjacent

to polar bear winter concentration habitat as identified by GN.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- All-weather roads;
- Hydro development; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given the importance of the area to residents.

## Community Priorities and Values

(see Tables 2 and 3)

During consultations, communities identified numerous priorities and values that have been taken into account throughout this document.

Considered information:

- NLCA requires land use plans to reflect the priorities and values of residents.

### Recommendation for Community Priorities and Values

Option 3 is recommended:

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to mitigate impacts on the priorities and values of residents (see Tables 2 and 3).

Option 3 was chosen based on feedback received during the 2012-2014 Community Consultation Tour and Planning Partner Consultations.

## Community Land Use Areas

(see map 118)

Nunavummiut rely on migrating species for subsistence, and as a result, have a long established history of land use across much of the NSA. The Commission has been working to map this history by hosting Use and Occupancy Mapping interviews with hunters and trappers throughout the territory.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account cultural factors and priorities.
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Building Healthy Communities to ensure the social, cultural, economic, and environmental endeavours of the human community are central to land use planning and implementation;
- Some of the areas are within the boundaries of the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan, which recognizes the important link between people of the region and the land;
- Some of the areas are within the boundaries of the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan, which recognizes the important of community use areas;
- Many of the areas include IOL;
- At this time, the Use and Occupancy Mapping information identifies areas that are used by community members, but does not include the communities' views on the relative importance of the areas and management direction that may be appropriate.

### Recommendation for Community Land Use Areas

Option 3 is recommended:

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to mitigate impacts on the priorities and values of residents (see Table 4).

Option 3 was chosen based on feedback received during the based on feedback received during the 2012-2014 Community Consultation Tour and Planning Partner Consultations.

### Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy

Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy are lands that are jointly owned and managed between the Inuit of Northern Quebec (Nunavik) as represented by Makivik and the Inuit of Nunavut represented by Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated as illustrated under Article 40 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. These areas are generally located around the Salisbury and Nottingham Islands in the Hudson Strait; and the Bakers Dozen, King George and Sleeper Islands in the Hudson Bay.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account cultural factors and priorities;
- It is a policy of the Commission's Goal of Building Healthy Communities to support Inuit social and cultural needs and aspirations by providing special management to areas of cultural importance;
- It is an objective NPC's broad planning policies, objectives and goals that any proposed restrictions on land use are achieved with the least possible impact on undiscovered mineral resources, while taking into account environmental and social objectives;
- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- The areas were identified by residents of multiple communities in Nunavut and Nunavik as important for a variety of environmental and cultural reasons.

### Recommendation for Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Hydro development; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given the importance of the area to residents.

## Denesuline Areas of Asserted Title Claim

Denesuline living in northern Manitoba and northern Saskatchewan have interests in lands in the southern Kivalliq region that they have traditionally used and continue to use.

Considered information:

- There are two areas of asserted title claim currently under negotiation: the Athabasca Denesuline Area of Asserted Title Claim under the Benoanie Litigation, and the Manitoba Denesuline Area of Asserted Title Claim under Samuel/Thorassie Litigation.
- In order to facilitate the conclusion of these Aboriginal land agreements, certain tracts of land have been withdrawn from disposition.

### Recommendation for Denesuline Land Withdrawals

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro development;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that the lands are withdrawn.

### Recommendation for Denesuline Areas of Asserted Title Claim

Option 3 is recommended:

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Direction:** Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to mitigate impacts on the priorities and values of residents (see Table 2).

Option 3 was chosen based on feedback received during the 2012-2014 Community Consultation Tour and Planning Partner Consultations.

## Transportation Infrastructure

(see Map 119, Map 120)

Transportation is a key element in building and sustaining healthy communities.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account transportation corridors;
- It is an objective of the Commission's Goal of Building Healthy Communities to take into account the development and maintenance of territorial and community infrastructure outside municipal boundaries, including transportation infrastructure.
- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan recognizes the importance of the development of transportation infrastructure for the Region;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- The GN's comments that land and marine transportation is a core component of the Plan; and
- Information on existing known transportation routes.

### Recommendation for Transportation Infrastructure

Option 3 is recommended:

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

Option 3 was chosen given that the scale of the region, environmental factors and ever changing economic circumstances makes it difficult to identify future land and marine transportation needs.

## Unincorporated Communities

(see Map 121 - Map 122)

Bathurst Inlet and Umingmaktok are unique unincorporated communities that are not recognized by the Government as municipalities. They are considered to contain significant historical and cultural value.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account cultural factors and priorities, including the protection and preservation of outpost camps;
- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- The Commission's Goal of Building Healthy Communities requires land use planning policies take into account current and future community infrastructural requirements including land areas for outpost camps; and
- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement identifies a 2 km radius as a general boundary for outpost camps. However, these areas are not considered to be outpost camps.

### Recommendation for Unincorporated Communities

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Hydro development; and

- Related research.

Option 1 was chosen given that it prohibits uses which, at this time, are considered incompatible with the continued operation and cultural and historic significance of these communities.

## Alternative Energy Sources

(see Map 123 - Map 125)

Nunavut has potential for alternative energy sources. The Qulliq Energy Corporation (QEC) has completed a study ("Identification and Evaluation of Hydro-electric Generation Opportunities" (2008)) for the Kivalliq Region which identifies three sites where high potential for hydro-electrical generation exists; these are located along the Thelon, Kazan, and Quoich Rivers. QEC also completed a study of "Iqaluit Hydro-electric Generation Sites: Identification and Ranking" (2006) which identified Jaynes Inlet (Qikiqgijavik) as having high potential for hydro-electrical generation.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account energy requirements, sources and availability;
- it is a policy of the Commission's Goal of Building Healthy Communities to take into account the need and potential for development of alternative energy sources;
- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- The importance placed on promoting alternative energy sources by the GN and GoC; and
- The direction provided in QEC reports.

### Recommendation for Alternative Energy Sources

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.

- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

All uses are prohibited within 100m of the three high potential alternative energy sites, except activities associated with hydro-electrical generation.

Option 1 was chosen given that it protects the unique geographic features of the river system.

The Kazan River site is within the Fall Caribou Crossing National Historic Site; it was recommended earlier in this document that this site is a protected area that prohibits hydro development. In the Commission's view the location of the hydro-electrical generation opportunity appears to be located within the boundaries of the protected National Historic Site. With this in mind the protected area designation will prevail.

## Community Drinking Water Supplies

(see Map 126 - Map 150)

Maintaining the quality of community drinking water supplies is essential to the overall well being of NSA communities, and a key component to building healthy communities. NSA Community Plans provide direction for the management of land use activities in and around community drinking water supplies inside municipal boundaries.

Community Plans vary throughout the NSA. Notwithstanding this, all Community Plans recognize the importance of prohibiting activities that can potentially harm the quality of the community's drinking water.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account community infrastructural requirements including health;
- A policy of the Commission's Goal of Building Healthy Communities is to take into account current and projected municipal infrastructure needs for resources such as clean water;
- Some sites are located in the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan. The NBRLUP requires water quality be preserved, and no substances that will impair water quality.;
- Some sites are located in the boundaries of the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan. The KRLUP identifies water quality as a concern of residents;

- Community water supply watersheds vary in size and basically there are three general distinct sizes of watershed: small (less than 20 km in length), medium (over 20 km and under 100 km in length) and large (over 100 km in length);
- Some community water supply watersheds are contained solely within the municipal boundary while others are contained partially inside the municipal boundary;
- Comments received from the GN state that "the NLUP must promote human and environmental health, paying particular attention to protecting community water sources";
- Comments received from the GoC state that "Certain kinds of exploration can be done with minimal effect (on community watersheds) and prohibiting such activity may not be justifiable";
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- NTI does not want development activity restricted on IOL; and
- Community Plans for each municipality provide direction for managing community watersheds.
- Many communities in the NSA draw drinking water from small lakes and catchment areas where the entire watershed is within the municipal boundary. In these instances, the municipal land use plans are able to provide direction on how land should be used to maintain the quality and quantity of drinking water.
- Drinking water may also come from watersheds that extend outside the municipal boundaries. In these instances, this Plan can support municipal efforts to manage land use within community drinking water supply watersheds.

## Recommendation for Community Drinking Water Supplies

It is recommended, that to the full extent possible, the direction provided in the Community Plan be reflected in the Plan. The Community Plan is the result of extensive community consultation and thorough review and its significance to the community and the direction it provides with regards to acceptable land use should be afforded considerable weight.

Option 2 is recommended for the **Community Drinking Water Supplies outside of municipal boundaries:**

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Terms:** The NPC may refer a project proposal falling within Schedule 12-1 to NIRB for screening, where the NPC has concerns respecting the cumulative impact of that project proposal in relation to other development activities in the planning region.

**Direction:** The NWB, where appropriate, needs to mitigate impacts on community water drinking supplies to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water is maintained.

Option 3 is recommended **the Community Drinking Water Supplies inside of municipal boundaries:**

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

Option 3 was chosen based on feedback received during the based on the ability of municipal land use plans to manage land use.

### **Pangnirtung**

(see Map 126)

Pangnirtung has a small community water supply watershed, which is located partially inside the municipal boundary. There is an existing prospecting permit inside the watershed. There is no IOL. The Pangnirtung Community Plan considers all forms of development acceptable inside the watershed, provided it does not negatively impact the community water supply (Pangnirtung Community Plan and Zoning By-law (March 2007)).

Option 2 is recommended for this community as it is considered most supportive of the direction in the Community Plan.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water supply is maintained.

### **Grise Fiord**

(see Map 127)

Grise Fiord's community water supply watershed is small and located partially inside the municipal boundary. The

Grise Fiord Community Plan considers all forms of development acceptable inside the watershed, provided it does not impact the community water supply (Grise Fiord Community Plan - 2008-2028 (February 2009)). There is no IOL.

Option 2 is recommended for this community as it is considered most supportive of the direction in the Community Plan.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water supply is maintained.

### **Rankin Inlet**

(see Map 128)

Rankin Inlet's community water supply watershed is small and located completely inside the municipal boundary. The Rankin Inlet Community Plan considers some forms of development acceptable inside the watershed, provided it does not impact the community water supply (Rankin Inlet Community Plan (2007)). There is no IOL.

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

### **Taloyoak**

(see Map 129)

Taloyoak's community water supply watershed is small and located completely in the municipal boundary. The Taloyoak Community Plan considers all forms of development inside the watershed acceptable, provided they do not impact community water supply (Taloyoak Community Plan & Zoning By-law 2010-2030 (Draft 2009)). There is no IOL.

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

### **Cambridge Bay**

(see Map 130)

Cambridge Bay's community water supply watershed is small and located completely inside the municipal boundary. The direction from the Cambridge Bay Zoning By-law indicates that no development shall take place within 500 m of the watershed (Hamlet of Cambridge Bay By-laws, No. 222 (approved June 22, 2009)). The Zoning By-law does not map the watershed. Recreation activities are anticipated in the setback and a future recreation centre and future Arctic College campus are also shown within the setback. (Ikaluktutiak - Cambridge Bay Community Plan 2007-2027 & Zoning By-law (2008 approved)) There is no IOL.

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

### **Coral Harbour**

(see Map 131)

Coral Harbour's community water supply watershed is medium in size and a portion is located in the municipal boundary. The Coral Harbour Community Plan considers only uses accessory to the supply of water and quarries / gravel pits acceptable in the watershed (Coral Harbour Community Plan & Zoning By-law (2006 draft)). Within the Coral Harbour community water supply watershed, there is also a possible caribou calving and post-calving area as well as active prospecting permits. There is no IOL.

Option 2 is recommended for this community as it is considered most supportive of the direction in the Community Plan.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water supply is maintained.

### **Iqaluit**

(see Map 132)

Iqaluit's existing and proposed community water supply watersheds are small and located completely in the municipal boundary. The Iqaluit General Plan By-law allows no development in the proposed and existing city water supply (Iqaluit General Plan By-law (June 2010 draft)). There is an active mineral claim in the proposed water supply (anniversary date of claim is 2010). There is no IOL.

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

### **Sanikiluaq**

(see Map 133)

The Sanikiluaq community water supply watershed is small and located completely in the municipal boundary. The Sanikiluaq Community Plan does not preclude development in the watershed (1998 approved).

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

### **Arviat**

(see Map 134)

Arviat's community water supply watershed is medium in size and a small portion is located in the municipal boundary. The Arviat Community Plan does not preclude development in the watershed (Hamlet of Arviat Community Plan and Zoning By-law (August 2010)). Within the Arviat community water supply watershed there are IOL, possible caribou calving and post-calving areas, active mineral claims, a key bird habitat site and proposed transportation and utility corridor. Arviat is actively seeking a new community water supply.

Option 2 is recommended for this community as it is considered most supportive of the direction in the Community Plan.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water supply is maintained.

### **Whale Cove**

(see Map 135)

Whale Cove's community water supply watershed is small and located completely in the municipal boundary. The Whale Cove Community Plan has no direction for watershed management; however it does provide for management of Fish Lake, which is located in the watershed (Tikrarjuaq Whale Cove Land Use Plan (August 2002 approved)).

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

### **Repulse Bay**

(see Map 136)

Repulse Bay's community water supply watershed is small and almost completely in the municipal boundary. The Repulse Bay Community Plan does not preclude development in the watershed. There are active mineral claims inside the Repulse Bay watershed.

Option 2 is recommended for this community as it is considered most supportive of the direction in the Community Plan.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water supply is maintained.

### **Chesterfield Inlet**

(see Map 137)

Chesterfield Inlet's community water supply watershed is small and almost completely inside the municipal boundary. The Chesterfield Inlet Community Plan does not preclude development in the watershed. There is no

IOL. There is an active mineral claim inside the watershed (anniversary date is March 12, 2011).

Option 2 is recommended for this community as it is considered most supportive of the direction in the Community Plan.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water supply is maintained.

### **Gjoa Haven**

(see Map 138)

The Gjoa Haven community water supply watershed is small and located in the municipal boundary. The Gjoa Haven Community Plan does not preclude development in the watershed. There is no IOL.

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

### **Kugaaruk**

(see Map 139)

The Kugaaruk community water supply watershed is medium and mostly located outside the municipal boundary. The Kugaaruk Community Plan does not preclude development in the watershed (approved April 2008). There is no IOL. There are some existing mineral claims inside the watershed.

Option 2 is recommended for this community as it is considered most supportive of the direction in the Community Plan.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water supply is maintained.

### **Resolute**

(see Map 140)

The Resolute community water supply watershed is small and completely in the municipal boundary. The Resolute Community Plan does not preclude development in the watershed (draft June 2005).

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

### **Arctic Bay**

(see Map 141)

The Arctic Bay community water supply watershed is small and almost completely outside municipal boundary. The Arctic Bay Community Plan does not preclude

development in the watershed. There is an air strip and some IOL within the watershed.

Option 2 is recommended for this community as it is considered most supportive of the direction in the Community Plan.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water supply is maintained.

### **Pond Inlet**

(see Map 142)

The Pond Inlet community water supply watershed is small and partially outside the municipal boundary. The Pond Inlet Community Plan contains a general policy that under no condition shall an activity which can potentially pollute the community's water source be allowed. The watershed is located in an area of the municipality presumed to be designated Hinterland in the Community Plan.

Option 2 is recommended for this community as it is considered most supportive of the direction in the Community Plan.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water supply is maintained.

### **Clyde River**

(see Map 143)

Clyde River's community water supply watershed is small and located completely inside municipal boundary. It is policy of the Clyde River Community Plan that under no condition shall an activity which can potentially pollute the community's water source be allowed (Clyde River Community Plan & Zoning Bylaw (approved January 2007)). The watershed is presumed to be designated Hinterland. There is no IOL.

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

### **Kimmirut**

(see Map 144)

The Kimmirut community water supply watershed is small and completely inside the municipal boundary. The Kimmirut Community Plan does not permit development which can potentially pollute the community's water source (Hamlet of Kimmirut, By-Law No. 92-2006 (June 2007 approved)). There is no IOL.

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

## **Qikiqtarjuaq**

(see Map 145)

The Qikiqtarjuaq community water supply watershed is small and completely inside the municipal boundary. The Qikiqtarjuaq Community Plan considers all uses inside the watershed provided it does not pollute the community's water source (Qikiqtarjuaq Community Plan & Zoning By-Law (2005 draft)). There is no IOL.

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

## **Igloolik**

(see Map 146)

The Igloolik community water supply watershed is small and completely inside the municipal boundary. The Igloolik Community Plan designates the watershed Hinterland, which promotes local economic development (Igloolik Community Plan & Zoning By-Law (2010 draft)).

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

## **Hall Beach**

(see Map 147)

The Hall Beach community water supply watershed is small and completely inside the municipal boundary. The Hall Beach Community Plan designates the watershed Hinterland, which promotes local economic development (Hall Beach Community Plan & Zoning By-Law (2010 draft)).

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

## **Cape Dorset**

(see Map 148)

The Cape Dorset community water supply watershed is small and completely inside the municipal boundary (Cape Dorset Community Plan & Zoning By-Law (1996 approved)). There is no IOL.

Option 3 is recommended as the drinking water supply is contained within municipal boundaries.

## **Kugluktuk**

(see Map 149)

The Kugluktuk community water supply watershed is large and mostly outside the municipal boundary. The watershed extends into the Northwest Territories. The Kugluktuk Community Plan and Zoning By-law contains policy that there is to be no development within the watershed of the water source (Kugluktuk Community Plan By-law No. 205-2007 (2007 approved); Kugluktuk Zoning By-law No. 206-2007 (2007 approved)).

The Coppermine draft heritage river management plan suggests the need for balance between protection and economic development. The Kugluktuk community watershed contains some IOL. There is no mineral activity within the municipal boundary; however, there are active mineral interests in watershed.

Option 2 is recommended for this community as it is considered most supportive of the direction in the Community Plan.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water supply is maintained.

## **Baker Lake**

(see Map 150)

The Baker Lake community water supply watershed is large and is mostly outside the municipal boundary. The watershed extends into the Northwest Territories. The Baker Lake Community Plan and Zoning By-law offer no direction for watershed management (Baker Lake Community Plan and Zoning By-law (2007 draft)). Water intake is in the Baker Lake. There is some IOL. There are also active mineral interests in the watershed, but no mineral activity in the municipal boundary. The drinking water supply is a Canadian Heritage River.

Option 2 is recommended for this community as it is considered most supportive of the direction in the Community Plan.

Option 2 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the drinking water supply is maintained.

## **Land Remediation**

(see Map 151 - Map 152)

Land Remediation considers Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line sites administered by the Department of National Defence (DND) and AANDC. These sites are at different stages of remediation.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to identify and prioritize the requirement to clean up waste sites;

- A policy of the Commission's Goal of Building Healthy Communities is to identify contaminated sites that should be avoided by residents;
- GoC provided the Commission with a list of sites that have been remediated and those that have not been remediated;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- DND recognizes that development in DEW Line sites that have not been remediated should be restricted; and
- Previous land use.

- A policy of the Commission's Goal of Building Healthy Communities is to identify contaminated sites that should be avoided by residents;
- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan recognizes the importance of managing waste sites;
- The North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan recognizes the importance of managing waste sites;
- The Commission's Goal of Building Healthy Communities;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- The NCSP and that the GoC is responsible for the properties identified through the NCSP;
- AANDC has provided the Commission with a list of NCSP sites that they administer that are of concern for public health and safety.

### Recommendation for Land Remediation

Options 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

All uses are prohibited except Government of Canada activities and activities associated with the remediation and monitoring of the sites.

Option 2 was chosen to reflect feedback received from government agencies and to provide management of public infrastructure.

### Contaminated Sites

(see Map 154-Map 168)

AANDC is the custodian of most federal lands in the North and is committed to managing a number of contaminated sites. It is responsible for properties identified through its Northern Contaminated Sites Program (NCSP). These sites are located on reserve lands, on federal lands north of the 60<sup>th</sup> parallel and on any other lands under AANDC's custodial responsibility. In 2002, INAC developed a *Contaminated Sites Management Plan*.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to identify and prioritise the requirement to clean up waste sites;

### Recommendation for Sites Identified in the NCSP

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

All uses are prohibited except remediation and monitoring of the sites.

Option 2 was chosen to reflect feedback received from government agencies and to provide management of these NCSP sites.

### Aerodromes

(see Map 169)

Each municipality in Nunavut maintains an aerodrome.

Considered Information:

- The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement requires a land use plan to take into account community infrastructural requirements including health;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine

transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;

- An objective of the Commission's Goal of Building Healthy Communities is to ensure that land use activities are not detrimental to the health, well-being and safety of Nunavut residents.
- The *Airport Zoning Regulations* created under the *Aeronautics Act*, which states Land use activities within the municipal aerodromes (4 km radius measured from the midpoint of the runway) are required to comply with existing *Airport Zoning Regulations* created under the *Aeronautics Act*, under these regulations, building heights are restricted and additional hazardous uses are often identified, including bird attractants, which can pose a significant threat to aircraft operations.

### Recommendation for Aerodromes

Regulations are in place for all Nunavut airports and the land use plan does not need to duplicate restrictions.

## DND Establishments

(see Map 170 -Map 172)

The Commission recognizes the contributions of Department of National Defence sites in the NSA to national security, and supports the management of these facilities to ensure their continued utility. The DND Establishments of CFS Alert, Eureka and Nanisivik have been established to promote a military presence in the NSA and are used to control and defend Canada's sovereignty. The High Arctic Data Communication System is a chain of six microwave repeaters sites link used for communication purposes

Considered Information:

- The Commission's Objective to respect and provide for Canada's sovereignty over Canadian Arctic Waters; and
- Comments received from DND that access should be restricted to other uses.

### Recommendation for DND establishments

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.

- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

All uses are prohibited except Government of Canada activities.

Option 2 was chosen to reflect feedback received from government agencies and to provide management of the public infrastructure.

## North Warning System Sites

(see Map 172 - Map 179)

North Warning System (NWS) sites provide surveillance of North America airspace. In Nunavut, there are 6 Long Range Radar Sites (LRRS) and 28 Short Range Radar Sites (SRRS). These sites are vulnerable to activities that generate electromagnetic interference (EMI).

Considered Information:

- The Commission's Objective to respect and provide for Canada's sovereignty over Canadian Arctic Waters; and
- The comments received from DND, with regards to the management of NWS sites. The DND have provided a range of setbacks that should be provided in the Plan.

### Recommendation for NWS Sites

Options 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

All uses are prohibited except Government of Canada activities and activities associated with the remediation and monitoring of the sites.

Option 2 was chosen to reflect feedback received from government agencies and to provide management of public infrastructure.

# Chapter 5

## Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development

*"The Goal of achieving the economic well-being of communities underlies many of the articles and provisions of the Nunavut Land Claims (NLCA). It is inherent in the NLCA's objective of encouraging self-reliance and diverse economic opportunities for Nunavummiut and all Canadians which will arise from a long-term, healthy, sustainable renewable and non-renewable resource economy."*

### Introduction

Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development is one of five planning Goals in the Nunavut Planning Commission's Broad Planning Policies, Objectives and Goals. It is the primary aim of this Chapter to provide a practical policy direction that is able to support this Goal.

Specifically, this Chapter;

- identifies key areas of Nunavut that are critical to the encouraging sustainable economic development;
- provides options for managing these key areas;
- recommends a preferred option for the management of these areas that is best able to support this Goal; and
- translates the preferred recommendation into a language that a Land Use Plan can articulate and implement.

### Key Areas

Areas of the NSA identified by the Commission as important to encouraging sustainable economic development are;

- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Oil and Gas exploration and production; and
- Commercial Fisheries

### Mineral Potential

(see Map 180)

Mineral exploration and production is one of the most attractive and viable economic activities in the NSA. The Commission recognizes the importance of this industry to Nunavut's economy.

Considered Information:

- Article 11 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) requires a land use plan to take into account economic opportunities and needs;
- An objective of the Commission's Goal of Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development is to *encourage diversified economic development that increases employment, business opportunities, training and other benefits*
- Terriplan's Socio-Demographic and Economic Sector Analysis identifies mining as *"one of the most lucrative industries in Nunavut"*

The 2010 Nunavut Economic Outlook identifies mining as *still being strong* despite the world recession, Mining presents its self as one of the most attractive and viable economic activities in the NSA. It identifies 8 mines with a high potential to develop in the next several years. These mines are Meadowbank Gold Mine, which is now in production, Hope Bay Gold Mine, Meliadine Gold Mine, Kiggavik Uranium Mine, Izok Lake, High Lake, Hackett River and Mary River.

- NTI has advised that mineral exploration should not be restricted on IOL;
- It is an objective NPC's broad planning policies, objectives and goals that any proposed restrictions on land use are achieved with the least possible impact on undiscovered mineral resources, while taking into account environmental and social objectives;
- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Working Together for Caribou, the GN's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values; and
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;

- Some sites are located in the Boundaries of the North Baffin Planning Region. The NBRLUP identifies mining as influencing the regional mixed economy;
- Some sites are located in the boundaries of the Keewatin Regional Land Use Planning Region. The KRLUP identifies mining as important to the economic well being of the region
- AANDC provided the Commission with a list of sites for high mineral potential.

### Recommendation for Areas of High Mineral Potential

Options 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The establishment of tourism facilities, Conservation Areas and Parks are prohibited.

Option 2 was chosen to reflect that these areas have been prioritized for mineral exploration and production.

## Oil and Gas Exploration

(see Map 181)

Nunavut has proven oil and gas potential, notably in the Sverdrup basin, where there are several existing Significant Discovery Licenses. Baffin Bay also has excellent potential, but the area remains relatively unexplored. The oil and gas sector has the potential to be one of the most lucrative economic activities in Nunavut.

Considered Information:

- Article 11 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) requires a land use plan to take into account economic opportunities and needs;
- An objective of the Commission's Goal of Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development is to *encourage diversified economic development that increases employment, business opportunities, training and other benefits*
- Terriplan's Socio-Demographic and Economic Sector Analysis identifies oil and gas with the

potential to be a main economic activity in the NSA.

- It is an objective NPC's broad planning policies, objectives and goals that any proposed restrictions on land use are achieved with the least possible impact on undiscovered mineral resources, while taking into account environmental and social objectives;
- Nunavut's Economic Outlook identifies oil and gas as key industry important to sustaining Nunavut's economy;
- Some sites are located in the Boundaries of the North Baffin Planning Region. The NBRLUP identifies oil and gas as influencing the regional mixed economy;
- AANDC provided the Commission with a list of sites containing significant discovery licenses (SDL) which is the only type of license present within Nunavut at this time;

### Recommendation for Areas of High Oil and Gas Potential

Options 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The establishment of tourism facilities, Conservation Areas and Parks are prohibited.

Option 2 was chosen to reflect that these areas have been prioritized for oil and gas exploration and production.

## Commercial Fisheries

(see Map 182 - Map 184)

The commission recognizes the commercial fishing industry as important to a diversified and sustainable economy. Commercial fisheries are an emerging sector in Nunavut's economy, with turbot and char currently being harvested. Activity in Nunavut's commercial fishing industry is predicted to grow.

Considered Information:

- Article 11 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) requires a land use plan to take into account economic opportunities and needs;

- An objective of the Commission's Goal of Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development is to *encourage diversified economic development that increases employment, business opportunities, training and other benefits*

Some sites are located in the Boundaries of the North Baffin Planning Region. The NBRLUP identifies fisheries as influencing the regional mixed economy;

- Some sites are located in the boundaries of the Keewatin Regional Land Use Planning Region. The KRLUP identifies fisheries as important to the economic well-being of the region;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services; and
- DFO has provided data on fish areas of abundance.
- Cumberland Sound has been identified as a particularly important turbot fishing area for the community of Pangnirtung. The Cumberland Sound Turbot Management Area was recently extended to the mouth of Cumberland Sound.

- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

**Direction:** Direction: Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, need to mitigate impacts on areas identified for commercial fishing potential.

Option 3 was chosen to reflect comments received from government agencies and the community and given that they are broad areas of abundance with limited information available to formulate specific management options.

### Recommendation for Areas with the Potential for Commercial Fisheries

Option 2 is recommended for the **Cumberland Sound**:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- Includes terms to guide land use.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research.

Option 2 was chosen to reflect comments received from government agencies and the community and to provide management direction to maintain the integrity of the fish habitat.

Option 3 is recommended for **char and turbot areas of abundance**:

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.

# Chapter 6

## Mixed Use

Mixed Uses have been identified for their potential to support a wide variety of land use activity and development. They may contain a range of qualities, or in some instances, opportunity to explore the potential.

### Introduction

The Commission recognizes that the NSA contains areas that are able to support all land uses. Some of these areas contain qualities that contribute to the Goals of Protecting and Sustaining the Environment, Encouraging Conservation Planning, Building Healthier Communities or Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development; however, at this time, there is not enough information to lead the Commission to restrict any land use in these areas. These areas have been discussed in previous chapters, and where applicable, an option to provide a recommendation recognizing the particular quality has been applied.

Some areas able to support all land uses have not been identified as containing any particular quality that contributes to a specific goal.

It is the primary aim of this Chapter to provide a practical policy direction that is able to support these areas.

Specifically, this chapter;

- identifies key areas of Nunavut that are able to support all land use;
- provides options for managing these key areas;
- recommends a preferred option for the management of these areas; and
- translates the preferred option into a language that a Land Use Plan can articulate and implement.

### Mixed Use

Mixed Uses have been identified for their potential to support a wide variety of land use activity and development.

Considered Information:

- Tunngasaiji, the GN's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of

attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions;

- Parnautit, the GN Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need to create conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut;
- Working Together for Caribou, the GN's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the GN Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- The NLCA identifies social, cultural, economic endeavours of the human community to be central to land use planning;
- Some areas contain values that contribute to the Goals of Protecting and Sustaining the Environment, Encouraging Conservation Planning, Building Healthier Communities or Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development.
- It is an objective NPC's broad planning policies, objectives and goals that any proposed restrictions on land use are achieved with the least possible impact on undiscovered mineral resources, while taking into account environmental and social objectives;
- Some areas are located in the boundaries of the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan. Some areas are located in the boundaries of the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan. Both plans generally encourage a wide variety of land uses.
- Some areas contain IOL, and the direction provided by NTI is not to restrict Development on IOL.

### Recommendation for Mixed Use

Option 3 is recommended;

- Allows all uses.
- May include direction to regulatory authorities.
- May identify priorities and values that need to be considered in the design, review, and conduct of the activity

Option 3 was chosen to provide for a variety of land uses, which creates a positive environment for potential growth and the exploration of opportunities.