

From: [Sarah Elsasser](#)
To: [Roberta Judas](#)
Cc: [Anneli Jokela](#)
Subject: FW: Information Request to ECCC and GNWT-ENR from the WLWB re: TASR WMMP, Version 3.3
Date: July 31, 2019 8:36:09 AM

From: Sarah Elsasser
Sent: July 23, 2019 6:43 PM
To: russell.wykes@canada.ca; James Hodson <James_Hodson@gov.nt.ca>
Cc: Ryan Fequet <rfequet@wlwb.ca>; Anneli Jokela <ajokela@wlwb.ca>
Subject: Information Request to ECCC and GNWT-ENR from the WLWB re: TASR WMMP, Version 3.3

Good afternoon Russell and James,

Measure 10-1 of the [Report of EA for the TASR Project](#) requires the developer to conduct pre-construction surveys of bird species at risk and migratory birds prior to disturbing potential habitat, and Part 2 requires the developer to use the results from surveys in 10-1 Part 1 to inform mitigations. The developer is also to consult with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and GNWT-ENR about methods and timing for a field survey(s).

In their comments on the TASR Water Licence/Land Use Permit applications, ECCC (comment 19) noted that GNWT-INF had developed protocols for the field surveys in consultation with ECCC, however, that a monitoring objective should be added to Section 5.2 of the WMMP to reflect these surveys. GNWT-INF disagreed with the latter and responded that the WMMP “also includes ongoing monitoring during construction to detect migratory bird activity on Project infrastructure, pits and quarries”, and that “the Project has incorporated all the mitigation suggested by ECCC to date, and will continue to implement new mitigation as required to avoid disturbance to migratory birds based on the results of the monitoring”, however, it was unclear to the Board how GNWT-INF would “determine whether additional mitigation is required or not without a monitoring objective (e.g. what are the thresholds)” (RFD, pdf pg. 17). As noted by ECCC in their review comment, the “WMMP should discuss what type of measurable results from these surveys would warrant additional mitigations (i.e. threshold)”.

As detailed in the WLWB’s [Reasons for Decision for the Licence/Permit](#), the Board required GNWT-INF to update their Wildlife Monitoring and Management Plan (WMMP) with the following objective: **“Determine the abundance, distribution, and habitat use of species at risk in the TASR study area before road construction”**.

In their recent submission of [Version 3.3 of the WMMP](#), which is currently under internal review at the WLWB, GNWT-INF added a new section (Section 5.2.8) which describes a study design “agreed to and approved by the ECCC and GNWT-ENR in June 2018” (pdf page 80), as well as the above-mentioned objective.

The WLWB requests that both ECCC and ENR respond to the following:

Please confirm that the additional information in Section 5.2.8 of the WMMP, Version 3.3, satisfies your department with regards to the relevant EA Measures and the associated objective,

and if not, please provide rationale.

The Board requests a response as soon as possible, and preferably no later than end of day on Monday, July 29th. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Board staff.

Regards,

Sarah Elsasser, Ph.D., PMP

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