



Anne Gunn

# A MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BATHURST CARIBOU HERD

PREPARED BY  
THE BATHURST CARIBOU MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE



NOVEMBER 4, 2004

In Memory of  
Francis Blackduck  
Rae, NWT.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction.....	4
The Bathurst Caribou Management Planning Committee.....	4
The Bathurst Caribou Management Plan.....	5
Why we need a Management Plan.....	5
The Bathurst Herd.....	6
Bathurst Caribou Management Framework.....	9
1. Healthy caribou and caribou numbers.....	10
2. Caribou Habitat.....	15
3. Working Together.....	16
Bathurst Caribou Management Action Plan.....	19
Glossary.....	39
Acknowledgements.....	40
Appendix A: Bathurst Barren Ground Caribou Management Planning Agreement.....	42
Appendix B: How We Wrote The Management Plan.....	50

# INTRODUCTION

This plan provides a framework for the long-term conservation of the Bathurst caribou herd and the land that the herd uses. This plan is about cooperation, healthy caribou and healthy caribou numbers, protecting caribou habitat and managing harvesting. Through the implementation of monitoring and management actions identified in this plan, all the users of the herd and the herd's range can work together to ensure the herd's health and abundance so that, in turn, we can maintain and foster traditional and other harvesting for the benefit of all people, now and in the future.

This plan should be considered the recommendation of the Bathurst Caribou Management Planning Committee and not necessarily the position of the organizations or agencies that appointed members to the Committee. There have been, and continue to be, some differences in opinion regarding approaches to monitoring and management, however all Committee members shared the vision of cooperation and the continued well being of the Bathurst herd and its habitat.

## The Bathurst Caribou Management Planning Committee

The Committee consisted of representatives from federal, territorial and Aboriginal governments, First Nations, Inuit organizations, Institutions of Public Government and communities on or adjacent to the herd's range. The Committee was formed in April 2000 through the Bathurst Caribou Management Planning Agreement (Appendix A). This Agreement established the process for plan development and principles guiding development of the management plan. Committee members have worked together to draft this management plan on behalf of the people who share and rely on the Bathurst caribou herd. Appendix B provides additional information on how the Committee prepared this plan.

The Committee was formed to recommend management and monitoring actions that apply specifically to the Bathurst herd. However, the Committee recognizes that other herds share the winter range of the Bathurst herd and recommends that management plans be developed for these herds as well. It is likely that many of the actions identified in this plan could also apply to other herds, however, the intensity of monitoring and management being recommended for the Bathurst herd may not be necessary for all herds.

## The Bathurst Caribou Management Plan

Over centuries, northern peoples have seen times of caribou abundance and times of scarcity. This plan recognizes that we cannot control the ways of the caribou, and so the proposed actions do not seek to manage caribou but instead to manage human activities that affect caribou and their habitat. This plan is about respecting caribou and ensuring that they will return after times of scarcity.

This plan was prepared based on the information provided by Committee members, aboriginal elders and technical advisors. Input and information were also obtained from a range of interested people and organizations. However, this plan remains the recommendation of the Committee and does not represent the position of any one agency, organization or individual.

This plan is being submitted to the parties to the Bathurst Caribou Management Planning Agreement for implementation. It will also be submitted for consideration by the Wek'èezhii Renewable Resources Board to be established by the Tłıchǫ Agreement.

This plan consists of two parts. The first part is the **Management Framework**, which describes what the Committee feels needs to be done. The second part is the **Action Plan** which provides details on how the recommended actions might be done and which organizations or agencies should be involved.

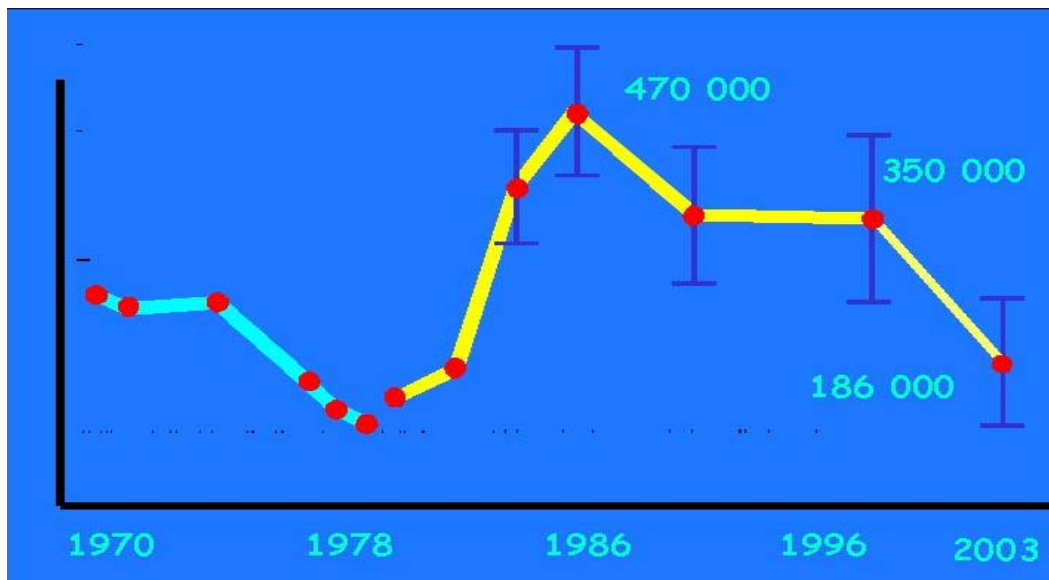


Meeting of the BCMPC, May 29, 2002 in Lutsel K'e. Clockwise from top left: Andy Swiderski (Facilitator), Phillip Kadlun, Renald Girard, Bob Turner, Attima Hadlari, Ernie Campbell and David Livingstone.

## Why We Need a Management Plan

People have depended on caribou for centuries but recent changes have brought new challenges to the well-being of caribou and to the people who depend upon and value them. Today there are concerns about industrial development, contamination, commercial harvesting and outfitting, climate changes, and increased potential for over-hunting. Recent information suggests the herd is at a trough in its natural cycle (Figure 1.). There are differing views on how the Bathurst caribou herd should be protected

and how human activities should be managed to take into account the natural cycles in herd size.



Aerial surveys with observers counting caribou were used to determine the size of the Bathurst herd in the 1970's. Aerial photographic surveys were first used in 1980. Precision of photographic surveys is illustrated in the above graph with vertical error bars.

Figure 1.

As Rosalie Drybones, a respected elder, said in 1998,

*"The caribou are not human, but like prophets they can foresee everything that's on this part of the land. They don't talk, they don't understand one another, but still that's the way they roam on the land. The old-timers have really respected the caribou because they are all we depend on. People don't do things without the caribou being aware of it."*

This management plan relies on the knowledge, expertise and active participation of all the organizations with the shared responsibility for managing human activities that affect the Bathurst caribou herd and its habitat. Implementation of this plan will help ensure that the caribou continue to return in the future

## The Bathurst Herd

The Bathurst caribou herd is named after Bathurst Inlet, which is in the area that the herd traditionally calves. There are ten Aboriginal communities on or near the range of the Bathurst herd. In some years, caribou have passed just outside the Yellowknife city limits during their winter migration.



Although cows from the Bathurst caribou herd always return to the same general area to calve, the specific area used for calving changes from year to year. The calving grounds tend to overlap in any two consecutive years, but they gradually shift over time. Inuit records show that the calving grounds used by Bathurst caribou in the 1950s were west of Bathurst Inlet. For almost three decades, between 1960 and 1990, the Bathurst herd calved east of Bathurst Inlet. Beginning in the late 1980s, the cows gradually shifted west again and were calving back in the same areas used in the 1950s, west of Bathurst Inlet. Since the 1980s, the cows have been calving between the Hood and Burnside Rivers west of Bathurst Inlet.

After calving, the cows and calves begin their migration south to the summer range. The route followed depends on which calving area they used. From the late 1990s until 2003, the route to the summer range generally followed the southeast side of Contwoyto Lake. As summer progresses, the cows meet up with the bulls and the herd moves across the summer range. Between July and September, the caribou tend to move south, then west and then northwest, almost in a counter clockwise direction. Fidelity to the summer range is high with the animals using the same general area year after year (Figure 2.).

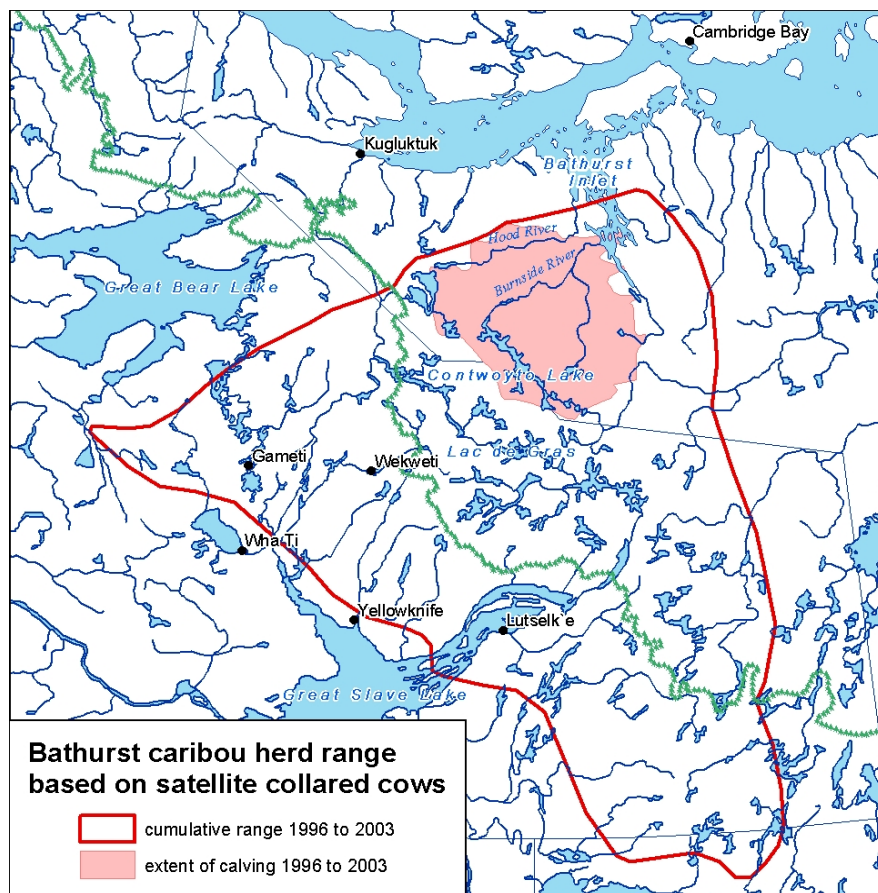


Figure 2.

Caribou distribution during the fall migration varies from year to year. The fall rut can take place on the barrens northwest of Lac de Gras or within the boreal forest.

The location of the winter range is the most variable of the ranges. Typically the Bathurst caribou winter southeast of Great Bear Lake toward Great Slave Lake, fairly close to the communities of Wekweti, Wha Ti and Gameti. In some winters, the Bathurst caribou move farther south into areas near Yellowknife and Lutsel K'e. In the winter of 1997, the Bathurst herd moved even further south and crossed into northern Saskatchewan. During winter, the range used by the Bathurst herd may overlap with neighbouring barren-ground caribou herds such as the Bluenose east, Ahiak and Beverly herds (Figure 3.).

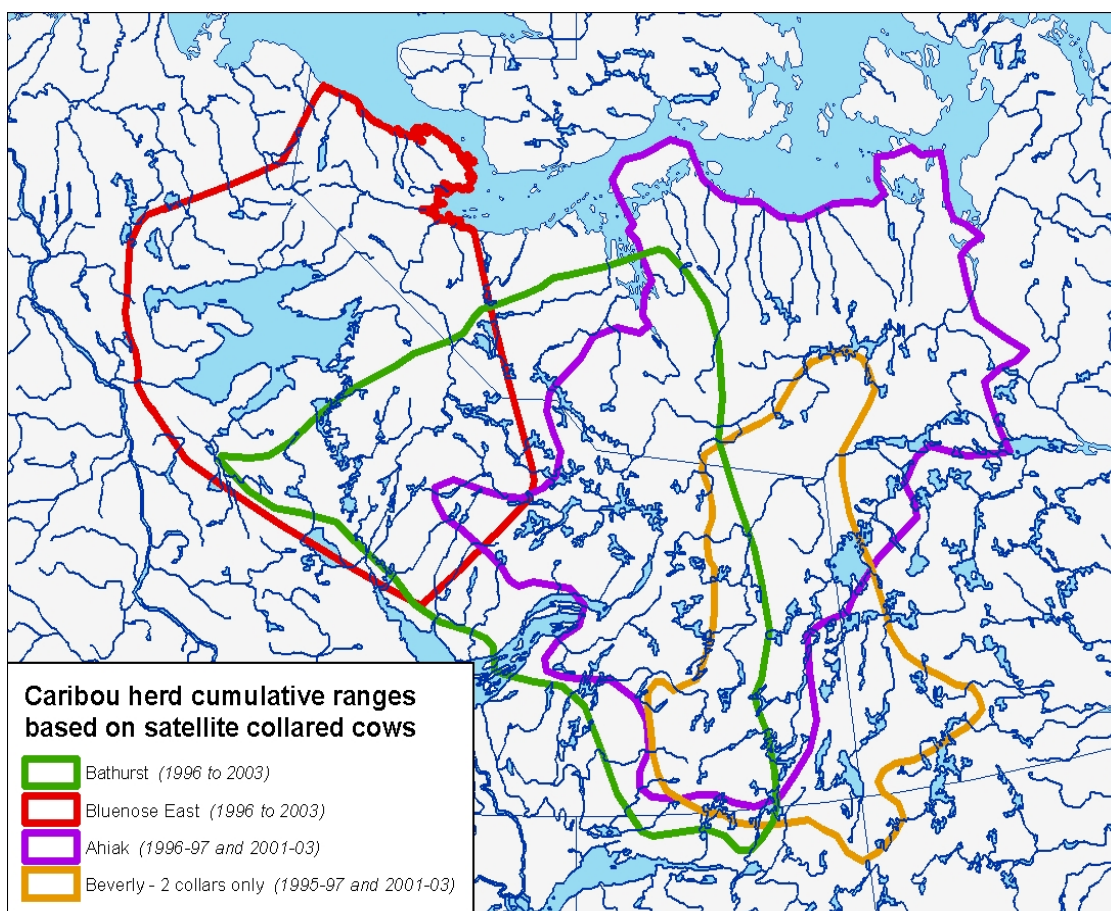


Figure 3.





Anne Gunn

## **A MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BATHURST CARIBOU HERD**

### **PART I: MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**

# BATHURST CARIBOU MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Over centuries, northern peoples have seen times of caribou abundance and times of scarcity. Although we know that we cannot prevent the caribou from following their natural cycle of abundance and scarcity, we can work together to adjust how we treat the herd and the land it uses. The Bathurst Caribou Management Framework identifies objectives for monitoring, management and cooperation. Monitoring actions are identified to ensure information on the status of the herd is obtained and management actions are identified to provide direction on what need to be done to ensure cooperation, healthy caribou and healthy caribou numbers, protection of caribou habitat and management of the harvest. In this plan the objectives and recommended actions have been categorized according to their contribution to the following: (1) Healthy Caribou and Caribou Numbers; (2) Caribou Habitat; and (3) Working Together

It is recommended that the appropriate governments, boards, agencies, organizations, companies, communities and users implement the actions contained in this plan to the best of their abilities. It is recognized that implementation of actions will be done in accordance with land claim and self-government agreements and in accordance with territorial and federal legislation.

## 1. Healthy Caribou and Caribou Numbers

### **Background**

From the shared experience of people across caribou ranges, we know what to look at to tell whether a caribou herd is healthy. A healthy caribou herd has lots of animals, pregnancy rates and calf survival are high and calves are heavy in the fall.

Caribou herds can decline if the caribou have trouble finding food. In winter, deep snow or icing may prevent caribou from being able to get to their food. In summer, mosquitoes and warble flies, or disturbance by people and machinery can cause too many interruptions to time spent foraging. Forest fires can temporarily change caribou winter habitat and reduce the amount of food available to them in an area. Fire can also rejuvenate winter habitat and ensure productive habitat is available for future generations of caribou. Dust and other environmental contaminants can affect the quality of caribou food.

Wolves, grizzly bears, wolverine, hunters and diseases can affect caribou numbers. We also know that the Bathurst herd's environment is changing due to changes in the weather (climate change) and increased industrial and recreational activity.

To ensure that caribou and caribou herds remain healthy, monitoring and management actions must be appropriate for the phase of the cycle the herd is in. There is a minimum level of monitoring and management actions that need to be in place for the herd at all times. These actions are identified in the sections below as “core” monitoring and management actions.

As the herd becomes smaller, some monitoring and management actions will need to be intensified to ensure the herd will be able to follow the natural cycle and increase in size again. Herd size is not the only threshold to trigger specific management actions. Information about herd size must be integrated with all the information collected on the herd to support decision-making. Additional monitoring and management actions are identified below for when the herd is in a declining or low phase of its cycle.

## 1.1 Objective

To monitor where the Bathurst herd is within its long-term population cycle (e.g. increasing/high, declining, or low) and factors affecting herd size to guide decisions about management actions.

### A: Core Monitoring Actions

These monitoring actions are necessary at all times during the herd’s natural cycle of abundance and should be the minimum level of monitoring for the herd.

- 1.1.1. Design and implement community-based monitoring approaches to collect information on caribou movements, calf fall body weight, health, diseases and environmental conditions.
- 1.1.2. Expand outfitter reporting to include information on caribou movements, health, diseases and environmental conditions.
- 1.1.3. Monitor calf survival every year.
- 1.1.4. Monitor for trends in the level of disease.
- 1.1.5. Obtain annual estimates of harvest levels and locations.
- 1.1.6. Compare herd distribution and harvest locations to accurately identify the proportion of the harvest that is from the Bathurst herd and the proportion that is from neighbouring herds.
- 1.1.7. Investigate local caribou die-offs.
- 1.1.8. Investigate cause of death for any deaths of collared cows.
- 1.1.9. Monitor for trends in predator abundance.
- 1.1.10. Determine the size of the herd every 6 years.
- 1.1.11. Determine adult sex ratios every 6 years.

### B: Additional monitoring actions when the herd is declining in size

These monitoring actions should be applied in addition to the core monitoring actions when censuses or other indicators such as pregnancy rates, calf survival, or fall body condition suggest the herd has started to decline in size.

- 1.1.12. Determine pregnancy rates.
- 1.1.13. Increase the accuracy and rigor of harvest monitoring.
- 1.1.14. Monitor wolf and grizzly bear productivity.
- 1.1.15. Determine the size of the herd every 4 years.
- 1.1.16. Determine adult sex ratios every 4 years.

### **C: Additional monitoring actions when the herd size is low**

These monitoring actions should be applied in addition to all actions listed above when herd size is at the low point in the cycle and indicators such as pregnancy rates, calf survival, trends in predator populations or fall body condition suggest the herd is unlikely to increase in size without intervention.

- 1.1.17. Investigate predation rates of grizzly bears and wolves on caribou.
- 1.1.18. Obtain information on each animal harvested.
- 1.1.19. Determine the size of the herd every 3 years.
- 1.1.20. Determine adult sex ratios every 3 years.

## **1.2 Objective**

To manage the harvesting of caribou by identifying appropriate harvest methods and appropriate harvest levels for high, declining and low herd size. The implementation of the following management actions and the selection of options identified within those actions will need to be made with full consideration of the information available from monitoring actions contained elsewhere in this plan.

### **Management Actions:**

These management actions are necessary at all times during the herd's natural cycle of abundance and should be the minimum level of management for the herd.

- 1.2.1. Develop, publicize and implement community based hunting rules and territorial hunting regulations in order to avoid or minimize wounding and wastage.
- 1.2.2. Patrol and inspect caribou hunting areas, communities and dumps for evidence of unacceptable handling and storage and evidence of wastage of caribou and report problems as appropriate.
- 1.2.3. Increase education and enforcement activity during peak harvesting periods.
- 1.2.4. Develop caribou population computer models to predict the impact of harvesting activity on the herd and identify appropriate harvest levels.
- 1.2.5. Adjust harvest levels and harvest activity in relation to the status of the herd in accordance with processes set out in land claim agreements and Territorial legislation.

The following sections are the Committee's recommended options on how harvest levels and harvest allocation should be changed in relation to the status of the herd.

### **When herd size is high**

The existing (2004) harvesting regulations for the Northwest Territories and Nunavut were established when the Bathurst caribou herd was estimated to be over 350,000 animals, calf recruitment was high and wolf numbers were low. The Committee determined that the herd should be considered high at that time and that the existing management actions are appropriate for when herd size is high. Existing management actions include:

- Up to 2526 tags per year are available for outfitting and commercial use in the NWT and Nunavut. The tags are not specific to the Bathurst herd and may be used for the harvest from other herds that overlap the range of the Bathurst herd.
- Extended open season for outfitting from 15 August to 30 November.
- Up to 5 tags per year are available to resident hunters in the NWT and Nunavut. The tags are not specific to the Bathurst herd and may be used for the harvest of any other barren-ground caribou herd in the territory where the hunter is resident.
- Extended open season for resident hunters from 15 August to 30 April.
- No limitations or recommendations on the numbers, age or sex of the aboriginal harvest.

### **When herd size is declining**

When censuses or other indicators such as pregnancy rates, calf survival, or fall body condition suggest the herd has declined or is declining in size the following management actions should be considered:

- Request all hunters select for bulls to reduce the harvest pressure on reproductive females.
- Restrict commercial meat harvesting to harvesting for local use.
- Reduce outfitters (non-resident) harvest and further reduce outfitters harvest if the ratio of bulls to cows in the fall is low (e.g. 30-40 bulls per 100 cows).
- Establish no hunting corridors along winter roads.
- Reduce resident hunter harvest.

### **When herd size is low**

When herd size is at the low point in the cycle and indicators such as pregnancy



rates, calf survival, trends in predator populations or fall body condition suggest the herd is unlikely to increase in size without intervention the following management actions should be considered:

- Prohibit harvests for commercial meat sales.
- Prohibit outfitter harvesting.
- Reduce resident hunter harvest, potentially to zero.
- Establish a total allowable harvest for Aboriginal hunters as set out in the Tłı̄chǝ Agreement and the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.
- Establish no hunting corridors along winter roads.
- Where wolf predation is identified as being a factor in preventing the recovery of the Bathurst herd, provide support to wolf hunters and trappers to increase the number of wolves harvested.

### **1.3 Objective**

To monitor for changes in caribou behaviour in response to environmental changes and human activity and identify ways to manage or mitigate any changes.

#### **Monitoring and Management Actions**

- 1.3.1. Monitor caribou exposure to environmental conditions (snow depths, levels of insect harassment, timing of plant green-up, lake freeze-up) and human activity (hunting camps, roads, exploration camps and mines).
- 1.3.2. Assess levels and trends of environmental contaminants (e.g. heavy metals, radionuclides) in caribou every 5 years.
- 1.3.3. Prepare and implement site-specific monitoring and mitigation programs to detect and address impacts of industrial development projects on caribou behaviour and movements.
- 1.3.4. Develop a computer model to evaluate cumulative effects of all land uses on caribou movements and population size.
- 1.3.5. Implement the Slave Geological Province Plan of Action [CEAM] recommendations with respect to caribou.
- 1.3.6. Prepare and implement monitoring and mitigation plans to detect and address potential effects of tourism and recreational activities (e.g. hunting outfitters, camps and lodges) on caribou behaviour and movements.
- 1.3.7. Prepare and publicize guidelines for exploration crews, tourism operators and others when around or observing caribou.

## 2. Caribou Habitat

### Background

The habitat needs of the herd are not well understood. Long-term research is needed to understand the interconnection of the caribou with other components of the physical, biological and cultural environment. In addition measures are needed to protect the integrity of the Bathurst caribou habitat and range.

### 2.1 Objective

To maintain the integrity of caribou habitat and to remediate sites damaged through industrial activity, especially where calving grounds, post-calving and summering areas, migration routes, water crossings, and wintering areas are involved.

### Management Actions

- 2.1.1 Map the annual extent of calving, post-calving and summering areas, migration routes, water crossings, and wintering areas.
- 2.1.2 Investigate the role of forest fires in maintaining caribou habitat and the effects of fire on the winter movement and distribution of caribou.
- 2.1.3 Investigate the implications of wood bison use of portions of the herds winter range.
- 2.1.4 Apply the measures identified in the Draft West Kitikmeot Land Use Plan designed to minimize the extent and impact of development projects' footprints on calving and post calving areas.
- 2.1.5 Develop remediation policies and approaches that will return areas damaged through industrial activity to caribou habitat.
- 2.1.6 Develop policy and measures to address the permanent loss of caribou habitat resulting from industrial activity whereby similar habitat is protected elsewhere, or protected areas are created that contain similar habitats.
- 2.1.7 Provide information needed for the NWT Protected Areas Strategy to identify, assess and create protected areas that will protect portions of the Bathurst caribou range.
- 2.1.8 Establish guidelines for mitigation of habitat changes.

## 3. Working together

### Background

Communities on or around the Bathurst caribou range have been involved in the preparation of this draft plan and it is essential that these communities have a central role in the implementation of this plan. An important part of implementing the plan will be to publicize it widely. The plan should also be used in the review of all land use and project proposals to ensure they are consistent with the objectives identified in the plan. In the case of any conflicts or differences of opinion regarding interpretation of the plan, preference should be given to the community's views.

### 3.1 Objective

To increase public and community understanding and appreciation of the Bathurst caribou herd through information and educational programs based on the different bodies of knowledge – Traditional Knowledge, Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and science.

### Management Actions

- 3.1.1. Involve elders and youth in the monitoring and management actions set out in this plan and ensure appropriate translation is available for elders.
- 3.1.2. Ensure that information on the herd and research findings are effectively communicated in the communities.
- 3.1.3. Establish trans-boundary and interagency cooperation agreements between Nunavut and the Northwest Territories to ensure consistency in managing the herd, particularly with governments and institutions of public government.
- 3.1.4. Develop community capacity to undertake monitoring programs and to share and use data.
- 3.1.5. Promote the use of existing curriculum-based caribou lessons, activities and kits in local schools.

### 3.2 Objective

To ensure that the plan is implemented and information about progress on management actions is shared with all stakeholders and users.

### Management Actions

- 3.2.1. Prepare a 10-year Implementation Schedule for the monitoring and management actions identified in this plan including roles and responsibilities, budget estimates, and criteria for measuring progress and update this Schedule annually.
- 3.2.2. Establish a secretariat to oversee implementation of the plan, to support, track and report on monitoring and management actions, to support an annual meeting and to support future reviews of the plan.

- 3.2.3. Ensure that proposed development activities are consistent with this plan.
- 3.2.4. Hold meetings of the partners on the Bathurst Caribou Management Planning Committee and other users of the herd at least once a year to monitor and discuss the plan's implementation, to assess the status of the herd and to prepare an annual report on the implementation of the plan.
- 3.2.5. Review and update the Plan at least every 5 years, or more frequently if required.
- 3.2.6. Ensure that information on the status of the Bathurst herd and monitoring and management actions is available to all interested parties.



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GNWT

## **A MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BATHURST CARIBOU HERD**

### **PART II: ACTION PLAN**

## BATHURST CARIBOU MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

The Bathurst Caribou Management Action Plan builds upon the management and monitoring actions identified in the Bathurst Caribou Management Framework. In this section, additional information is provided on how the actions recommended in the Management Framework might be implemented.

The Action Plan identifies which agencies and/or organizations should lead and participate in implementation. The Action Plan also contains information on methods the Committee identified as possible ways to implement the actions. Based on these methodologies the Committee has identified, where possible, the frequency and duration of the action, a rough budget estimates, potential funding sources and a priority rating.

It is recommended that the appropriate governments, boards, agencies, organizations, companies, communities and users implement the actions contained in this plan to the best of their abilities. It is recognized that implementation of actions will be done in accordance with land claim and self-government agreements and in accordance with territorial and federal legislation.

# BATHURST CARIBOU MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

**A: Core Monitoring Actions.**

**B: Additional monitoring actions when the herd is declining in size.**

**C: Additional monitoring actions when the herd is low.**

1. Healthy caribou and caribou numbers. 1.1 Monitoring Herd Status	LEAD/ PARTICIPANT	METHOD	FREQUENCY & DURATION	ESTIMATED COST	FUNDING SOURCE	PRIORITY
<b>A. 1.1.1. Design and implement community-based monitoring approaches to collect information on caribou movements, calf fall body weight, health, diseases and environmental conditions.</b>						
<b>NWT / North Slave Communities</b>	RWED / NSMA, YKDFN, LKDFN, and Tlicho Communities	Information on body condition and diseases should be collected using a standardized protocol during fall community hunts. Although collecting information in the fall means that direct measurements of pregnancy rates cannot be collected, body condition scores can be used to predict pregnancy rates, which can then be compared to the proportion of non-breeding cows at calving.	Annual	24000	RWED	HIGH
<b>Nunavut / Kitikmeot Communities -</b>	DE / KHTA	Monitoring in Kitikmeot communities is only necessary if the Bathurst caribou herd moves close to a community during post-calving. The protocol for information collection should be made available to Kitikmeot communities.	As Required	0	DE	HIGH

<b>1. Healthy caribou and caribou numbers.</b>	<b>LEAD/ PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>FREQUENCY &amp; DURATION</b>	<b>ESTIMATED COST</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>1.1 Monitoring Herd Status</b>						
<b>A. 1.1.2. Expand outfitter reporting to include information on caribou movements, health, diseases, and environmental conditions.</b>	RWED & DE / Barren ground Caribou Outfitters Association	A standardized reporting form should be prepared and issued to barren ground caribou outfitters to collect information on body condition and diseases in males and to establish a baseline of trophy size and age class.	Annual	5000	RWED	HIGH
<b>A. 1.1.3. Monitor calf survival every year.</b>	RWED	Conduct composition counts in late March or early April. Classify caribou as calves, cows and bulls.	Annual	22000	RWED	HIGH
<b>A. 1.1.4. Monitor for trends in levels of disease.</b>	RWED & DE	All hunters should be encouraged to report observations of diseases in harvested animals. A disease database should be created to track observations.	On Going	0		MEDIUM
<b>A. 1.1.5. Obtain annual estimates of harvest levels and locations.</b>						
<b>Resident Harvests</b>	RWED & DE	The resident harvest in the NWT should continue to be estimated using the resident hunter harvest questionnaire. Accuracy checks on the data should be conducted using information from winter road check stations.	Annual	5000	RWED	MEDIUM
<b>Non-Resident Harvest</b>	RWED & DE	The non-resident harvest from the NWT and Nunavut should continue to be monitored using existing outfitter reports.	On Going	0	RWED & DE	HIGH

<b>Commercial Harvest</b>	RWED	The commercial harvest should continue to be monitored using mandatory reporting on tag use.	On Going	0	RWED & DE	MEDIUM
<b>Non Tag Harvests -</b>	RWED / WRRB, NWT Communities	Aboriginal harvest from NWT communities should be estimated using harvest reports from community hunts and winter road check stations.	On Going	40000	RWED	HIGH
	DE / NWMB, Nunavut Communities	Methods should be investigated to cost effectively estimate the magnitude of Inuit harvest of Bathurst caribou.	On Going	0		MEDIUM
<b>A. 1.1.6. Compare herd distribution and harvest locations to accurately identify the proportion of the harvest that is from the Bathurst herd and the proportion that is from neighbouring herds.</b>	RWED	Information on location of harvest collected during harvest monitoring programs should be compared to the distribution of Bathurst caribou as documented by satellite collar location, aerial surveys and hunter reports. The use of DNA finger printing should be investigated for use when large harvests such as community harvests are conducted in areas where the herd identity cannot be determined conclusively.	On Going	0	RWED	HIGH
	DE / Nunavut Communities	Information should be collected from Kitikmeot communities during regular HTO meetings to determine which areas and which herd hunters feel they have been harvesting. Distribution of collared caribou should be provided regularly to communities.	On Going	0	DE	MEDIUM



<b>1. Healthy caribou and caribou numbers.</b>	<b>LEAD/ PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>FREQUENCY &amp; DURATION</b>	<b>ESTIMATED COST</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>1.1 Monitoring Herd Status</b>						
<b>A. 1.1.7. Investigate local caribou die-offs.</b>	RWED & DE / Others as appropriate	Upon notification of any local caribou die-offs, investigations into the cause should have to be conducted accordingly and timely with the appropriate samples and observations being recorded and collected. Sampling protocols should be established so that outfitters and hunters can collect the necessary information and samples.	As Required	TBD - Costs will vary depending on location and magnitude of die-off.	RWED, DE	MEDIUM
<b>A. 1.1.8. Investigate cause of death for any deaths of collared cows.</b>	RWED & DE / Others as appropriate	To be conducted as required when a collared caribou dies. Cause of death should be confirmed and observations of the area made if necessary to confirm any addition dead caribou.	As Required	TBD	RWED, DE	MEDIUM
<b>A. 1.1.9. Monitor for trends in predator abundance.</b>						
<b>Wolf -</b>	RWED & DE	Wolf den site occupation rates should be monitored using a comprehensive and systematic survey of known densities on the Bathurst. This data should provide a quantitative index of den site occupation rates and trend. A winter wolf-sighting index should also be developed for use during caribou distribution and composition flights.	Annual	10000	RWED	MEDIUM

<b>Grizzly Bear -</b>	RWED & DE	Hunters, outfitters and researchers should be asked to provide siting information on grizzly bears including location and number of cubs seen with females.	Annual	0	RWED	MEDIUM
<b>Wolverine -</b>	RWED & DE	Hunters should be asked to bring in the carcass of all wolverine harvested and provide information on harvest date and location (hunters would be given financial compensation for the carcass). Carcasses would be necropsied and age, sex, condition, reproductive status, condition and stomach contents would be determined.	Annual	8000	RWED & DE	MEDIUM
<b>A. 1.1.10. Determine the size of the herd every 6 years.</b>	RWED & DE	To ensure repeatability compared to the previous surveys, herd size should be determined using the photo census methods developed and tested since the early 1980s and used most recently in June 2003.	Every 6 years	200000	RWED & DE	HIGH
<b>A. 1.1.11. Determine adult sex ratios every 6 years.</b>	RWED	A sample of the herd should be classified as calves, cows and bulls (prime and younger). Timing should be toward the end of the rut when the caribou are starting to migrate. Local information and satellite-collared cows should be used determine the survey areas.	Every 6 years	38000	RWED	HIGH

<b>1. Healthy caribou and caribou numbers. 1.1 Monitoring Herd Status</b>	<b>LEAD/ PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>FREQUENCY &amp; DURATION</b>	<b>ESTIMATED COST</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>B. 1.1.12. Determine pregnancy rates.</b>	RWED / NSMA, YKDFN, LKDFN, and Tlicho Communities	Information on pregnancy should be collected at winter road check stations for cows harvested during winter and spring. When hunter reports are insufficient, composition counts should be conducted in late June as cows are leaving the calving grounds to determine the proportion of cows with velvet buttons, no visible growth and conspicuous velvet growth.	Annual	TBD	RWED & DE	HIGH
<b>B. 1.1.13. Increase the accuracy and rigor of harvest monitoring.</b>	RWED & DE / WRRB, NWMB	Conduct monthly interview harvest studies should be conducted in communities on or adjacent to the Bathurst range. Compulsory reporting should be established for resident hunters in the North Slave Region.	Annual	TBD	RWED & DE	HIGH
<b>B. 1.1.14. Monitor wolf and grizzly bear productivity.</b>	RWED & DE	Wolf pup survival should be monitored using summer surveys of den sites determined to be active during spring surveys.	Annual	10000	RWED	MEDIUM
<b>B. 1.1.15. Determine the size of the herd every 4 years.</b>	RWED & DE	To ensure repeatability compared to the previous surveys, herd size should be determined using the photo census methods developed and tested since the early 1980s and used most recently in June 2003.	Every 4 years	200000	RWED & DE	HIGH

<b>B. 1.1.16. Determine adult sex ratios every 4 years.</b>	RWED	A sample of the herd should be classified as calves, cows and bulls (prime and younger). Timing should be toward the end of the rut when the caribou are starting to migrate. Local information and satellite-collared cows should be used to determine the survey areas.	Every 4 years	38000	RWED	HIGH
<b>C. 1.1.17. Investigate predation rates of grizzly bears and wolves on caribou.</b>	RWED & DE	Data from hunter reports, officer reports and various surveys should be compiled to provide information on caribou taken or consumed by predators. However, statistically valid approaches to determining predation rates typically require very extensive and complex collaring studies.	As required	TBD - Cost will depend upon methodology selected	RWED & DE	HIGH
<b>C. 1.1.18. Obtain information on each animal harvested.</b>	RWED & DE / WRRB, NWMB	All hunters harvesting from the known distribution of Bathurst caribou should be required to provide the incisor bar of harvested caribou and provide information on sex, health and location of harvest.	As required	TBD	RWED & DE	HIGH
<b>C. 1.1.19 Determine the size of the herd every 3 years.</b>	RWED & DE	To ensure repeatability compared to the previous surveys, herd size should be determined using the photo census methods developed and tested since the early 1980s and used most recently in June 2003.	Every 3 years	200000	RWED & DE	HIGH

<b>1. Healthy caribou and caribou numbers.</b>	<b>LEAD/ PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>FREQUENCY &amp; DURATION</b>	<b>ESTIMATED COST</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>1.1 Monitoring Herd Status</b>						
<b>C. 1.1.20. Determine adult sex ratios every 3 years.</b>	RWED	A sample of the herd should be classified as calves, cows and bulls (prime and younger). Timing should be toward the end of the rut when the caribou are starting to migrate. Local information and satellite-collared cows should be used determine the survey areas.	Every 3 years	38000	RWED	HIGH
<b>1.2 Managing Caribou Harvest.</b>	<b>LEAD/ PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>FREQUENCY &amp; DURATION</b>	<b>BUDGET ESTIMATE</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>1.2.1. Develop, publicize and implement community based hunting rules and territorial hunting regulations in order to avoid or minimize wounding and wastage.</b>	RWED & DE / WRRB, NWMB, NSMA, YKDFN, LKDFN, Tliche Communities, KHTA, and Nunavut Communities	Brochures or posters should be produced in co-operation with communities promoting local traditional practices along with information from the Territorial Wildlife Acts and Regulations.	On Going	10000	RWED & DE	HIGH
<b>1.2.2. Patrol and inspect caribou hunting areas, communities and dumps for evidence of unacceptable handling and storage and evidence of wastage of caribou and report problems as appropriate.</b>	RWED & DE / WRRB, NWMB, NSMA, YKDFN, LKDFN, Tliche Communities, KHTA, and Nunavut Communities	Caribou harvesting from and along winter roads should be monitored using check stations. All harvesters should report number of caribou they harvested as well as any other observation made regarding numbers of caribou seen, additional wildlife sightings and any other items of concern.	On Going	40000	RWED	HIGH



<p><b>1.2.3. Increase education and enforcement activity during peak harvesting periods.</b></p>	<p>RWED &amp; DE / WRRB, NWMB, NSMA, YKDFN, LKDFN, Tlicho Communities, KHTA, and Nunavut Communities</p>	<p>Public relations methods should be developed and implemented for individual communities. Regular patrols should be conducted when caribou harvesting is taking place from and along winter roads. Patrol and hunter reports should be prepared and circulated.</p>	<p>On Going</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>RWED</p>	<p>HIGH</p>
<p><b>1.2.4. Develop caribou population computer models to predict the impact of harvesting activity on the herd and identify appropriate harvest levels.</b></p>	<p>RWED &amp; DE / WRRB, NWMB.</p>	<p>Harvest impact models should be developed based on existing demographic and harvest data to help predict factors affecting long-term trends.</p>	<p>On Going</p>	<p>10000</p>	<p>RWED &amp; DE</p>	<p>HIGH</p>
<p><b>1.2.5. Adjust harvest levels and harvest activity in relation to the status of the herd in accordance with process set out in land claim agreements and Territorial legislation.</b></p>	<p>NWMB, WRRB, NSMA, YKDFN, LKDFN, KHTA/ RWED &amp; DE  RWED &amp; DE</p>	<p>The options identified in the Management Framework should be considered when institutions of public government or governments make a determination and/or allocation of total allowable harvest.  Changes to territorial Wildlife Regulations should be made to implement options related to resident, non-resident and commercial harvesting as identified in the Management Framework.</p>	<p>As Required  As Required</p>	<p>TBD - Costs will depend on consultation process  0</p>	<p>NWMB, WRRB  RWED &amp; DE</p>	<p>HIGH  HIGH</p>

<b>1.3 Monitoring Environmental &amp; Cumulative effects</b>	<b>LEAD/ PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>FREQUENCY &amp; DURATION</b>	<b>ESTIMATED COST</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>1.3.1. Monitor caribou exposure to environmental conditions (e.g. snow depths, levels of insect harassment, timing of plant green-up, freeze-up) and human activity (e.g. hunting camps, roads, exploration camps and mines).</b>	RWED, DE & DIAND / Industry, NSMA, YKDFN, LKDFN, Tlicho Communities, KHTA	Agencies should continue to collect information on environmental conditions affecting caribou including snow depth and condition, ice conditions and icing frequencies, seasonal temperatures (min/max), freeze-up and break-up, snow melt patterns and plant growth, green up, insect harassment and extreme events.	On Going	Part of other existing programs		HIGH
<b>1.3.2. Assess levels and trends of environmental contaminants (e.g. heavy metals, radionuclides) in caribou every 5 years.</b>	DIAND / RWED, NSMA, YKDFN, LKDFN, Tlicho Communities	Environmental contaminants (primarily metals) should be monitored every five years in cooperation with the Northern Contaminants Program or contaminated sites projects.	Every 5 years	10000	DIAND & RWED	LOW
<b>1.3.3. Prepare and implement site-specific monitoring and mitigation programs to detect and address impacts of industrial development projects on caribou behaviour and movements.</b>	EMAB, IEMA, DIAND, RWED, MVLWB, MVEIRB, DE, NIRB, NPC, Industry	Site specific monitoring programs should be developed and implemented using standardized monitoring protocols linked to cumulative effects monitoring programs. Regulatory and enforcement agencies should continue to conduct site inspections and provide reports. Monitoring caribou behaviour and movement at development sites should be done in order to detect any long-term trends affecting health and condition, range and migration changes.	On Going	Part of other existing programs	DIAND, RWED, DE, Mining Companies, Exploration Companies, Road operators	HIGH

<p><b>1.3.4. Develop a computer model to evaluate cumulative effects of all land uses on caribou movements and population size.</b></p>	<p>EMAB, IEMA, DIAND, MVLWB, MVEIRB, RWED, NPC, NIRB, DE</p>	<p>Computer models should be developed using available information and data to make predictions about cumulative effects of human activity on the Bathurst range.</p>	<p>On Going</p>	<p>10000</p>	<p>RWED, DE, DIAND, Universities</p>	<p>HIGH</p>
<p><b>1.3.5. Implementation of the Regional Plan of Action for the Slave Geological Province (NWT and Nunavut) with respect to caribou.</b></p>	<p>All Parties to the Plan of Action</p>	<p>All parties should support implementation of the SGP Regional Plan of Action regarding Bathurst caribou and Land Use Planning, Baseline Studies &amp; Monitoring, Research, Audit &amp; Reporting, Project-Specific Screening EA &amp; Review, Regulations &amp; Enforcement and Information Management. All of which are identified in the Slave Geological Province: Cumulative Effects Assessment &amp; Management Framework Components.</p>	<p>On Going</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>CEAMF Partners</p>	<p>HIGH</p>
<p><b>1.3.6. Prepare and implement monitoring and mitigation plans to detect and address potential effects of tourism and recreational activities (e.g. Resident hunters, Outfitters, Camps, Lodges, Trails, Cabins, Low flying aircraft) on caribou behaviour and movements.</b></p>	<p>RWED, DE &amp; DIAND/ Transport Canada, Outfitters and other recreational operators</p>	<p>Regular inspections of all facilities should continue to be conducted and activities resulting in inappropriate disturbance or risk to caribou should be identified. The guidelines recommended in Section 1.3.7 should be used as appropriate. Caribou movements and behaviour should be documented when around Tourism establishments.</p>	<p>Annual and ongoing</p>	<p>Part of other existing programs</p>		<p>MEDIUM</p>

<b>1. Healthy caribou and caribou numbers. 1.3 Monitoring Environmental &amp; Cumulative effects</b>	<b>LEAD/ PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>FREQUENCY &amp; DURATION</b>	<b>ESTIMATED COST</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>1.3.7. Prepare and publicize guidelines for exploration crews, tourism operators and others when around or observing caribou.</b>	RWED, DE & DIAND/ Industry, Outfitters, other recreational operators, NSMA, YKDFN, LKDFN, Tlicho Communities, KHTA, MVLWB, NIRB	A workshop should be conducted to develop and promote guidelines to be used by industrial and recreational operations on or adjacent to the Bathurst range. These guidelines will recommend how these operators should conduct themselves when caribou are plentiful in their areas. This could include safe distances to remain from caribou, closure of roads and trails during high volume of caribou passing through, safe and passable construction of roads and embankments, construction of enclosures for contaminated sites, waste disposal and safe flight altitudes for aircraft to minimize disturbance.	On Going	10000	RWED, EC DIAND, Operators	MEDIUM
<b>2. Caribou habitat. 2.1 Habitat Integrity</b>	<b>LEAD/ PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>FREQUENCY &amp; DURATION</b>	<b>BUDGET ESTIMATE</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>2.1.1. Map the annual extent of calving, post-calving and summering areas, migration routes, water crossings and wintering areas.</b>	RWED & DE	Movements of between 10 and 20 adult female Bathurst caribou should be tracked by fitting them with satellite collars. TK, IQ and hunter reports should be incorporated into mapping projects where possible.	On Going	25000	RWED	HIGH

<p><b>2.1.2. Investigate the role of forest fires in maintaining caribou habitat and the effect of fire on the winter movement and distribution of caribou.</b></p>	<p>RWED / NSMA, YKDFN, LKDFN, Tlicho Communities</p>	<p>Annual fire history mapping should continue. Data on the movement and distribution of caribou on their winter range should be used to develop modelling capabilities and reports that will help to identify and predict shifts in the range that the caribou use. This modelling should be used to help identify areas of concern that may require protection until old burn areas become suitable habitat again for the caribou.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>RWED, DIAND</p>	<p>HIGH</p>
<p><b>2.1.3 Investigate the implications of wood bison use of portions of the herds winter range.</b></p>	<p>RWED/ NSMA, YKDFN, Tlicho Communities</p>	<p>The current distribution and habitat use of bison in the North Slave region should be determined and compared with caribou distribution and use.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>5000</p>	<p>RWED</p>	<p>LOW</p>
<p><b>2.1.4. Apply the measures identified in the Draft West Kitikmeot Land Use Plan designed to minimize the extent and impact of development projects' footprints on calving and post calving areas.</b></p>	<p>NPC / DE</p>	<p>Information from the satellite collars, aerial surveys and hunter reports should be used to determine when and where measures should be applied.</p>	<p>As Required</p>	<p>0</p>		<p>HIGH</p>
<p><b>2.1.5. Develop remediation policies and approaches that will return areas damaged through industrial activity to caribou habitat.</b></p>	<p>DIAND / All the Parties and Regulatory Authorities.</p>	<p>A workshop should be held to prepare policy and guidelines for the remediation of disturbed sites on the Bathurst range. This policy should be publicized to ensure the expectations are clear when development activities are planned and permitted.</p>	<p>2005</p>		<p>DIAND</p>	<p>MEDIUM</p>

<b>2. Caribou habitat.</b>	<b>LEAD/ PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>FREQUENCY &amp; DURATION</b>	<b>BUDGET ESTIMATE</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>2.1 Habitat Integrity</b>						
<b>2.1.6. Develop policy and measures to address the permanent loss of caribou habitat resulting from industrial activity whereby similar habitat is protected elsewhere, or protected areas are created that contain similar habitats.</b>	DIAND / All the Parties and Regulatory Authorities.	A workshop should be held to identify options to deal with permanent habitat loss on the Bathurst range. These options should be put forward to government for consideration and policy development.	2005		DIAND	MEDIUM
<b>2.1.7. Provide information needed for the NWT Protected Areas Strategy to identify, assess and create protected areas that will protect portions of the Bathurst caribou range.</b>	Secretariat / RWED, DE, DIAND & Aboriginal Governments	Reports and advice should be made available for use within the NWT Protected Areas Strategy to identify and assess potential protected areas on the Bathurst caribou range.	As Required	0		MEDIUM
<b>2.1.8. Establish guidelines for the mitigation of habitat changes.</b>	RWED, DE & DIAND/ NSMA, YKDFN, LKDFN, Tlicho Communities, KHTA, NIRB, MVLWB, NPC, MVEIRB	Lists of "best practices" should be developed and these should be used during screening, assessment and reviews of proposed projects by the responsible boards and authorizing agencies.	Ongoing	0		HIGH
<b>3. Working together</b>	<b>LEAD/ PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>FREQUENCY &amp; DURATION</b>	<b>BUDGET ESTIMATE</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>3.1 Information and Education</b>						
<b>3.1.1. Involve elders and youth in the monitoring and management actions set out in this plan and ensure appropriate translation is available for elders.</b>	All the Parties	All research projects and monitoring programs should be designed to maximize the participation of Aboriginal elders and youth and to provide training opportunities for youth.	Ongoing	Cost included in other estimates		HIGH

<p><b>3.1.2. Ensure that information on the herd and research findings are effectively communicated in the communities.</b></p>	<p>All the Parties</p>	<p>Community meetings should be held at least annually. The number of community meetings would increase during times of declining or low caribou numbers or when monitoring or research actions require community input. Other approaches to providing information to communities such as radio shows, posters, and community TV spots should also be used when appropriate.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Cost included in other estimates</p>		<p>HIGH</p>
<p><b>3.1.3. Establish trans-boundary and interagency cooperation agreements between Nunavut and the Northwest Territories to ensure consistency in managing the herd, particularly with governments and institutions of public government.</b></p>	<p>RWED &amp; DE/ NWMB, WRRB</p>	<p>Transboundary agreements should be prepared and signed off by the responsible Ministers and Boards so that responsibilities will be clearly defined.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>RWED, DE, NWMB, WRRB</p>	<p>HIGH</p>
<p><b>3.1.4. Develop community capacity to undertake monitoring programs and to share and use data.</b></p>	<p>RWED, DE, DIAND and Communities.</p>	<p>All research and monitoring programs and initiatives should include activities to develop community capacity whenever feasible. Workshops should be held to provide necessary training.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Cost included in other estimates</p>		<p>HIGH</p>
<p><b>3.1.5. Promote the use of existing curriculum-based caribou lessons, activities and kits in local schools.</b></p>	<p>Secretariat / RWED, DE, and other agencies including school boards.</p>	<p>Existing educational lessons developed by the Beverly Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board can be adopted for use by schools in communities on or near the range of the Bathurst herd. Hunter Education and elder / youth science activities should be promoted at camps and in community schools.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>0</p>		<p>MEDIUM</p>

<b>3.2 Implementation and Review</b>	<b>LEAD/ PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>FREQUENCY &amp; DURATION</b>	<b>BUDGET ESTIMATE</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>3.2.1. Prepare a 10-year Implementation Schedule for the monitoring and management actions identified in this plan including roles and responsibilities, budget estimates, and criteria for measuring progress and update this Schedule annually.</b>	Secretariat / All the Parties	The initial implementation schedule should be prepared within six months of the release of the plan and based upon input from the parties on the plan.	Ongoing	Cost included in other estimates		HIGH
<b>3.2.2. Establish a secretariat to oversee implementation of the plan, to support, track and report on monitoring and management actions, to support an annual meeting and to support future reviews of the plan.</b>	RWED, Support from Other Parties	A position should be established within RWED, North Slave Region that should coordinate the collection of monitoring data and provide analysis and reports. This position should also serve as a Secretariat as identified in this plan. Terms of reference for the duties of the Secretariat should be prepared in consultation with the Parties.	Ongoing	100000	RWED	HIGH
<b>3.2.3. Ensure that proposed development activities are consistent with this plan.</b>	Secretariat / All the Parties	All parties should be encouraged to participate fully in the review of land use applications, environmental assessments, land use planning, and development of site specific monitoring plans. The plan should be available to the public and to regulatory agencies to ensure that they can assess if activities are consistent with the plan.	Ongoing	0		HIGH



<b>3.2.4. Hold meetings of the partners on the Bathurst Caribou Management Planning Committee and other users of the herd at least once a year to monitor and discuss the plan's implementation, to assess the status of the herd and to prepare an annual report on the implementation of this plan.</b>	Secretariat / All the Parties	An annual meeting should be held in a community on the Bathurst caribou range. The meeting should be open to the public. Recent information on the herd should be provided and input should be obtained on existing and planned programs.	At least Annually	20000	RWED, DE, Others	HIGH
<b>3.2.5. Review and update the Plan at least every 5 years, or more frequently if required.</b>	Secretariat / All the Parties	The plan should be review by requesting written comments on the document followed up by conference/workshop to discuss the major issues.	Every 5 years	20000	TBD	HIGH
<b>3.2.6. Ensure that information on the status of the Bathurst herd and monitoring and management actions is available to all interested parties.</b>	RWED, Secretariat / and Other Agencies	A web site should be created for the Bathurst Herd with links to all relevant information sources. Material should be kept up to date and reports should be prepared and posted in a timely manner.	Ongoing	TBD	RWED, DE, Others	HIGH

**ABBREVIATIONS:**

**LEAD / PARTICIPANTS**

Resources, Wildlife & Economic Development, GNWT	<b>RWED</b>
Department of the Environment, GN Indian & Northern Affairs Canada	<b>DE</b>
North Slave Metis Alliance	<b>DIAND</b>
Yellowknives Dene First Nation	<b>NSMA</b>
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation	<b>YKDFN</b>
Wek eezhii Renewable Resource Board	<b>LKDFN</b>
Kitikmeot Hunters and Trapper Association	<b>WRRB</b>
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board	<b>KHTA</b>
	<b>NWMB</b>

Hunters & Trappers Organizations	<b>HTO</b>
Environment Canada	<b>Env. Can.</b>
Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board	<b>EMAB</b>
Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency	<b>IEMA</b>
Mackenzie Valley Land & Water Board	<b>MVLWB</b>
Mackenzie Valley environmental Impact Review Board	<b>MVEIRB</b>
Nunavut Planning Commission	<b>NPC</b>
Nunavut Impact Review Board	<b>NIRB</b>

**TERMS & PROGRAMS**

NWT-Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program	<b>NWT-CIMP</b>
Cumulative Effect Assessment and Management Framework	<b>CEAMF</b>
Northern Contaminants Program	<b>NCP</b>
Traditional Knowledge	<b>TK</b>
Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit	<b>IQ</b>
Land Use Plans	<b>LU Plans</b>
Nunavut General Monitoring Plan	<b>Nunavut GMP</b>

## GLOSSARY

**Bathurst herd:** The herd of barren ground caribou that currently calves on the west side of Bathurst Inlet, Nunavut. The herd generally remains on the barrens for the summer and early fall and moves south into the Northwest Territories for the winter.

**Caribou management:** Management of human activities that affect caribou and their habitat.

**Commercial harvest:** Caribou harvested by aboriginal harvesters who possess a Commercial Tag for the purpose of reselling the caribou meat.

**Committee:** The Bathurst Caribou Management Planning Committee.

**Habitat:** The area upon which the Bathurst caribou herd depends, including all of the land, water and air that it inhabits, crosses or utilizes at any time.

**Harvesters:** May refer to all harvesters or one group of harvesters whether it be aboriginal, resident, non-resident and or non-resident alien harvesters.

**Healthy caribou:** The term refers to the health of individual caribou or the population as being capable of both survival and reproduction.

**Monitoring:** Use of scientific and traditional methods to observe and record aspects of the health of caribou and their habitat. Also the tracking of human activities that either directly or indirectly affect caribou and their habitat.

**Outfitters:** Commercial operators who provide transportation, accommodation and guide services for hunters.

**Resident Harvest:** Harvest by non-aboriginal harvesters that have met the residency requirements set out in the *NWT Wildlife Act* and the *Nunavut Wildlife Act*.

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Edward Camille, Dogrib Treaty 11 Council, April 2000 to February 2003  
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## **APPENDIX A**

### **Bathurst Barren Ground Caribou Management Planning Agreement**

**THIS AGREEMENT** made on the 27th day of April A.D. 2000

**BETWEEN:**

**THE DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS,  
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA (DIAND)**

**AND**

**THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES, WILDLIFE AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OF THE  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES (RWED)**

**AND**

**THE DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT,  
GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT (DSD)**

**AND**

**THE DOGRIB TREATY 11 COUNCIL**

**AND**

**THE LUTSEL K'E DENE FIRST NATION**

**AND**

**THE YELLOWKNIVES DENE FIRST NATION**

**AND**

**THE NORTH SLAVE METIS ALLIANCE**

**AND**

**THE KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION**

**AND**

**NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INC. (NTI)**

**AND**

**THE NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD (NWMB)**

**AND**

**THE KITIKMEOT HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION**

(the "Parties")

**WHEREAS** the Bathurst herd of barren ground caribou historically migrates between the Northwest Territories and Nunavut;

**AND WHEREAS** the continued well-being of the Bathurst herd and the maintenance of its habitat requires co-ordinated management, goodwill and co-operation amongst the above governments, aboriginal organizations and institutions of public government;

**AND WHEREAS** the Parties hereto recognize that, as well as the value of the caribou to all Canadians generally, a special relationship exists between aboriginal users and the caribou:

**NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH** that the Parties hereto agree to the following:

**A. Definitions**

In this Agreement:

1. "Bathurst herd" means that herd of barren ground caribou that regularly bears its young near Bathurst Inlet, Nunavut and historically moves southward into the Northwest Territories for the winter.
2. "Habitat" means the whole or any part of the biosphere upon which the Bathurst caribou herd depends, including all of the land, water and air that it inhabits, crosses or utilizes at any time.

3. "Parties" means the parties to this Agreement and may include their successors or assigns, as defined through future land claims and self-government agreements.

## **B. Objectives of the Parties**

1. To establish a committee to be known as the Bathurst Caribou Management Planning Committee, hereinafter referred to as the " Planning Committee".
2. To promote and strengthen communication and sharing of information among the Parties and among all groups interested in or affecting management of the Bathurst herd and its habitat.

## **C. The Bathurst Caribou Management Planning Committee**

1. The Planning Committee shall have the following objectives:
  - (a) to prepare and recommend a ten year Management Plan for the Bathurst caribou herd and its habitat in accordance with the principles set out in Section E below;
  - (b) to prepare and recommend a process of shared responsibility for the implementation of the Management Plan; and
  - (c) to establish and support communications among the Parties and among all interested groups.
2. Support shall be provided by the Parties hereto to the Planning Committee in its efforts to prepare a Management Plan for the Bathurst herd by responding promptly to requests for information or input.
3. The mandate of the Planning Committee shall end with the submission of the Management Plan or upon the termination of this Agreement, whichever comes first.

## **D. Planning Committee Responsibilities**

Without restricting the generality of clauses of this Agreement, the Parties agree that the Planning Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. To prepare, within 3 months of the first meeting of the Planning Committee, a work plan, including at minimum
  - (a) a detailed task list;



- (b) a schedule;
  - (c) annual budgets; and
  - (d) provisions for public consultation and communications
2. To prepare, within a period of three (3) years, a plan for the conservation and management of the Bathurst herd of barren ground caribou and their habitat. The Management Plan shall address, but is not necessarily limited to the following:
    - (a) sustainable harvest of the Bathurst herd and guidelines for the allocation of that harvest;
    - (b) guidelines for regulating the methods of harvest;
    - (c) habitat management and conservation;
    - (d) research priorities;
    - (e) standardizing data collection and presentation;
    - (f) monitoring the status of the herd and its habitat;
    - (g) a process for review and revision of the plan; and
    - (h) a process for implementation of the plan.
  3. To conduct public and community consultations needed to obtain meaningful input for plan preparation and to report to users on its findings and progress.
  4. To prepare and make available annual reports that shall include a summary of Planning Committee activities and progress.
  5. To recommend the Management Plan for review, approval and implementation to the Parties and to any board or agency with management authority over the Bathurst herd or its habitat.

#### **E. Principles Guiding Development of the Management Plan**

The Management Plan shall:

1. Recognize and protect the harvesting rights of Dogrib, Yellowknives and Lutsel K'e Dene, Kitikmeot Inuit and the North Slave Metis while providing appropriate access and recognition to other lawful harvesters.
2. Recognize and protect the rights of aboriginal users as set out in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, the Dogrib Agreement in Principle, existing Treaties and future Land Claim/Self Government agreements.
3. Make full use of the best available scientific and traditional knowledge.

4. Recognize and respect differences and similarities in approach to traditional knowledge and scientific data collection and analyses.
5. Recognize the interconnection of the caribou with other components of the physical, biological and cultural environment.
6. Be guided by and implement the principles of conservation, which are:
  - (a) the maintenance of the natural balance of ecological systems;
  - (b) the protection of wildlife habitat; and
  - (c) the maintenance of vital, healthy wildlife populations capable of sustaining lawful harvesting needs.
7. Be guided by and implement the precautionary principle which is: in the absence of complete information, where there are threats of serious or irreparable damage, lack of complete certainty shall not be a reason for postponing reasonable conservation measures.
8. Be guided by the past, present and future experience, knowledge and values of northern peoples.

#### **F. Membership of the Planning Committee**

1. The Planning Committee shall be composed of one representative from each of the following:
  - DIAND;
  - DSD;
  - RWED;
  - Dogrib Treaty 11 Council
  - Yellowknives Dene First Nation
  - North Slave Metis Alliance
  - Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
  - Kitikmeot Inuit Association
  - Kitikmeot Hunters and Trappers Association
  - Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
  - Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
2. The members of the Planning Committee shall be appointed for the term of this Agreement, subject to the right of the parties to terminate the appointment of their respective appointees at any time and reappoint Planning Committee members in accordance with the above.

3. Alternates may be appointed to represent members when members are unable to attend meetings.
4. Members and alternates shall be knowledgeable, willing and able to bring forward the interests and opinions of their constituents and in turn provide information and feedback from the Planning Committee to their constituents.
5. DIAND, RWED and DSD shall be responsible for representation of the public interest including groups without membership on the Planning Committee such as outfitters, the mining industry, and environmental organizations. This does not reduce the obligation of the Planning Committee to consult directly with these groups or any others.

#### **G. Planning Committee Rules and Procedures**

1. The Planning Committee shall establish in writing from time to time rules and procedures for its functioning, including among other things that:
  - (a) a facilitator shall be used to chair and facilitate meetings of the Planning Committee;
  - (b) seven members shall constitute a quorum provided that there are at least two members from Nunavut organizations and two members from Northwest Territories aboriginal organizations;
  - (c) Planning Committee meetings may be held without a quorum but any decisions must be postponed until a quorum is reached;
  - (d) decisions of the Planning Committee shall be made by consensus;
  - (e) where consensus cannot be reached and where appropriate the dissenting view shall be included along with the majority view;
  - (f) the Planning Committee shall keep minutes and records of all its meetings, circulate them amongst its members and make them available to the public;
  - (g) the proceedings of the Planning Committee shall be open to the public however the Planning Committee may go in-camera for discussion of confidential matters or matters internal to the Planning Committee;
  - (h) the Planning Committee may establish or dissolve sub-committees as it deems necessary to carry out its functions, and set the terms of reference for such sub-committees;
  - (i) the Planning Committee shall make use of teleconferences to conduct business whenever appropriate;
  - (j) meetings shall be held in communities or locations within or immediately adjacent to the Bathurst caribou range;

- (k) Reports, documents for public input and meeting summaries released by the Planning Committee shall be translated into aboriginal languages as appropriate;
- (l) interpreter services shall be provided as appropriate; and
- (m) public comments and presentations shall be encouraged.

#### **H. Funding for the Planning Committee**

1. DIAND, RWED and DSD shall, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and to funds being appropriated by their respective legislative authorities, annually provide funds necessary to ensure that the Planning Committee is able to function in the manner hereinbefore stated.
2. For greater certainty, DIAND, RWED and DSD shall provide for adequate participation of aboriginal groups, including honoraria for non-salaried representatives, facilitation, meeting facilities, translation and interpretation, secretariat support and reimbursement for reasonable expenses as per Treasury Board guidelines. DIAND, RWED, DSD, and NWMB shall be responsible for expenses of their representatives on the Planning Committee.

#### **I. General**

1. All reports, summaries or other documentation prepared or otherwise completed under the terms of this Agreement shall become the joint property of all Parties hereto.
2. This Agreement shall take effect on the 1st day of July, A.D. 2000, and shall terminate on the 30th day of June, A.D. 2003.
3. This Agreement may be extended or amended with the unanimous approval of the Parties hereto.
4. This Agreement is without prejudice to any:
  - (a) Rights or responsibilities of each of the Parties with respect to consideration and approval of the Management Plan prepared by the Planning Committee;
  - (b) existing Aboriginal or treaty rights of any Party to the agreement;
  - (c) on-going or future land claims or self-government negotiations affecting Aboriginal Peoples;

- (d) changes to legislation including those resulting from the settlement of land claims and self-government negotiations, or resulting from constitutional changes or devolution changes that may occur in the Northwest Territories or Nunavut.
5. In recognition of the importance of the herd and its habitat, the withdrawal of any of the Parties from this Agreement shall not preclude the remaining Parties from continuing with the objectives and processes set out in this Agreement.

## APPENDIX B

### How We Wrote The Management Plan:

The Bathurst Caribou Management Planning Committee (BCMPC) held its first meeting in February 2000, and the Bathurst Barren-ground Caribou Management Planning Agreement was drafted in Cambridge Bay on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2000 (Appendix A). The Agreement took effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000 and the parties have agreed to continue to work on the plan to the end of November, 2004.

The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Government of Canada [DIAND]; the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Government of the Northwest Territories [RWED]; and the Department of Sustainable Development, Government of Nunavut [DSD] provided the funding necessary for preparation of the plan and had representatives on the Committee. The Dogrib Treaty 11 Council [DT11C]; the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation [LDFN]; the Yellowknives Dene First Nation [YKDFN]; the North Slave Metis Alliance [NSMA]; Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. [NTI]; the Kitikmeot Inuit Association [KIA]; the Kitikmeot Hunters and Trappers Association [KHTA]; and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board [NWMB] were also represented on the Committee. Input to the plan was obtained from residents of Kugluktuk, Umingmaktok, Bathurst Inlet, Cambridge Bay, Gameti, Wekweti, Fort Rae, Edzo, Detah and N'Dilo, Yellowknife, and Lutsel K'e.

A Secretariat was set up to support the work of the Committee and was housed in RWED offices. The Secretariat drafted briefing materials on a range of subjects (e.g. Communication, Traditional Knowledge, Methods for Monitoring Caribou, Habitat Management, Climate Change, Harvest Allocation, Predation, Wastage, Industrial Development, Roads, Tailings Ponds, and Recreational Development, and Wounding) to assist with Committee discussions. Terriplan Consultants facilitated the Committee meetings and DIAND, RWED and DSD provided technical support.

In 2000, the BCMPC held three meetings, several conference calls, and a public workshop in Rae (December) to identify management goals and issues. A conference call was held in November, 2001, and three meetings were held in 2002: the first in Kugluktuk, January; the second in Lutsel K'e, May; and the third and in N'Dilo, September. At the January 2002 meeting in Kugluktuk, the Committee drafted Management Plan objectives, goals, and action items. The first draft of the Management Plan was prepared in early 2003 and reviewed by the Committee in February 2003.

At the February 2003 meeting the Committee recognized that the plan would not be completed by June 2003 as set out in the agreement and unanimously agreed that

the activities of the Committee would continue until the management plan was submitted.

The second draft of the Management Plan was prepared in fall 2003 and reviewed by the Committee in November 2003. Between December 2003 and the spring 2004, Resources Wildlife and Economic Development conducted consultations on the amended second draft of the Management Plan on behalf of the BCMPC.

The consultation included all the Parties to the Agreement, mining and recreational industries, non government organizations such as IEMA, EMAB, CPAWS – NWT, CARC, WWF – Canada and the NWT Wildlife Federation. Feedback resulting from the consultations was presented to the BCMPC for review during a meeting held in July 2004. Necessary changes were made to the third draft of the Management Plan and it was also decided by the Committee that the Management Framework and Action Plan be revised and ready for review by the Committee in the fall of 2004.

The Committee held its final meeting in November 2004 during which minor changes to the Management Framework and Action Plan were discussed and the entire plan was approved for submission to the parties.