



26 May 2025

CIAR:[89488](#)

Chinenye Ewelike
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
Prairie and Northern Region

Submitted by email: tenshilling@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

Subject: Natural Resources Canada Federal Authority Advice Record Response for York Factory Ten Shilling Aerodrome Project

On May 5, 2025, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) received a request from the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) to review the Ten Shilling Aerodrome Initial Project Description and complete the Federal Authority Advice Record (FAAR).

Pursuant to section 23 of *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA 2019), NRCan has been asked to identify any specialist or expert information with respect to the project. NRCan reviewed the Initial Project Description and identified an expertise in habitat connectivity for woodland caribou. However, NRCan will only provide the expertise and participate in the assessment process if requested by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). Details of NRCan's response can be found in the Appendix A: York Factory First Nation Ten Shilling Aerodrome Project Federal Authority Advice Record.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Natalie.Robinson@nrca-nrcan.gc.ca

Sincerely,

Natalie Robinson

Senior Impact Assessment
Impact Assessment Division, Office of the Chief Scientist
Natural Resources Canada

CC: Annie Monpetit, Acting Team Lead, Christina Clarke, Acting Director,
Office of Chief Science, Natural Resources Canada
Appendix A Federal Authority Advice Record

Appendix A: Federal Authority Advice Record (FAAR)**FAAR Response must be submitted by May 26, 2025**York Factory First Nation Ten Shilling Aerodrome Project – York Factory First Nation
Registry File: 89488

Department/Agency	Natural Resources Canada
Lead Contact	Natalie Robinson
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1. a) Is it probable that your department or agency may be required to exercise a power or perform a duty or function related to the project to enable it to proceed?

If yes, specify the Act of Parliament and that power, duty or function.

Based on the information provided, NRCan is unlikely to exercise a power or perform a duty or function related to the Project.

- b) Please describe any Indigenous or public consultation that will be undertaken in relation to the exercise of that power, duty or function, including when it would take place.

Based on the information provided, no indigenous or public consultation will be undertaken.

- c) Indicate if the power, duty or function will be required **to construct** the project. Please choose from Required, Potential, Likely, Unlikely, or Not Required as appropriate

Unlikely.

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2. Is your department or agency in possession of specialist or expert information or knowledge in its area of expertise that may be relevant to the conduct of an impact assessment of the Project?

Specify the specialist or expert information or knowledge.

Forestry

-Forest Vegetation and links to biodiversity including Species at Risk (SAR) habitat (e.g. Woodland Caribou among others) in support of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC).

In addition to these types of expertise, NRCan in collaboration with ECCC leads the [Government of Canada's Open Science Data platform](#), a public facing tool providing single window access to federal, provincial and territorial data, science and regulatory information to support the understanding of cumulative effects and inform impact assessment processes.

Please note that NRCan may revise its areas of expertise further related to the impact assessment as more information becomes available during the subsequent phases of the review process.

3. Has your department or agency considered the project; exercised a power or performed a duty or function under any Act of Parliament in relation to the Project; or taken any course of action that would allow the Project to proceed in whole or in part?

Specify.

[NRCan has not exercised a power or performed a duty or function under any Act of Parliament in relation to the Project.](#)

4. Has your department or agency had previous contact or involvement with the proponent or other party in relation to the Project? (for example: an enquiry about methodology, guidance, or data; introduction to the project)

Provide an overview of the information or advice exchanged.

[NRCan has not had previous contact or involvement with the proponent or other party in relation to the Project.](#)

5. Does your department or agency have additional information or knowledge on the project not specified above, including information on the geographic, environmental, economic or social context of the project? (e.g. location of protected or sensitive areas, previous history between local communities and proponent or similar projects, local or regional social or economic concerns)?

Specify as appropriate.

[NRCan is collaborating with numerous federal, provincial and territorial government contributors to provide access to data, scientific publications and regulatory information through the Open Science and Data Platform \(OSDP\). This information may be useful to the Proponent and other participants in the process to inform their analyses in the planning, impact statement and regulatory phases of the process. Some sample OSDP records that may be relevant to the assessment include:](#)

[Canadian Impact Assessment Registry – Assessment Inventory](#) Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
[Water quantity in Canadian rivers – Water quantity at monitoring stations](#) Environment and Climate Change Canada
[Major Projects Inventory](#) Natural Resources Canada
[Critical Habitat for Species at Risk National Dataset](#) Environment and Climate Change Canada
[Critical Habitat for Aquatic Species at Risk](#) Fisheries and Oceans Canada
[Aboriginal Lands of Canada Legislative Boundaries](#) Natural Resources Canada
[First Nation Non Treaty Land Entitlement Agreements MB](#) Government of Manitoba
[Manitoba Road Network 2023](#) Government of Manitoba
[Land Use and Development](#) Government of Manitoba
[Provincial Waterways](#) Government of Manitoba
[Aboriginal Lands](#) Government of Manitoba
[Rural Health Care Facilities in Manitoba](#) Government of Manitoba
[Emergency Medical Services in Manitoba: The Current State](#) Government of Manitoba

6. Based on the mandate and area(s) of expertise of your department or agency, what are the key issues related to the project?

For each key issue:

- Describe the potential effect or the nature of the issue, including any relevant context e.g. how it falls under an area of federal jurisdiction as defined under the IAA;
- Provide the rationale and/or evidence for why it is a key issue;
- Provide advice on how to address the issue, including any information or studies that should be required in the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines, potential mitigation measures, and/or regulatory requirements relevant to the issue;

- Provide a concise, plain-language summary of the issue for inclusion in the Summary of Issues.

The information provided will be considered by IAAC and may be used to inform its decision on whether an impact assessment is required and, where appropriate, for next steps in the impact assessment process including to develop project-specific draft Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines.

Please use Table 1 to respond to this question.

[NRCan has no comments currently.](#)

7. Where possible, identify any additional information the proponent could include in their response to the Summary of Issues, and, if IAAC requires it, in their Detailed Project Description, that would:
- Give confidence that minor issues or effects could be addressed and managed by clear measures, existing guidelines, other regulatory processes or other existing tools;
 - Inform the decision as to whether an impact assessment is required; or
 - Aid in tailoring the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines, if IAAC decides an impact assessment is required.
 - Clarify if a federal permit, licence or authorization may be required.

These clarifications and additional information will be included as specific questions in the Summary of Issues provided to the proponent.

[NRCan has no comments currently.](#)

Natalie Robinson

Name of Departmental / Agency
Responder

Senior Impact Assessment Officer

Title of Responder

May 26, 2025

Date

Table 1: Key Issues to inform the impact assessment process

IAAC asks that federal authorities align expert advice with IAAC’s approach to tailoring by project, which focuses on key project issues, clearly focused on the prevention of adverse effects within federal jurisdiction. In identifying key issues, federal authorities should be mindful of the project’s context (size, scope, location), Indigenous Knowledge and perspectives, and public concerns. Key issues that may be relevant to the decision include:

- adverse effects within federal jurisdiction and direct or incidental adverse effects that may be to some extent significant, based on federal experts’ knowledge and experience with past projects;
- potential impacts on Indigenous Peoples and their rights, based on Indigenous Knowledge and perspectives or experience with past projects;
- effects on key species or habitats (e.g. at risk, important to Indigenous communities, commercial importance, provide important ecosystem function);
- issues or effects that may result from novel project activities, components or technology;
- effects with large uncertainties, including in the effectiveness of mitigation measures;
- adverse effects within federal jurisdiction or direct or incidental adverse effects where mitigation measures are limited;
- positive effects, including where project may support other governmental priorities, including reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples; and
- key concerns raised by Indigenous groups or local communities.

Effects that are anticipated to be minor or which can be managed using well understood mitigation, existing guidance, and/or other regulatory processes may have simplified information requirements or may be removed entirely. Measured advice from federal authorities on key issues and solutions—and on the scope and detail of any required information and studies—will enable IAAC to focus assessments on issues that are important to participants and to decision-makers.

Comment ID	Relevant section of the Initial Project Description	Valued Component or Factor to Consider	Description of Key Issue (Context and Rationale)	Advice	Plain language summary for inclusion in Summary of Issues
<p><i>Please identify comments by organization and comment number.</i></p> <p><i>e.g.: IAAC-01</i></p>	<p><i>If the comment is related to a specific section of the Initial Project Description, please include that reference.</i></p>	<p><i>Identify valued component(s) or factor to consider—within the mandate of your department or agency—to which the potential effect or issue applies.</i></p>	<p><i>Provide a brief description of the issue and rationale for being a key issue.</i></p> <p><i>Include, where relevant,:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the pathway of effects;</i> • <i>relevant context on why it is a key issue;</i> • <i>key uncertainties that should be addressed in the impact assessment;</i> • <i>Indigenous or public concerns or perspective;</i> • <i>potential for differential effects among diverse subgroups;</i> • <i>scientific evidence or Indigenous Knowledge, including from past project experience, which supports inclusion as a key issue.</i> 	<p><i>Where applicable, briefly provide solutions on how to address the potential issue or effects including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Information or studies required to describe and characterize the potential effect; including any guidance for data collection and/or analysis or existing data sources to inform the assessment;</i> • <i>Any means, including any powers, duties or functions, that your department or agency has that may mitigate, manage, or set conditions related to the issue or effect;</i> • <i>Guidance or policies for mitigating effects or any standard and well-understood mitigation measures that would address the effect, including follow-up monitoring activities; and/or</i> • <i>Commitments the proponent could make to respond to the issue.</i> <p><i>Where available, please refer to existing text in the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines template.</i></p>	<p><i>For issues to be included in the Summary of Issues, provide a concise, plain language synopsis of the key issue and any questions or directions for the proponent.</i></p>

Please insert additional rows as necessary.

Table 2. Clarifications or additional information the Proponent could include in the response to Summary of Issues

Comment ID	Relevant section of the Initial Project Description	Description of Issue, Concern or Uncertainty	Clarification or additional information	Plain language summary for inclusion in Summary of Issues
<p><i>Please identify comments by organization and comment number.</i></p> <p><i>e.g.: IAAC-01</i></p>	<p><i>If the comment is related to a specific section of the Initial Project Description, please provide a reference.</i></p> <p><i>You may also choose to copy the relevant text here.</i></p>	<p><i>Provide a description of the issue, concern or uncertainty the proponent could address in their response to Summary of Issues and, if IAAC requires it, in their Detailed Project Description that would give confidence that the issue will be addressed and managed, by clear measures, existing guidelines, regulatory processes or other existing tools, and thus be the subject of simplified information requests in the guidelines, or simply be removed. Include any uncertainty related to federal permits, licences or authorizations that may be required for the project</i></p>	<p><i>Provide recommended clarification or additional information to be included in their response to the Summary of Issues and, if IAAC requires it, in their Detailed Project Description to address the issue, concern or uncertainty, for example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Clarifications to elements of the project description (e.g. components, activities, locations or alternatives);</i> <i>• Proposed project design changes that could avoid effects;</i> <i>• Evidence that could be presented to demonstrate there is no effect pathway of effect or that effects would be negligible;</i> <i>• Evidence that standard mitigations will address potential effects</i> <i>• Commitments the proponent could make to respond to the issue, including the implementation of federal operational policies or guidance documents.</i> <i>• Information needed to clarify whether a federal permit, licence or authorization may be required</i> 	<p><i>For issues to be included in the Summary of Issues, provide a concise, plain language synopsis of the issue and of the question or direction for the proponent.</i></p>

Please insert additional rows as necessary.