NWT CIMP Delta Pilot Program Consultations

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Introduction:

a. In this section, describe the project. The description can come from the proposal (description and justification sections)
    - Describe the objectives / goals of the project.
        - In the absence of an NWT monitoring system our ability to understand baseline conditions and detect environmental change at local and regional scales is limited. This project aims to provide much needed biophysical data in areas that Inuvialuit communities are concerned about.
        - To run a consultation tour of Inuvik, Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk and introduce a pilot community-based science monitoring program in the Mackenzie Delta region.
        - To appoint a Steering Committee and begin the process of developing the CIMP Delta Pilot Program .
        - To develop monitoring protocols for community collection of climate, snow, ice, permafrost, water and vegetative data.
        - To hold a workshop to find out how Traditional Knowledge-based monitoring can contribute to NWT-CIMP.

    - Describe personnel involved with the project.
        - DIAND consultant held community workshops to train and further develop monitoring strategies.
        - The Joint Secretariat was responsible for administering the funds and providing administrative support for this project.
        - Joint Secretariat established a Pilot Delta Steering Committee that included one youth and one HTC member from each of the three participating Inuvialuit communities.
        - A Steering Committee began the process of deciding which projects to pursue.
        - The consultation tour introduced the project to the communities.

  - A knowledge sharing workshop between Traditional Knowledge holders, community members and scientists was held to share and compare information.

- Describe any other similar work that has been done, taking place or expected to take place in the future.

  - Aklavik HTC members and elders supported Traditional Knowledge based monitoring that goes beyond the Arctic Borderlands Co-op(ABC) program but encouraged the Delta Pilot Program to work with ABC on possible areas of collaboration.

Methods:

a. In this section, give a detailed record of how the project was completed.

- The Delta CIMP Project idea was introduced to IGC in December 2007. A motion was passed in support of the project. Monitoring equipment was purchased in the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

- In 2008-2009 fiscal year, a Steering Committee of HTC members, elders and youth was formed and met once to begin directing this project.

- The Steering Committee recommended that CIMP monitoring workshops and training be held for the participating communities.

- The Inuvik, Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk Hunters and Trappers Committee (HTCs) members, elders and youth were consulted during the week of September 15-19, 2008 on a collaborative proposal between DIAND and the Inuvialuit to establish a pilot community-based science monitoring project in the Mackenzie Delta region.

- Options for the development of a Traditional Knowledge based monitoring program as part of this CIMP program were also discussed.

- A meeting to gather Traditional Knowledge concerning a salt-kill zone on Richards Island and other areas of concern was held in Aklavik from March 3rd to 4th, 2009. Members from all three communities were in attendance. The meeting also provided the community members with additional information on the CIMP.

- From March 11 to 13, 2009, a CIMP Monitoring Training course was held in Inuvik. The course taught biophysical monitoring protocol and methodology. A field component was included where participants learned how to gather snow data along a transect at existing INAC monitoring sites.

- At the request of the Steering Committee, animal tracking training was provided on March 16 and 17, 2009. The course provided instruction on how to collect animal track data and related methodology. IMG Golder was contracted to deliver this course.

- IMG Golder was also contracted to create animal tracking protocol for the Delta Pilot Project.

b. Describe how the communities/organizations were involved.

- The Steering Committee was composed of HTC members, elders and youth from Inuvik, Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk.

- The Steering Committee will select the monitoring sites and provide directions on the project into the future.

- A total of 15 Inuvialuit participated in these meetings and workshops. Participants from all three communities, including youth, are interested in continuing as field assistants and monitors for this program.

- The project stipulates that the Inuvialuit must be involved in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data gathered by this project and report on the State of the Delta Environment from an Inuvialuit perspective.

c. Describe how traditional knowledge was used, if applicable.

- HTC members compiled a list of potential monitoring sites and issues for future monitoring.
- Knowledge sharing workshop between the Traditional Knowledge holders, scientist, community members and youth was held.
- Traditional Knowledge holders contributed to the monitor training workshops and provided the Inuvialuit perspective on the biophysical changes studied and observed by scientists.
- Sites that had traditional importance (hunting, trapping, water) were visited and surveyed and shortlisted as possible monitoring sites.

Results:

a. Describe what results were discovered or learned.

- This project supported "Capacity Building and Training" and will support "Monitoring and Research" once monitoring sites and protocols are established.
- Community members were provided training to become field assistants and monitors for the Delta Pilot Project.
- This training included GPS training, snow, ground, permafrost and animal tracking data collection.
- A list of potential monitoring sites and issues for future monitoring has been compiled*.*
- Animal tracking protocol has been developed specifically for this project.
- It has been proposed that Aurora College and high school students also participate in this project in the future and for monitoring protocols to be included in their curriculum.

(If results outlined in the report are preliminary, please explain how 'final' results will be accessible.)

Discussion / Conclusions:

a. Describe how the results of this project will further knowledge of cumulative impacts.
    - The communities are supportive of the Delta Pilot Project and recommend that it be implemented.
    - This project will provide scientific and Traditional Knowledge-based baseline data that can be used to detect environmental change on a local and regional scale. Information will be used for planning sustainable development, mitigating project effects, used in the regulatory process and for reporting on the state of the environment.
    - The Delta Pilot Project seeks to build on or direct ongoing programs where possible to yield scientific and Traditional Knowledge-based

information of consistent quality which can be used to monitor cumulative impacts of development.

- This project seeks to provide useful scientific and Traditional Knowledge-based information and establish baseline conditions that can be used in the regulatory process and for reporting on the state of the environment.

b. Describe how results of the project were communicated to the communities and other groups.
    - The consultation tour was held in September to inform the communities about this project.
    - Community workshops that bring together the scientist and community members will be held every two years to report findings, share knowledge and fine-tune the project.
    - The Inuvialuit will own the results of any Traditional Knowledge Studies and will be involved the collection, analysis and interpretation of the data. This data will be managed by the Joint Secretariat in Inuvik and will be available to Inuvialuit communities.
    - The HTCs and the Steering Committees will receive and review all data gathered from this project.