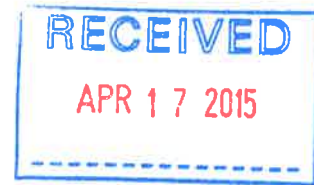




APR 07 2015



Mr. Joe Tetlich
Chair, Porcupine Caribou Management Board
Box 31723
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 6L3

Dear Mr. Tetlich:

Thank you for your letter of February 23, 2015 outlining the Porcupine Caribou Management Board's recommendations from information gathered at this year's Annual Harvest Meeting.

Based on the rationale presented in the Annual Harvest Meeting report, I fully support the Board's recommended harvest management zone (Green) and the accompanying recommended harvest management actions.

I understand harvest data to be a key piece of information that is required by the Board and the Porcupine Caribou Technical Committee to determine harvest management actions and estimates of the population. Following this year's Annual Harvest Meeting, I was advised that some Parties did not meet the timelines and that the quality of the data was not robust. Although significant progress has been made in terms of the collection of rigorous and verifiable harvest data, I encourage all Parties to work within their communities and organizations to submit information according to commitments and timelines made in the Implementation Plan for the Harvest Management Plan. I firmly support the work of the Board and agree that another workshop on the harvest data program should be coordinated. I also hope that the Parties will encourage their hunters to improve hunter participation in complete and accurate submissions to increase confidence in the harvest data.

In regards to the Summary Table of Implementation Plan Tasks and Actions, I believe the information in the table is accurate. With respect to Environment Canada's support, we currently provide the Canadian co-chair for the Porcupine Caribou Technical Committee, have invested in the completion of the long-term database, and will once again coordinate development of the Annual Summary report.

.../2



I commend the Board on their efforts to support the conservation of the Porcupine Caribou herd through ensuring that timelines and key activities outlined in the Harvest Management Plan are followed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. D. Leach".

for

Sue Milburn-Hopwood
Director General
Canadian Wildlife Service

c.c: Craig Machtans, Acting Manager Northern Conservation, Canadian Wildlife Service, Pacific and Yukon Region
Barry D Smith, Director, Canadian Wildlife Service, Pacific and Yukon Region