



**Fisheries
and Oceans**

**Pêches
et Océans**

Fish Habitat Management
Suite 101, 5204 - 50th Avenue
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
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TO/A:

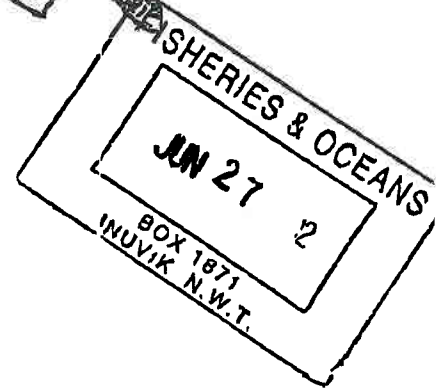
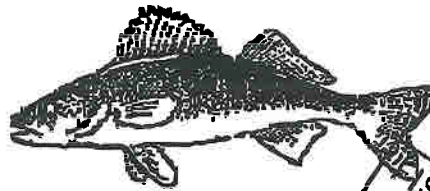
John Kores - NEB
Laura Van Ham - NEB
Bob White - WesternGeco
Marty Swagar - WesternGeco
Clark Norris - Transport Canada
Zoe Posynick - RWED
Wade Romanko - Environment Canada
Pete Cott - DFO-Inuvik

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Wednesday, June 26, 2002

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SCO 2019

MESSAGE

RE: NEB Decision to refer the Western Geco Canada Limited Mackenzie River 2D Seismic Program 2002 to Environmental Assessment;

This is being sent on behalf of Ms. Julie Dahl, Area Chief, Habitat - DFO Yellowknife

FROM/DE:

Kim McAstocker
Administration Clerk, Habitat

telephone (867) 669-4900
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Your file / Votre référence

Our file / Notre référence

SC02006

June 25, 2002

Vern Christensen - Executive Director
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 Scotia Centre, 5120-50th Avenue
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
X1A 2N7
Facsimile (867) 920-4761

**RE: NEB Decision to refer the WesternGeco Canada Limited Mackenzie River 2D
Seismic Program 2002 to Environmental Assessment**

Dear Mr. Christensen:

Pursuant to subsection 125(1) of the MVRMA, the National Energy Board (NEB), as the preliminary screener, has determined that the WesternGeco Canada Limited Mackenzie River 2D Seismic Program 2002 (the development) *might have a significant adverse impact on the environment*, and has referred the development to the MVEIRB for an environmental assessment by letter dated June 25, 2002.

This letter is to advise that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Fish Habitat Management - Western Arctic Area (DFO) concurs with all aspects of the June 25, 2002 letter sent to the MVEIRB by the NEB and that the referral to environmental assessment should be considered a joint referral by both the NEB and DFO.

Also, to reiterate NEB, DFO is of the opinion that a test program is critical for determining potential environmental effects; and anticipates that an appropriately designed test program would not result in a significant adverse impact on the environment. This information can be used in the environmental assessment of the proposed development. Upon receipt of a complete test program design from WesternGeco, DFO will review it in conjunction with RWED and NEB.

If you have any questions, please contact Pete Cott at (867) 777-7520 or Bruce Hanna at (867) 669-4931.

Yours truly,

Julie Dahl
Area Chief, Habitat
Fish Habitat Management
Department of Fisheries and Oceans- Western Arctic Area
/pc

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