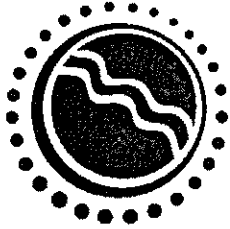


03-006



Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Box 938 , 5102-50th Avenue, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

[www.mveirb.nt.ca](http://www.mveirb.nt.ca)

From:	Sherry Sian	Fax:	867-766-7074
	EAO	Phone:	867-766-7063
Date:	November 18, 2003	Pages:	8 including this page
To:	Snowfield Development Corp.	Fax:	
		CC:	MVLWB
Subject:	IR submissions (EA-03-006)		

**NOTES:**

Please refer to attachments.

*Prepared IRs from DFO & submission from NSMA.*

## Sherry Sian

---

**From:** Kris Johnson [kris@nsma.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2003 4:39 PM  
**To:** Sherry Sian  
**Subject:** NSMA response to request for Snowfield IRs



Kris Johnson.vcf    SnowfieldIR\_ltr11.1  
(465 B)            8.03.doc (1...

Please see attached

Kris Johnson  
Land & Resource Coordinator  
North Slave Metis Alliance

kris@nsma.net

(w) 867-873-9176  
(f) 867-669-7442

# ***NORTH SLAVE METIS ALLIANCE***

---

*PO Box 340 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N3*



Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
Box 938, 5102-50<sup>th</sup> Ave.,  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 2N7

Nov 18, 2003

Attn: Sherry Sian

Re: Snowfield Information Requests

Dear Sherry,

The NSMA do not have the resources or capacity to provide Information Requests regarding the Snowfield diamond exploration proposed in our traditional land use area at this time. Please consider all information and questions raised during the Environmental Assessments of Consolidated Goldwin Ventures, New Shoshoni Ventures and North American General Resources Corp. as submissions for the Snowfield Environmental Assessment.

Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Yours truly,

**Original Signed By**

Kris Johnson  
Land & Resource Coordinator

## Sherry Sian

---

**From:** BalintD@DFO-MPO.GC.CA  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2003 4:52 PM  
**To:** Sherry Sian  
**Cc:** BlaisE@DFO-MPO.GC.CA  
**Subject:** RE: Drybones - Wool Bays and Snowfield



Information  
requests from DFO .

Sherry:

DFO has 3 requests as attached.

Dave

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Sherry Sian [mailto:ssian@mveirb.nt.ca]  
**Sent:** November 18, 2003 1:01 PM  
**To:** BlaisE@DFO-MPO.GC.CA  
**Cc:** BalintD@DFO-MPO.GC.CA  
**Subject:** RE: Drybones - Wool Bays and Snowfield

Thanks Elaine... will do. Hope you feel better soon.

Were there any proposed IRs from DFO? The deadline is end of day today.

Thanks.

Sherry

---

Sherry Sian, M.E.Des.  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
MVEIRB  
Box 938, 5102 - 50th Avenue  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7  
Phone: (867) 766-7063  
Fax: (867) 766-7074  
e-mail: ssian@mveirb.nt.ca

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BlaisE@DFO-MPO.GC.CA [mailto:BlaisE@DFO-MPO.GC.CA]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2003 12:22 PM  
**To:** Sherry Sian  
**Cc:** BalintD@DFO-MPO.GC.CA  
**Subject:** Drybones - Wool Bays and Snowfield

Sherry, I have been away sick this week with the flu and will be gone for the rest of the week. Please add Dave Balint (balintd@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) to your Email distribution list regarding the Drybones/Wool Bays and Snowfield projects. I'll be back Monday and we can resume to just me on Monday the 24th. Thanks.

Elaine Blais

(867)669-4912 | facsimile/ télécopieur (867) 669-4940 blaise@dfo-mpo.gc.ca Area Habitat Biologist| Biologiste, Habitat Fish Habitat Management, Western Arctic Area| Gestion de l'Habitat du Poisson, Secteur de l'Arctique de l'Ouest Central and Arctic Region | Région Centrale et de l'Arctique Fisheries and Oceans Canada | 101-5204 50th Ave, Yellowknife, NT, X1A 1E2  
Pêches et Océans Canada | 101-5204 50 Ave, Yellowknife, NT, X1A 1E2

-----Original Message-----

From: Sherry Sian [mailto:ssian@mveirb.nt.ca]  
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2003 9:51 AM  
To: Wilson, Anne [Yel]; Akaitcho Territory Government; BlaisE@DFO-MPO.GC.CA;  
frewc@fortresolution.net; Gavin\_More@gov.nt.ca; CPAWSnwt\_cc@theedge.ca; kris@nsma.net;  
stephmat@axion.net; marcinkoskil@inac.gc.ca; mvaydik@ssimicro.com; mike.fournier@ec.gc.ca;  
paterson@snowfield.com; Mike Beauregard; Mike Beauregard  
Subject: GNWT Response to IRs (EA-03-006)

Please refer to attached submission. A copy will be available via the MVEIRB web site shortly.

Sherry

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Sherry Sian, M.E.Des.  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
MVEIRB  
Box 938, 5102 - 50th Avenue  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7  
Phone: (867) 766-7063  
Fax: (867) 766-7074  
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## **Information Requests from DFO to Snowfield Development Corporation (SDC)**

### **DFO IR Number 1**

**Reference:** Response to Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's Information Requests. November 2003 by EBA.

Response to IR 1.1.1, DAR page 12

**ToR Section:** C: Development Description  
J-3 Direct and Indirect Impacts on Fish and Wildlife Resources

#### **Preamble:**

The response to IR 1.1.1 mentions that existing trails will be used, but it is likely that new trails will be developed. On page 36, IR Response 1.1.14 states that existing trails will have to be widened to accommodate equipment should large diameter bulk drilling be necessary.

The company mentioned that impacts are minimal since the trails are used in the winter (DAR p. 12), but the response to the IR 1.1.1 also indicated that the trails were used by ATV's during the summer of 2003.

It appears that some of the existing trails (Figures 1, 2, 3) cross water bodies and streams and it is likely that new trails could also cause impacts to streams and fish habitat. Impacts could result from debris and from sediment deposition as a result of erosion caused by development and vehicles traveling through water. Fish spawning migration routes could also be impacted.

The Land Use Permit Application and DAR have not mentioned any mitigative techniques to prevent impacts to fish habitat at stream crossings.

#### **Request:**

Please provide an estimate of the number of potential stream crossings. Ephemeral streams are utilized by grayling in the spring so these will need to be included. Please describe the mitigative techniques the company will use to prevent impacts to fish habitat and fish migration routes from development activities.

## **DFO IR Number 2**

**Reference:** Response to Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's Information Requests. November 2003 by EBA.

Response to IR 1.1.3

**ToR Section:** J. Fish and Wildlife Resources  
J-3 Direct and Indirect Impacts

### **Preamble:**

The response to IR 1.1.3 (page 12) mentions that SDC will determine the presence or absence of fish habitat in ponds and small lakes by Dissolved Oxygen measurements. DFO stated in the November 5 meeting and subsequent discussions with SDC that Dissolved Oxygen measurements can aid in the determination of fish habitat but it is not the only requirement.

DFO previously requested information from the company by letters dated July 2 and July 4, 2003 that would aid in the determination of fish habitat.

Fish habitat is any area that fish depend on directly or indirectly to carry out their life processes (i.e. food, cover, spawning, nursery, migration), at any life stage (i.e. egg, larval, juvenile, adult). Reference to "fish" includes fish, shellfish, crustaceans and marine mammals.

The DAR has not provided baseline data describing fish habitat and what field work the company will conduct in the future to make the determination on potential water sources.

### **Request:**

Please submit any data that is available on potential water sources and the description of fish habitat. Is the company proposing to undertake field work during the summer season?

Will SDC be responding to the DFO letters dated July 2 and July 4, 2003?

### **DFO IR Number 3**

**Reference:** Response to Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's Information Requests. November 2003 by EBA.

Response to IR 1.1.14

**ToR Section:** Not Applicable – Bulk Sampling added to the Scope of EA as per Review Board Motion

**Preamble:**

The response to IR 1.1.14 indicates that the project could include 60 holes utilizing reverse circulation drilling (page 35 and 36). This would increase the area of impact to 3.7 ha and include the necessity of widening access trails.

Table 1 indicates that Large-diameter borehole drilling will have significant impacts under the section on water quality but limited effect in the section on fish and wildlife. One section states that water is recycled, but the other indicates that water is discharged.

The impact on the physical footprint is stated to be a limited effect, but 60 holes from .5 to 1 m in diameter could be significant.

**Request:**

Please clarify the apparent discrepancy as noted above, about effects as listed in Table 1. Will there be any on-ice drilling? How close to water bodies will drill set-ups be located on land?