



Having trouble with bears? Harvesters, YOU can help!

What's the issue?

Some bears on the Dempster highway are learning that people, including caribou harvesters, can provide them with food. This puts bears and people in danger.

Bears are no longer just finding caribou remains after hunters leave but they are now approaching people looking for food.

If you are a caribou harvester, how you hunt may help reduce this problem or may make it worse.



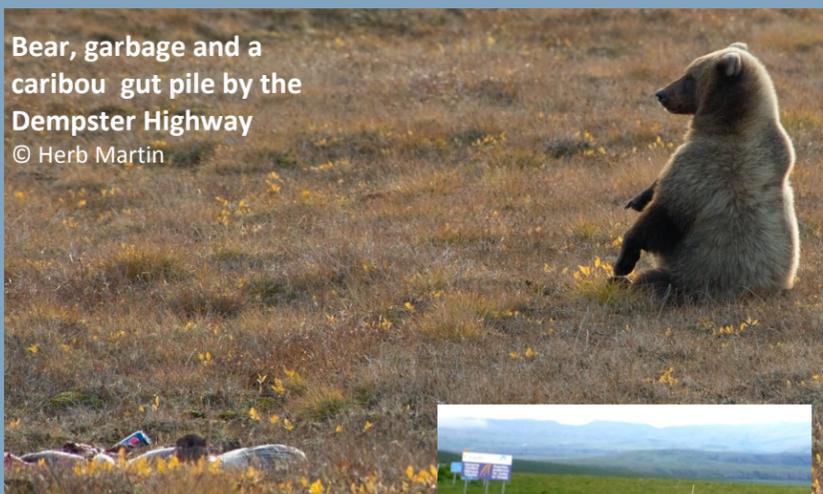
Bear eating from remains of caribou hunting by the Dempster Highway © Greta Ronde

**Help break the cycle of food rewards for bears.
Keep attractants away from the road.**



© Rachel Pascal

It's not necessary for hunters to gut at the side of the road. They should gut it where they shot it.
- Nihtat RRC member



Bear, garbage and a caribou gut pile by the Dempster Highway
© Herb Martin



Caribou head at the NWT/Yukon border July 19, 2013
© Glenn Deguara

How you can help:

- **If you see bears in the area, choose another place or time to hunt.** Don't chance giving bears a free meal by shooting with bears nearby.
- **Only shoot as many caribou as you can immediately carry.** Don't risk feeding a bear.
- **Don't allow bears to approach or get in the back of your vehicle.** Allowing bears near your vehicle teaches bears not to be afraid of people.
- **Keep a clean camp.** Stow food and garbage in bear proof containers.
- **If a bear takes your caribou, report it ASAP.**
- **Report bear observations; use the form.**

What to do with Gut Piles & Parts?

- **Take as much of the caribou as you can, including the head and legs.** Elders and community members can make use of these.
- **Take your gut pile with you and dispose of it elsewhere or keep gut piles 500 m or more away from the road.** Empty the stomach contents to make it lighter. Bring a plastic bin to store them and wash it out later for reuse.