



NEWS RELEASE

Implementation Plan now ready for Porcupine caribou harvest rules

(Whitehorse, June 10, 2011) — The Implementation Plan for giving practical effect to the new Harvest Management Plan for the Porcupine caribou herd has been approved by all eight parties involved in the management of the herd in Canada.

The Implementation Plan sets out details such as timing, formulas and responsibility for 34 discrete actions needed to carry out the Harvest Management Plan agreed to in 2010.

“The Implementation Plan is a major step forward in the collaborative management of this herd,” said Porcupine Caribou Management Board Chair Joe Tetlitchi. “It sets out exactly how we will carry out harvest reporting, monitoring the herd’s status and verifying the data collected.”

Implementation activities are grouped into three broad areas: harvest management assessment, harvest management, and monitoring, evaluation and adaptive management. Detailed appendices cover matters such as a template for submitting harvest data, how each jurisdiction will carry out harvest reporting, and sharing information.

The Implementation Plan identifies the work that will be done to fulfill Harvest Management Plan responsibilities and commitments, such as the collection and verification of harvest data for all user groups. The Implementation Plan also details various management actions that will occur in the different colour zones. Currently, the herd is in the “Green Zone” (greater than 115,000) — the July 2010 census estimated the herd at 169,000 animals.

The Implementation Plan was developed over seven months by senior officials from the: Gwich'in Tribal Council, Inuvialuit Game Council, Vuntut Gwitchin Government, Tr'ondëk Hwëchin, First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun, Government of the Northwest Territories, Government of Yukon and Government of Canada. Each will act over the coming months to ensure the fall harvest is in keeping with the Harvest Management Plan. All understand that continuing work is essential to support the actions required regardless of which colour zone the herd size falls into.

The Implementation Plan is available on the PCMB website (www.taiga.net/pcmb) or from the PCMB office.

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