

Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Options and Recommendations



Nunavut Planning
Commission

Draft – 2016

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Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 How to Use This Document

This document presents the rationales for the various land use designations and policies presented in the 2016 draft of the Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP).

Chapter 1 explains the systems used in the preparation of policy options and recommendations.

Chapters 2-6 describe key areas and issues that have been identified in support of broad land use planning Goals, and present specific policy recommendations for managing these areas and issues, as well as a summary of the information that was considered. Each area has a corresponding Map, which is identified in the section headings and can be found in Appendix B of this document.

To research a particular area, find the name of it on Schedule A or Schedule B of the NLUP. Then use Table 1 of the NLUP to find the type of site it is. Then use either the type or the name of the site to find it in the long table of contents.

Terms have the same meaning as defined in the draft NLUP unless otherwise defined.

1.2 Purpose

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

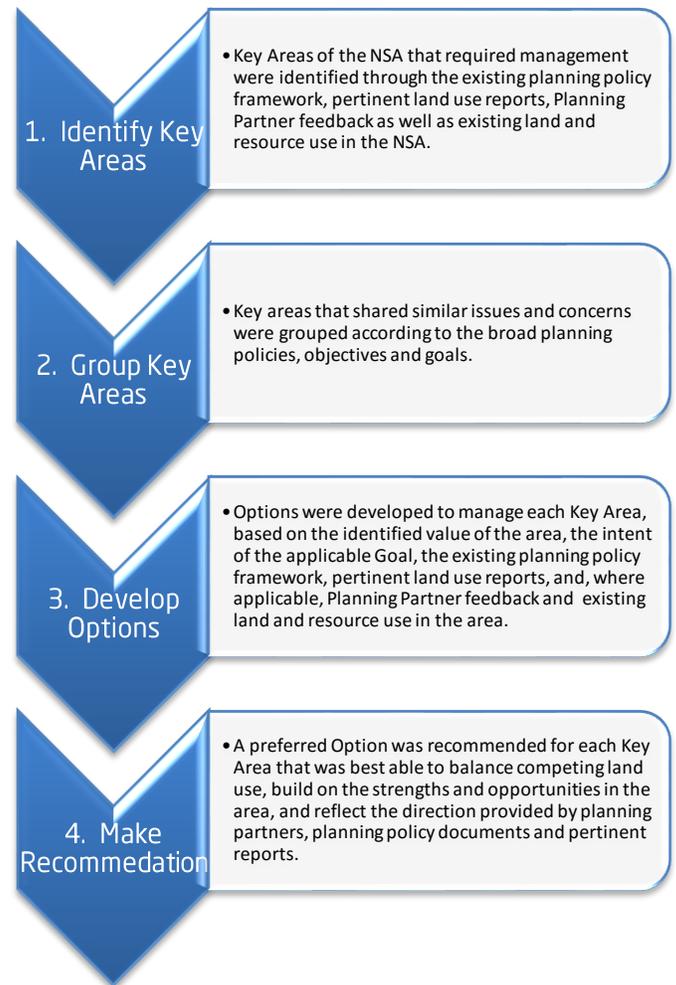
- recognizes competing land use interests and provides a balanced response that builds on strengths and opportunities in the Territory;
- promotes economic opportunities, environmental management, conservation initiatives, and community priorities;
- reflects direction, priorities and values provided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

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

1.3 How Land Use Decisions Were Made

Policy options and recommendations contained in this report have been formulated based on best available information and the recommendation from the June 2012 Independent Third Party Review on the need to manage expectations of what can be addressed in the first generation Nunavut Land Use Plan.

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



1.4 Options for Land Use Policy

Four options were considered for each Key Area. The following first three options are land use designations: Protected Areas, Special Management Area and Mixed use. Where no land use conditions or prohibitions are appropriate, a Mixed Use designation is applied, which means all land uses are permitted except highways and railways. The land use designations are presented in Schedule A of the NLUP.

The fourth option applies to areas where known priorities and values exist. Most of these areas will have a Mixed Use designation. Information on Valued Components (VCs) for Regulatory Authorities and/or Plan Stakeholders is presented in Schedule B of the NLUP.

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

1.4.1 Option 1- Protected Area (PA)

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Shown on Schedule A of the NLUP.

1.4.2 Option 2 - Special Management Area (SMA)

- May restrict access to some uses.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Shown on Schedule A of the NLUP.

1.4.3 Option 3 - Mixed Use (MU)

- Allows all uses except highways and railways.
- Identified area not discussed in NLUP, and boundary of identified area not shown on Schedule A or B.

1.4.4 Option 4 – Information on Valued Components (VCs)

- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS). VECs and VSECS are collectively referred to as Valued Components (VCs).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

1.5 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 Nunavut Settlement Area (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:

- Canada's Northern Strategy: Our North, Our Heritage, Our Future;
- The Commissions Use and Occupancy Mapping data;
- Existing land and resource use in the NSA;
- Feedback received from Planning Partners;
- Feedback on the 2014 Draft NLUP, including participants' written submissions and the results of Technical Meetings held in 2015/16The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement; Municipal Land Use Plans for the Nunavut Settlement Area;
- Government, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and Regional Inuit Association strategies, policies, management plans and reports;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the Government of Nunavut Transportation Strategy;
- The Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan;
- The North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan;

- The Nunavut Planning Commission's Broad Planning Policies, Objectives and Goals;
- Parnautit, the Government of Nunavut 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;
- Priorities and values of residents.
- Recommendations from the June 2012 Independent Third Party Review;
- Results of the 2012-2014 Community Consultation Tour and Planning Partner Consultations;
- Terriplan's Socio Demographic and Economic Sector Analysis;
- Tunngasaiji, the Government of Nunavut's Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions.;
- Umbrella Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement for Territorial Parks in the Nunavut Settlement Region (2002), and
- Working Together for Caribou, the Government of Nunavut'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.

1.6 Guiding Policies, Objectives & Goals

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

1. Strengthening Partnership and Institutions;
2. Protecting and Sustaining the Environment;
3. Encouraging Conservation Planning;
4. Building Healthy Communities, and
5. Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development.

The first goal is primarily achieved through the process of developing the plan. The remaining 4 goals and the associated Policies and Objectives lay the foundation for the policy options and recommendations that are discussed consecutively in the chapters that follow.

Chapter 2: Protecting & 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.

2.1 Key Migratory Bird Habitat Sites (Maps 1-46)

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 Canadian Wildlife Service (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 Government of Nunavut Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- Parnautit, the Government of Nunavut 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;
- Environment Canada states that it will review Project Proposals/Projects in key migratory bird habitat sites with an additional level of scrutiny, to ensure conformity with the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and Regulations;
- Canadian Wildlife Service (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;
- Canada Wildlife Service (CWS) recommends access restrictions for the Red Sites and other forms of management for the Yellow Sites. In May 2016, Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC) recommended some exceptions to this based on a reconsideration of the types of birds present and the level of knowledge available;
- The NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines (2015-06-20) recommended adequate measures can be developed through the NIRB process and that “mandatory setbacks may not be appropriate. Rather, the direction in the plan could be to require regulatory authorities to have regard to the setbacks set out in the Plan. While it is helpful to have guidance on potential setback distances, appropriate setback distances for the circumstances should ultimately be determined on a case by case basis.”; and
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Regional Inuit Associations (2016-05-16) request that proposed migratory bird Protected Areas be re-designated as Special Management Areas.

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

- Some sites contain Inuit Owned Land and it is Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated’s direction that development activity should not be restricted on Inuit Owned Land; 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.

2.1.1 KIVALLIQ REGION

2.1.1.1 Coats Island Lowlands (Map 1) - VEC

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 restrictions on activities:**
 - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
 - None

Additional considerations:

- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Inuit Owned Land.

Option 4 is recommended:

- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area shown on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify the key migratory bird habitat site as an area of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen given that there are currently no recommended prohibitions or conditions for the area.

2.1.1.2 Boas River (Map 2) - VEC

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 restrictions on activities:**
 - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
 - None

Additional considerations:

- The site contains a portion of a Migratory Bird Sanctuaries;
- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Inuit Owned Land.

Option 4 is recommended:

- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area shown on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify the key migratory bird habitat site as an area of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen given that there are currently no recommended prohibitions or conditions for the area.

2.1.1.3 McConnell River (Map 3) - VEC

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 restrictions on activities:**
 - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
 - None

Additional considerations:

- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Migratory Bird Sanctuaries;
- 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 Inuit Owned Land.

Option 4 is recommended:

- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area shown on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify the key bird habitat sites as an area of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen given that there are currently no recommended prohibitions or conditions for the area.

2.1.1.4 Middle Back River (Map 4) - SMA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 restrictions on activities:**
 - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
 - EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Migratory Birds)

Additional considerations:

- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping activity;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, land mammals, wildlife, cultural values, contaminated sites, potential economic development, and protection;
- The site contains some Inuit Owned Land;
- 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
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.1.5 Frozen Strait (Map 5) - VEC

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 restrictions on activities:**
 - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
 - None

Additional considerations:

- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Inuit Owned Land

Option 4 is recommended:

- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area shown on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify the key migratory bird habitat site as an area of a known Valued

Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen given that there are currently no recommended prohibitions or conditions for the area.

2.1.2 KITIKMEOT REGION

2.1.2.1 Adelaide Peninsula (Map 6) - VEC

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 restrictions on activities:**
 - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
 - None

Additional considerations:

- The site contains some Inuit Owned Land;
- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 4 is recommended:

- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area shown on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify the key migratory bird habitat site as an area of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen given that that there are currently no recommended prohibitions or conditions for the area.

2.1.2.2 Melbourne Island (Map 7) - VEC

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 restrictions on activities:**
 - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
 - None

Additional considerations:

- The site is all Inuit Owned Land;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, fish, land mammals, cultural values, and existing economic development; and

- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping activity and there is an adjacent possible caribou sea ice crossing.

Option 4 is recommended:

- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area shown on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify the key migratory bird habitat site as an area of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen given that that there are currently no recommended prohibitions or conditions for the area.

2.1.2.3 South Eastern Victoria Island (Map 8) - VEC

Canadian Wildlife Service (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:**
 - None

Additional considerations:

- The site contains some Inuit Owned Lands;
- 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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 4 is recommended:

- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area shown on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify the key migratory bird habitat site as an area of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen given that there are currently no recommended prohibitions or conditions for the area.

2.1.2.4 Bathurst / Elu Inlet (Map 9) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 seaduck food sources; potential for bird-aircraft collisions originating from air traffic at low altitude or from flying too close to concentration of birds; 2ii. 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 Inuit Owned Lands;
- The site is in an Arctic char area of abundance and has mineral leases;
- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.2.5 Kagloryuak River (Map 10) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.2.6 Lambert Channel (Map 11) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 .

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.2.7 Nordenskiöld Islands (Map 12) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.2.8 Rasmussen Lowlands (Map 13) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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); Waterfowl (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 Inuit Owned Lands;
- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3 QIKIQTAAALUK REGION

2.1.3.1 Cape Graham Moore (Map 14) - SMA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 National Marine Conservation Area and in a Migratory Bird Sanctuaries;
- The site contains Inuit Owned Lands, which is on the Migratory Bird Sanctuaries 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 National Marine Conservation Area and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries are removed. Remaining area is in Outer Land Fast Ice Zone.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.2 Cape Hay (outside of Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary) (Map 15) - SMA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA); and
- The site's terrestrial component is completely within Sirmilik National Park.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.3 Cape Liddon (Map 16) - SMA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 (Seabirds); 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 National Marine Conservation Area;
- The area has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.4 Frobisher Bay (Map 17) - SMA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds) (Coastal Waterfowl and Seaducks)

Additional considerations:

- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Inuit Owned Lands; and
- There are prospecting permits on the adjacent shore.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses
 - May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.5 Hell Gate and Cardigan Strait (Map 18) - SMA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 (Seabirds); 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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.6 North Spicer Island (Map 19) - SMA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.7 Prince Leopold Island (outside of the Migratory Bird Sanctuary) (Map 20) - SMA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 (Seabirds); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- The site is partially in the proposed Lancaster Sound National Marine Conservation Area;
- The site encircles a Migratory Bird Sanctuaries;
- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Inuit Owned Lands;

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

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 2 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.

2.1.3.8 Scott Inlet (Map 21) - SMA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 (Seabirds); EC-CWS Aerial Setbacks (All Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Inuit Owned Lands.

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.9 Seymour Island (outside of Migratory Bird Sanctuary) (Map 22) - SMA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.10 Abbajalik and Ijutuk Islands (Map 23) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 km².

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.11 Baillarge Bay (Map 24) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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.
- **Recommended setbacks:**
 - EC-CWS Marine Setbacks (Seabirds); 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 National Marine Conservation Area;
- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Inuit Owned Lands.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.12 Belcher Islands Polynyas (Map 25) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Inuit Owned Lands.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.13 Buchan Gulf (Map 26) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 (Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- The site is a turbot area of abundance;
- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Inuit Owned Lands.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.14 Cape Searle / Reid (Map 27) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 (Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

- The site has activity identified by Use and Occupancy Mapping;
- 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 National Wildlife Areas; and
- The sites terrestrial component is all Inuit Owned Lands.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.15 Cheyne Islands (Map 28) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and

- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.16 Creswell Bay (Map 29) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Inuit Owned Lands.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.17 East Axel Heiberg Islands (Map 30) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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:**
 - None

Additional considerations:

- The existing planning policy framework;
- The site contains Inuit Owned Lands;
- 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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.

2.1.3.18 Eastern Devon Island (Map 31) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.19 Eastern Jones Sound (Map 32) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.20 Eastern Lancaster Sound (Map 33) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 National Marine Conservation Area.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use. Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.21 Fosheim Peninsula (Map 34) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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:**
 - None

Additional considerations:

- The existing planning policy framework;
- The site contains Inuit Owned Lands;
- 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-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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.

2.1.3.22 Foxe Basin Islands (Map 35) - PA

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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.23 Great Plain of the Koukdjuak (Map 36) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Migratory Bird Sanctuaries on both sides; and
- The site has some Inuit Owned Lands.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.24 Grinnell Peninsula (Map 37) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.25 Hobhouse Inlet (Map 38) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 (Seabirds); 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 National Marine Conservation Area;

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.26 Inglefield Mountains (Map 39) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 Inuit Owned Lands.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Direction: Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the setbacks in Table 2 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.

2.1.3.27 Markham Bay (Map 40) - PA

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

Additional considerations:

- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Inuit Owned Lands.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.28 Nasaruvaaik Island (Map 41) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

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

- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.29 North Water Polynya (Map 42) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.30 Northwestern Brodeur Peninsula (Map 43) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 km² 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.31 Sabine Peninsula (Map 44) - VEC

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 restrictions on activities:**
 - None
- **Recommended setbacks:**
 - None

Additional considerations:

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

Option 4 is recommended:

- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area shown on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify the key migratory bird habitat site as an area of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen given that there are currently no recommended prohibitions or conditions for the area.

2.1.3.32 Sleeper Islands (Map 45) - PA

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 Inuit Owned Lands;
- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified above.

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.

2.1.3.33 Western Cumberland Sound Archipelago (Map 46) - VEC

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 restrictions on activities:**

- 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:

- The site contains Inuit Owned Lands;
- The site has Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 4 is recommended:

- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area shown on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify the key migratory bird habitat site as an area of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen given that there are currently no recommended prohibitions or conditions for the area.

2.2 Caribou Habitat (Maps 47-58)

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

NPC is aware of five types of caribou in Nunavut:

1. Mainland Migrating herds of Barrenland caribou summer in tundra areas and winter in taiga or forested habitat, usually in the Northwest Territories, Manitoba, or Saskatchewan.
2. Tundra Wintering herds of Barrenland caribou live all year north of the treeline, but move south in the winter and north in the summer¹. To some degree, the wintering ranges of the Tundra Wintering herds

Victoria Island and winters on the mainland, is included here.

¹ The Dolphin & Union Herd, which spends summers on

are similar to the summer ranges of the mainland migrating herds.

3. Island herds, which are the same species as the Mainland Tundra Wintering herds, live all year on the tundra of the Arctic Archipelago. There are few known particular habitats for these caribou.
4. Peary caribou, a smaller type of caribou, live mainly in the High Arctic. There are few known particular habitats for these caribou. The subgroups of Peary caribou are listed as Threatened or Endangered.
5. Reindeer, which live on the Belcher Islands around Sanikiluaq.

NPC is aware of 10 types of caribou seasonal ranges:

1. Calving Areas- used by cows annually to drop newborn caribou.
2. Post-calving Areas- where cows take young caribou for the first weeks of life, when they are the most vulnerable.
3. Key Access Corridors - used by cows to enter a calving area, and by cows and young caribou to leave post-calving areas.
4. Freshwater crossings - where caribou frequently cross larger bodies of freshwater, either through open water or on ice.
5. Marine Sea Ice crossings - where caribou typically cross between islands, or from the mainland to an island.
6. Rutting areas - where caribou typically mate.
7. Spring Migration areas - the paths used by caribou at the end of winter for their annual trip north.
8. Fall Migration areas - the paths used by caribou at the end of summer for their annual trip south.
9. Summer and late summer areas - used to forage.
10. Winter ranges - the widespread areas where caribou spend the winter.

Following are the known caribou herds of Nunavut:

1. Mainland Migrating
 - a. Qamanirjuaq
 - b. Bathurst
 - c. Bluenose East
 - d. Beverly
2. Tundra Wintering Mainland
 - a. Lorillard
 - b. Wager Bay
 - c. Qu. Maud Gulf
 - d. Dolphin & Union
 - e. Melville
 - f. Boothia-K. William Island
3. Tundra Wintering Island
 - a. South Baffin
 - b. North Baffin
 - c. East Baffin
 - d. Southampton
 - e. Coates
 - f. Mansel
4. Peary Caribou

- a. 9 Subgroups in Nunavut, associated with island clusters in the Arctic Archipelago:
 - Ellesmere Island
 - Axel Heiburg Island
 - Prime Minister Island
 - Ringnes Island
 - Bathurst Island
 - Devon Island
 - Melville Island
 - Prince of Wales/Somerset Island
 - Boothia Peninsula

5. Belcher Islands Reindeer

Figure 1 identifies the caribou herds of Nunavut as they existed in 2011.

2.2.1 Designations on Caribou Habitat

Considered Information for all caribou habitat:

- 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.
- Parnautit, the Government of Nunavut 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 Government Of Nunavut 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 GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT’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; and
- 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.

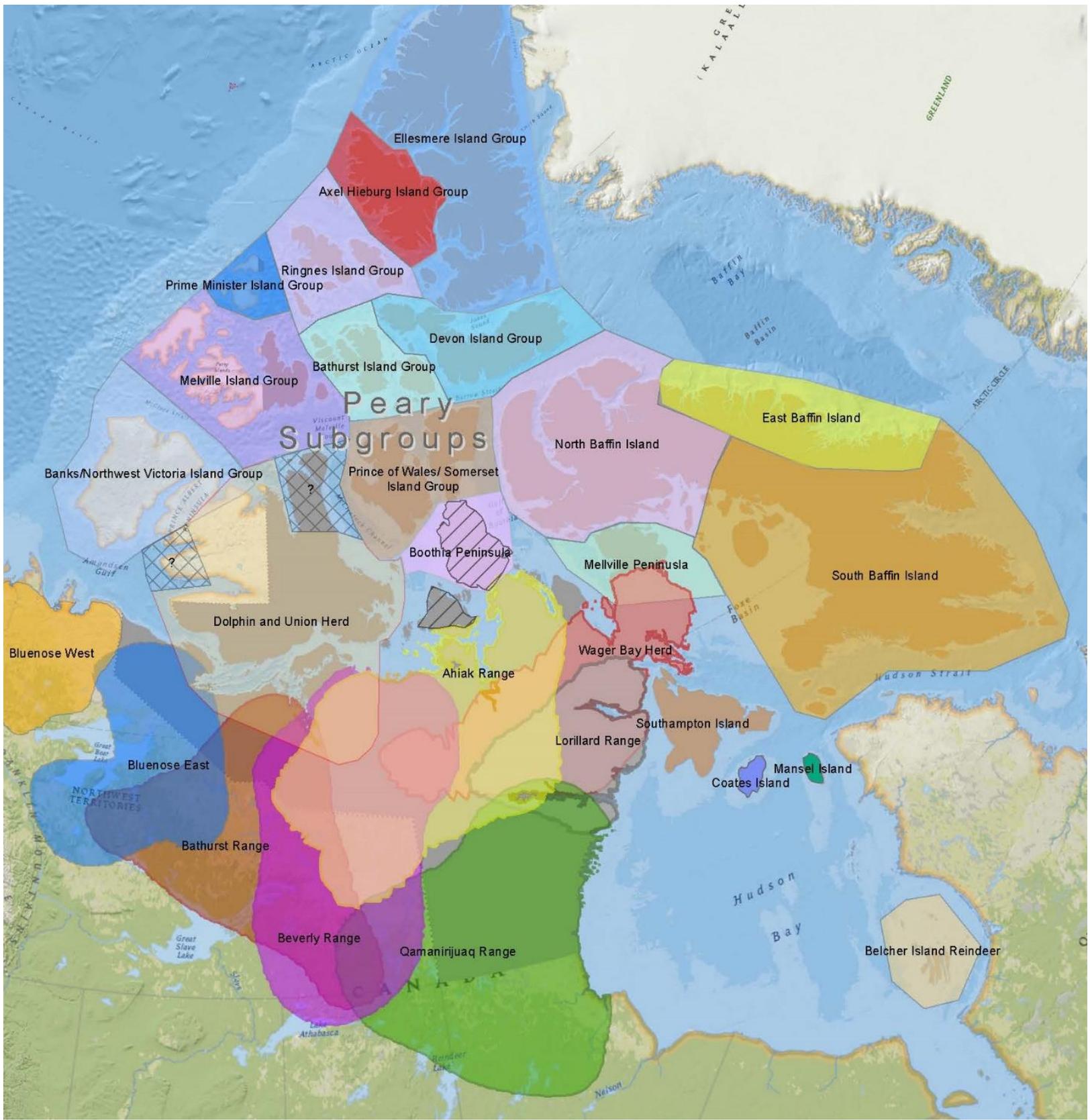


Figure 1: Caribou Herds of Nunavut

2.2.1.1 Calving Areas (Map 47) – PA

Calving areas are generally acknowledged as areas where caribou are particularly vulnerable to disturbance.

Additional considerations for managing caribou calving areas:

- The Government of Nunavut has identified core calving areas for mainland herds based on tracking caribou (collared cows) by telemetry;
- Caribou cows and calves are most sensitive to disturbance during the calving and post-calving season;
- The following participants have recommended protection of caribou calving areas:
 - Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (2014-05-21)
 - Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board (2015-06-22)
 - Kivalliq Wildlife Board (2016-03-04)
 - Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board (2016-03-17)
 - Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (2016-03-02)
 - Kivalliq Inuit Association (2016-03-11)
 - Qikiqtani Inuit Association (2016-03-24)
 - Baker Lake HTO (2015-09-15)
 - Aqigiq HTO (2015-09-18)
 - Arviat HTO (2015-09-24)
 - Whale Cove HTO (2015-09-30)
 - Arviq HTO (2015-10-20)
 - Athabasca Denesuline Né Né Land Corporation (2013-12-11)
 - Fort Smith Metis Council (2014-02-05)
 - Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (2014-01-31)
 - Northwest Territory Metis Nation,
 - Sayisi Dene First Nation (2014-05-15)
 - Northlands Denesuline (2014-05-27)
 - Government of NunavutWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources (2014-02-13)
 - WWF (2014-02-14)
 - Mining Watch Canada (2014-04-14)
- The Government of Nunavut (2016-05-16) has recommended that mitigation measures can be implemented through the NIRB environmental assessment process;
- The Chamber of Mines (2015-06-20) and Baffinland (2016-03-04) have recommended calving areas be identified in the plan for consideration by the NIRB.
- The NIRB (2015-07-07 – Screening Decision Report for File No. 15EN009) recommended the NPC consider formalized protection of important caribou habitat;
- The Kitikmeot Inuit Association (2015-06-22) supports the implementation of mobile caribou protection measures;
- The Kugluktuk HTO (2016-02-19) recommends seasonal restrictions for caribou calving areas;
- 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;
- There are some existing mineral rights in caribou calving areas;
- Some areas contain Inuit Owned Lands;
- 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; and
- The Commission recognizes the Caribou Protection Measures designed and implemented by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC);

NOTE:

- *Ukkusiksalik National Park contains caribou calving and post-calving areas;*
- *The Queen Maud Gulf Migratory Bird Sanctuaries contains caribou calving areas; and*
- *The Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary contains caribou calving and post-calving areas and is assigned a Protected Area designation below.*

Recommendation for Caribou Calving Areas

Option 1 is recommended for **caribou calving areas**:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas have been identified by multiple participants as areas requiring protection. In addition, although several participants recommended that NIRB could adequately address impacts, NIRB has recommended that formalized protection be considered and that cumulative impacts should be considered at a regional scale.

2.2.1.2 Post-Calving Areas (Map 48) – PA

Post-calving areas are geographically defined areas used by caribou for the nursing of calves and nutrition uptake to sustain the high energy demands required by lactating females. Disturbance in these areas while caribou are present can lead to demographic impacts to populations resulting in higher calf mortality because of reduced nursing time, or cow-calf abandonment. Additionally, adults are affected by displacement from areas with high quality forage required to maintain milk production.

Additional considerations for managing post-calving areas:

- The Government of Nunavut has identified post-calving areas for mainland herds based on tracking caribou (collared cows) by telemetry;
- The following participants have recommended protection of caribou post-calving areas:
 - Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (2014-05-21)
 - Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board (2015-06-22)
 - Kivalliq Wildlife Board (2016-03-04)
 - Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (2016-03-02)
 - Baker Lake HTO (2015-09-15)
 - Aqigiq HTO (2015-09-18)
 - Arviat HTO (2015-09-24)
 - Whale Cove HTO (2015-09-30)
 - Arviq HTO (2015-10-20)
 - Athabasca Denesuline Né Né Land Corporation (2013-12-11)
 - Fort Smith Metis Council (2014-02-05)
 - Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (2014-01-31)
 - Northwest Territory Metis Nation,
 - Sayisi Dene First Nation (2014-05-15)
 - Northlands Denesuline (2014-05-27)
 - GNWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources (2014-02-13)
 - WWF (2014-02-14)
 - Mining Watch Canada (2014-04-14)
- The Qikiqtani Inuit Association (2016-03-24) recommends mobile protection measures.
- The Government of Nunavut (2016-05-16) has recommended that mitigation measures can be implemented through the NIRB environmental assessment process.
- The Chamber of Mines (2015-06-20) and Baffinland (2016-03-04) have recommended post-calving areas be identified in the plan for consideration by the NIRB.
- The Kivalliq Inuit Association (2016-05-12) recommend a 25 km buffer be applied around core calving areas where mobile caribou conservation measures would apply.

Recommendation for Post-Calving Areas

Option 1 is recommended for **caribou post-calving areas**:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas have been identified by multiple participants as areas requiring protection.

2.2.1.3 Key Access Corridors (Map 49) – PA

Key access corridors are the paths used by pregnant cow caribou to access the calving areas.

Additional Considerations for managing caribou key access corridors:

- The Government of Nunavut has identified key access corridor areas for mainland herds based on tracking caribou (collared cows) by telemetry;
- The areas are within post-calving areas noted above;
- The following participants have recommended protection of key access corridors:
 - BQCMB (2015-06-22)
 - KWB (2016-03-04)
 - NWMB (2016-06-18)
 - QWB (2016-03-02)
 - WWF-Canada (2015-03-04)

Recommendation for Key Access Corridors

Option 1 is recommended for **key access corridors**:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas have been identified by participants noted above as areas requiring protection, particularly between June 15 and August 1.

2.2.1.4 Freshwater Caribou Crossings (Map 50) – PA

Locations where caribou regularly cross freshwater during their migration are unique areas of limited geographic extent where caribou are sensitive to disturbance.

Additional considerations for managing freshwater caribou crossings:

- The following participants have recommended protection of freshwater caribou crossings:
 - Baker Lake HTO (2015-09-15)
 - Kivalliq Wildlife Board (2016-03-04)
 - Arviat HTO (2015-09-24)
 - Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board (2015-06-22)
 - Kivalliq Inuit Association (2016-05-12)
 - Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board (2016-03-17)
- The Fall Caribou Crossing has been identified for its historic significance and is assigned a Protected Area designation below;
- The Commission recognizes the Caribou Protection Measures designed and implemented by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) that identify designated water crossings;

Recommendation for Freshwater Caribou Crossings

Option 1 is recommended for **freshwater caribou crossings**:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas have been identified by multiple participants as areas requiring protection.

2.2.1.5 Caribou Sea Ice Crossings (Maps 51-53) - SMA

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.

Additional considerations for managing caribou sea ice crossings:

- The Government of Nunavut has noted that “The Dolphin and Union herd was assessed as a Species of Special Concern by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) in 2004, up-listed under part 4 of Schedule 1 of the federal Species at Risk Act in 2011 (SARA). Dolphin and Union caribou major feature is their sea-ice migration. They migrate to Victoria Island in the spring where they spend the summer calving; in the fall, they migrate to the mainland to spend the winter. Since 1980, the Dolphin and Union migrate from the entire south coast of Victoria Island from the Dolphin and Union Strait to Cape Colborne without interruption. Therefore, seasonal connectivity of the sea ice between Victoria Island and the mainland is essential to their migration and is associated to a healthy and viable population that can sustain harvest opportunities. An increase in ice-breaking activity and associated shipping traffic has important negative consequences for the Dolphin and Union caribou (IUCN Threat #4.3 Shipping lanes- High Impact).”
- The following participants have recommended protection of caribou sea ice crossings:
 - Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board (2016-03-17)
 - WWF (2014-02-14)
- 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; and
- Peary caribou trans-island movements within the Bathurst Island Complex have been identified.

Recommendation for Caribou Sea Ice Crossings

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

Condition: Seasonal restrictions are applied to icebreaking through the caribou sea-ice crossings. Any project in Nunavut that involves shipping that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Option 2 was chosen for these areas given the particular importance and unusual form of migratory corridor, which is essential for one or two particular times each year.

2.2.1.6 Caribou Rutting Areas (Map 54) - VEC

In rutting areas, caribou are known to be particularly vulnerable to disturbance during the breeding process. This disturbance can result in lower pregnancy rates. This is also a

critical time for breeding and for pregnant cows to gain added nutrition before the winter.

Additional considerations for managing caribou rutting areas:

- The Government of Nunavut has identified caribou rutting areas for mainland herds based on tracking caribou (collared cows) by telemetry;

Recommendation for Caribou Rutting Areas

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify caribou rutting areas as areas of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen for these areas given the large geographic extent of the areas, and the relatively low impacts that disturbance can have (as compared to calving areas).

2.2.1.7 Caribou Migration Corridors (Map 55) - VEC

Migration corridors are critical for movement between important areas of caribou seasonal ranges.

Additional considerations for managing caribou migration corridors:

- The Government of Nunavut has identified caribou migration corridors for mainland herds based on tracking caribou (collared cows) by telemetry;
- Disturbance and obstacles along the migration route can displace herds and alter access to critical habitat and forage. Disrupting these migratory routes can lead to a change or loss of migratory behaviour over time resulting in lower productivity and abundance, and change caribou distribution across the landscape which may impact subsistence harvesters.

Recommendation for Caribou Migration Corridors

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify caribou migrations corridors as an area of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen for these areas given the large geographic extent of the areas, and the relatively low impacts that disturbance can have (as compared to calving areas).

2.2.1.8 Caribou Summer Range (Map 56) - VEC

Seasonal ranges represent vast areas of Nunavut that are important for the survival and success of caribou herds.

Additional considerations for managing caribou late summer range:

- The Government of Nunavut has identified caribou late summer range for mainland herds based on tracking caribou (collared cows) by telemetry;

Recommendation for Caribou Summer Range

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify caribou summer range as an area of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen for these areas given the large geographic extent of the areas, and the relatively low impacts that disturbance can have (as compared to calving areas).

2.2.1.9 Caribou Late Summer Range (Map 57) - VEC

Seasonal ranges represent vast areas of Nunavut that are important for the survival and success of caribou herds.

Additional considerations for managing caribou late summer range:

- The Government of Nunavut has identified caribou late summer range for mainland herds based on tracking caribou (collared cows) by telemetry;

Recommendation for Caribou Late Summer Range

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify caribou late summer range as an area of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen for these areas given the large geographic extent of the areas, and the relatively low impacts that disturbance can have (as compared to calving areas).

2.2.1.10 Caribou Winter Range (Map 58) - MU

Seasonal ranges represent vast areas of Nunavut that are important for the survival and success of caribou herds.

Additional considerations for managing caribou winter range:

- The Government of Nunavut has identified caribou winter range for mainland herds based on tracking caribou (collared cows) by telemetry;

Recommendation for Caribou Winter Range

Option 3 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access
- Identified area not discussed in NLUP, and boundary of identified area not shown on Schedule A or B

Option 3 was chosen for these areas given the large geographic extent of the areas, and the relatively low impacts that disturbance can have (as compared to calving areas).

2.3 Polar Bear Denning Areas (Map 59) - VEC

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;
- The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (2015-06-22) recommends that denning areas be protected.
- 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) identifies denning areas as important polar bear habitat. Identified denning areas are large;
- The North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan and Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan restrict development activities near polar bear denning areas.
- Parnautit, the Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut 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;
- Polar bear habitat was identified as a priority and value of residents during community consultations (2012-2014);
- The International Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears.

Recommendation for Polar Bear Denning Areas

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP

Information on Valued Components: Identify polar bear denning areas as areas of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen for these areas given the large geographic extent of polar bear denning areas and the thin and sporadic use of these areas.

2.4 Walrus Haul-Outs (Map 60) - PA

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.

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”;
- The KWB (2016-03-04) recommends that some terrestrial activities be prohibited at walrus haul-out sites, and that there should be marine setbacks from the sites.

- The QWB (2015-06-22) recommends that haul-outs be protected
- Parnautit, the Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- Walrus habitat was identified as a priority and value of residents during community consultations (2012-2014);
- 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 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

The following uses are prohibited:

- Disposal at Sea;
- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: No vessel may approach within five (5) km seaward of a walrus haul out, any time during the year. Any project in Nunavut that involves shipping that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Option 1 was chosen to reflect feedback received from participants that the habitat requirements for walrus are very specific, requiring ice or land nearby to ‘haul out’.

2.5 Beluga Calving Grounds (Map 61) - SMA

Habitat requirements for beluga whales are seasonal, and they frequently return to the same locations each year. In the summer, belugas concentrate in shallow estuaries and coastline environments, and at this time they are sensitive to disturbance. (Nunavut Wildlife Resource and Habitat Values Report (2012).

Considered information:

- The KWB (2016-03-04) note that the Coral Harbour HTO indicated that calving is a sensitive time for beluga whales, and that these areas should be protected from disturbance and habitat destruction (two locations near the east shore of Southampton Island).

Recommendation for Beluga Calving Grounds:

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A

Condition: Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, during Aujuq. Any project in Nunavut that involves shipping that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Option 2 was chosen to reflect the importance of these areas during particular times of the year.

2.6 Marine Areas of Importance (Maps 62-64) - VEC

2.6.1 Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (Map 62) - VEC

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) has provided the Commission with the location of Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) 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 Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) in the DNLUP.

The designated Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) 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 Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) 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 Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) considered a number of published local and traditional ecological knowledge (LEK/TEK) reports;
- For most Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) there was a relatively high degree of confidence that the areas contained ecologically and/or biologically significant features;
- The NWMB's direction that identifying Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) 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, Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) 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 Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (only those where a higher degree of risk aversion is needed);
- WWF (2014-01-14) recommends site-specific assessments for each Ecologically and Biologically Significant Area (EBSA), and notes that 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 Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services; and
- Tunngasaiji, the Government of Nunavut'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 Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA)

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP

Information on Valued Components: Identify Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) as areas of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen for these biologically important areas because of the large geographic area and limited information is available to formulate specific management options.

2.6.2 Polynyas (Map 63) – SMA or VEC

Polynyas are areas of persistent open water surrounded by sea ice. They are created where strong upwelling or currents prevent freezing.

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 highly sensitive and the impact of human activities on these environments should be minimal;
- The location of polynyas may change over time due to climate change and other environmental factors.
- Parnautit, the Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut Transportation Strategy; and
- Tunngasaiji, the Government of Nunavut'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 Lancaster Sound, North Water (Pikialaorsuaq) Polynyas

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

Condition: Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, during Ukiq, Ukiuq, Upingakaaq, and Upingaaq. Any project in Nunavut that involves shipping that would violate these conditions is prohibited.

Option 2 was chosen given the well-established and understood ecological importance of these polynyas.

Note overlapping designation on North Water (Pikialaorsuaq) Polynya (Sec. 2.1.3.29) and Lancaster Sound (Sec. 3.2).

Recommendation for Other Polynyas

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify polynyas as areas of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen for these biologically active areas given that limited information is available to formulate specific management options.

2.6.3 Floe Edges (Map 64) - VEC

Floe Edges appear as temporary features during the spring breakup, and tend to recur in similar locations year after year. They are important ecologically.

Considered Information:

- The North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan includes an Action that “Ship traffic through and around the floe edges in April, May and June shall be minimized”
- The Marine Environmental Handbook (1995) identifies floe edges.

Recommendation for Floe Edges

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify floe edges as areas of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen for these biologically active areas given that limited information is available to formulate specific management options.

2.7 Atlantic Cod Lakes (Maps 65-67) – VEC

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 Government of Canada’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 Inuit Owned Lands and it is Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated’s direction that development activity should not be restricted on Inuit Owned Lands;
- 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; and
- As the combined surface area of the lakes is approximately 20 km², they comprise a small and unique habitat.

Recommendation for Atlantic Cod Lakes

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify Atlantic Cod lakes as areas of a known Valued Ecosystem Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen to reflect the feedback that no restrictions are needed on these lakes.

2.8 Transboundary Considerations

2.8.1 Great Bear Watershed (Map 68) - VEC

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 Use and Occupancy Mapping activity within the area.

Recommendation for the Great Bear Lake Watershed

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).

Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP. Option 4 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.

2.8.2 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; and

- Community of Sanikiluaq expressed concerns regarding Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure in the James Bay in Quebec.

Recommendation for Managing Land Use Outside the NSA

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

2.9 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 Government of Nunavut 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

As there are currently no agreed upon terms that would be appropriate to implement through a land use plan, it is recommended that no specific terms be included at this time. Climate change will continue to be considered by the NPC when developing and updating the NLUP in the future.

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 known to be 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 and Territorial 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.

3.1 Parks

There are a number of National and Territorial Parks in the NSA that are at various stages in their establishment.

General considered Information:

- Section 11.3.1(g) of the NLCA 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;
- Parks Canada Agency has requested that these areas be protected from development that is incompatible with National Parks;
- Parks Canada Agency has advised that these areas are under land withdrawals;
- 2 of the Territorial Parks Awaiting Full Establishment are outside municipal boundaries;
- Municipal plans manage land use within municipal boundaries;
- Parnautit, the Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- Tunngasaiji, the Government of Nunavut’s Tourism Strategy supports the development and enhancement of attractions through the investment in Parks, Conservation Areas, historic places, heritage rivers and other attractions;
- Territorial Parks Awaiting Full Establishment (within or outside of municipal boundaries) have been approved by the Government of Nunavut, are under the land withdrawal process and/or have not yet been designated under the *Territorial Parks Act*;
- Until Territorial Parks are fully established, their interim management is the responsibility of Government of Nunavut Department of Environment: Parks & Special Places Division, in accordance with the NLCA and IIBA for Territorial Parks in partnership with the communities and Joint Planning and Management;
- As per the IIBA Section 2.1.2, Park Specific Appendices will be developed and added to the IIBA during the Territorial Park Establishment Process;
- Proposed Territorial Parks have undergone considerable background and feasibility study, have community and Regional Inuit Association support

and have been approved by the Government of Nunavut to proceed in accordance to the legal obligations and planning processes as outlined under the NLCA and IIBA for Territorial Parks;

- Umbrella Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement for Territorial Parks in the Nunavut Settlement Region (2002); and
- Nunavut Parks and Special Places Program

3.1.1 National Parks Awaiting Full Establishment (Map 69) - PA

Parks Canada Agency has identified **Ward Hunt Island** as a National Park awaiting full establishment, and an area around Sila Lodge as an area for future incorporation into Ukkusiksalik National Park.

Recommendation for National Parks Awaiting Full Establishment (Ward Hunt Island and expansion of Ukkusiksalik National Park)

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Option 1 was chosen given that this area has been identified as future National Parks.

3.1.2 Territorial Parks Awaiting Full Establishment (Maps 70-84) - PA

The Government of Nunavut has identified areas awaiting full establishment as Territorial Parks:

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)
- Ovaqok Territorial Park (Cambridge Bay)

Kivalliq Region

- Iqalugaarjuup Nunanga Territorial Park (Rankin Inlet)
- Inuujaarvik Territorial Park Campground (Baker Lake)

Additional considerations:

- Territorial Parks Awaiting Full Establishment have been approved by the Government of Nunavut, are under the land withdrawal process and/or have not yet been designated under the *Territorial Parks Act*.
- Until they are fully established, their interim management is the responsibility of Government of Nunavut Department of Environment: Parks & Special Places Division, in accordance with the NLCA and IIBA for Territorial Parks in partnership with the communities and Joint Planning and Management
- As per the IIBA Section 2.1.2, Park Specific Appendices will be developed and added to the IIBA during the Territorial Park Establishment Process.

Recommendation for Territorial 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-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Option 1 was chosen given that the lands have been identified as future Territorial Parks.

3.1.3 Proposed National Parks

There are currently no proposed national parks in the NSA.

Considered information:

- Parks Canada Agency had previously identified an area in the Kitikmeot Region in the Bluenose Lake Area, contiguous to the existing Tuktuq Nogait National Park. However, this area is no longer being considered as a proposed national park.

3.1.4 Proposed Territorial Parks (Maps 70-84) - PA

The Government of Nunavut has identified proposed Territorial Parks in the NSA, including the Aggutinni Study Area

(Clyde River), Nuvuk (Arviat), Kingaluuk-Sitiapiit (Sanikiluaq), and Napartulik/Napaaqtulik (Axel Heiberg Island).

Additional considerations:

- Proposed Territorial Parks have undergone considerable background and feasibility study, have community and Regional Inuit Association support and have been approved by the Government of Nunavut to proceed in accordance to the legal obligations and planning processes as outlined under the NLCA and IIBA for Territorial Parks.

Recommendation for Proposed Territorial Parks

Option 1 is recommended for Proposed Territorial Parks:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas have already undergone considerable study, and are supported by communities and Regional Inuit Associations.

3.2 Proposed Lancaster Sound National Marine Conservation Areas (Map 85) - PA

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

Considered Information:

- Section 11.3.1(g) of the NLCA 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 North Baffin Land Use Plan 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 Sirmilik National Park;
- The area contains extensive Use and Occupancy Mapping activities;
- The areas includes numerous key bird habitat areas;
- Parks Canada Agency has advised that there is a boundary for the Proposed Lancaster Sound National Marine Conservation Area;
- Parks Canada Agency 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;
- Parks Canada Agency has advised that there is no agreement with communities that the area should be a National Marine Conservation Area;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the Government of Nunavut Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services; and
- Tunngasajji, the Government of Nunavut'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 National Marine Conservation Area

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production (including seismic testing);
- Disposal at Sea;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Option 1 was chosen given that this area is under consideration to be established as a National Marine Conservation Area.

Note that this polygon overlaps in full or in part with other polygons relating to polynyas or bird habitat.

3.3 Conservation Areas

3.3.1 Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary (Map 86) - PA

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;
- Government of Canada has advised that the Sanctuary is likely an important movement corridor for many species expanding their ranges northward;
- The lands are withdrawn;
- The area includes identified caribou freshwater crossings;
- 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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

3.3.2 Migratory Bird Sanctuaries (Maps 87-99) - PA

Migratory Bird Sanctuaries (MBSs) are important to supporting and protecting migratory birds in the NSA. EC-CWS identifies the following Migratory Bird Sanctuaries: 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:

- Section 11.3.1(g) of the NLCA requires a land use plan to take into account environmental considerations, including Parks and Conservation Areas. The land use plan applies to established 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 North Baffin Land Use Plan. The North Baffin Land Use Plan 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 Migratory Bird Sanctuaries;
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (2015-06-22) has recommended that the NLUP should identify areas that are protected through legislation and indicate that the existing restrictions as set out in legislation and regulations apply (not include specific conditions or prohibitions in the plan).
- There is Inuit Owned Lands in some of the MBS;
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) has advised the Commission that activity should not be restricted on Inuit Owned Lands;
- Working Together for Caribou, the Government of Nunavut's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values; and
- Tunngasaiji, the Government of Nunavut'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 Migratory Bird Sanctuaries

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified below.

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

3.3.2.1 KIVALLIQ REGION

3.3.2.1.1 East Bay Migratory Bird Sanctuary (Map 87)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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 Migratory Bird Sanctuary;
- The site has prospecting permits; and
- The site contains some Inuit Owned Lands.

3.3.2.1.2 Harry Gibbons Migratory Bird Sanctuary (Map 88)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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.

3.3.2.1.3 McConnell River Migratory Bird Sanctuary (Map 89)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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.

3.3.2.2 KITIKMEOT REGION

3.3.2.2.1 Queen Maud Gulf Migratory Bird Sanctuary (Map 90)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 Use and Occupancy Mapping activity;
- The area includes caribou calving areas, post-calving areas, and key access corridors.
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, birds, fish, land mammals, wildlife, drinking water, cultural values, contaminated sites, existing economic development, and protection;

3.3.2.3 QIKIQTAAALUK REGION

3.3.2.3.1 Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary (Map 91)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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.

3.3.2.3.2 Dewey Soper Migratory Bird Sanctuary (Map 92)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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)

3.3.2.3.3 Prince Leopold Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary (Map 93)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 (Seabirds); 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.

3.3.2.3.4 Seymour Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary (Map 94)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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)

3.3.3 National Wildlife Areas (Maps 95-99) - PA

National Wildlife Areas (NWAs) have been identified and provided to the Commission by the Government of Canada. These areas are: Polar Bear Pass National Wildlife Area, Nirjutiqarvik National Wildlife Area, Niginganiq National Wildlife Area, Qaqqullit National Wildlife Area, and Akpait National Wildlife Area.

Considered Information:

- Section 11.3.1(g) of the NLCA 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 North Baffin Land Use Plan. The North Baffin Land Use Plan places an emphasis on protecting wildlife and wildlife habitat and ensuring impacts on wildlife are minimized;
- Government of Canada has advised the Commission that NWAs require special management and limited access;
- Sululiit Area Co-Management Committee (2015-05-28) supports the recommendations of Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) for the Akpait & Qaqqullit National Wildlife Areas, and recommends that a 32

km buffer be applied around the National Wildlife Areas where the dumping of waste and seismic testing be prohibited;

- The Nirjutiqarvik Area Co-Management Committee (2015-06-03) recommends the area be designated in the NLUP, including prohibitions;
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (2015-06-22) has recommended that the NLUP should identify areas that are protected through legislation and indicate that the existing restrictions as set out in legislation and regulations apply (not include specific conditions or prohibitions in the plan);
- Tunngasaiji, the Government of Nunavut'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 Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values; and
- Ingirrasiliqta, the Government of Nunavut Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services.

Recommendation for NWA's

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Condition: Project Proposals/Projects/Projects must comply with the setbacks in Table 2 for the bird populations identified below.

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

3.3.3.1.1 Akpait National Wildlife Area (Map 95)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 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 (Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

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

3.3.3.1.2 Ninginganiq National Wildlife Area (Map 96)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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.

3.3.3.1.3 Nirjutiqavvik National Wildlife Area (Map 97)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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.

3.3.3.1.4 Polar Bear Pass National Wildlife Area (Map 98)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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.

3.3.3.1.5 Qaulluit National Wildlife Area (Map 99)

Canadian Wildlife Service (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 (Seabirds); EC-CWS Terrestrial Setbacks (All Seabirds)

Additional considerations:

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

3.4 Historic Sites (Maps 100-114) - PA

The National Historic Sites have been identified and provided to the Commission by the Government of Canada. These sites are: Kodlunarn Island, Inuksuk, Bloody Falls, Igloodik 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 Qikiqtaarjuk.

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 Quttinirpaaq National Park.

Considered Information:

- Section 11.3.1(g) of the NLCA 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 Inuit Owned Lands;

- The Government of Canada 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 Government of Nunavut has advised the Commission that they place importance on the protection of areas of historic and cultural value;
- Tunngasaiji, the Government of Nunavut'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 Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values; and
- Ingirrasiliqta, the Government of Nunavut 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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

3.5 Heritage Rivers (Maps 115-119) – PA, VEC, & VSEC

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. The Coppermine River has been nominated as a Heritage River.

Considered Information:

- Section 11.3.1(g) of the NLCA requires a land use plan to take into account cultural factors and priorities;
- Tunngasaiji, the Government of Nunavut'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 Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut's Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Canada and the Government of Nunavut in consultation with communities;
- The Government of Canada's comments that the management plans contain policies and practices that ensure that the rivers' development, management and use are consistent with the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (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 Government of Nunavut Parks and Special Places manages the the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) in Nunavut;

- 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;
- The Heritage River Management Plan for the Soper River applies to the watershed of the River;
- The Heritage River Management Plans for the Kazan and Thelon Rivers apply to a narrow corridor along the rivers. The plans identify specific sites of high importance;
- The Heritage River Management Plans for the Kazan and Thelon, and Coppermine Rivers; and
- The Coppermine Heritage River Management Plan does not provide appropriate information to make any recommendations for this river as a whole, or for locations along the river.

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.*

3.5.1 Recommendation for the Soper River

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 conditions to guide land use.

Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific 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.

3.5.2 Recommendation for the Kazan and Thelon Rivers

For particular, very small sites identified as being of high importance along the Kazan and Thelon Rivers, by their respective heritage river management plans:

Options 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Option 1 was chosen given that these areas are identified as being of particular importance in the management plans.

For the corridors identified along the rivers in the management plans for the **Kazan River** and **Thelon River**:

- Option 4 is recommended: Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify corridors along the Thelon and Kazan Rivers as areas of a known Valued Socio-Economic Component that should be given particular consideration (see Table 4).

Option 4 was chosen to ensure that the integrity of the water system is maintained.

3.5.3 Recommendation for the Coppermine River

Option 3 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identified area not discussed in NLUP, and boundary of identified area not shown on Schedule A or B.

Option 3 was chosen given that the Coppermine River has not been designated and the management plan does not provide appropriate information to make any recommendations for this river as a whole, or for locations along the river.

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.

4.1 Areas Identified by Communities

4.1.1 Community Areas of Interest (Maps 120-129)

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)
- Moffatt Inlet (Arctic Bay)
- Nettiing Lake (Cape Dorset, Pangnirtung)
- Walrus Island (Coral Harbour)
- Corbett Inlet (Rankin Inlet)
- Diana River (Rankin Inlet)
- Char Fishing Rivers (Coral Harbour)
- Naujaat Areas (Naujaat)

Considered Information:

- Section 11.3.1(h) of the NLCA 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 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;
- Tunngasaiji, the Government of Nunavut’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 Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut’s Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values; and

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

4.1.1.1 Hiukitak River (Map 120) - PA

Additional Considerations:

- The KIA's efforts to protect the area from mining activity to preserve the cultural significance of the area;
- The Government of Canada's comments that the Hiukitak River belongs under the heading Community Areas of Interest in the Plan;
- The site contains Inuit Owned Land and crown land;
- The area contains historic caribou calving and post-calving areas;
- A portion of the area is contained within the Queen Maud Bird Sanctuary; and
- 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure;
- All weather roads; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific 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.

4.1.1.2 Duke of York Bay (Map 121) - PA

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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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; and
- This area contained polar bear summer retreat habitat as identified by Government of Nunavut. This area is adjacent to polar bear winter concentration habitat as identified by Government of Nunavut.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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

4.1.1.3 Foxe Basin Marine Area of Interest (Map 122) - PA

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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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; and
- 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Commercial shipping;
- Cruise Ships
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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

4.1.1.4 Moffatt Inlet (Map 123) - PA

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 Moffatt 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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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; and
- 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Commercial shipping;
- Cruise ships;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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

4.1.1.5 Nettilling Lake (Map 124) - PA

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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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; and
- 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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

4.1.1.6 Walrus Island (Map 125) - PA

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 Use and Occupancy Mapping 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; and
- This area contained polar bear summer retreat habitat as identified by Government of Nunavut. This area is adjacent to polar bear winter concentration habitat as identified by Government of Nunavut.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- All-weather roads;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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

Note that this PA overlaps with a Walrus Haul-Out PA designation on the same location.

4.1.1.7 Corbett Inlet (Map 126) – VSEC

Additional considerations:

- Area is essential for Inuit traditional land use;
- Corbett Inlet and the surrounding lakes is an important site for both subsistence and commercial fishing (char and trout); and
- There are historical Inuit camping sites in the area, as well as heritage sites important to some families.

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Option 4 was chosen given the importance of the area to residents.

4.1.1.8 Diana River (Map 127) - PA

Additional considerations:

- It is one of the most popular fishing areas for the community of Rankin Inlet, as it contains char and trout, and is a spawning area for both;
- The area is important for caribou hunting;
- There are historical areas of significance along the Diana River, as well as heritage sites for some families; and
- It is an essential area for Inuit traditional land use.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure; and

- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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

4.1.1.9 Essential Char Fishing Rivers (Map 128) - PA

Additional considerations:

- These rivers include the Sutton River, Sixteen Mile Brook, Unhealing Brook, and the Thompson River.
- The area should be protected because of its fishing value.

Option 1 is recommended:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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

4.1.1.10 Naujaat Areas (Map 129) - MU

Additional considerations:

- The area contains caribou calving and post-calving areas; mineral exploration, i.e. low-flying helicopters, disrupt and scare caribou;
- The entirety of the area is used by hunters in Naujaat for caribou. Subsistence hunting is economically important to the community, and for consumption;
- The area is considered sacred and is used for hunting/harvesting caribou and fish, including land locked char, lake trout, and whitefish;
- The community hopes to develop a local commercial fishery in the future;
- Priorities and values of residents include caribou, fish (char, land locked char, lake trout, and whitefish), marine mammals (seals, walrus, narwhal, beluga whale, bowhead whale), shellfish, cultural values, sacred sites, potential economic development, and protection; and
- Marine mammals have habitats in different parts of the area throughout the year.

Option 3 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identified area not to be included in the NLUP.

Option 3 was chosen given the large size of the areas, and lack of suggested policy direction.

4.1.2 Community Priorities and Values (Tables 3 & 4) - VSEC

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 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify community priorities and values as areas of a known Valued Socio-Economic Component that should be given particular consideration (see Tables 2 and 3).

Option 4 was chosen based on feedback received during the 2012-2014 Community Consultation Tour and Planning Partner Consultations.

4.1.3 Community Land Use Areas (Tables 3 to 5) - VSEC

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 Inuit Owned Land (Inuit Owned Land);
- 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 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify community land use areas as areas of a known Valued Socio-Economic Component that should be given particular consideration (see Table 5).

Option 4 was chosen based on feedback received during the 2012-2014 Community Consultation Tour and Planning Partner Consultations.

4.1.4 Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy (Map 130) - PA

Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy are areas within the NSA where certain lands are jointly owned and managed by 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:

- Section 11.3.1(h) of the NLCA 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;
- The areas were identified by residents of multiple communities in Nunavut and Nunavik as important for a variety of environmental and cultural reasons;
- Makivik Corporation (2016-05-10) and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (2016-05-16) have recommended that additional consultations occur before a designation for the areas can be included in the NLUP;

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

- Does not restrict access.
- Identified area not discussed in NLUP, and boundary of identified area not shown on Schedule A or B.

Option 3 was chosen to avoid any bias on the ongoing out-of-court settlement discussions regarding both Denesuline Areas.

4.2 Unincorporated Communities (Maps 134-135) - PA

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:

- Section 11.3.1(h) of the NLCA requires a land use plan to take into account cultural factors and priorities, including the protection and preservation of outpost camps;
- Tunngasaiji, the Government of Nunavut'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 Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut 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 NLCA identifies a 2 km radius from the centre of the residential base 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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure; and

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 conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

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

4.1.5 Denesuline Areas of Asserted Title Claim (Map 131-133) – MU

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;
- The negotiations are confidential and without prejudice;
- Denesuline land use in these areas has been provided to the Commission; and
- The Northlands and Sayisi Dene First Nations have advised that the withdrawn lands should be designated Mixed Use to facilitate ongoing land claim negotiations.

Recommendation for Denesuline Lands Withdrawals

Option 3 is recommended:

- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific 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.

4.3 Alternative Energy Sources (Maps 136-138) – SMA

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 (Qikiqjivik) 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 Government of Nunavut’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 Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut and Government of Canada; and
- The direction provided in QEC reports.

Recommendation for Alternative Energy Sources

Option 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

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

Option 2 was chosen given that it protects the unique geographic features of the river system. While Option 1 is

normally used for prohibited land uses, this prohibition is not ecological in nature, so option 2 was considered appropriate.

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-Electrical and Related Infrastructure. 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.

4.4 Health & Safety

4.4.1 Community Drinking Water Supplies (Maps 139-163) – PA & VSEC

Maintaining the quality of community drinking water supplies is essential to the overall wellbeing 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:

- Section 11.3.1(f) of the NLCA 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;
- The Government of Nunavut (2016-05-16) recommends that any industrial project taking place within a community drinking water supply watershed identify the following information:
 - The location of the community drinking water source in relation to the proposed project activities;
 - Any potential impacts of project activity on that water source; and
 - Mitigation measures to avoid impacts to the community drinking water source;
- Some sites are located in the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan. The North Baffin Land Use Plan 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 Government of Nunavut state that “the NLUP must promote human and environmental health, paying particular attention to protecting community water sources”;
- Comments received from the Government of Canada 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 Government of Nunavut 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;
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated does not want development activity restricted on Inuit Owned Lands;
- 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; and
- 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

Option 1 is recommended for all community drinking water supply watersheds, except those for Baker Lake and Kugluktuk:

- Restricts access to uses that are incompatible with environmental and cultural values.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Mineral exploration and production;
- Oil and gas exploration and production;
- Hydro-Electrical and Related Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

Option 1 was chosen given the importance of the areas to the health of communities.

Option 4 is recommended for the community drinking water supply watersheds for Baker Lake and Kugluktuk:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify drinking water supply watersheds as areas of a known Valued Socio-Economic Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen given the large size of the drinking water supply watersheds for these communities.

4.4.1.1 Community Drinking Water Supplies within Municipal Boundaries

4.4.1.1.1 Pangnirtung (Map 139) - PA

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 Inuit Owned Land (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)).

4.4.1.1.2 Grise Fiord (Map 140) - PA

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 INUIT OWNED LAND .

4.4.1.1.3 Rankin Inlet (Map 141) - PA

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 INUIT OWNED LAND .

4.4.1.1.4 Taloyoak (Map 142) - PA

Taloyoak’s community water supply watershed is small and located completely inside 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 INUIT OWNED LAND .

4.4.1.1.5 Cambridge Bay (Map 143) - PA

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 Inuit Owned Lands.

4.4.1.1.6 Coral Harbour (Map 144) - PA

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 Inuit Owned Lands.

4.4.1.1.7 Iqaluit (Map 145) - PA

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 Inuit Owned Land .

4.4.1.1.8 Sanikiluaq (Map 146) - PA

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).

4.4.1.1.9 Whale Cove (Map 147) – PA

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)).

4.4.1.1.10 Repulse Bay (Map 148) - PA

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.

4.4.1.1.11 Chesterfield Inlet (Map 149) - PA

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

4.4.1.1.12 Gjoa Haven (Map 150) - PA

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 Inuit Owned Land .

4.4.1.1.13 Resolute Bay (Map 151) - PA

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).

4.4.1.1.14 Clyde River (Map 152) - PA

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 Inuit Owned Land .

4.4.1.1.15 Kimmirut (Map 153) - PA

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 Inuit Owned Land.

4.4.1.1.16 Qikiqtarjuaq (Map 154) - PA

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.

4.4.1.1.17 Igloolik (Map 155) - PA

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)).

4.4.1.1.18 Hall Beach (Map 156) - PA

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)).

4.4.1.1.19 Cape Dorset (Map 157) - PA

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 Inuit Owned Land.

4.4.1.2 Community Drinking Water Supplies outside of Municipal Boundaries

4.4.1.2.1 Arviat (Map 158) - PA

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 Inuit Owned Lands, 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.

4.4.1.2.2 Kugaaruk (Map 159) - PA

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 Inuit Owned Land. There are some existing mineral claims inside the watershed.

4.4.1.2.3 Arctic Bay (Map 160) - PA

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 Inuit Owned Land within the watershed.

4.4.1.2.4 Pond Inlet (Map 161) - PA

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.

4.4.1.2.5 Kugluktuk (Map 162) - VSEC

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 Inuit Owned Land. There is no mineral activity within the municipal boundary; however, there are active mineral interests in watershed.

4.4.1.2.6 Baker Lake (Map 163) - VSEC

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 Inuit Owned Land. 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.

4.4.2 Land Remediation (Maps 164-165) - SMA

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;

- Government of Canada provided the Commission with a list of sites that have been remediated and those that have not been remediated;
- Parnautit, the Government of Nunavut 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.

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.

4.4.3 Contaminated Sites (Maps 166-182) - SMA

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 60th parallel and on any other lands under AANDC's custodial responsibility. In 2002, INAC developed a *Contaminated Sites Management Plan*.

Considered Information:

- Section 11.9.1 of the NLCA requires a land use plan to identify and prioritise 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;
- 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 Government of Nunavut 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 National Contaminated Sites Program and that the Government of Canada is responsible for the properties identified through the National Contaminated Sites Program ;
- AANDC has provided the Commission with a list of National Contaminated Sites Program's sites that they administer that are of concern for public health and safety.

Recommendation for Sites Identified in the National Contaminated Sites Program

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 National Contaminated Sites Program's sites that are of concern for public health and safety.

4.5 Sovereignty

4.5.1 DND Establishments (Maps 183-191) - SMA

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.

4.5.2 North Warning System Sites (Map 185) - SMA

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 North Warning System sites. The DND have provided a range of setbacks that should be provided in the Plan.

Recommendation for North Warning System 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.

4.6 Aerodromes (Map 192)

Each municipality in Nunavut maintains an aerodrome.

Considered Information:

- Section 11.3.1(f) of the NLCA requires a land use plan to take into account community infrastructural requirements including health;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the Government of Nunavut 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; and

- Land use activities within the municipal aerodromes certified Nunavut aerodromes (i.e. airports) (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

Option 3 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identified area not discussed in NLUP, and boundary of identified area not shown on Schedule A or B.

Option 3 was chosen given that regulations are now in place for certified Nunavut aerodromes (airports).

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.

5.1 Diversified Economic Development

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

5.2 Mineral Potential (Map 193) - VSEC

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:

- Section 11.3.1(c) of the 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;
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated has advised that mineral exploration should not be restricted on Inuit Owned Land;
- 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 Government of Nunavut 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 Government of Nunavut’s Caribou Strategy identifies caribou as a keystone species with important economic and cultural values;
- Ingirrasiliqta, the Government of Nunavut 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 North Baffin Land Use Plan 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; and
- AANDC (2014-04-11) provided the Commission with a list of sites for high mineral potential.

Recommendation for Areas of High Mineral Potential

Options 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify areas of high mineral potential as areas of a known Valued Socio-Economic Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen to reflect that these areas may be important for non-renewable development in the future, and if possible activities that would reduce their future economic value should be avoided.

5.3 Oil and Gas Potential (Map 194) - VSEC

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:

- Section 11.3.1(c) of the 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 North Baffin Land Use Plan 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 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify areas of high oil and gas potential as areas of a known Valued Socio-Economic Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was chosen to reflect that these areas have been prioritized for oil and gas exploration and production.

5.4 Commercial Fisheries (Maps 195-197) – SMA & VSEC

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, shrimp, and char currently being harvested. Activity in Nunavut's commercial fishing industry is predicted to grow.

Considered Information:

- Section 11.3.1(c) of the 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 North Baffin Land Use Plan 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;
- Inqirrasiliqta, the Government of Nunavut Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land and marine transportation networks to facilitate the movement of goods and provision of services;
- DFO has provided data on fish areas of abundance; and
- 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.

Recommendation for Areas with the Potential for Commercial Fisheries

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

- May restrict access to some uses.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and gas exploration and production; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific 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 4 is recommended for **char and turbot areas of abundance**:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify char and turbot areas of abundance as areas of a known Valued Socio-Economic Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 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.

5.5 Transportation & Communications (Maps 198-200) – SMA & VSEC

An ordered and strategic approach to developing transportation and communication in Nunavut is essential to future prosperity and avoidance of unnecessary capital work and/or safety concerns.

Considered Information (for both terrestrial and marine):

- Section 11.3.1(d) of the NLCA 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 Government of Nunavut Transportation Strategy identifies the need for land

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

- Results of the technical sessions with planning partners in 2015 and 2016;
- The Government of Nunavut's comments that land and marine transportation is a core component of the Plan; and
- Information on existing known transportation routes.

5.5.1 Terrestrial Linear Infrastructure

While some areas of Nunavut are considered inappropriate to all-season linear infrastructure at the present time, in most of the territory no restrictions are established. NPC has taken the approach of identifying what essential informational requirements are needed to ensure that linear infrastructure proposals meet territorial goals and objectives. These requirements will benefit:

1. Proponents, by ensuring that proposed projects consider all factors in a consistently holistic manner;
2. Communities, by ensuring that projects meet the particular needs of different communities;
3. Impact assessment professionals, by ensuring that proposals are complete and comprehensive at the time of their submission, as well as being consistent in content to previous proposals; and finally
4. The NPC, since by ensuring that linear infrastructure proposals are complete and comprehensive at the start, the chance of future plan amendments as project concepts are revised is reduced.

Recommendation for Areas Where Proposals for Transportation Corridors have been made

Option 4 is recommended:

- Does not restrict access.
- Identifies areas that are important to particular Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) or Valued Socio-Economic Components (VSECS).
- Identified area to be included on Schedule B of the NLUP.

Information on Valued Components: Identify proposed transportation corridors as areas of a known Valued Socio-Economic Component that should be given particular consideration.

Option 4 was selected as expenditure has been made on transportation feasibility studies along certain routes in Nunavut. Works or activities that would disrupt these proposed linear infrastructure routes should be evaluated in terms of opportunity costs.

5.5.2 Marine Shipping

Considered Information:

- Article 11 of the NLCA requires NPC to contribute to the development and review of Arctic marine policy;
- The Marine Environmental Handbook;

- Documents published by Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) relating to the Northern Marine Transportation Corridors Initiative (NMTCI); and
- Numerous Submissions and papers by DFO.

5.5.2.1 Locations of Highest Risk for Marine Safety

No land use designations applied.

5.5.2.2 Ecological Restrictions on Marine Shipping

Different types of restrictions have been recommended for Caribou Sea-Ice Crossings, Beluga Calving Grounds, Marine On-Ice corridors, and Community Areas of Interest. Please see those sections for details.

5.5.2.3 Marine On-Ice Transportation Corridors (Map 200) - SMA

Numerous Marine on-ice corridors are presented in the Marine Environmental Handbook, which has been published by DFO for at least 17 years. The primary routes change little year to year, are essential for the traditional economy, and pre-exist an icebreaking routes that may be established. They are used primarily used in the Spring.

Additional considerations for marine on ice transportation:

- The NBRUP identifies community concerns regarding the impacts of ice-breaking on community use; and
- The following participants identified concerns regarding the impacts of ice-breaking on community use:
 - Arviat HTO (2015-10-20)
 - Arviq HTO (2015-10-20)
 - Aqigiq HTO (2015-09-18)

Recommendation for Marine On-Ice Transportation Corridors

Options 2 is recommended:

- May restrict access to some uses.
- May include conditions to guide land use.
- Identified area to be included on Schedule A.

Condition: Subject to safe navigation, no shipping may occur that crosses any on-ice transportation corridor when the sea is frozen during Upingaksaaq and Upingaaq, without first presenting a robust ice-bridging plan as defined in Annex B of the NLUP.

Option 2 was chosen to reflect feedback received from the public regarding the need to protect traditional routes to harvesting grounds.

5.5.2.4 Undersea Utility Corridors

At the present time, no regulations on potential undersea utility corridors is considered warranted. Construction ships will need to adhere to marine shipping restrictions if applicable.

Appendix A

Tables

Table 1: Land Use Designations

Table 2: Migratory Bird Setbacks

Table 3: Community Priorities and Values for Water Management Areas

Table 4: Community Priorities and Values for Marine Areas

Table 5: Community Land Use for Water Management Areas

Table 6: Data Sources for Nunavut Land Use Plan – Draft 2016

Appendix B

Supporting Maps for Each Area

Map 1 – Map 200