



Environment  
Office of the Deputy Minister

Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6



March 31, 2014

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

Dear Mr. Tetlich:

**Re: Recommendations from Porcupine Caribou Annual Harvest Meeting**

Thank you for the recommendations dated February 24, 2014 that were drafted as a result of the Annual Harvest Meeting for the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

Yukon government accepts your recommendation that the Porcupine Caribou Herd is in the Green Zone. We will continue to manage the herd according to the Green Zone management actions outlined in the Harvest Management Plan (HMP). Specifically, we support your recommendation to continue to encourage a bull dominated harvest and will continue to work with all Parties to develop our communication and hunter education and awareness programs. We also commit to working with the Board and all Parties to conduct another workshop for harvest data program administrators to help improve the collection of accurate and verifiable harvest data.

We would also like to respond to some of the other recommendations you have presented regarding other concerns identified during the meeting.

- **Workshop on computer modelling:** Yukon government will ensure that the final caribou population model will be completed and will coordinate with the Board and all Parties to organize a workshop to review the model and explore its applications. After this workshop, the model will be made available to all Parties to use.
- **Caribou hunter education:** Yukon government will continue to support the finalization of a Porcupine Caribou Hunter Education package and make it available to all User Communities.
- **Monitoring human activities in the range of the herd:** Yukon government will work with the Porcupine Caribou Technical Committee to identify activities that may potentially affect caribou and determine monitoring methods.

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- **Grizzly Bear/Hunter Interactions:** Yukon government will continue to work with the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board and other partners in attempt to minimize human/ bear conflict.
- **Clarify Yukon outfitting and special guiding license provisions:** Yukon government will provide a brief history of non-resident licensed hunting provisions in relation to Porcupine caribou for the Board at its next meeting.

I commend you for your efforts and those of all the Parties to the Porcupine Caribou Harvest Management Plan for the progress that has been made over the past year. We are committed to carrying out activities identified under the Harvest Management Plan to ensure the sustainable management of the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our priority issues. If you have any further questions, please contact my office directly.

Sincerely,



Kelvin Leary  
Deputy Minister of Environment