



March 18, 2019

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

Dear Mr. Tetlich,

Thank you for your letter of March 4, 2019 requesting a response from the Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement Parties, on the Porcupine Caribou Management Board (PCMB) recommendation that the Porcupine Caribou Herd (PCH) be considered in the Green Zone - above 115,000 caribou.

Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC) is in agreement with PCMB recommendations on the Green Zone and reiterates the Green Zone Harvest Management Plan actions (HMP - page 20):

- Harvest only the amount needed;
- Licensed hunters receive a maximum of two bull tags;
- Shooting will be accurate and wounded animals will be retrieved; and
- Parties will collect rigorous and verifiable harvest data, to be provided before the Annual Harvest Meeting.

GTC has the following comments regarding concerns raised during the last PCMB Annual Harvesters Meeting (AHM) held in Inuvik:

- This matter was not brought up at the last meeting, but has been mentioned at numerous previous AHM meetings. The population computer program (model) – GTC has been requesting a demonstration of this model for many years, with no follow through by the consultant or Yukon Government (YG). How, is GTC to consider the accuracy and validity of such model estimates with any level of confidence, prior to the labeling of 'one of the best science-based tools to help understand how the herd is doing'? YG has committed to community consultation on the model in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.



- YG draft Dempster Highway hunting rights pamphlets are being updated and GTC is reviewing YG's interpretation of GTC's asserted hunting rights in the Yukon. GTC has not signed off on the latest draft Dempster Highway hunting rights pamphlet presented by YG.

GTC is committed to the PCH HMP and looks forward to working with the PCMB on the following recommendations and concerns.

1. Signing of the Native User Agreements in 2019 in Inuvik by the Indigenous Parties.
2. Work with Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board to encourage and increase harvesters' participation in voluntary harvest data collection and monitoring programs.
3. Continue to support Hunter Education and work with Parties to address these issues through appropriate communication programs.

If further information or clarification is required contact Stephen Charlie, Director of Lands and Resources at (867) 777-7927 or emailed at stephen.charlie@gwichin.nt.ca.

Sincerely,

Bobbie-Jo Greenland-Morgan
Grand Chief/President

c.c Jordan Peterson, GTC Deputy Grand Chief
Stephen Charlie, GTC Director of Lands & Resources
Presidents & Councils, Gwich'in Designated Gwich'in Organizations
Presidents & Councils, Gwich'in Renewable Resource Councils