

# **PROJECT NOTICE**

WAASIGAN TRANSMISSION LINE AQUATICS SURVEYS (SURFACE WATER, FISH AND FISH HABITAT)
DRYDEN DISTRICT AND UPDATES TO BREEDING BIRD SURVEYS



### **JUNE 1, 2022**

This notice provides information on the upcoming aquatics field surveys, including surface water, fish and fish habitat surveys, planned in the Dryden area (specifically within the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry [NDMNRF] Dryden District). Additional notices will be provided prior to the start of aquatics field surveys planned within the NDMNRF Districts of Fort Frances and Thunder Bay.

These surveys will require a Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes from NDMNRF before work begins. NDMNRF will be providing additional notification letters to Indigenous communities before issuing these permits.

This notice also provides updates to timing and additional field crews for the planned breeding bird surveys described in the previous Project Notice dated May 19, 2022.

## Why is a Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes required?

Studies or work that involve collecting or moving fish require a licence from NDMNRF. In this case, we are conducting baseline fish studies to support the environmental assessment. Fish captured are used for data collection only (e.g., species identification, weight and measurement) and will be released.

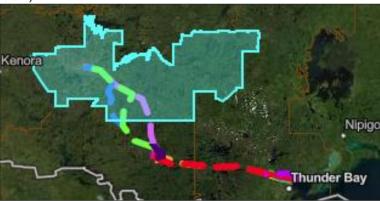
#### **SURVEY INFORMATION**

The table below provides information on the surface water, fish and fish habitat surveys:

	SURFACE WATER, FISH AND FISH HABITAT
WHY are we doing the surveys?	<ul> <li>To characterize existing watercourses and water bodies including fish habitat and fish communities.</li> </ul>
WHAT activities are involved?	<ul> <li>Field crews will visit watercourses and waterbodies potentially crossed by the Project to complete:         <ul> <li>Fish Habitat Assessments (e.g., habitat type, identify special features, etc.);</li> <li>Fish Community Surveys (i.e., backpack electrofishing); and</li> <li>Surface Water Assessments (e.g., stream flow measurements, topographic information, and water quality measurements).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
WHEN will the surveys happen?	<ul> <li>Surveys will take place between June 16 and September 30, 2022. The start of the field surveys is dependent on receiving the Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes from the NDMNRF.</li> <li>This notice includes surveys planned between June 16 and 28 within the NDMNRF Dryden District.</li> </ul>

WHERE will the survey take place?

- Surveys will take place at watercourses and waterbodies of various sizes and types
  potentially crossed by the Project with a focus on sites that do not have existing baseline
  information, as requested by the NDMNRF.
- This notice includes surveys planned within the NDMNRF Dryden District (refer to map below).



#### PROPOSED SURVEY LOCATIONS

The proposed survey locations can be viewed online using a Webviewer at the link below.

We welcome any feedback on the proposed survey locations. Maps of the survey locations are also available for download at the link below. Comments can be made in the field map book and sent back to us via email.

## CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE WEBVIEWER FOR FIELD SURVEY LOCATIONS

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE FIELD MAP BOOK

If there is any information regarding the locations or timing of the proposed surveys that you would like us to be aware of, please contact us using the contact details below. **Comments would be appreciated by June 10. 2022** so that they can be considered prior to the start of field work.

#### INDIGENOUS PARTICIPATION

Golder is still looking to hire Indigenous field crew members, and communities can also participate by sending community-hired field monitors. The tables below describe the general area that each crew plans to cover. There is currently capacity for additional community members within all crews.

The table below provides a summary of the first aquatics field crews to start in June. Details for additional and subsequent terrestrial and aquatics field crews will be shared in later field work notices.

Survey	Tentative Dates	Crew	Need for Additional Indigenous Field Crew Members	Approximate Geographic Extent / Traditional Territory to be Covered
Surface Water, Fish Habitat and Fish Community Surveys	June 16-28	Three Golder crews including two crew members each (non-Indigenous)	Two Indigenous field crew member positions available.	Focus on the section around Dryden

Golder has retained Giiwedin / NorthWinds Environmental Services to support with the breeding bird surveys, as summarized in the table below. Additional field crews will support the breeding bird surveys that are described in detail in the previous Project Notice, dated May 19, 2022. Please note that the breeding bird surveys are weather-dependent and the exact dates could vary based on current weather conditions.

Survey	Tentative Dates	Crew	Need for Additional Indigenous Field Crew Members	Approximate Geographic Extent / Traditional Territory to be Covered
Breeding Birds	June 10-15	Two Giiwedin / NorthWinds crew members (both non-Indigenous).	Four Indigenous field crew member positions available.	Focus on the section around Atikokan and Ignace
Breeding Birds	June 17-23	Two Giiwedin / NorthWinds crew members (both non-Indigenous).	Four Indigenous field crew member positions available.	Focus on the section around Dryden
Breeding Birds	July 6-10	One to two Giiwedin / NorthWinds crew members (both non-Indigenous).	Three Indigenous field crew member positions available.	Focus on the section around Thunder Bay

To ensure community-hired field monitors are protected, Hydro One requires proof of the following:

- · Property damage and public liability insurance coverage; and
- Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) registration.

If you have any questions or concerns pertaining to these requirements, please contact us so that we can work together to ensure there are no barriers to Indigenous community participation in these field surveys.

Indigenous field crew members hired directly by Golder will be covered under Golder's WSIB and liability insurance. This hiring process can take approximately 1 to 2 weeks.

Another option for participation is a one-day site visit where members of your community can join a crew in the field to discuss the work being completed. If there is any interest in this approach, please let us know and we can work together to plan a visit.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

We encourage you to ask questions and provide comments on the proposed field work. If you are interested in any of the positions above or have comments on the proposed field work, please contact Golder's Environmental Assessment Specialist, Heather Kyer, at 613-314-8473 or heather.kyer@wsp.com.