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ARCTIC EIDER SOCIETY



School of Earth,
Environment & Society



Mapping Sanikiluarmit Knowledge for Qikiqtait Protected Area Development

The Qikiqtait Protected Area project is a conservation program that aims to protect the Belcher Islands and build capacity for a conservation economy in Sanikiluaq. This research project will involve mapping and analysing data from SIKU (the Indigenous Knowledge Social Network) to address Qikiqtait Protected Area priorities.

The primary goal is to assist the planning and implementation of the Qikiqtait Protected Area by developing a baseline resource inventory for the Qikiqtait Protected Area. To contribute to this inventory, maps and graphs showing the distribution, abundance, and seasonality of harvesting in the Belcher Islands will be produced. An analysis of trips will also be completed using GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and statistical software.

This project is interested in how Sanikiluarmit knowledge and monitoring data can support Qikiqtait Protected Area priorities, and how SIKU data can assist Inuit-led conservation programs and economies.

The analysis will be conducted by [Regena Sinclair](#), a graduate student at McMaster University, supervised by [Gita Ljubicic](#). The Arctic Eider Society and the Qikiqtait Protected Area Steering Committee will oversee Regena's research, and all results will be provided to the Committee and shared in SIKU.

If you do not wish your SIKU posts to be used for this project, please contact our research team by May 31, 2022, to opt-out of this analysis. For further information, please see the project page at <https://straightupnorth.ca/qikiqtait-protected-area-development/>.