

Environment Canada

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Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 2P7
Canada

July 5, 2013

RE: Notification pursuant to s. 79 of the *Species at Risk Act (SARA)*

Please be advised that the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) is undertaking an environmental assessment of the Department of Transportation's (DOT) proposed Mackenzie Valley Highway (MVH) Project.

On February 8, 2013, DOT referred the MVH Project to environmental assessment on their own motion under section 126 (2) (a) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. The Review Board has created a public registry for this file, where all information will be held. The public registry is available online at www.reviewboard.ca/registry - the file is *EA1213-002 -GNWT - DOT, Mackenzie Valley Highway*.

The Review Board has determined that the following species may potentially be impacted by this project:

- Horned Grebe
- Peregrine Falcon
- Short-eared Owl
- Rusty Blackbird
- Common Nighthawk
- Olive-sided Flycatcher
- Barn Swallow
- Grizzly Bear
- Wolverine
- Woodland caribou (boreal population)
- Woodland caribou (northern mountain population)
- Barren-ground caribou

Based on information from the preliminary screening this proposed development may adversely affect the species listed above which has been identified as being at risk under either *SARA* or by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. The Review Board is providing this information to discharge its duties under s.79 of *SARA*, which requires that notification be made to the appropriate responsible minister when any project could have an impact on a species at risk.



For this environmental assessment, the Review Board requests the Department of Fisheries and Ocean's and any other responsible agencies' assistance in determining the likelihood of adverse effects of the proposed project on the above species and/or their critical habitats. Please also indicate if any other species merit special consideration in this environmental assessment.

Further information regarding this environmental assessment may be obtained at the Review Board's online public registry (www.reviewboard.ca/registry) or by contacting me at stoogood@reviewboard.ca or by telephone at (867) 766-7053.

Sincerely,

original signed by

Simon Toogood
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Review Board