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**Environment and Climate Change Canada's
Presentation to the Mackenzie Valley
Environmental Impact Review Board Respecting
the Tłıchǵ All-Season Road (TASR) Project**

**EA1617-01
MVEIRB Public Hearing
Whatì, NWT
Bradley Summerfield, EPOD
Jean-Francois Dufour, CWS
November 15-17, 2017**

Presentation Overview

- Mandate
- Relevant Acts and Legislation
- Issues and Recommendations
 - **Terrestrial Environment**
 - Avian Species at Risk and Migratory Birds
 - Impact Assessment
 - Quarries and Borrow Sources
 - Updated Draft Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan (WMMP)
 - Boreal Caribou
 - Assessment, Mitigation and Monitoring

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Environment and Climate Change Canada's Mandate

- Preserve and enhance the quality of the natural environment
- Conserve Canada's renewable resources
- Conserve and protect Canada's water resources
- Forecast daily weather conditions and warnings
- Enforce rules relating to boundary waters
- Coordinate environmental policies and programs



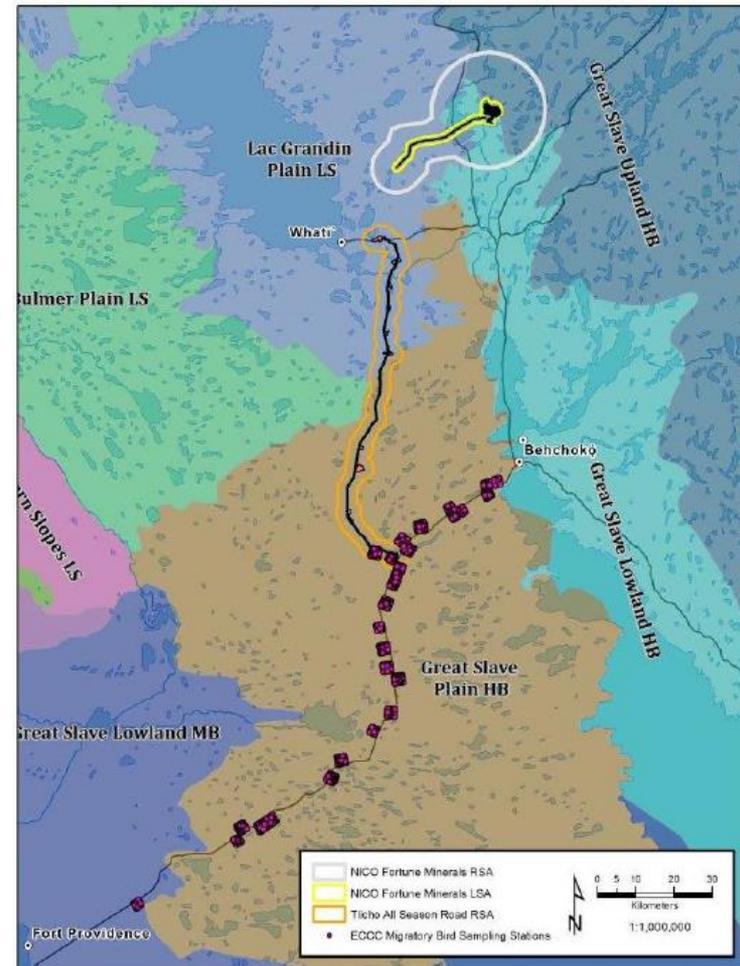
How Environment and Climate Change Canada Fulfills its Mandate

- Relevant Legislation:
 - *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*
 - *Fisheries Act - Pollution Prevention Provisions*
 - *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*
 - *Species at Risk Act*



Issue 4.2.1: Avian Species at Risk Impact Assessment

- Suitable habitat indices provided in the Adequacy Statement Response do not provide sufficient confidence.
- Analysis of existing datasets from ECCC and the NICO Project was suggested to inform and refine the impact assessment.
- A technical memorandum on September 8, 2017 detailed why the Proponent would not be using surrogate datasets to reassess Project impacts.



Issue 4.2.1: Recommendation

- In the absence of analysis of surrogate data, complete baseline monitoring of avian species at risk prior to Project construction to inform and add sufficient confidence to the avian species at risk impact assessment.



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Issue 4.2.2: Avian Species at Risk Quarries and Borrow Sources

- Disturbance at quarries and borrow sources presents risk of potential nest abandonment and destruction of nests/eggs.
- Specific details on mitigation measures and monitoring are lacking and the Proponent stated these would be finalized during permitting.



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Issue 4.2.2: Recommendations

- During the breeding season:
 - Perform monitoring at quarry and borrow sources immediately prior to commencing disruptive activities.
 - Contour piles to have a slope of less than 70 degrees. Flatten vertical faces in active areas to prevent avian species at risk from digging borrows in them overnight or on the weekends.
 - Mark off a protective buffer zone around the colony and notifying employees. If colonization occurs in an active area all disruptive work should stop and not resume until birds have left.
- During planning consider creating suitable habitat in inactive areas away from activities.
- If a quarry or borrow source needs to be excavated after it has been colonized and birds have left, compensate by providing an alternative site that can support nesting in the following year.



Issue 4.2.3: Avian Species at Risk and Migratory Birds Mitigation and Monitoring in the Updated Draft WMMP

- ECCC supportive of measures proposed so far.
- Details:
 - Pre-clearing surveys (e.g. expected frequency, types of circumstances and specific methods).
 - Effectiveness of no-work zones or buffers.
 - Timing of measures for managing nesting on infrastructure.



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Issue 4.2.3: Recommendations

- Use of non-intrusive search methods to conduct an area search for evidence of nesting, prior to the commencement of clearing. Results should be reported in the annual wildlife monitoring report.
- Halt all disruptive activities in an area if nests containing eggs or young are discovered until the young have naturally and permanently left the nest. Establish buffer zones appropriate for circumstances and adjust after assessing their effectiveness.
- Include ECCC in the reporting of nesting, incidents and/or mortality and ECCC be consulted for additional mitigation measures and advice.



Issue 4.2.4: Boreal Caribou Assessment, Mitigation and Monitoring

- Concerns with undisturbed habitat in the NT1 range approaching thresholds established in the recovery strategy for Boreal Caribou.
- The contribution of the Project to the overall habitat disturbance within NT1 would not lead to exceeding the recovery strategy threshold.
- ECCC supportive of collaring program in the North Slave Region to monitor potential effects of the Project.
- ECCC supportive of proposed mitigation measures, noted differences with EA1415-01, verify adequacy with other interested parties with shared management responsibilities.



Issue 4.2.4: Recommendations

- Provide precise measurements and associated spatial data of the Project footprint following construction to validate impact predictions and allow the continued assessment of the Boreal Caribou habitat within NT1.
- Review the mitigation measures suggested for Boreal Caribou for the Canadian Zinc Corporation Prairie Creek All-Season Road.



Thank-you

Any Questions or Comments?

