



2015-PCMB1



**Environment**  
**PO Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6**

March 20, 2019

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

Dear Mr. Tetlich:

**RE: Harvest Management Plan 2019 Annual Harvest Meeting – PCMB Recommendations**

Thank you for your letter dated March 4, 2019 outlining management recommendations established at the ninth Annual Harvest Meeting for the Porcupine caribou herd (PCH) held in Inuvik.

The Government of Yukon accepts the Porcupine Caribou Management Board's (PCMB) recommendation that the PCH be in the Green Zone. We will continue to manage the herd consistent with the Green Zone management actions, as described in the Harvest Management Plan. Specifically:

- Harvesters will be encouraged to only take what they need. We echo the PCMB's recommendation of taking bulls where possible, as harvesting bulls impacts the herd less than harvesting cows.
- Licensed harvesters will receive a maximum of two bull tags.
- We will continue to support hunter education and awareness programs, including "sight in your rifle" events and initiatives that speak to the importance of retrieving wounded animals.
- We will continue to work internally and with other parties to improve collection of accurate and verifiable harvest information. This information will be provided to the PCMB before the 2020 Annual Harvest Meeting.

Mr. Tetlich

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The Government of Yukon also accepts the PCMB's recommendations regarding other concerns, including:

- **Native User Agreements:** Developing Native User Agreements remains a priority. We are pleased with the progress to date in this important initiative with the PCMB and other Parties so that activities 2.2.1, 2.2.2, and 2.2.4 can be completed, as described in the Implementation Plan to the Harvest Management Plan.
- **Encourage hunters' participation in programs:** We will continue to support the participation of member communities in gathering information on PCH harvest and body condition through our regional and harvest programs. We are also in support of the initiative to improve the estimates of harvest quality through identification of PCH harvesters distinct from the overall harvester list and will work with our partners with this objective in mind.
- **Hunter education:** We will continue to support hunter education and awareness programs to help ensure ethical harvesting practices and behaviours. We support building upon existing successes with a focus on youth engagement.

We appreciate the ongoing efforts of the PCMB and Parties to ensure the sustainable management of the PCH as described in the harvest management and implementation plans and look forward to completing key priorities, including the Native User Agreements. Our government remains committed to collaborative management of the PCH.

If you have any further questions, please contact Christine Cleghorn, Director, Fish and Wildlife, at [Christine.Cleghorn@gov.yk.ca](mailto:Christine.Cleghorn@gov.yk.ca) or 867-667-5356.

Sincerely,



John L. Bailey, PhD  
Deputy Minister of Environment