



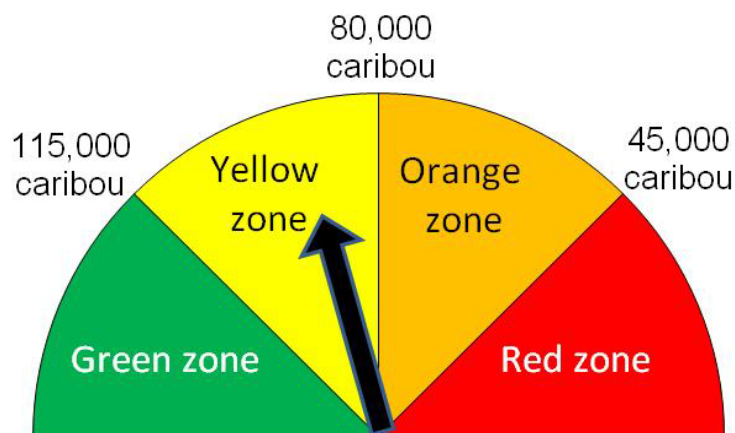
## NEWS RELEASE — AMENDED

June 28, 2010

We are pleased to announce that the **Harvest Management Plan for the Porcupine Caribou Herd in Canada** is now available to the public. The Porcupine Caribou Management Board (the Board) recommended a draft Plan to the Parties in June 2009. The final Plan has been agreed to by the eight Parties responsible for the Canadian *Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement* — the Inuvialuit Game Council, Gwich'in Tribal Council, Vuntut Gwitchin Government, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, First Nation of NaCho Nyäk Dun, Government of Yukon, Government of the Northwest Territories and Government of Canada.

The Plan will coordinate management actions for the conservation of this essential Herd that ranges close to eight communities in five aboriginal land claim areas in two territories in Canada. It is a Plan for all times — one that will respond to the status of the Herd whether the population is high or low. The Plan presents a proactive approach, with many hard decisions already having been made if the Herd continues to decline. There are four management regimes to be enacted for different Herd sizes, as follows.

### Harvest Management Colour Chart



Although there has not been a successful count of the Herd for many years, best estimates put the Herd's population at 90,000 to 100,000 animals, indicating a continued slow decline from 178,000 caribou in 1989. At the time the Plan was finalized, the Parties agreed the Herd is in the Yellow zone. The Yellow zone means that licensed hunters are limited to only one bull caribou each and it means a voluntary bulls-only harvest for Aboriginal hunters with no limit on the number taken. All Parties have committed to set a target of a 100% bulls-only harvest. These management actions will be reviewed at an annual harvest meeting where the Board will meet with the Parties and provide a forum for stakeholders to share relevant information on the state of the Herd.

A key action in the Plan under all harvest management regimes is the requirement for rigorous and verifiable harvest reporting by all hunters. All the Parties are now working with their members on methods to collect complete harvest data.

The Parties are currently developing an Implementation Plan that will lay out the details of how the Parties will implement their coordinated management actions, how Parties and the Board will evaluate the effectiveness of their management measures, and how the Plan will be periodically reviewed and updated. The Parties are also responsible for developing the Native User Agreements in the NWT and Yukon which deal with the allocation of Aboriginal harvest.

The Board is providing support to the Parties in the development of the Implementation Plan. It is also working on communications aspects of the Plan and developing the Terms of Reference for an annual harvest meeting.

It is critical that we all work together to ensure the conservation of the Herd so there are caribou for future generations. We all need to do our part for the sake of the caribou.

Attached is a summary of the harvest management actions agreed to by the Parties. To learn more, download the full Plan from the Board's Website at [www.taiga.net/pcmb](http://www.taiga.net/pcmb). For more information please contact the Board Secretariat at (867) 633-4780, or email [pcmb@taiga.net](mailto:pcmb@taiga.net)

# Porcupine Caribou Harvest Management Plan

## Summary of Management Actions

Herd size	Licensed Hunters	Aboriginal Hunters
<b>GREEN ZONE</b>	Up to two animals each	No harvest limit
more than 115,000 animals	Mandatory bulls only All hunters required to report ①	Cows and bulls may be taken All hunters required to report ①
<b>YELLOW ZONE</b>	One animal each	No harvest limit
80,000 – 115,000 animals <i>**CURRENT LEVEL**</i>	Mandatory bulls only All hunters required to report ①	Voluntary bulls only with a commitment to strive for 100% bulls harvest ② All hunters required to report ①
<b>ORANGE ZONE</b>	Harvest limit through permit ③	Harvest limit through subsistence allocation ③
45,000 – 80,000 animals	Mandatory bulls only All hunters required to report ①	Mandatory bulls only All hunters required to report ①
<b>RED ZONE</b>	No harvesting	Extremely limited harvesting ④
Up to 45,000 animals		All hunters required to report ①

① *The Parties to the Harvest Management Plan are to work out a rigorous and verifiable system for reporting as part of the Implementation Plan*

② *All Parties commit to implementing a bulls-only harvest with a target of 100% bulls in the harvest*

③ *Limits will be determined by the Annual Allowable Harvest (0.5 to 3% of Herd) that will be reviewed annually in order to respond to population trend. The subsistence allocation will be determined through a 'Native User Agreement' and the licensed hunter allocation in Yukon worked out between the Yukon government and Yukon First Nations.*

④ *Essentially no harvesting but consideration will be given to allocating up to 0.1% of Herd for ceremonial purposes, such as a potlatch.*