

# PROPOSAL REVIEW

**Project Number:** 2-15-01

**Applicant:** Malik Awan

**Title:** Monitoring Wolverines-noninvasive and community-based initiative

**Funding Requested:** Single year funding<sup>1</sup> \$29,000

**Rank:** 5 / 18

**Total Score** 80.35 /100  
(no deductions)

**Scoring Breakdown:** NWMB Priority: 5.50 / 17.50  
Regional Priority: 6.50/ 7.50  
Quality: 31.50 / 35.00  
Consultation: 15.00 / 15  
Funding: 21.85 / 25

## Project Summary:

The primary objectives of this project are to: 1) identify key wolverine habitat through interviews with knowledge holders; 2) generate baseline population data to support total allowable harvest decisions; 3) determine wolverine distribution; 4) enhance Hunters and Trappers Organizations monitoring capacity; and 5) provide fieldwork training and employment to Hunters and Trappers Organizations.

## Project Contributions:

Requested from NWMB	\$ 29,000	23%
Other Contributions	<u>\$100,00</u>	<u>77%</u>
Total	\$129,00	100%

## NWMB Staff Evaluation:

NWMB Priority: #5 - Contributes to the assessment of Species under the Species at Risk Act and/or the recovery of species list under the Species at Risk Act (S 5.2.34 (d)).

Regional Priority: #2 Kivalliq- Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit studies on wildlife

## Project design:

Biopsy darting took place in spring 2014 and will be carried out between late April and mid-June during 2015-2016. The darts are designed to fall to the ground after impact and can be retrieved without handling the bear. Bear will be located using a helicopter. Once bear are located a small sample of tissue, mostly skin will be taken using the biopsy dart. Information will also be collected on location, behavior, body condition, and age/sex and group size.

## Application of results:

Project results will be documented in a Government of Nunavut file report and used in future total allowable harvest decisions and management planning. Information on polar bear distribution during the spring can provide insight into habitat use. Information on

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<sup>1</sup> This project did not meet the requirements for multi-year funding

polar distribution and habitat use during the spring may be used to mitigate risks to public safety and reduce human-bear conflicts.

Community involvement / consultation:

The Project Leader conducted consultations with affected HTO Boards in February 2013 and during the field season in 2014. The proposal indicates plans for in community consultations during the fieldwork in the spring of 2015 and 2016. In-community reporting of results will occur in the fall of 2017.

As per the NWRT policy, if the project is funded by the NWRT the project is required to: (1) provide a letter of support from all affected communities by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015; **OR** (2) provide a letter of support from a majority of the affected communities by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and provide evidence that the research has done a “conscientious” job of consulting; **OR** (3) provide the required information to demonstrate that “conscientious” consultation has been conducted by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

**Recommendations:** If this project is funded, the following conditions should apply:

1. Funding should be conditional on other funding, as identified in the proposal, being approved. This should be confirmed in writing; and
2. Funding should be conditional on meeting the consultation requirements identified as per the NWRT policy.

**Consultations:**

**Prepared By:** Sarah Spencer, Wildlife Management Biologist

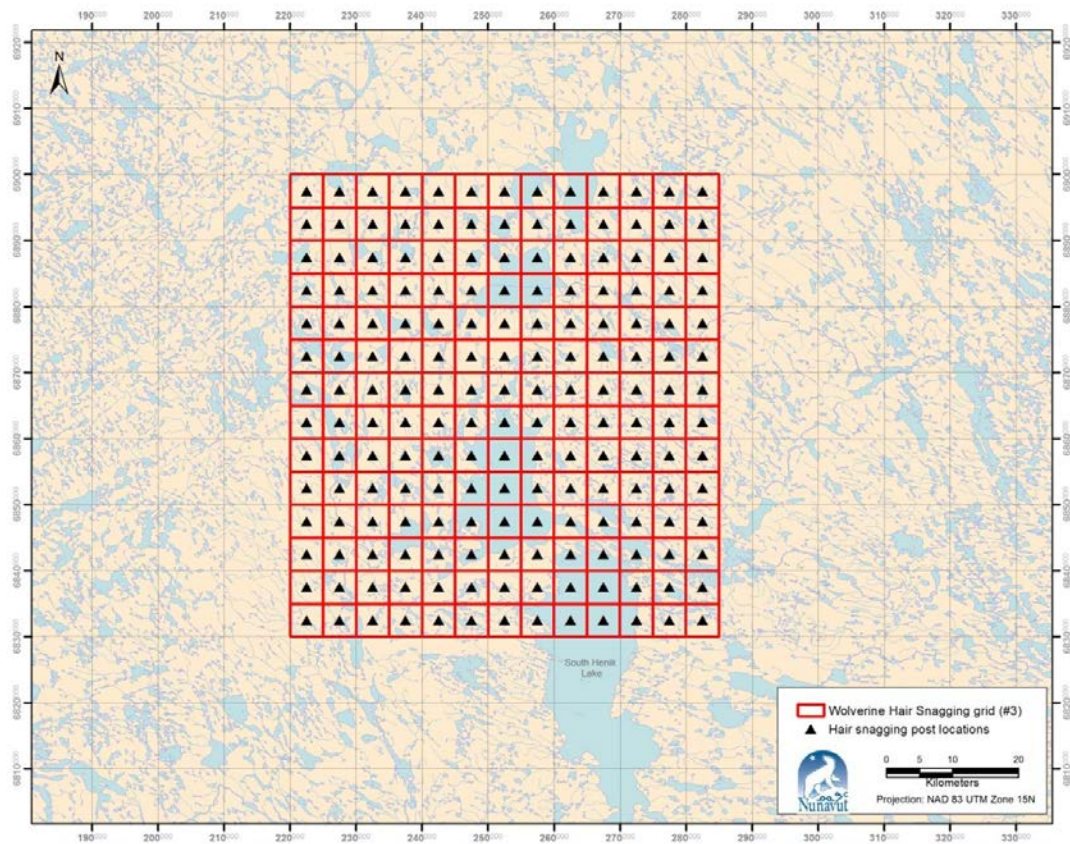


Fig. 1: Wolverine DNA grid study area (4,550 km<sup>2</sup>) with 182, 5X5 km cells. One wood post will be deployed in each cell.

