

March 25, 2024

John Chételat
Research Scientist
Science and Technology Branch
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Government of Canada

Via Email
john.chetelat@canada.ca

Re: Wildlife Research Permit (WRP) Application – Herring Gull Egg Monitoring in Dinàgà Wek'èhodì

Dear Mr. Chételat,

The Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) has reviewed your Wildlife Research Permit application and understands that the objectives of the project are to collect gull eggs from islands in Dinàgà Wek'èhodì and to analyze them for a variety of chemical contaminants, comparing those results to eggs collected previously in the area and in other locations in Canada. The WRRB understands that this research provides baseline information on the long range and local transport of chemical contaminants and their bioaccumulation in aquatic ecosystems.

The proposed research, scheduled for June 1-30, 2024 to 2029 in Dinàgà Wek'èhodì between Frank Channel and Rae Point, involves the following:

- Collect up to 20 freshly laid eggs from one of five study species (Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Common Tern, and Caspian Tern);
- Eggs will be transported to Ottawa where they will be destructively sampled to measure chemicals, such as mercury and organic contaminants;
- Interpret results relative to levels in eggs collected in previous years and other locations in Canada; and,
- Install and maintain trail cameras at breeding sites to track departure and arrival times of birds over the year.

The WRRB has no concerns with the project as presented in your application. The WRRB requests that results be provided to the Board upon completion of work, as well as an annual update. The Board asks that our office be contacted if there is any opportunity for Board or staff involvement in your work.

Please feel free to give us a call with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,



Jody Pellissey
Executive Director

Cc Bruno Croft, Superintendent
North Slave Region, Environment & Climate Change, GNWT

Michael Birlea, Manager
Culture and Lands Protection, Tłıchq Government