

Enclosure 1: Federal Authority Advice Record – New Nuclear at Wesleyville Project

Registry No. 89802

Please submit the completed form by February 11, 2026, via email to wesleyville@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.¹ In order to be posted on the Registry, and to align with the *Official Languages Act*, IAAC is requiring that you submit the FAAR form, or a summary of it, in French and English.

Department/Agency Contact Information

Submission Date	February 11, 2026
Department/Agency	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Lead Contact, Title, Work Unit	Elyjah Schimmens, Fisheries Protection Biologist, Coastal and Marine Regulatory Review Unit
Email, Phone	Elyjah.schimmens@dfo-mpo.gc.ca 289 795 7437
Alternate Contact, Title, Work Unit	Mark D'Aguiar, A/Team Lead, Coastal and Marine Regulatory Review Unit
Email, Phone	Mark.daguiar@dfo-mpo.gc.ca 905 336 4486

Review the draft Initial Project Description and answer the following questions:

1. Will your department or agency exercise a **power, perform a duty or function**, or provide **financial assistance**, related to the project to enable it to be carried out in whole or in part?

As relevant,

- a) Specify the power, duty or function, or financial assistance, and the likelihood that it will be required to construct the project, as either Required, Potential, Likely, Unlikely or Not Required

Power: Fisheries and Oceans Canada may exercise its statutory power to issue a *Fisheries Act* authorization (FAA) or a permit under the *Species at Risk Act* in relation to the project. The exercise of this power is considered 'Potential' and depending on whether the project results in impacts to fish, fish habitat, or SARA listed species.

- b) Describe any associated Indigenous or public consultation, including timelines, and elaborate on any potential opportunities for consultation coordination with the impact assessment process, if an impact assessment is required

If a *Fisheries Act* authorization is required for the project, Fisheries and Oceans Canada would have a Crown duty to consult Indigenous groups whose potential or established Aboriginal or treaty rights may be adversely affected. The scope and depth of consultation would be determined on a case-by-case basis, informed by the nature of the project and the potential adverse effects on rights.

- c) Describe any associated information requirements (e.g., alternative means assessment, habitat offsetting), and specify those that may be coordinated with the impact assessment process, if an impact assessment is required

The Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) requires detailed information about the proposed works, undertakings

¹ Please note that advice provided to IAAC may be posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet Site or otherwise made available to the public.

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and activities that have the potential to cause harmful alteration, destruction and disruption to fish and fish habitat, cause impacts to species at risk and their habitat. Information includes but is not limited to: preliminary design/engineer drawings/concepts, associated footprints, photos and baseline biological and physical indices (habitat, substrate, depth etc) from potentially impacted watercourses/waterbodies, detailed mitigation and monitoring plans. DFO requires this information to determine whether a *Fisheries Act* authorization or Permit under the *Species at Risk Act* would be required. Should a *Fisheries Act* Authorization be required, then DFO would require a fisheries offsetting plan to counterbalance the impacts to fish and fish habitat resulting from the proposed works. The above information can be coordinated with the impact assessment process, should the impact assessment be required.

- d) Identify any associated project-specific guidance or issues of which the proponent should be aware, or information the proponent should provide

DFO requires detailed information about the work(s) proposed (preliminary design drawings/concepts), associated footprints, and photos of potentially impacted watercourses / waterbodies at the locations of the impacts to fish and fish habitat in order to assess what regulatory instrument that may be required (Fisheries Act Authorization, Letter of Advice, Species at Risk Act permit). Further information collection guidance is expanded on in Table 1 below. DFO also has several codes of practice that may be used by the proponent, where appropriate.

- e) Indicate whether your department or agency has identified any power that it will be unable, or may be unable, to exercise to allow the project to proceed, in whole or in part as currently planned, with reasons; if unsure, explain what must be resolved to increase confidence

At this time, there does not appear to be a reason why the project could not be carried out should the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts on fish and fish habitat be applied. For any residual impacts to fish habitat that may exist after implementation of avoidance and mitigation measures, fisheries offsetting may be required under a *Fisheries Act* authorization. Therefore, FFHPP may not exercise the power of requiring a *Fisheries Act* authorization or a *Species at Risk Act* permit.

2. **Using Table 1**, identify project- and context-specific **key issues** based on the expertise within your mandate² and the information in your possession. Available information may include your access to databases and corporate knowledge, the draft Initial Project Description, any exchanges with the proponent or others related to the project and known means to address the effects.

For each key issue:

- a) Specify the key issue (e.g., specific species and location)
- b) Specify the project component or activity linked to the key issue
- c) Explain why it is a key issue based on:
 - i. biophysical effect pathway(s) from the specific project component or activity
 - ii. concerns unique to the project or a priority within your mandate
 - iii. the issue being material³ to decision-making under the *Impact Assessment Act*
- d) Potential pathways from key issues that could lead to an impact on Indigenous Peoples and their rights

² Refer to the [Memoranda of Understanding with IAAC](#).

³ An issue is material to decision making if its analysis is anticipated to affect the conclusions on (1) whether adverse effects within federal jurisdiction or direct and incidental adverse effects (collectively adverse federal effects) are likely not significant, or of low, medium or high significance; (2) appropriate mitigation measures for significant adverse federal effects; or (3) justification in the public interest.

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- e) Identify how the issue could be resolved, including through other means than an impact assessment (e.g., other regulatory oversight)
- f) Identify additional information the proponent could provide to build confidence about how the issue could be addressed through other means

IAAC has prepared a preliminary list of potential effects that are likely to be key issues for the impact assessment.⁴ While completing **Table 1**, IAAC requests that, as appropriate based on your department or agency's mandate and expertise, you validate this list, add precision or rationale where appropriate, and recommend any additional key issues for consideration. For a federal work or undertaking, such as nuclear energy works, a broader range of effects are within federal jurisdiction, including socio-economic effects.

IAAC has identified the following topics as **potential key issues** for the impact assessment:

- Effects to Biological Environment: vegetation (terrestrial, riparian and wetland environments), wildlife, reptiles and amphibians, fish and fish habitat, birds, species at risk
- Effects to Physical Environment: geology and geochemistry, soils and sediment, ambient radioactivity, air quality/emissions, surface water quality/quantity, groundwater quality/quantity, effects to Lake Ontario
- Accidents and malfunctions and effects of the environment on the project
- Impacts to Indigenous rights, current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, physical and cultural heritage of Indigenous peoples and sites of archaeological importance, with a focus on potential archaeological resources on land or water, and species of cultural importance
- Effects to the health, social and economic conditions and the positive and negative consequences of these changes that are likely to be caused by the carrying out of the designated project

Mark D'Aguiar A/ Team Leader, Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program

Name and title of Departmental /
Agency Responder

February 9, 2026

Date

⁴ IAAC has prepared this list based on limited information prior to receipt of the draft Initial Project Description. It may change based on input received from federal and provincial authorities, Indigenous communities, and the public.

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Table 1: Key Issues to inform the impact assessment process

This table should outline key issues to inform the impact assessment process, including whether an impact assessment is required and, if so, the scope of the assessment and tailoring of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines.

Key issues are the major concerns directly related to a project component or activity, the analysis of which is anticipated to be material to decision-making under the *Impact Assessment Act*.

Federal authorities' advice should be guided by the identification and resolution of key issues. If an impact assessment is required, it will be focused on key issues.

Comment ID	a) Key issue	b) Project component or activity	c)(i) Biophysical effect pathway(s)	c)(ii) Concern unique to the project or a priority within your mandate	c)(iii) Material to federal decision-making	d) Impacts on Indigenous Peoples and their rights	e) Means for issue resolution	f) Additional information from the proponent
Identify each comment by your organization's acronym and a sequential comment number. e.g.: IAAC-01	Specify each key issue (e.g., specific species and location).	Identify the project component or activity linked to the key issue. Be specific about the nature, scale, novelty and complexity of the component or activity.	Identify the specific effect pathway between the project component or activity and the affected environmental or human receptor (including Indigenous Peoples).	Describe why it's a key issue within the mandate of your department or agency, including in terms of priorities of the federal government and in terms of anticipated likelihood, severity or uncertainty of effects. Identify if the key issue is common for project activities of this nature or in this sector, or whether it is unique to this project due to the project's complexity, size or novelty; a sensitive or rare receiving environment; and/or proximity of sensitive environmental or human receptors (including Indigenous Peoples).	Describe why the key issue is material to decision-making as either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an adverse effect within federal jurisdiction, or a direct or incidental adverse effect, that may be significant based on available evidence including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> federal experts' knowledge and experience with past project assessments; presence of sensitive species, habitats or human receptors (including Indigenous Peoples); novel or complex project activities, components or technologies; high uncertainties in effects or in the effectiveness of mitigation measures; unknown or unproven mitigation; or a factor for the justification in the public interest anticipated to be material to decision-making such as a likely positive effect contributing to sustainability, to Canada's environmental obligations or climate change commitments or in supporting governmental priorities, such as reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. 	Describe how key issues you have identified within your mandate and expertise may lead to impacts on Indigenous Peoples and their rights. This advice must be informed by knowledge and input from Indigenous Nations and communities during the comment period, or within the Initial Project Description to support a more accurate, respectful and collaborative assessment.	Describe how the key issue could be resolved or addressed by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any means, including powers, duties, functions, frameworks, policies or guidance for which your department or agency is responsible; Any means, including powers, duties, functions, frameworks, policies or guidance from another jurisdiction, including the province; Common, proven, well-understood or standard mitigation measures to mitigate the effect or effect pathway(s); or Commitments made by the proponent (e.g., in the Initial Project Description). 	Describe information the proponent could provide, or commitments the proponent could make, that would provide confidence that the issue can be resolved by existing means (to be considered for the final Initial Project Description, future Summary of Issues and response, or (potential) Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines). Consider whether information, studies, analyses or collaborative work with other authorities would be required to address the issue beyond existing means.
DFO-01	General Comment: The potential for the project to cause the harmful alteration, disruption, destruction of fish habitat, or the death of fish.	Site preparation, construction, operation, refurbishment and decommissioning.	General Comment: Impacts to fish and fish habitat.	General Comment: DFO's review focuses on fish and fish habitat within or adjacent to waterbodies and watercourses that may be directly or indirectly affected by the project, including any hydrologically connected watercourses or waterbodies downstream that could experience project-related effects. While the Initial Project Description (IPD) includes fish and fish habitat information at a broader, scale, DFO-FFHPP's	General comment: The project has the potential to result in the harmful alteration and/or destruction of fish habitat as a result of the project footprint, potentially resulting in direct and indirect (i.e., flow changes), negative impacts to fish and fish habitat. DFO requires detailed information about the proposed works, undertakings and activities that have the potential to cause harmful alteration, destruction and disruption to fish and fish habitat, as well as detailed information of the avoidance and mitigation measures that will be applied to	- The NNW site includes the shore of Gchi Nibi, several of its tributaries and their mouths, including Wesleyville Creek, as well as a coastal wetland. Ultimately, the health of the Waters, and of all Relatives that rely on the Waters, remains an important responsibility of the MS-WTFNs; The Waters are central to the health and wellbeing of Shkakimikwe and	Operational guidance is available for proponents on DFOs website: Projects near water . DFO has standard mitigation measures posted on its projects near water website: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html . Additional analysis typically leads to the generation of site-specific measures in addition to standard measures. DFO encourages the proponent to explicitly consider the mitigation hierarchy, avoid and mitigate to the extent possible prior to considering the need to offset. DFO also has Codes of Practice posted that specify conditions and measures to manage risks to fish and fish	To build confidence about the management of potential effects to fish and fish habitat, DFO suggests that the proponent should take the following steps to inform a full understanding of the Project's potential effects on fish and fish habitat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of a Pathways of Effects approach to determine potential effects : <a 925="" 938="" 941"="" 943="" data-label="Page-Footer" href="https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw- </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <div data-bbox="> <p>4</p>

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			<p>focuses on potential project-specific impacts within the project footprint and areas where project activities may directly or indirectly result in the death of fish or the harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction of fish habitat.</p> <p>As expected in the initial project description phase, the exact magnitude, nature, and ability to mitigate direct and indirect impacts are not fully understood. The IPD does not provide sufficient project-level detail to identify all potential impacts to fish and fish habitat. Without additional information on fish and fish habitat at each impacted waterbody/watercourse, including potential flow changes, DFO will be unable to fully characterize and understand the extent of potential effects on fish and fish habitat, and whether these effects can be effectively avoided and mitigated. Further refinement of potential effects would be informed by more detailed project information as it becomes available.</p> <p>However, the project has the potential to result in the harmful alteration and/or destruction of fish habitat as a result of the project footprint, potentially resulting in direct and indirect (i.e., flow changes), negative impacts to fish and fish habitat.</p>	<p>determine the level of residual effects that remain and whether a <i>Fisheries Act</i> authorization or Permit under the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> would be required for the project. DFO's offsetting requirement allows for mitigation of remaining residual effects on fish and fish habitat.</p>	<p>to all human and non-human Beings (our Relatives). Aquatic aspects of place, including Gchi Nibi, its tributaries, and coastal wetlands, have been observed and understood relationally, by the MS-WTFNs, over several generations, since me'wzha. Our Aanikoobigiganaanan established and maintained a presence along the shoreline of Gchi Nibi, and the shorelines and mouths of its tributaries for thousands of years. It is only in the recent past that our presence in these areas has been disrupted by colonization, and the taking up of Lands and shorelines into Crown and private ownership. The Anishinaabemowin phrase 'Michi Saagig Anishinaabeg' can most readily be understood to translate as 'People of the Large River Mouths', in English. We are Canoe people, navigating the Great Lakes, and travelling inland through the waterways. Our women are the caretakers of the Waters and are responsible to ensure our Waters are protected and clean. Our Fish Relatives, include Fish, Amphibian, and Reptile Relatives, many of whom are expected to be present within and in areas surrounding the NNW site. Our Fish Relatives are helpers to us; They are an important food source to our communities and play a role in the economic, ceremonial, social, and medicinal practices of our people. Many Fish Relatives are relied upon by other Relatives, for sustenance, for the creation of habitat, and for their function in the ecosystem. We hold sacred responsibilities to protect our Relatives.¹</p>	<p>habitat. They are designed for routine projects. DFO encourages the proponent to consider following Codes of Practice where applicable. Codes of practice for routine projects</p> <p>Should the death of fish or the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat be unable to be avoided a <i>Fisheries Act</i> Authorization, <i>Fisheries Act</i> Authorization that also acts as a <i>Species At Risk Act</i> permit, or a Stand-alone permit under the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> may be required.</p> <p>DFO's offsetting requirement allows for mitigation of remaining residual effects on fish and fish habitat; generation of adequate offsetting plans can be challenging and is proponent driven.</p> <p>- Policy for applying measures to offset adverse effects on fish and fish habitat under the Fisheries Act: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/policies-politiques-eng.html.</p> <p>- Equivalency metrics for the determination of offset requirements for the Fisheries Protection Program https://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.819522/publication.html</p> <p>The proponent's analysis of potential effects and the pathways leading to residual effects should explicitly identify the requirement for offsetting and the monitoring program the proponent will undertake to verify offsetting success using scientifically defensible methods.</p>	<p>ppe/pathways-sequences/index-eng.html</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify whether additional site-specific avoidance and mitigation measures can be implemented utilizing the standard measures to avoid and mitigate impacts to fish and fish habitat. DFO emphasizes the importance of the mitigation hierarchy and the need to avoid and mitigate to the extent possible prior to considering the need to offset. DFO encourages the proponent to explicitly consider this approach in their planning processes identify all residual effects on fish and fish habitat, through a detailed accounting of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures; Prepare a list of all waterbodies and watercourses (permanent and intermittent) that may be directly or indirectly affected by the project and provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - type of water body or watercourse; - size and depths of the waterbody or watercourse - streamflow types and characteristics; - substrate type, vegetation and anthropogenic barriers to fish; - description of any proposed water work; - for each crossing, describe the anticipated method of crossing.
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								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a more detailed map of waterbodies/watercourses that will be directly impacted by the project footprint. • Provide a list of fish species likely to be present in each watercourse, including aquatic species at risk, and provide the location and description of suitable or potential habitat for these species (residence and critical habitat) in or near the project study area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Characterize the fish-bearing status of a watercourse (e.g., occupancy), in particular in habitat suspected of being fishless, using sufficient lines of evidence. • Provide a habitat use or suitability evaluation for fish present and habitat function (e.g. spawning, nursery, growth, prey, invertebrate population, food availability, foraging, migration, cover habitat, thermal and overwintering habitat, etc.) and sensitive times for these activities • Describe the extent of riparian disturbances associated with construction. • Develop site specific mitigation measures that detail the conditions on which crossings of watercourses and riparian areas would be restored and maintained after construction of the project. • Engagement with Indigenous communities and include traditional knowledge when
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								evaluating watercourses for fish and fish habitat.
DFO-02	Circulating cooling water intake construction	Site preparation and construction	Impacts to fish and fish habitat	Construction of water intakes is common for new nuclear project construction and operations. The IPD references construction of an intake structure in Lake Ontario. The associated activities are anticipated to have effects on fish and fish habitat.	Potential adverse effect on fish and fish habitat from a work, undertaking or activity.	Decisions regarding appropriate avoidance, mitigation, compensation, restoration, and accommodation measures related to real and potential adverse impacts and effects to <i>Gchi Nibi</i> , and its shoreline, must uphold the decision-making authority of the MS-WTFNs, and be guided by our responsibilities, values and Knowledge. ¹	This issue may be resolved or addressed through the implementation of standardized and site specific avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts to fish and fish habitat during construction. Intake design and location siting should consider methods to minimize rates of impingement and entrainment. For any impacts to fish and fish habitat that cannot be avoided or mitigated a FAA may be required to be issued.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify all residual effects on fish and fish habitat, through a detailed accounting of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures Provide a list of fish species likely to be present in each watercourse, including aquatic species at risk, and provide the location and description of suitable or potential habitat for these species (residence and critical habitat) in or near the project study area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characterize the fish-bearing status of a watercourse (e.g., occupancy), in particular in habitat suspected of being fishless, using sufficient lines of evidence. Provide a habitat use or suitability evaluation for fish present and habitat function (e.g. spawning, nursery, growth, prey, invertebrate population, food availability, foraging, migration, cover habitat, thermal and overwintering habitat, etc.) and sensitive times for these activities.
DFO-03	Circulating cooling water discharge construction	Site preparation and construction	Impacts to fish and fish habitat	Construction of cooling water discharge structures is common of new nuclear project construction and operations. The associated activities are anticipated to have effects on fish and fish habitat.	Potential adverse effect on fish and fish habitat from a work, undertaking or activity.	Decisions regarding appropriate avoidance, mitigation, compensation, restoration, and accommodation measures related to real and potential adverse impacts and effects to <i>Gchi Nibi</i> , and its shoreline, must uphold the decision-making authority of the MS-WTFNs, and be guided by our responsibilities, values and Knowledge. ¹	This issue may be resolved or addressed through the implementation of standardized and site specific avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts to fish and fish habitat during construction. Cooling water discharge should be designed to reduce temperature of water discharge and promote mixing with the receiving waters to avoid impacts to fish and fish habitat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify all residual effects on fish and fish habitat, through a detailed accounting of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures Provide a list of fish species likely to be present in each watercourse, including aquatic species at risk, and provide the location and description of suitable or potential habitat for these species (residence and critical habitat) in or near the project study area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characterize the fish-bearing status of a watercourse (e.g., occupancy), in particular in habitat suspected of being fishless, using sufficient lines of evidence. Provide a habitat use or suitability evaluation for fish present and habitat function

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								(e.g. spawning, nursery, growth, prey, invertebrate population, food availability, foraging, migration, cover habitat, thermal and overwintering habitat, etc.) and sensitive times for these activities • Provide a thermal effects assessment to characterize the anticipated effects on the aquatic community due to cooling water discharge.
DFO-04	Dredging	Site preparation and construction	Impacts to fish and fish habitat	Dredging is common for construction of new nuclear projects and infrastructure adjacent to waterbodies. Dredging is likely to have effects on fish and fish habitat through changes to the type and function of fish habitat, disruption of habitat use, impact potential migration of fishes.	Potential adverse effect on fish and fish habitat from a work, undertaking or activity.	Decisions regarding appropriate avoidance, mitigation, compensation, restoration, and accommodation measures related to real and potential adverse impacts and effects to <i>Gchi Nibi</i> , and its shoreline, must uphold the decision-making authority of the MS-WTFNs, and be guided by our responsibilities, values and Knowledge. ¹	This issue may be resolved or addressed through the implementation of standardized and site specific avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts to fish and fish habitat during construction. DFO has standard mitigation measures posted on its projects near eater website: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify all residual effects on fish and fish habitat, through a detailed accounting of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures • Provide a list of fish species likely to be present in each watercourse, including aquatic species at risk, and provide the location and description of suitable or potential habitat for these species (residence and critical habitat) in or near the project study area. -Characterize the fish-bearing status of a watercourse (e.g., occupancy), in particular in habitat suspected of being fishless, using sufficient lines of evidence. • Provide a habitat use or suitability evaluation for fish present and habitat function (e.g. spawning, nursery, growth, prey, invertebrate population, food availability, foraging, migration, cover habitat, thermal and overwintering habitat, etc.) and sensitive times for these activities. -Characterize habitat that exists pre-dredging and habitat and substrate present post dredging
DFO-05	Disposal of dredged materials	Site preparation and construction	Impacts to fish and fish habitat	Dredged material disposal is common for projects that require dredging. Disposal of dredged materials ranges by project type. If dredged materials are intended to be disposed of in-water there are anticipated to be effects on fish and fish habitat through	Potential adverse effect on fish and fish habitat from a work, undertaking or activity.	Decisions regarding appropriate avoidance, mitigation, compensation, restoration, and accommodation measures related to real and potential adverse impacts and effects to <i>Gchi Nibi</i> , and its shoreline,	This issue may be resolved or addressed through the implementation of standardized and site specific avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts to fish and fish habitat during construction. DFO has standard mitigation measures posted on its projects near eater website: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify all residual effects on fish and fish habitat, through a detailed accounting of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures • Provide a list of fish species likely to be present in each watercourse, including aquatic

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				changes to the type and function of fish habitat, disruption of habitat use, impact potential migration of fishes.		must uphold the decision-making authority of the MS-WTFNs, and be guided by our responsibilities, values and Knowledge. ¹		species at risk, and provide the location and description of suitable or potential habitat for these species (residence and critical habitat) in or near the project study area. - Characterize the fish-bearing status of a watercourse (e.g., occupancy), in particular in habitat suspected of being fishless, using sufficient lines of evidence. • Provide a habitat use or suitability evaluation for fish present and habitat function (e.g. spawning, nursery, growth, prey, invertebrate population, food availability, foraging, migration, cover habitat, thermal and overwintering habitat, etc.) and sensitive times for these activities. -Characterize the habitat/substrate that exists pre-pre- disposal dredging and habitat and substrate the will exist post disposal should in water disposal be proposed.
DFO-06	Shoreline protection/alteration	Site preparation and construction	Impacts to fish and fish habitat	Shoreline protection is common for construction of new nuclear projects and infrastructure adjacent to waterbodies. The associated activities are anticipated to have effects on fish and fish habitat through changes to the type and function of fish habitat and/or direct loss of habitat.	Potential adverse effect on fish and fish habitat from a work, undertaking or activity.	Decisions regarding appropriate avoidance, mitigation, compensation, restoration, and accommodation measures related to real and potential adverse impacts and effects to <i>Gchi Nibi</i> , and its shoreline, must uphold the decision-making authority of the MS-WTFNs, and be guided by our responsibilities, values and Knowledge. ¹	This issue may be resolved or addressed through the implementation of standardized and site specific avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts to fish and fish habitat during construction. DFO has standard mitigation measures posted on its projects near eater website: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html	• Identify all residual effects on fish and fish habitat, through a detailed accounting of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures • Provide a list of fish species likely to be present in each watercourse, including aquatic species at risk, and provide the location and description of suitable or potential habitat for these species (residence and critical habitat) in or near the project study area. - Characterize the fish-bearing status of a watercourse (e.g., occupancy), in particular in habitat suspected of being fishless, using sufficient lines of evidence. • Provide a habitat use or suitability evaluation for fish present and habitat function (e.g. spawning, nursery, growth, prey, invertebrate population, food availability,

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DFO-07	Impacts to the existing wetland	Site preparation and construction	Impacts to fish and fish habitat	Impacts to an existing wetland are due to the proposed location of the current project. If the project construction directly or indirectly interacts with the wetland, it has the potential to cause negative environmental impacts to fish and fish habitat, through changes (loss or change in timing) of flow: redirection of surface flow, direct loss of fish habitat, loss of access to fish habitat.	Potential residual adverse effect on fish and fish habitat from a work, undertaking or activity.	Decisions regarding appropriate avoidance, mitigation, compensation, restoration, and accommodation measures related to real and potential adverse impacts and effects to any wetlands must uphold the decision-making authority of the MS-WTFNs, and be guided by our responsibilities, values and Knowledge. ¹	<p>This issue may be resolved or addressed through the implementation of standardized and site specific avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts to fish and fish habitat during construction.</p> <p>DFO has standard mitigation measures posted on its projects near eater website: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html</p> <p>Additional analysis typically leads to the generation of site-specific measures in addition to standard measures. DFO encourages the proponent to explicitly consider the mitigation hierarchy, avoid and mitigate to the extent possible prior to considering the need to offset.</p> <p>DFOs regulatory framework includes harmful alteration, disruption and destruction of fish habitat, including from changes in flow or loss of flow. Any Authorization issued under the regulations cited above would require that the proponent first avoid, then mitigate, then offset for these impacts to fish habitat. An Authorization would also require monitoring of project impacts and effectiveness of mitigation.</p> <p>DFO's offsetting requirement allows for mitigation of remaining residual effects on fish and fish habitat; generation of adequate offsetting plans can be challenging and is proponent driven.</p> <p>- Policy for applying measures to offset adverse effects on fish and fish habitat under the Fisheries Act: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/policies-politiques-eng.html.</p> <p>- Equivalency metrics for the determination of offset requirements for the Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program https://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.819522/publication.html</p>	<p>foraging, migration, cover habitat, thermal and overwintering habitat, etc.) and sensitive times for these activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify all residual effects on fish and fish habitat, through a detailed accounting of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures Provide a list of fish species likely to be present in each watercourse, including aquatic species at risk, and provide the location and description of suitable or potential habitat for these species (residence and critical habitat) in or near the project study area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characterize the fish-bearing status of a watercourse (e.g., occupancy), in particular in habitat suspected of being fishless, using sufficient lines of evidence. Provide a habitat use or suitability evaluation for fish present and habitat function (e.g. spawning, nursery, growth, prey, invertebrate population, food availability, foraging, migration, cover habitat, thermal and overwintering habitat, etc.) and sensitive times for these activities
DFO-08	Impacts to Wesleyville creek/river	Site preparation and construction	Impacts to fish and fish habitat	Impacts to Wesleyville creek/river are due to the proposed location of the current project. If the project construction directly or indirectly interacts with the creek/river it has the potential to cause negative environmental impacts to fish and fish habitat, through changes (loss or change in timing) of flow: redirection of surface flow, direct loss of fish habitat, loss of access to fish habitat.	Potential adverse effect on fish and fish habitat from a work, undertaking or activity.	Siting of all structures must take into consideration avoiding and reducing real and potential adverse impacts and effects to our <i>kina ngadmawaad</i> , our cultural landscapes, to our Relatives and to any archaeological sites, and in particular any potential ancestral burial site(s). Decisions regarding appropriate avoidance, mitigation,	<p>This issue may be resolved or addressed through the implementation of standardized and site specific avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts to fish and fish habitat during construction.</p> <p>DFO has standard mitigation measures posted on its projects near eater website: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html.</p> <p>DFOs regulatory framework includes harmful alteration, disruption and destruction of fish habitat. Any Authorization issued under the regulations cited above would require that the proponent first avoid, then mitigate, then offset for these</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify all residual effects on fish and fish habitat, through a detailed accounting of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures Provide a list of fish species likely to be present in each watercourse, including aquatic species at risk, and provide the location and description of suitable or potential habitat for these species (residence and

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						<p>compensation, restoration, and accommodation measures must uphold the decision-making authority of the MS-WTFNs, and be guided by our responsibilities, values and Knowledge.¹</p>	<p>impacts to fish habitat. An Authorization would also require monitoring of project impacts and effectiveness of mitigation.</p> <p>DFO's offsetting requirement allows for mitigation of remaining residual effects on fish and fish habitat; generation of adequate offsetting plans can be challenging and is proponent driven.</p> <p>- Policy for applying measures to offset adverse effects on fish and fish habitat under the Fisheries Act: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/policies-politiques-eng.html.</p> <p>- Equivalency metrics for the determination of offset requirements for the Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program https://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.819522/publication.html</p>	<p>critical habitat) in or near the project study area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Characterize the fish-bearing status of a watercourse (e.g., occupancy), in particular in habitat suspected of being fishless, using sufficient lines of evidence. • Provide a habitat use or suitability evaluation for fish present and habitat function (e.g. spawning, nursery, growth, prey, invertebrate population, food availability, foraging, migration, cover habitat, thermal and overwintering habitat, etc.) and sensitive times for these activities
DFO-09	Impacts to watercourses	Site preparation, construction, decommissioning	Impacts to fish and fish habitat	Impacts to an watercourses are due to the proposed location of the current project. If the project construction directly or indirectly interacts with the creek/river it has the potential to cause negative environmental impacts to fish and fish habitat, through changes (loss or change in timing) of flow: redirection of surface flow, direct loss of fish habitat, loss of access to fish habitat.	Potential adverse effect on fish and fish habitat from a work, undertaking or activity.	<p>Siting of all structures must take into consideration avoiding and reducing real and potential adverse impacts and effects to our <i>kina ngadmawaad</i>, our cultural landscapes, to our Relatives and to any archaeological sites, and in particular any potential ancestral burial site(s). Decisions regarding appropriate avoidance, mitigation, compensation, restoration, and accommodation measures must uphold the decision-making authority of the MS-WTFNs, and be guided by our responsibilities, values and Knowledge.¹</p>	<p>This issue may be resolved or addressed through the implementation of standardized and site specific avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts to fish and fish habitat during construction.</p> <p>DFO has standard mitigation measures posted on its projects near eater website: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify all residual effects on fish and fish habitat, through a detailed accounting of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures • Provide a list of fish species likely to be present in each watercourse, including aquatic species at risk, and provide the location and description of suitable or potential habitat for these species (residence and critical habitat) in or near the project study area. - Characterize the fish-bearing status of a watercourse (e.g., occupancy), in particular in habitat suspected of being fishless, using sufficient lines of evidence. • Provide a habitat use or suitability evaluation for fish present and habitat function (e.g. spawning, nursery, growth, prey, invertebrate population, food availability, foraging, migration, cover habitat, thermal and overwintering habitat, etc.) and sensitive times for these activities
DFO-10	In-water blasting	Site preparation and construction	Impacts to fish and fish habitat	In-water blasting is common for construction of deep water cooling water intake structures due to conditions common to the lakebed at potential intake sites. The associated activities has the	Potential adverse effect on fish and fish habitat from a work, undertaking or activity.	<p>Decisions regarding appropriate avoidance, mitigation, compensation, restoration, and accommodation measures related to real and potential</p>	<p>This issue may be resolved or addressed through the implementation of standardized and site specific avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts to fish and fish habitat during construction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify all residual effects on fish and fish habitat, through a detailed accounting of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures

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				potential to cause negative environmental impacts to fish and fish habitat, through physical injury and/or stress to fish, changes to habitat structure and function, and altered migration.		adverse impacts and effects to <i>Gchi Nibi</i> , and its shoreline. must uphold the decision-making authority of the MS-WTFNs, and be guided by our responsibilities, values and Knowledge. ¹	DFO has specific advice regarding Guidelines for the Use of Explosives In or Near Canadian Fisheries Waters 1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a list of fish species likely to be present in each watercourse, including aquatic species at risk, and provide the location and description of suitable or potential habitat for these species (residence and critical habitat) in or near the project study area. - Characterize the fish-bearing status of a watercourse (e.g., occupancy), in particular in habitat suspected of being fishless, using sufficient lines of evidence. • Provide a habitat use or suitability evaluation for fish present and habitat function (e.g. spawning, nursery, growth, prey, invertebrate population, food availability, foraging, migration, cover habitat, thermal and overwintering habitat, etc.) and sensitive times for these activities
DFO-11	Impingement and entrainment of fish	Operation	Impacts to fish and fish habitat	Impingement and entrainment of fish is common for new nuclear project operations. These activities are anticipated to result in death of fish.	Potential adverse effect on fish and fish habitat from a work, undertaking or activity.	Decisions regarding appropriate avoidance, mitigation, compensation, restoration, and accommodation measures related to real and potential adverse impacts and effects to <i>Gchi Nibi</i> , and its shoreline, must uphold the decision-making authority of the MS-WTFNs, and be guided by our responsibilities, values and Knowledge. ¹	<p>This issue may be resolved or addressed through the implementation of standardized and site specific avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts to fish and fish habitat during construction.</p> <p>DFO has standard mitigation measures posted on its projects near eater website: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide modelling of the expected impingement and entrainment of fish species likely to be affected by the circulating cooling water intake and a summary of the anticipated intake parameters that influence impingement and entrainment.
DFO-12	Species at Risk (SAR) impacts	Site preparation, construction, operation, and decommissioning	Impacts to fish and fish habitat. Impacts to SAR and SAR habitat.	Specific SAR habitat has not been identified within the project area. However, additional habitat information is required to confirm this conclusion. There is also the potential for SAR to be impinged or entrained during operations of the new nuclear facility. As a result, effects on SAR are anticipated. This outcome is common for projects of this nature.	Potential adverse effect on fish, fish habitat and SAR from a work, undertaking or activity.	Decisions regarding appropriate avoidance, mitigation, compensation, restoration, and accommodation measures related to real and potential adverse impacts and effects to <i>Gchi Nibi</i> , and its shoreline, must uphold the decision-making authority of the MS-WTFNs, and be guided by our responsibilities, values and Knowledge. ¹	<p>This issue may be resolved or addressed through the implementation of standardized and site specific avoidance and mitigation measures to limit impacts to fish and fish habitat during construction.</p> <p>DFO has standard mitigation measures posted on its projects near eater website: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify all residual effects of SAR fish and SAR fish habitat, through a detailed accounting of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures • Provide a list of SAR fish species likely to be present in each watercourse, and provide the location and description of suitable or potential habitat for these species (residence and critical habitat) in or near the project study area. • Provide a habitat use or suitability evaluation for SAR fish present and habitat function (e.g. spawning,

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								nursery, growth, prey, invertebrate population, food availability, foraging, migration cover habitat, thermal and overwintering habitat, etc.) and sensitive times for these activities
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Please insert additional rows as necessary.

¹The text in this comment has been taken directly from the NNW IPD and has not been summarized or modified in any way.