Porcupine Caribou Annual Harvest Meeting Update 2014/15

Yukon government February 8, 2016

Licensed Harvest

Licensed hunters (Resident and Non-Resident):

- restricted to 2 bulls
- required to report their harvest by law

Total licensed harvest 2014/15 = 3 bulls

Removal of "Dempster corridor" and "Leaders Pass" regulations came into force in spring '15

PCH research and monitoring

- Computer population model: working on communication tools
- Body Condition Monitoring and sample collection with PCH hunters in Old Crow
- First time with satellite GPS on bulls
- Hart River Caribou Overlap Monitoring and Communication

Hunter Education

- Conservation Officers patrols
 - ➤ Limited coverage in 2014/15 & focused on Hart closure
- Check station south did not open in 2014/2015 – no caribou
- Contributed to TH's First Hunt program
- Updating pamphlet for Dempster Highway re: First Nation/Inuvialuit harvesting rights in Yukon – will bring to Parties

YT non-resident harvest

Outfitter:

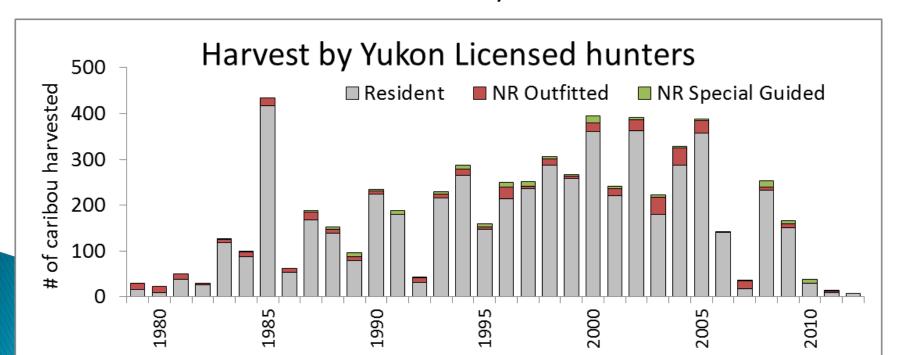
- Exclusive right to guide non-Yukoners
- > 4 outfitters have access to PCH (2 with quota, 2 in progress)

Special guided:

- Yukon residents can guide a non-Yukon Canadian
- Common opportunity elsewhere in Canada
- Total of 100 opportunities for caribou, moose, black bear, wolf, and coyote
- Only where there is no limitation for residents

YT non-resident harvest

- Small component of licensed harvest:
 - Average = 17 caribou/year
 - Highest in one year was 43, lowest was 0
 - Most is from outfitter harvest
 - < 1% of total harvest in most years</p>



Fall 2015 Dempster Observations

- Heavy harvest started once caribou approached highway in mid-October
- Several sources indicate a high proportion of cows in harvest
- Good harvesting practices noted but also problems with wounding loss and meat wastage

Fall 2015 Dempster Observations

- Yukon licensed harvest for 2015–16 ~216 bulls (as of January 19, 2016)
- Conservation Officers patrols
 - > Some coverage in summer when caribou close
 - ~75% of days from mid-Oct to Dec
- Check station south open and very effective at engaging hunters

Upcoming Activities

- Work with Parties to review status of harvesting rights on the Dempster
- Work with PCMB, Parties, & communities to deliver best harvesting practices
- Installing signs on Dempster
- Working with Aklavik on muskox and muskox-caribou interactions
- Continue contributing to monitoring of herd

Any questions?

