

Files: Project Description and Draft Scoping Documents  
 Operator: Multiklient Invest  
 Program: Seismic Survey 2024-2028

Comment #	Section#; Page #; Paragraph/Sentence#	Report Text	DFO Comment/Clarification Request
1	<b>Section 1.0: Introduction</b> , page 1, Figure 1.1	Project Description	<p><b>Study area overlaps 4 Marine Conservation Areas in the NL Region:</b></p> <p>NE NL Slope OECM            Division 30 Coral Closure            Funk Island Deep (?)            Laurentian Channel MPA</p> <p>It also overlaps with the St Anne's Bank MPA in Maritimes Region.            Suggest adding polygons of these areas to Figure 1.1</p>
2	<b>Section 1.0: Introduction</b> , page 1, Figure 1.1	Project Description	Co-ordinates for wxyz: is this because of St. Pierre/ Canada EEZ? Clarification recommended.
3	<b>Section 2.1: Spatial and Temporal Boundaries</b> , page 4, Table 2.1	Project Description	Co-ordinates seem to be switched for latitude and longitude. Revisions recommended.
4	<b>Section 2.2.1: Objectives and Rationale</b> , page 5	Project Description	Points of information: activities are assessed on a case by case basis for OECMs; no oil and gas activity allowed inside Laurentian Channel MPA.

5	<p><b>Section 2.2.7: Seismic Streamers and Ocean Bottom Nodes</b>, page 7, paragraph 2, sentence 2 -  <i>"Nodes are placed in an orderly grid on the seafloor"</i>.</p>	Project Description	<p>Throughout the EA process, recommend providing information on the following to facilitate DFO's assessment: 1) how will the ocean bottom nodes be deployed/recovered? 2) is there any lateral movement expected for the nodes? 3) what is the benthic footprint of a node (including any lateral movement)? 4) what are the locations of node placement? 5) what benthic habitat and species (including species at risk) will/could be present in locations of node placement? 6) does the number of 1000-3000 OBNs which may be used represent the entire 4 year program, 1 survey year, or for a single section/area being surveyed? 7) how many node placement locations will there be?</p>
6	<p><b>Section 2.2.8: Testing of Modified Airgun Activation Procedure</b>, page 7, paragraph 1</p>	Project Description	<p>This section of the project EA should include a description of how the eSeismic airgun activation procedure may differently affect pelagic and benthic fish, shellfish, species at risk, marine mammals and sea turtles in comparison to standard procedures.</p>
7	<p><b>Section 2.3: Mitigation and Monitoring for Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles and Seabirds</b>, page 9, paragraph 1</p>	Project Description	<p>This section of the project EA should include coral and sponges, special/sensitive areas, and methodologies to avoid sensitive species (in particular corals and sponges). For the Laurentian Channel MPA, reference should be made to sea pens, smooth skate, Porbeagle shark, Leatherback sea turtle, Northern wolffish, black dogfish.</p>
8	<p><b>Section 3.3: Effects of the Project on VECs</b>, page 10, paragraph 1</p>	Project Description	<p>VECs should also include corals and sponges, Atlantic cod, species in the Laurentian Channel MPA, and sensitive areas.</p>
9	<p><b>Section 3: Scope of Project</b>, bullet 3.2 - <i>Potential use of Ocean Bottom Nodes (OBN) in conjunction with streamers to acquire seismic data</i></p>	Draft Scoping Document	<p>ROVs are sometimes used to place OBNs on the seafloor in complex bathymetry or when water depth &gt; 100 m. Will that be an option for portions of the survey being proposed to occur within OECMs?</p>

10	<b>Section 5.2.3 to 5.2.7: Marine and/or Migratory Birds, Marine Fish and Shellfish, Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, SAR, and Sensitive Areas</b> , pages 6-8	Draft Scoping Document	Suggest the first sentence in each of the above noted should read "...changes to the following and any data and/or information gaps noted with respect to (Marine Birds, Mammals, etc.) in applicable, recent EAs for Exploratory Drilling.
11	<b>Section 5.2.7: Sensitive Areas</b> , page 8	Draft Scoping Document	This section of the project EA should include: Coral and Sponge focused OECMs (Northeast Newfoundland Slope, 30); the LC MPA (focused on sea pens, fish, turtle and shark); Atlantic cod focused OECM (Funk Island Deep)
12	<b>Section 5.2.8: Noise/Acoustic Environment</b> , page 8	Draft Scoping Document	This section of the project EA should include a description of sound levels that may be expected at distances from the source throughout the water column, and how these may affect pelagic and benthic species.