

**Written Submission No. 15**

**2016 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan**

**Proposed Land Use Designation:**

**Community Areas of Interest – Eider Nesting**

To: The Nunavut Planning Commission

From: The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB), and  
the Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) of Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, Pond  
Inlet, Qikiqtarjuaq, Pangnirtung and Iqaluit

**Background Information:**

There are several eider nesting areas that are important to Inuit that are not protected under 2016 draft NLUP. Most of these areas are nesting areas for both Common and King Eiders, and some other waterfowl and seabirds. Eiders are an important resource for the health, well-being and culture of Inuit throughout Qikiqtaaluk region.

These islands can be expected to draw increased attention from tourists and others as boat, yacht and ship traffic increases throughout the region. These eider populations will be at risk to increased harassment and pollution if not protected.

Without protection of these important eider habitats, the Nunavut Land Use Plan will fail in its goal to protect and promote the well-being of Nunavut's residents and communities, a primary purpose of land use planning under Article 11 of the Nunavut Agreement.

Because other species of migratory birds occur in these areas, all setbacks for all types of migratory birds should apply.

**Special Note – Community Area of Interest:** The QWB and the HTOs have chosen **not** to indicate these areas as Key Migratory Bird Sites (KMBS). Section 2.1 of the 2016 draft NLUP sets criteria for KMBS based on percentages of a species national population or recognition of critical habitat under the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA). These KMBS criteria consider the interests of all Canadians, but do not to "... protect and promote the existing and future well being of those persons ordinarily resident and communities of the Nunavut Settlement Area" (Nunavut Final Agreement Article 11, Section 11.2.1 (b)). In order to meet that objective, IQ and the needs of Inuit in the communities must be taken fully into account.

**Special Note – Other Important Eider Habitats:** There are many other eider habitats that are important to Inuit in Qikiqtaaluk communities. Most notable among these are the many islands with eiders in the Multiple Values Area of Markham Bay – Western Hudson Strait – Foxe Channel (see WS-41), and the Key Migratory Bird Habitats of the Belcher and Sleeper islands, for which protection must be strengthened in order to protect community’s interest in these birds (see WS-43).

**Source of information:** Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

**Proposed Designation:** Special Management Area

**Proposed Restrictions:**

**Conditions:**

- Regulatory Authorities, where appropriate, must incorporate the aerial, marine and terrestrial setbacks in 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.
- Wind turbines for electrical generation should be prohibited within 10 km of eider nesting areas until they can be proven to be safe for eiders and will not impact Inuit harvesting.
- Any project in Nunavut that would violate any of these conditions is prohibited.

**Proposed Boundaries of Community Areas of Interest – Eider Nesting:**

The following table gives the map numbers and general location of these eider nesting areas that are important to Inuit in the communities, as shown on the attached maps and the associated shp files.

Eider Nesting Site #	Description of Location	Important Species
15A	East of Philpotts Island (10 islands), east of Devon Island	King and Common Eiders
15B	Maze Islands (Qikiqtauqqat) (263 islands), Browne Bay, Prince of Wales Island	King and Common Eiders
15C	Mouth of Moses Robinson River, Bathurst Island	King and Common Eiders

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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.

15D	Somerville Island (Saattuq), NW of Griffith Island	King and Common Eiders
15E	Qikiqtaapik, Becher Bay near Cornwallis island	King and Common Eiders, and Arctic Terns
15F	Assistance Bay (Kangiqsuruluk), Cornwallis Island	King and Common Eiders
15G	Kajjuaqtaliarusiq, Western Eclipse Sound	King and Common Eiders, Brant, and Snow Geese
15H	Low Island (Quiraassuq), Milne Inlet	King and Common Eiders, Brant, and Snow Geese
15I	Adams Island (Tuujjuk), Navy Board Inlet	King and Common Eiders
15J	Ijjuqtuuq, Home Bay	King and Common Eiders, and Arctic Terns
15K	Uquutalik, Home Bay	King and Common Eiders, and Arctic Terns
15L	Siattut (7 islands), Home Bay	King and Common Eiders, and Arctic Terns
15M	West of Kinngaunna(3 islands), Home Bay	King and Common Eiders, and Arctic Terns
15N	Pujatuarjuit, Home Bay	King and Common Eiders, and Arctic Terns
15O	Kiputit (181 islands), Cumberland Sound	King and Common Eiders
15P	Drum Islands (Qilautiit) (40 islands), Cumberland Sound	King and Common Eiders
15Q	Kalgosuit Islands (246 islands), Cumberland Sound	King and Common Eiders
15R	Pujjurna (12 islands), Cumberland Sound	King and Common Eiders
15S	Kuluuvvaaqtaliminiq (4 islands), Cumberland Sound	King and Common Eiders
15T	Kikastan Islands (41 islands), Cumberland Sound	King and Common Eiders

15U	Foul Inlet (31 islands), Frobisher Bay	King and Common Eiders
15V	Aubrey and nearby islands, including Aqukkaluit and Aqukkalujjuaq (42 islands), Frobisher Bay	King and Common Eiders
15W	Part of Mitchell and 1 other nearby island, Frobisher Bay	King and Common Eiders
15X	Fletcher Channel (6 islands, including Qajuarjuit), Frobisher Bay	King and Common Eiders
15Y	Near Edmund Point and near Nuvuttiruujaik (6 islands), Ward Inlet, Frobisher Bay	King and Common Eiders
15Z	Near but not including Nouyarn Island, including Iqalujjuaq, Akulisaqturvik and Anurituut (19 islands), Frobisher Bay	King and Common Eiders

### **References:**

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Tabassum-Abbasi, M.T, T. Abbasi and S.A. Abbasi. 2014. Wind energy: Increasing deployment, rising environmental concerns. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews 31: 270-288.

Wang, S. and S. Wang. 2015. Impacts of wind energy on environment: A review. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews. 49: 437-443.

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