

**Written Submission No. 36**

**2016 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan**

**Proposed Land Use Designation:**

**Community Areas of Interest – Multiple Values -**

**36A. Allen Bay - Resolute Passage – Resolute Bay,**

**36B. Southeastern Bathurst Island – Western McDougall Sound,**

**36C. Southwestern Bathurst Island, and**

**36D. Maury Channel**

**To:** The Nunavut Planning Commission

**From:** The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB), and the Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) of Resolute Bay

**Background Information:**

Multiple resources are highly valued by the Inuit of Resolute Bay in four areas (i.e., Multiple Value Areas, MVAs). One of these areas (MVA 36A) is a marine area with islands close to the hamlet of Resolute Bay, and includes Allen Bay and Resolute Passage. MVA 36B is a terrestrial and marine area on southeastern Bathurst Island and western McDougall Sound. MVA 36C is a terrestrial area on southwestern Bathurst Island, and MVA 36D is a marine area north of Cornwallis Island in Maury Channel.

Without protection of these four areas, plus others, the Nunavut Land Use Plan will fail in its goal to protect and promote the well-being of all of Nunavut's residents as a primary purpose of land use planning under Article 11 of the Nunavut Agreement.

All of these MVAs are important community harvesting areas for wildlife, including but not limited to: ringed, bearded and harp seals, beluga, narwhal, bowhead, walrus, Peary caribou, muskoxen, wolves, snow geese, brant, common and king eiders, Arctic char, and polar bears.

All of these areas are critically important to maintain the health, culture and heritage of the Inuit of Resolute Bay.

Industrial development in or near these areas would degrade their value. Such development must be prohibited.

**Special Note for MVA 36A:**

The Canadian Coast Guard seems to intentionally and unnecessarily break ice in MVA 36A even though Resolute Bay has asked them to stop. Other agencies have cooperated with the Inuit of Resolute Bay, and stopped doing research and undertaking other activities in this area. In the opinion of the HTO, some of the Coast Guard's activities pose dangers to public safety, and harass wildlife. Coast Guard ships have been seen moving directly toward whales, as well as engaging in ice breaking in areas where Inuit harvest seals and other wildlife. The Coast Guard is the most prominent agency in terms of disrespect for this critical harvesting area for the community. They could station their ships east of the Hamlet of Resolute Bay, and use their helicopters and other vehicles to access the airport.

**Source of information:** Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

**Proposed Designation** (for all 4 MVAs):      Protected Area

**Proposed Restrictions for MVA 36A:**

**Prohibited Uses:** The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Quarries;
- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea;
- Sonar; and
- All research including but not limited to Non-exploitive Scientific Research.

**Conditions:**

- Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, during Ukiaksaq, Ukiaq, Ukiuq, Upingaksaq and Upingaaq.
- All ice-breaking must be prohibited.
- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the aerial, marine and terrestrial setbacks as per a modified Table 2<sup>1</sup> for all migratory birds, all seabirds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.

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<sup>1</sup> Modified Table 2 refers to a version of Table 2 that incorporates modifications recommended in Written Submission No. 14 from the QWB and its associated HTOs.

- Any project or activity in Nunavut that would violate any of these conditions is prohibited.

#### **Proposed Restrictions for MVA 36B:**

**Prohibited Uses:** The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea;
- Sonar
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Quarries;
- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;
- Linear Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research

**Conditions:**

- Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, year-round.
- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the aerial, marine and terrestrial setbacks as per a modified Table 2<sup>2</sup> for all migratory birds, all seabirds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.
- No vessel may approach within five (5) km seaward of a walrus haul-out, any time during the year.
- When walrus are present, fixed wing aircraft must maintain a minimum vertical setback of 460 m (1500 ft) above ground level (AGL) while within 310 m (1000 ft) of a group of walruses. Helicopters should remain at altitudes greater than 910 m (3000 ft) AGL when traveling within 1,610 m (1 mile) of a group of walruses.
- When walruses are present, walruses must not be approached by terrestrial vehicles closer than 800 m (0.5 mile) while the vehicle remains out of sight of the walruses.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate any of these conditions is prohibited.

#### **Proposed Restrictions for MVA 36C:**

**Prohibited Uses:** The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Mineral Exploration and Production;
- Quarries;

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<sup>2</sup> Modified Table 2 refers to a version of Table 2 that incorporates modifications recommended in Written Submission No. 14 from the QWB and its associated HTOs.

- Hydro-electrical and related infrastructure;
- Linear Infrastructure; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate any of these conditions is prohibited.

#### **Proposed Restrictions for MVA 36D:**

**Prohibited Uses:** The following uses are prohibited:

- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production;
- Seismic testing;
- Disposal at sea;
- Sonar; and
- Related research except Non-exploitive Scientific Research

**Conditions:**

- Closed to all ship traffic, subject to safe navigation, year-round.
- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the aerial, marine and terrestrial setbacks as per a modified Table 2<sup>3</sup> for all migratory birds, all seabirds, and coastal waterfowl and sea ducks during issuance of permits, licences, and authorizations.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate any of these conditions is prohibited.

#### **Proposed Boundaries of the Community Area of Interest – Multiple Values Areas: 36A, 36B, 36C and 36D:**

- 36A: Resolute passage, Allen Bay and Resolute Bay and all islands in these waters as per the attached map and associated shp file.
- 36B: Southeastern Bathurst Island from Freemans Cove north to Goodsir Inlet, and McDougall Sound including all waters and islands west of a line drawn from about 3.4 km NNE of Cape Evans to about 1.5 km NE of Brooman Point as per the attached map and associated shp file.
- 36C: Southwestern Bathurst Island extending up to 30 km west of Allison Inlet as per the attached map and associated shp file.
- 36B: Maury Channel between Baillie-Hamilton and Cornwallis islands as per the attached map and associated shp file.

**Date of this draft:** August 14, 2018

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<sup>3</sup> Modified Table 2 refers to a version of Table 2 that incorporates modifications recommended in Written Submission No. 14 from the QWB and its associated HTOs.

