

NWT CUMULATIVE IMPACT MONITORING PROGRAM (NWT CIMP)

NWT CIMP is the obligation of all settled claims in the NWT and Part 6 of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act(MVRMA). Specific Funding for the program is provided by the Federal Government. The program is guided by a multi-party Steering Committee consisting of members of eight regional Aboriginal Governments, organizations, including Sahtu Secretariat Inc., as well as regulators, industry, the Territorial and Federal Governments.

With the help of the Aboriginal Steering committee, the program was transferred intact from AANDC post-devolution to the GNWT. The NWT CIMP is a source of science and some TK information in the NWT on caribou, water, and fish in geographic “hot spots” related to resource development. The office is located in Yellowknife with a staff of nine people.

Every year, all the regions and researchers apply for funding from NWT CIMP to do research on cumulative impacts on the environment in the North. It is defined as “a change in the environment caused by multiple interactions among human activities and natural processes that accumulate across time and space.”

NWT CIMP sponsored projects in Sahtu region:

Total NWT Project budget= \$1, 854,000

Sahtu projects= \$453,000(13 projects in Sahtu Region) overlapping with other regions and directly to Sahtu communities 30%(\$139,600)

CIMP127-DFO(Howland) Biological monitoring & fish populations on Great Bear Lake. Year 7 of 9

CIMP152-CIMP(Chin) Establishing a watershed framework for assessing cumulative impacts of development. Year 5 of 5

CIMP178-SRRB(Simmons) Sahtu regional environmental monitoring and decision-support tool set. Year 2 of 3

CIMP 193 (Kristy Gurney) Understanding changes in aquatic ecosystem health and water quality in the Fort Good Hope-Ramparts Area. Year 1 of 3

This year, 5 projects in addition to 4 multi-region projects.

The most innovative contribution from NWT CIMP was to partially fund Sahtu Secretariat Inc. student to participate in reviewing of NWT CIMP proposals for this

year. It was intense process and labour intensive but worth the time and funds in this partnership.

Cindy Gilday, October 2017

This year 2018, this file was given to SSI mentored University student Dakota Erutse with funding from GNWT CIMP in Yellowknife. While Cindy Gilday was directed by the SSI Management committee to focus on GNWT Legislation this year, so Dakota worked on this file.

In 2017-18, NWT CIMP provided \$336,000 to support 10 projects in Sahtu region. And this year (2018-2019), twenty-eight projects, with twelve of them new projects, will be supported. The projects ranged from water studies in the Ramparts area to traditional knowledge of Great Bear Lake and its watershed.

Cindy Gilday, September 2018

The NWT CIMP Program coordinates the NWT Environmental Audit. The Audit assesses the quality of existing environmental information and the effectiveness of environmental management in the Mackenzie Valley. It is an obligation of regional land claim agreements and the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act. The SSI is entitled to participate in the Audit.

The SSI participates in the Audit through the NWT Audit Steering Committee, which provides advice and comments to an independent auditor. The steering committee developed the Terms of Reference for the 2020 Environmental Audit. A Request for Proposals is posted in the GNWT's contracting system until September 10, 2018, after which selection of an auditor will be made. Dakota Erutse is representing the SSI on the steering committee and will be involved in reviewing the proposals for selection of the auditor.

Dakota Erutse, September 2018