



RENEWABLE RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT, LANDS AND PARKS Department

ACTIVITY REPORT SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2024

MANDATE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Fishing and Trapping Support: program administration, technical assistance to community programs and management of the regional program
 2. Uumajuit Wardens: wildlife protection on the land in the marine sectors
 3. Environmental: technical assistance to the Northern Villages, environmental monitoring, research, climate change and environmental projects
 4. Land Use Planning: technical assistance to the Northern Villages and regional planning
 5. National parks development and operation
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1. INUIT HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING SUPPORT PROGRAM

- HSP budgets and objectives were prepared for 2025.
- We have been collecting country food data on HSP purchases from 2020-2024. We shared with Makivvik the information they requested on caribou purchased by the 14 NV.
- Purchase of a fishing vessel for Salluit has gone to tender.
- We await news from the trainer selected to provide captain's training. NV have contacted us, expressing the hope that this training will soon take place.
- During the period, we completed a visit to Aupaluk.
- The Regional Agent position remains vacant.

2. UUMAJUIT WARDENS PROGRAM

- To date this year, we have completed 1,190 patrol days, and provided 23 days of search and rescue assistance to municipalities.
- To date, 363 weekly reports have been submitted.
- Regular weekly telephone meetings take place with Québec Wildlife Protection Officers (MFFP), DFO representatives and all wardens.
- Statistical reporting on beluga sightings and harvests, along with monitoring of hunting and daily harvests, is ongoing with each warden.
- As part of the Nunavik Indigenous Guardians Initiative, wardens continue to document and report observations on environmental and climate changes on the land.
- We took part in monthly meetings of the KRG/DFO Liaison Committee.
- Recruitment for a warden in Aupaluk is ongoing.
- DFO currently has assigned officers to work within Nunavik.
- We are working with wardens and the KRG IT Section to overcome technical issues for all wardens to submit weekly reports.
- The Program Coordinator provided Auxiliary Coast Guard courses in several NV.

3. ENVIRONMENT

Residual Material Management

- Metal recycling project: completion of work in Quaqtaq with 500 bales produced and 120 end-of-life vehicles decontaminated. Twelve open-top containers of metal were shipped from Kangirsuk including 20 crates of dangerous goods, and 400 bales of metal shipped from Aupaluk. The lateral shipment of equipment to Kangirsujuaq has been done in order to start the project in 2025.
- Composting project: Kangiqsualujuaq and Kuujuaq composting sites have been built with equipment installed. Operations are planned to start in 2025.
- Drop-off points: Tasiujaq and Aupaluk drop-off site construction is completed and equipment installed. Ivujivik and Akulivik drop-off site construction is delayed to 2025 due to a lack of available heavy equipment.
- Operational drop-off points and ecocentre: Tasiujaq and Kangirsujuaq are ready to be operational. Operations training was provided to the Kangirsujuaq assistant town manager and landfill operator.
- Selective collection project: An agreement was signed among Eco-Entreprises Québec, the KRG and NV Kuujuaq for a Kuujuaq selective collection project in 2025.
- Recycling materials: to date in 2024, almost 20 containers of used tires, four containers of used electronics, three containers of used appliances, 30 bins of used paints and 40 crates of dangerous goods were sent to South for recycling.
- Project Waste-To-Energy: staff undertook visits to the ESANI Incinerator in Sisimiut (in construction) and Nuuk (in operation) in Greenland. We met with local authorities to understand better waste management practices and operations. The visit also helped to provide insight on an upcoming feasibility study for a Kuujuaq incinerator.

Granular Material Management

- Potential Gravel Pit Surveys:
 - KRG surveyed a new potential site, and a report will be sent to the NV before the end of the year.
 - A potential gravel site was surveyed with support from the NV and Pituvik Landholding Corporation. A report will follow.
- Sand and Gravel Pit Opening Process:
 - Tasiujaq will open a new sand pit and expand an existing one. Approval from the MELCCFP for the new sand pit is expected by the end of 2024.
- Archaeological Survey:
 - Avataq conducted archaeological assessments prior to gravel pit surveys. No artifacts were found in Kuujjuaraapik and Inukjuak sites. In Umiujaq, a potential pre-Dorset house was identified and avoided during the survey.
- Administrative Management:
 - KRG renewed non-exclusive leases with six NV that requested assistance, with a new, three-year term lease (instead of a one-year). The KRG also assisted five NV with annual extraction reporting, covering related fees.
- Abandoned Sand Pit Restoration:
 - In Puvirnituq, of eight sites prioritized by the NV for restoration in 2023, two sites (2.26 and 2.01 hectares) were restored in August.
 - In Kangirsujuaq, eight sites were identified by the NV and the LHC. One high-priority site (0.6 hectares) was restored, and a technical report will be presented by the end of 2024.

Spill Management

- During the period, 22 spills were reported to the KRG: seven from mining companies and 15 reported or observed from regional organizations.
- Environmental prevention inspections were undertaken in Kuujuaq, Kangiqsujaq, Salluit, Akulivik, Ivujivik and Puvirnituq on heating oil tanks and drums to identify leaks or possible non-compliance. Building owners have been contacted.
- Constant follow-ups are done with all stakeholders responsible for oil spills in the region and constant communication maintained with the MELCCFP.

Climate Change and Environmental Monitoring

- A call for projects was launched on KRG social networks and website in September.
- We met with Makivvik to discuss organization of the new climate change committee.
- We completed exchanges with regional organizations for potential projects to be submitted to the program.

Regional Environment

- A NAMESR project presentation took place at the 2nd Annual OAM Workshop: <https://www.minescanada.ca/en/strategic-directions/orphaned-and-abandoned-mines>
- Caniapiscou Watershed Abandoned Outfitting Camp Clean-up:
 - Twin Otter removal of 15,000 lbs. of residual materials, including eight barrels of hydrocarbons from abandoned camps
 - Schefferville-based cleanup removed residual materials from abandoned camps: 32,000 lbs removed, including 26 barrels of hydrocarbons
- Mid-Canada Line: Signing of a \$1.36 million agreement with MELCCFP for cleanup and characterization of Mid-Canada line sites 315A and 330A
- Water source protection: Finalization of drinking water source vulnerability reports for Inukjuak and Akulivik. Reports soon will be shared with the communities.

4. LAND USE PLANNING

Regional Planning

- During the period, four projects of land use occupation were approved: one involving Impact-Causing Exploration Work that required a new authorization from the MRNF. Also, the MRNF requested our feedback on two new land lease requests. The Executive Committee is recommending the MRNF suspend granting of land leases until clean up and repair are completed by the owner of the exploration camp.
- In September, 62 sites were inspected (south of the region):
 - Mining activities: 15 sites
 - Outfitting activities: 27 sites
 - Private camp: 9 sites
 - Fuel cache: 3 sites
 - Mid-Canada Line sites: 4 sites
 - Activity type unknown: 4 sites
- We provide feedback on proposed mining developments and new legislation, including:
 - to Impact Assessment Agency of Canada on Strange Lake Rare Earth Mining Project
 - to MRNF on Bill 63 – An Act to amend the Mining Act and Other Provisions

- to MELCCFP on Proposed Modernization of Regulatory Framework for Water Environments (Permanent Regime) and Proposed Framework for Flood Protection Works
- to MAMH on the By-Law Respecting Land Use, Social and Environmental Protection (also involving an in-person meeting with MAMH in October)
- in virtual meeting of the Advisory Committee to finalize Chapter 8 – Procedure for analysing an application for a permit, certificate or authorization of the By-Law Respecting Land Use, Social and Environmental Protection

Municipal Planning, Expansion Plans and Technical Assistance Program

- Assistance provided during land use committee in Inukjuak for a new expansion area.
- The format of new master plans for Kuujjuarapik, Puvirnituk, Ivujivik, Kangiqsujuaq, Inukjuak and Quaqtaq has been modified to address feedback from communities.
- Land use teams visited Kangiqsualujuaq to provide technical assistance with the annual update of the civic numbers map.
- The GIS database has been updated, identifying new roads, buildings and cadastral data for all communities.
- Data collected during public consultations in Puvirnituk, Tasiujaq and Kangirsuk in April is being analyzed.
- Civic number basemaps were produced and sent to all NV, except Kangiqsualujuaq (missing road name). Updated maps are available on the KRG website.
- Technical assistance was provided for new housing localization in Aupaluk and Salluit, in partnership with Makivvik and KRG Municipal Public Works.
- Discussions continue with the NLHCA and consultants to develop an online web platform for issuing permits.

PROTECTED AREAS

20% Protected Areas

- During the period, we took part in meetings of the subcommittee on implementation of specific commitments on mining activities in the Nachicapau Lake Area. Discussions continue on conditions to be issued within the future Reserve to the State.
- We participated in meetings of the Nordic Conservation Territories (NCT) Pilot Project Committee. The objective is to designate NCT to protect 30 percent of the Plan Nord area by 2035. The committee consists of representatives from Naskapi Nation, MELCCFP, Plan Nord and KRG. A pilot project targets territory of interest to Naskapis.
- Nunavik Protected Areas Consultation Phase 2:
 - Seven pre-engagement sessions were held virtually with Tasiujaq, Kuujuaq, Aupaluk, Akulivik, Puvirnituk, Salluit, Ivujivik, Kuujuaq and Kawawachikamach with the following objectives:
 - Provide an overview of Phase 1 consultations held in 2022-2023.
 - Explain the approach for Phase 2.
 - Guide the community in selecting four representatives who will participate in Engagement Sessions along with other communities concerned with the different protected areas.
 - An Engagement Session was held in Salluit with representatives from Puvirnituk, Akulivik, Ivujivik and Salluit to discuss the Kuuvik River Proposed Aquatic Reserve, with the following objectives:

- Discuss precise and fine boundaries of the protected area to make recommendations on how they would better fit the needs for conservation of land and culture.
- Reflect on development opportunities for the protected area with concerned communities.

Park projects – Ilulissat National Park

- A new Québec Government proposal for the park project boundary was presented to Working Group members in Salluit. This proposal does not include the entire study area of the park project defined by the Working Group in 2015. The Working Group disagrees with this proposal; insisting the entire study area should be the proposed boundary.
- A letter, on behalf of the Ilulissat National Park Project Working Group, was sent to two mining claims holders in the southern part of the park project study area to ask them to abandon claims so that the park project can continue its planning, and to reiterate that these proponents do not have the support of the Working Group and the communities of Salluit and Ivujivik.

5. NUNAVIK PARKS

Number of visitors: September 2 to October 31

	# visitors in the park	# of visitors to the exhibition
Pingualuit	n/a	93
Kuururjuaq	n/a	150
Ulittaniujalik	n/a	n/a
Tursujuq	174	121

- Nunavik Parks has launched 20th anniversary activities.
- A survey was sent to visitors to Nunavik Parks to find out about their satisfaction with 2024 summer packages.
- Dates for winter 2025 packages have been announced; summer 2025 dates will soon follow.
- A first newsletter and email was sent to a list of over 325 people registered at the outdoor adventure show requesting promotional support for 2025 winter packages.
- Nunavik Parks participated at the 10th anniversary of Nurrait, Jeunes Karibus.
- Our Customer Service and Marketing Agent took part in a media exchange, in partnership with Nunavik Tourism. Over 35 journalists and influencers took part.
- Multiple interviews were conducted to promote activities surrounding the 20th anniversary of Nunavik Parks with media that included Nunatsiaq news, CBC Tuttavik, CBC North Iqaluit and Radio-Canada.
- A poster was designed for each village associated with the parks to promote local activities surrounding the 20th anniversary.
- Location of the future Kuujjuaq pavilion is being reviewed by NV Kuujjuaq and LHC. Once approved, an environmental impact assessment phase 1 will be done. An architect is working on costs and drawings that will be submitted by end of November.
- Our maintenance technician travelled to Umiujaq to inspect the camp at Isuani. He was not able to inspect the camp in Tasiujaq lake due to the weather.

Conservation and education

- Beaver monitoring was completed in parc national Tursujuq in early September. The Nunavik Research Centre biologist and Anguvigaaq manager from Umiujaq took part in field work along with the conservation and education specialist.
- Water loggers were deployed in Koroc River to measure water levels and temperature.
- Loggers were deployed in parc national des Pingualuit to monitor bird phenology, which were programmed to start recording in April 2025 when birds return to nests.
- Anti-poaching patrols were conducted in collaboration with a MELCCFP game warden in parc national Kuururjuaq and parc national Ulittaniujalik areas.

Parc national des Pingualuit

- There were 93 visitors to the interpretation centre during the period.
- Our Customer Service and Marketing Agent and a Nunatsiaq News journalist took part in the new Qingngua package to document its offering for future visitors. There were four press articles published about this trip.
- Renovations took place in Manarsulik to construct outside porches at the camps.
- Three staff undertook WHMIS (workplace hazardous materials information system) training.
- The camps are now closed for the winter.
- A qajaq building activity took place to mark the 20th anniversary of parc national des Pingualuit. Qajakkut Society, along with an historian from Portland, Oregon, built a replica of Masiu Ningiuruvik's qajaq that sits in the pavilion. A big crowd witnessed this special moment, and tried out the qajaq replica on Kangiqsujuq Bay.

Parc national Kuururjuaq

- There were 150 visitors to the interpretation centre during the period.
- Avataani Environmental prepared and sent out 170 old drums by sealift.
- Two groups of students went boating for a day.
- Qurlutuarjuq and Iberville basecamps were closed up for the winter.
- A caribou skin tanning process and Ramah chert activities took place to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Nunavik Parks. Locals and school groups joined in these activities.
- A new park warden, Matthew Hubloo Etok, was hired.

Parc national Ulittaniujalik

No activities for parc national Ulittaniujalik occurred during this period.

Parc national Tursujuq

- There were 174 visitors inside the park, 121 visitors at the pavilion/transit.
- Two groups visited Wiyâshâkimî for multiple days .
- A group of Air Inuit employees visited the park as part of Immersion Nunavik program.
- A one-day trip to Nastapoka with a group from KEAC was organized.
- The park organized a student visit to the pavilion to learn about Qiviut making.
- Jeannie Calvin was hired as visitor experience officer based in Kuujjuaraapik.
- Park wardens retrieved kayaks on Quurnguq island that were left during a package.
- Park wardens installed a solar panel system in Nastapoka and Sukkuq cabins. Both camps are now closed for the winter.
- The park held a harmonization committee meeting at the pavilion in October.
- In October, the park organized a community barbecue as a 20th anniversary event. Story telling by Elders and a qullik lighting ceremony followed.

APPENDIX A

STAFF

DIRECTOR, Markusi Qisiiq, Kangirsujuaq, mqisiiq@krg.ca, 819-338-3282, ext.: 223

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, Renewable Resources, Steven Kleist, Kuujjuaq, skleist@krg.ca, ext.: 2356

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, Environment-Lands, Veronique Gilbert, Kuujjuaq, vgilbert@krg.ca, ext.: 2324

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, Park Operations, Catherine Noiseux, Kuujjuaq, cnoiseux@krg.ca, ext.: 2280

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR, Vacant

ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNICIANS,

Annie Johannes Jr, Kuujjuaq, ajohannesjr@krg.ca, ext: 2265

Mary Ann Annanack, Kuujjuaq, myannanack@krg.ca, ext.: 2392

Hunter Support Program

COORDINATOR, Betsy Berthe, Kuujjuaq, bberthe@krg.ca, ext.: 2405

HSP REGIONAL AGENTS

Lucy Kritik, Quaqtaq lkritik@krg.ca, 819-492-9056

Vacant

Uumajuit Wardens

COORDINATOR, Michael Cameron, Salluit, mcameron@krg.ca, 819-255-8627/8801 ext.: 227

WARDENS

Elijah Etok, Kangiqsualujjuaq, etok@krg.ca, 819-337-5508

Vacant, Kuujjuaq

Willie Cain, Tasiujaq, 819-633-5312

Aupaluk, Vacant,

Zebedee Annahatak, Kangirsuk, zannahatak@krg.ca, 819-935-4571

Norman Arnatuk, Quaqtaq, narnatuk@krg.ca, 819-492-9136

Matthew Arngak, Kangirsujuaq, marngak@krg.ca, 819-338-0630

Putulik Cameron, Salluit, pcameron@krg.ca, 819 255 8801 ext. 231

Markusie Naulituk, Ivujivik, mnaulituk@krg.ca, 819-922-0665

Henry Alayco, Akulivik, halayco@krg.ca, 819-496-2735

Kulu Escobar Tukalak, Puvirnituk, ktukalak@krg.ca

Johnny Mina, Inukjuak, jmina@krg.ca, 819-254-8429

Solomon Masty, Kuujjuaraapik, smasty@krg.ca, 819-929-9982

UUMAJUIT TECHNICIANS

Charlie Kumarluk, Umiujaq, ckumarluk@krg.ca, 819-331-7078

Land Use

COORDINATOR: Sandrine Lachance, Kuujjuaq, slachance@krg.ca, ext : 2340
PLANNERS

Emilie Dalpé-Turcotte, Kuujjuaq, edturcotte@krg.ca, ext.: 2360

Joachim Villanove, Kuujjuaq, JVillanove@krg.ca

Vacant

PROJECT MANAGER Vacant

GEOMATICS SPECIALIST, Landy Cyprien lcyprien@krg.ca

PARK PLANNER, Marianne Ricard, Kuujjuaq, mricard@krg.ca, ext.: 2254

Environment

SPECIALISTS

Aglaé Boucher-Telmosse abtelmosse@krg.ca, ext.: 2353

Ian Lapointe, Nunavik, ilapointe@krg.ca

Ahmed Kouki, Kuujjuaq, akouki@krg.ca, ext.: 2316

Mathieu Tosolini, Kuujjuaq, mtosolini@krg.ca ext: 2349

Loic Kevin Ziemi, Kuujjuaq, lksiemi@krg.ca

Megane Lelier, Kuujjuaq, mlelier@krg.ca

PROJECT MANAGERS

Dagoberto Hernandez dhernandez@krg.ca

Ghita Amor GAamor@krg.ca

METAL RECYCLING PROJECT FOREMAN, Yves Bédard, ybedard@krg.ca

OPERATOR METAL RECYCLING PROJECT : David Hardy dhardy@krg.ca

TECHNICIAN, Steve Breton, Salluit sbreton@krg.ca

TECHNICIAN, Vacant

NUNAVIK INUIT RESEARCH ADVISOR, Monica Nashak, Kuujjuaq, mnashak@krg.ca, ext.: 2276

NUNAVIK CLIMATE CHANGE LIAISON ADVISOR, Myriam D-Malenfant mdmalenfant@krg.ca

Nunavik Parks - Kuujjuaq

COORDINATOR MANAGEMENT, Lucy Abraham, labraham@krg.ca, ext.: 2339

EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION SPECIALISTS

Isabeau Pratte, ipratte@krg.ca, ext.: 2321

Corentin Chaillon, cchaillon@krg.ca, ext.: 2335

EDUCATION TECHNICIAN; Patrick Maltais, pmaltais@krg.ca, ext. 2343

CUSTOMER SERVICE / MARKETING AGENT, Marie-Ève Charlebois, mecharlebois@krg.ca, ext.: 2411

VISITOR EXPERIENCE TECHNICIAN, Camille Baril-Laflamme, cblafamme@krg.ca, ext.: 2338

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN, Christian Bettez, Kuujjuaq, cbettez@krg.ca, ext.: 2266

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN, Christian Laatour, Kuujjuaq, clatour@krg.ca, ext.: 2267

PROJECT MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE, Joseph Murenzi, Kuujjuaq, jmurenzi@krg.ca

SAFETY TECHNICIAN, Roxane Archambault, Kuujjuaq, rarchambault@krg.ca, ext.: 2246

Pingualuit

DIRECTOR, Mary A. Pilurtoot, Kangiqsujaq, mpilurtoot@krg.ca, 819-338-3282

OPERATION COORDINATOR, James Greig, Kangiqsujaq, jgreig@krg.ca, 819-338-3282

VISITOR EXPERIENCE OFFICER, Maali Tukirqi, Kangiqsujaq, mtukirqi@krg.ca, 819-338-3282

ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNICIANS

Lydia Kiatainaq, Kangiqsujaq, lkiatainaq@krg.ca 819-338-3282

Qullik Kiatainaq, Kangiqsujaq, qkiatainaq@krg.ca, 819-338-3282

PARK WARDENS

Noah Annahatak, Kangiqsujaq, nannahatak@krg.ca, 819-338-1295

Adamie Tuniq, Kangiqsujuaq, atuniq@krg.ca, 819-338-1295
Vacant

Kuururjuaq and Ulittaniujalik

DIRECTOR, Charlie Munick, Kangiqsualujjuaq, cmunick@krg.ca, 819-337-5454

OPERATION COORDINATOR, Jari Leduc, Kangiqsualujjuaq, jleduc@krg.ca, 819-337-5454

VISITOR EXPERIENCE OFFICER, Saladie Snowball, Kangiqsualujjuaq, sasnowball@krg.ca, 819-337-5454

ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNICIANS

Cecilia Emudluk, Kangiqsualujjuaq, cemudluk@krg.ca, 819-337-5454,

Jessie Baron, Kangiqsualujjuaq, jbaron@krg.ca, 819-337-5454

PARK WARDENS

Imaapik Brazeau, Kangirsualujjuaq, ibrazeau@krg.ca, 819-337-5454

Edward Snowball, Kangirsualujjuaq, edsnowball@krg.ca, 819-337-5454

Vacant

Tursujuq

DIRECTOR, Bobby Alec Tooktoo, Umiujaq, btooktoo@krg.ca, 819-331-5454

OPERATION COORDINATOR, Jack Niviaxie, janiviaxie@krg.ca, 819-331-5454

VISITOR EXPERIENCE OFFICER UMIUJQAQ, Anna-Kim Page Cornforth, 819-331-5454

VISITOR EXPERIENCE KUJJUARAAPIK, vacant

ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNICIANS

Suvaki Tooktoo, Umiujaq, stooktoo@krg.ca, 819-331-5454

Vacant

PARK WARDENS

Joshua Davidee Sala, Umiujaq, jdsala@krg.ca, 819-331-5454

Putulik Tooktoo, Umiujaq, ptooktoo@krg.ca, 819-331-5454

PARK MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

Johnny Kasudluak, Umiujaq, jkasudluak@krg.ca, 819-331-5454