

PWGSC 1045 Main Street Moncton, NB E1C 1H1

July 22nd, 2015

To: Distribution List

Re: Consultation under the Interim Consultation Protocol regarding Harbour Improvements at North Head Harbour, North Head, Grand Manan, New Brunswick

Dear Chiefs and Councils and the Assembly of First Nations' Chiefs in New Brunswick, Inc.

This letter is intended to provide notification of the above-noted project under the Mi'gmag, Wolastoqiyik, New Brunswick and Canada Interim Consultation Protocol (ICP) as well as to offer to hear and understand the views of the Mi'gmag and Maliseet of New Brunswick on this matter. Furthermore, we are interested in understanding any potential adverse impacts of project activities on established or asserted Aboriginal and Treaty rights.

Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) is currently working on behalf of Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbours (DFO-SCH) to construct a new breakwater, service area, basin dredging and float installation within the existing DFO-SCH harbour facilities (refer to attached aerial photo of existing harbour). Overall the proposed project is intended to provide additional harbour capacity and a much safer work environment for the harbour users.

## **Project Description:**

The proposed scope of the Project at North Head, Grand Manan Island, Charlotte County, NB includes repairs to the deteriorated old ferry wharf and construction of a breakwater at the end of this wharf. The approximate coordinates of the project area are: 44°45'44"N and 66°44'55"W.

The proposed breakwater construction will measure approximately 75 meters in length and 70 meters in width (approximately 5,300m²) and is designed to provide protection from the exposed west storm direction. A service area will be created between the inner old ferry wharf and the neighboring private wharf. The inner harbour basin will be dredged between the old ferry wharf and the inner basin floats. Overburden and rock from dredging will be incorporated into the breakwater and service area. The existing deteriorated spur wharf will be removed and floats/gangway installed off of the proposed service area. The project is scheduled to start in fall 2015 pending approval and funding, and is expected be completed by Fall, 2018.

## **Federal Regulatory Process:**

Under section 67 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012* (*CEAA 2012*), DFO-SCH must ensure a determination of significance of any adverse environmental effects has been conducted. This project effects determination will identify appropriate mitigation measures throughout all components of the project in order to minimize potential significant adverse environmental effects. In keeping with the intent of *CEAA 2012*, the multiple federal authorities (i.e., federal departments) will work collaboratively and to this end, DFO-SCH has assumed the lead role for the Government of Canada for the preparation of a single Project Effects Determination Report.

The project will be referred to the DFO - Fisheries Protection Program (DFO-FPP) for its review under the *Fisheries Act*. A benthic habitat survey has be conducted for the project area, and in case of serious harm



to marine species and/or their habitat, a paragraph 35(2)(b) *Fisheries Act* authorization will be required and appropriate offsetting (compensation) shall be carried out.

An application will also be made to Transport Canada for review under the *Navigation Protection Act*.

Should any First Nation wish to consult on its own behalf, we request that its representative contact the undersigned to discuss how to proceed. If such notice is not received by August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015, DFO will proceed on the assumption that the Assembly represents all First Nations addressed on this correspondence, for the purposes of this consultation.

Please advise us whether you are interested in meeting on this proposed project and, if so, how you would like to proceed, and who we should contact for follow-up. We would appreciate a response by August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

If you have any questions and/or would like to discuss this further, please contact Mylène Roy via e-mail at <a href="mailto:mylene.roy@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca">mylene.roy@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca</a> or by telephone at (506) 878-7036.

Sincerely,

Mylène Roy Environmental Services PWGSC – Moncton, NB

cc:

Susi Derrah, Director of Aboriginal Relations, Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat, Province of New Brunswick Alain Hebert, Regional Director, Small Craft Harbours, Fisheries and Oceans Canada Alain Noel, Area Manager, Small Craft Harbours, Fisheries and Oceans Canada Charles Gaudet, Regional Director, Ecosystems Management, Fisheries and Oceans Canada Jason Flanagan, Senior Environmental Assessment Officer, Transport Canada

Attachments (2)

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Assembly of First Nations' Chiefs in New Brunswick, Inc.

c/o Mr. Brad Sappier

Director of Consultation

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cc: Jennifer Coleman

Researcher and Government Relations, Assembly of First Nations'

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