Environmental Impact Screening Committee

Annual Report 2012-2013

For the period 1 April 2012 - 31 March 2013



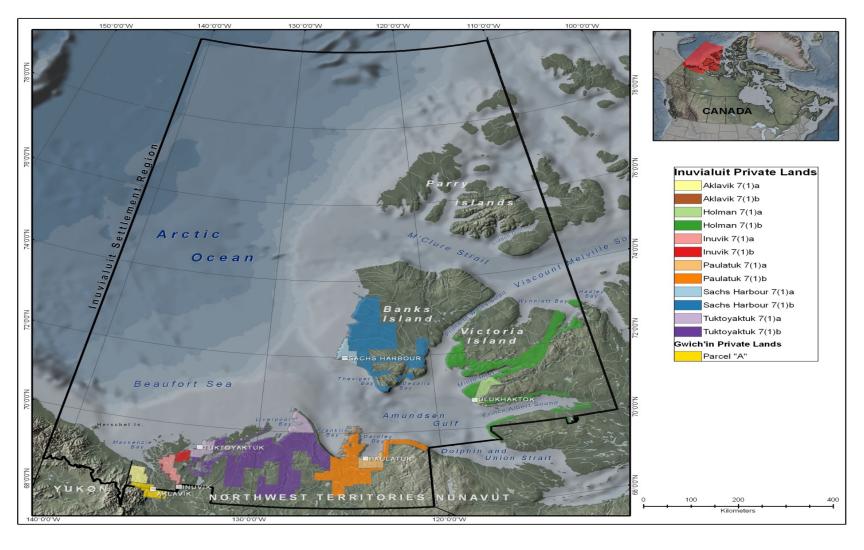


Figure 1. Private Inuvialuit Lands, Crown Lands, and National Parks within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

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Message from the Chair

As I approach the end of my first term, I wish to acknowledge that the Inuvialuit Settlement Region is well served by their representatives, and in particular I thank the membership of the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC). Their roles in fulfilling the mandate of the EISC are at times challenging, yet they address these tasks with enthusiasm, dedication, and a strong sense of purpose.

This fiscal year saw some changes to the membership of the EISC. Early in the year Mr. Eric Cockney left the EISC, and in October our newest member, Mr. Gerald Inglangasuk, filled this vacancy. Also in October, Mr. Darrell Christie took the position of EISC Coordinator. The Committee as a whole welcomes them both to the EISC.

The activity level for the period in terms of submissions was about average with no discernible trend apparent. The main activities encompassed the areas of scientific and academic research, infrastructure building and maintenance, remediation, and renewable resource development.

During the previous reporting period the Committee formalized the Pre-Screening phase for the Environmental Impact Screening and Review Process and established a Pre-screening Sub-Committee (PSC). This fiscal year saw a realization of the benefits of this new sub-committee. The PSC reports directly to the EISC. The main role of the PSC is to determine whether or not a project proposal requires an environmental impact screening. This determination requires an assessment of a specific set of facts against existing guidelines and procedures in order to determine whether a particular application is "development" as defined in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA). Further, If found to be "development" is the application "exempt" from screening as it is determined to be a class, or type, of development described on the Exclusion List established by the Screening Committee. The pre-screening decision is expected to be made within 7 calendar days¹ of a Project Summary Questionnaire being filed with the EISC. In the past these decisions were being made solely at regular EISC meetings held every 6 weeks. There is clear evidence that this new phasing of the EIS process is resulting in more timely decisions in determining whether or not a project proposal requires an environmental impact screening. This allows the committee of the whole to concentrate on their primary mandate of Environmental Impact Screening and Review of development-based projects.

I acknowledge with gratitude the support funding from AANDC. The reader will note below in our Financial Summary, the surpluses reported. This year has been another quiet one in terms of commercial or industrial undertakings; indeed the economy in

¹ As part of the broader environmental impact screening and review process the EISC is required to fulfill its roles and responsibilities for the environmental impact screening of proposed developments in a reasonable and expeditious manner in accordance with the requirements of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement.

the ISR appears to be slowing in general. This said the EISC expects its work volume to remain steady in the coming year. The question for the committee is not whether, but when this trend will turn around. The EISC must continue to maintain capacity to meet its roles and responsibilities.

The regular EISC meeting schedule is set a year in advance (a copy of our calendar can be found on our website). Developers very much rely upon this pre-set schedule as they prepare and register their plans. Starting with this new fiscal year, the EISC will hold one of its scheduled meetings in the Yukon to reflect the fact that a culturally significant aspect of the IFA is the Yukon North Slope, which is within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR). Also commencing this year will be scheduled visits to two of the six Inuvialuit communities by the EISC Coordinator, and one member of the committee, to promote what exactly the EISC does: explain the processes involved, develop stronger relationships with local Hunter's and Trapper's Committees, and answer any questions that may be present. The committee values the face-to-face aspect of these meetings, and our committee recognizes the importance of meeting the people from our various communities. Through these connections, both formal and informal, the committee knowledge base can only expand, and this in turn, will aid the EISC in the decisions we make on the behalf of the Inuvialuit.

In closing we will continue to provision more efficient and effective operations within the EISC, always with an expectant eye for an inevitable increase in economic activity within the ISR.

Sincerely,

John Ondrack

Chair, Environmental Impact Screening Committee

Period of this Report

The Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) has produced twenty-five annual activity reports since its inception in 1986. This report describes the EISC's activities for the fiscal period of 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 – its twenty-seventh year of operation.

The Inuvialuit Final Agreement

On June 5, 1984, the Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement (representing the Inuvialuit) and the Federal Government of Canada signed the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), which was subsequently legislated under the Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claims Settlement Act [S.C. 32-33 Elizabeth II C.24.]. Provisions of the IFA enable the Inuvialuit to participate, and be meaningful partners, in all decisionsmaking processes dealing with the management of the environment and wildlife within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR). Section 1 of the IFA expresses the following principles.

- To preserve the Inuvialuit cultural identity and values within a changing northern society.
- To enable the Inuvialuit to be equal and meaningful participants in the northern and national economy and society.
- To protect and preserve arctic wildlife, environment and biological productivity.

As one of five co-management groups established under the terms of the IFA, the EISC plays a vital role in achieving these stated goals through implementing the screening portion of the IFA Environmental Impact Screening and Review Process.

Mandate of the Environmental Impact Screening Committee

The Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claims Settlement Act, and the IFA, takes precedence over any other federal, territorial, provincial, or municipal law to the extent of any inconsistency or conflict between them. Developers, operators, and regulatory agencies are compelled by this act to comply with the provisions of the IFA Environmental Impact Screening and Review Process.

The IFA requires the screening of developments and activities of consequence to the ISR that could have a significant negative impact on the environment or wildlife harvesting. The IFA also dictates that regulatory agencies must not issue licenses or approvals that permit any development to proceed without environmental screening and, if necessary, review.

Section 11 of the IFA provided for the establishment of the EISC to carry out the screening of relevant developments. Provisions governing the activities and operation of the EISC are described mainly within Section 11 and 13. Section 11. (17) requires that the EISC make one of the following decisions after examining a project description:

- a) that the development will have no significant negative impact and may proceed without environmental impact assessment and review;
- that the development, if authorized subject to terms and conditions recommended by the Screening Committee, will have no such significant negative impact and may proceed without environmental impact assessment and review;
- c) that the development could have significant negative impact and is subject to assessment and review, or
- d) that the development proposal has deficiencies of a nature that warrant termination of its consideration and submission of another project description

Subject to the aforementioned provisions, the EISC produced its Operating Guidelines and Procedures, which governs its routine activities in regard to the actual screening of development proposals.

The Operating Guidelines and Procedures are currently available from the Environmental Impact Screening Committee office and at www.screeningcommittee.ca. You are directed to contact the EIS Coordinator for up-to-date information.

EIS Coordinator

Environmental Impact Screening Committee

Joint Secretariat-Inuvialuit Settlement Region 107 Mackenzie Road, Suite 204 Box 2120, Inuvik, NT XoE 0T0

Phone: (867) 777-2828 Fax: (867) 777-2610 Email: eisc@jointsec.nt.ca

Membership

The EISC consists of seven members, including the Chair. The Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC) appoints three members. The Federal Government of Canada (Canada), the Yukon Territorial Government (YTG), and the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) nominate one member each, who is then appointed by the Government of Canada. The Government of Canada, with the consent of the IGC, appoints the Chair. Each member is appointed for a three-year term with the option of re-appointment if agreed to by the nominating and appointing bodies. Even though particular groups appoint the members, the EISC serves as a non-partisan organization. The members are expected to contribute as experienced individuals and not as representatives of their appointing body.

The following individuals comprised the EISC as of 31 March 2013.

Chair

John Ondrack Nominated by Canada/Appointed October 16, 2010

Yellowknife, NT Present Term: October 19, 2010 – October 19, 2013

Members

John Ryder Nominated by the YTG/Appointed November 6, 2009

Previous Term: November 6, 2009 – November 6, 2012 Present Term: November 6, 2012 – November 6, 2015

Johnny Lennie Nominated by Canada/Appointed March 17, 2011

Inuvik, NT Present Term: March 17, 2011 – March 17, 2014

Previous Term: March 2008 – March 2011 Previous Term: March 2005 – March 2008

Previous Term: January 23, 2001 – January 22, 2004

Fred Wolki Appointed by the IGC September 23, 2011

Tuktoyaktuk, NT Present Term: September 23, 2011 – September 30, 2014

Previous Term: September 1999 – September 2002 Previous Term: September 1996 – September 1999 Previous Term: September 1990 – September 1996

Evelyn Storr Appointed by the IGC March 9, 2011

Aklavik, NT Present Term: March 9, 2011 – March 9, 2014

Albert Ruben Nominated by the GNWT/Appointed September 6, 2005

Paulatuk, NT Present Term: May 25, 2012 – May 25, 2015 Previous Term: March 2, 2009 – March 1, 2012

Previous Term: September 6, 2005 – September 6, 2008

Gerald Inglangasuk Appointed by the IGC October 17, 2012

Inuvik, NT Present Term: October 17, 2012 – September 30, 2015

Administrative and Technical Assistance

The EISC receives administrative, technical, and clerical support from the Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Settlement Region, situated in Inuvik, NT. The EISC Coordinator serves as the Secretary to the EISC, and provides full-time office support. Darrell Christie is the Environmental Impact Screening Coordinator.

During the period of this report the EISC also received administrative support from various employees of the Joint Secretariat including: Dr. Norm Snow, Executive Director; Peggy Madore, Senior Administrative Officer; Kim Bernier, Office Manager; Eunice Thrasher, Finance Officer; Shannon Jensen, Travel/Accommodation Coordinators; Bernice Joe, Secretary/Receptionist; Myrna Button, Office Clerk/Librarian; and Eli Nasogaluak, the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) Coordinator.

John Donihee, of McLennan Ross LLP provided contractual legal services.

Activities

Members attended screening meetings approximately every six weeks and participated in other activities on behalf of the EISC, as required, to fulfill the mandate of the EISC.

Regular meetings

The EISC held eight regular meetings in Inuvik, NT and two teleconference meetings on the following dates: April 11 - 13, 2012, April 19, 2012, May 15, 2012, June 27 - 29, 2012, August 8 - 10, 2012, November 19 – 21, 2012, December 12 – 14, 2012, January 23 - 25, 2013, March 6 – 8, 2012, and March 19, 2012.

In addition to the regular EISC meetings the newly introduced Pre-screening Subcommittee (PSC) met electronically, as and when required, to determine whether or not a project proposal required an environmental impact screening.

Submissions

It is the responsibility of the proponent to submit a project description to the EISC for environmental screening. Under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), section 11(36), "no license or approval shall be issued that would have the effect of permitting any proposed development to proceed unless the provisions of [IFA section 11(36)] have been complied with". This requirement has the effect of requiring competent authorities to give notice of applications for licenses, permits or other authorizations to the EISC. These applications for

proposed developments must be reviewed by the EISC to determine if they are subject to environmental impact screening.

A pre-screening decision as to whether or not a project proposal requires an environmental impact screening is made by a subcommittee of three of the seven EISC members. A panel of five EISC members makes environmental Impact Screening decisions. The Panel consists of the Chair, two Inuvialuit members, the Canada member, and the Territorial member nominated by the territory (YT or NT) within which the project is to occur. Decisions are made on a majority vote basis, with the Chair voting in the case of a tie.

Of the total submissions, the proponent prior to the completion of the screening process withdrew two project descriptions and no projects were referred to the Environmental Impact Review Board.

In summary, the EISC screened 47 project descriptions during fiscal year 2012/2013 including: Hydrocarbon Oil and Gas related projects (3); Research projects (27); Infra-Structure projects (11); Remediation projects (3); Filming projects (1); Tourism (2).

Decisions

During 2012/2013 Fiscal Year, the EISC decided that:

Twenty-two proposed developments did not meet the definition of development under the IFA and therefore were not subject to EIS. Of the remaining proposed developments, two were deemed to have no significant negative impact, three developments were deemed to have no significant negative impacts with recommended terms and conditions, and one project was withdrawn. Nineteen projects deemed to meet the definition of development were further deemed exempt from EIS.

Other Activity

In addition to developments that are screened, the EISC asks to be informed of other projects that are proposed for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, but for various reasons are exempt from the screening process. This task is undertaken so that the EISC may have a broad picture of the activities being carried out within the ISR for the purposes of cumulative impact assessment. The EISC greatly appreciated the efforts of the other Joint Secretariat co-management groups, the government agencies, the Aurora Research Institute, and the Inuvialuit Land Administration during the reporting year to keep the EISC apprised of such activities.

Presentations and Guests

The EISC routinely accepts presentations from proponents with project descriptions before the EISC, particularly when the proposal is controversial or complex. Guests are invited to sit in on these presentations, or are invited to speak on topics of mutual interest. The following summarizes the presentations and guests received during 2012/2013.

January 23-25, 2013 - EISC Meeting Presentations:

- AANDC presentation on regulations, terms, and conditions necessary for permitting / licencing requirements of development. Mr. Conrad Baetz.
- BoardVantage software demonstration via a "webinar". Ms. Carolyn Joseph.

March 6-8, 2013 - EISC Meeting Presentation:

• DFO presentation on the effects of Marine seismic work on marine mammals. Ms. Amanda Joynt.

April 17-19, 2013 – EISC Meeting Presentation:

• Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited. Mr. Evan Birchard, Ms. Sherry Becker, Ms. Wendy Smith.

Events Attended

During the fiscal year, the Chair, Members, and/or Coordinator attended the meetings, conferences, or workshops listed below.

- Arctic Oil & Gas Symposium (Calgary)
- IGC Meetings (Inuvik)
- Beaufort Regional Environmental Assessment workshops (Inuvik)

Field Visits

• None

Finances

A summary of the finances for the fiscal year: 01 April 2012 to 31 March 2013, is attached as Appendix B.

Appendix A: Acronyms and Abbreviations

AANDC Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

CEAA Canadian Environmental Assessment Act

DEW Distant Early Warning

DFO Fisheries and Oceans Canada

EISC Environmental Impact Screening Committee

EIRB Environmental Impact Review Board

GNWT Government of the Northwest Territories

IFA Inuvialuit Final Agreement

IGC Inuvialuit Game Council

ILA Inuvialuit Land Administration

IRC Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

ISR Inuvialuit Settlement Region

Joint Secretariat Joint Secretariat-Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees

NT Northwest Territories

YTG Yukon Territorial Government

MOU Memorandum of Understanding

NRCan Natural Resources Canada

RAs Regulating Agencies

Appendix B: Financial Summary for Year Ending 31 March 2013

The Following pages present unaudited financial summaries for information purposes and should not be considered as definitive statements of account. For full financial details, the audited financial statements of the Joint Secretariat should be consulted. For further information, contact:

Executive Director

Joint Secretariat-Inuvialuit Settlement Region

Box 2120

Inuvik, NT XoE oTo

Phone: (867) 777-2828 Fax: (867) 777-2610

Email: execdir@jointsec.nt.ca

Financial Report: Chair and Canada Member

AANDC Contribution (Implementation Funding)		\$183,361	
Chairs Expenses			
Honoraria			\$62,413
Per Diems			\$4,710
Travel			\$13,197
Accommodation			\$5,777
	Sub-total		\$86,097
Other			
Office Costs			\$6,945
Meeting Costs			\$1,242
Telephone/fax			\$5,557
Rent Allocation			\$15,000
Computer Updates			\$12,500
Minor Fixed Assets			\$19,709
	Sub-total		\$60,953
Services			
Legal/Consulting			\$856
Registration Fee			\$841
Workshops /			\$3,606
Conferences			44 705
JS Board Meetings	Sub-total		\$1,785 \$7088
	Sub-total		\$7088
Canada Member			
Honoraria			\$13,688
Per Diem			\$692
Travel			\$785
	Sub-total		\$15 , 165
Total Expenditures		\$169,303	
Excess Revenue (Expenditure)			\$14,058

Financial Report: Inuvialuit Expenses

Revenue			
GNWT – Environment &		\$121,514	
Natural Resources			
Inuvialuit Expenses			
Honoraria			\$31,796
Per Diems			\$5,298
Travel			\$5 , 021
Accommodation			\$5 , 152
	Sub-total		\$47,267
Total Expenditures		\$42,472	
Excess Revenue (expenditure)			\$79,042

Financial Report: Administrative Report

Revenue			
AANDC Contribution		\$192,147	
(Implementation Funding)			
Expenditures			
Staff Support			
Salaries			\$82,592
Recruiting			\$7,194
	Sub-total		\$89,786
Overhead			
Office Costs			\$31,271
Office Rent			\$16,170
Website Maintenance			\$632
Telephone/fax			\$4,720
Computer Updates			\$12,280
Fixed Assets			\$1,229
	Sub-total		\$66,302
Other			
Travel			\$136
Accommodation			\$1 , 224
Per Diem			\$1,235
	Sub-total		\$2,595
Total Expenditures		\$158,683	
Excess Revenue			\$33,464
(expenditure)			

Appendix C: Submissions to the EISC

EISC File	Developer Name	Project Title	Received	Development Y/N	Exempt Y/N	11(17a)	11(17b)	11(17c)	11(17d)
	Utility Group Facilities Inc	South Parsons Lake Gas Supply Project, NWT	2012-04-01	N/A	N/A	,	,	, ,	+ ` '
	Nasittug Corporation	PIN-M Radar Tower Painting	2012-04-03	Y	Y				
	Suzanne Tank, York University	Research: Solar degradation of dissolved organic carbon in Mackenzie Delta lakes and river channels	2012-04-10	N	N/A				1
	Carleton University	Upper Cretaceous paleoenvironmental reconstruction Boundary Creek and Smoking Hills formations	2012-04-12	N	N/A				
	Canadian Wildlife Service	Arctic Shorebird Monitoring Program	2012-04-18	Y	Y				+
	University of Colorado	Exploration for fossil vertebrates and wood on northern Banks Island, NWT	2012-04-20	N	N/A				
	Parks Canada Agency	The Ivvavik Archaeological Research Programme, 2012	2012-04-24	N/A	N/A				+
	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution	Towards Long-term Monitoring of the CO2 System in Arctic Rivers	2012-04-30	N	N/A				
	Parks Canada Agency	Uyarsivik Lake monitoring	2012-04-30	N	N/A				+
	University of Toronto	Geological investigation of the KBr formation at the Big Fish River and Rapid Creek occurrences	2012-04-30	N	N/A				
	McGill University	Geochemical and Geophysical Investigations of Massive Ground Ice on Herschel Island	2012-05-02	N	N/A				1
	Shell Canada Energy	Re-installation of Monitoring Wells and Shell's Former West Channel Staging Site	2012-05-09	Y	Y				
	Pierre Marchand	Developing El Monitoring Measures for the Coastal Ecosystem of Ivvavik National Park	2012-05-10	Y Y	Y				+
	Trevor Lantz	A Multi-scale Assessment of Cumulative Impacts in the Northern Mackenzie Basin	2012-05-14	N N	N/A				
	Western University	Investigation of a possible impact structure on Victoria Island, NWT	2012-05-14	N	N/A				
	GNWT-DOT	Inuvik - Tuktoyaktuk Highway Potential Borrow Source Archaeological Assessments	2012-05-10	Y	Y				_
	GNWT-DOT	Inuvik - Tuktoyaktuk Highway Hydrological Studies	2012-05-17	Y	Y				+
	Professor Rodney Savidge	Population genetics and ancestral relations of northern spruce trees	2012-05-17	N	N/A				_
	Shell Canada Energy	Decommissioning the Lagoon at Camp Farewell	2012-05-31	N/A	N/A				+
	ConocoPhillips Canada	Parsons F-09 Environmental Site Assessment and vegetation survey	2012-06-01	Y	V V				_
	GNWT – Department of Transport	Inuvik - Tuktoyaktuk Highway Terrain and Permafrost Investigations Program	2012-06-01	Y	V				+
	EYOS Expeditions	The World - Northwest Passage Itinerary	2012-06-14	Y	V				_
	Martin Kienzler	Porcupine Caribou Radio Collar Retrieval	2012-06-20	Y	Y				+
,	GNWT-DOT	Lake Bathymetry Survey at Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway	2012-06-25	Y	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				_
	Dr. Shirleen Smith	Vantat Gwich'in Navigation Systems Project	2012-06-27	N N	N/A				+
	GNWT-ENR	Arctic Island Caribou and Muskox Population Survey	2012-00-27	Y	Y Y				_
	Aurora Research Institute – GNWT	Wind Energy Monitoring at Storm Hills	2012-07-26	Y					+
	Parks Canada Agency	Bucklands Repeater Site Clean-up	2012-07-26	Y	У				
	Environment Canada	Airborne SAR and passive microwave measurements over snow covered tundra for CoReH20 validation	2012-09-07	Y	Y				
	Geological Survey of Canada and Korea Polar Research Institute	Canada-Korea-USA Beaufort Sea Geoscience Research Program: 2013 Activities	2012-10-01	Y	N N	Х			_
	Parks Canada Agency	Phase II/III Environmental Site Assessment Sheep Creek Ivvavik National Park	2012-10-17	Y	Y	_ ^			
	,	·	2012-10-25		Y				_
	Up North Tours Robert Pickart	Application for the Purpose of Offering Sled Dog Trips in the Arctic to Tourists	2012-11-16		N/A				-
		Assessing the Western Arctic Boundary Current and its role in the western Arctic ecosystem		N Y	,		V		_
	GNWT - DOT	Inuvik – Tuktoyaktuk Highway 2013-2014 Geotechnical Investigations Program	2012-12-03	Y	N		X		
	Franklin Petroleum Limited	Beaufort Seismic Program of ELs 485 and 488–493 A0918/478900 LRR HV Power Distribution Overhaul	2013-01-21		N N	. V	Х		_
	Nassituq Corporation	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	2013-01-25			Х			
	Parks Canada Agency	Improving environmental practices at the Sheep Creek Station in Ivvavik National Park	2013-02-01	N	N/A				_
	Canadian Wildlife Service	Arctic Shorebird Monitoring Program	2013-02-08	N	N/A				
. , ,	Dr. John Gosse	Reconstructing Pliocene environmental change using the Beaufort Fm. on northwest Banks Island, NT	2013-02-11	N N	N/A				
	University of Alaska, Fairbanks	Thermal State of Permafrost	2013-02-22		N/A				
	NHK Enterprise Inc. , Japan	NHK TV program; "Darwin has come- New Legend of Wildlife"	2013-02-22		N/A Y				_
	GNWT – Department of Transportation	Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway Bathymetric Survey	2013-03-07	Y					4
	Dr. Hugues Lantuit	Permafrost and vegetation on the Yukon Coast	2013-03-14	N	N/A	_			
	Yukon Geological Survey	Geoscience studies of the Yukon North Slope	2013-03-16		N		Х		4——
	Environment Canada	Weather Station Upgrade at Polar Bear Cabin, Aulavik National Park	2013-03-20	Y	Υ				
	University of Sheffield and Team	Permafrost regions in transition: controls on carbon cycling and greenhouse gas emissions	2013-03-21		N/A				
[[03/13-06]	Canadian Wildlife Service (Blake Bartzen)	Survey of Seabird Colony at Cape Parry Migratory Bird Sanctuary	2013-03-26	N	N/A	1	I	l	I