



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



Dear Mr. Tetlich:

Thank you for your letter of February 26, 2018, regarding the 2018 Annual Harvest Meeting and harvest management recommendations. We have some comments for your Board on behalf of Canada.

We are pleased to see the Board is continuing to recommend harvest management actions consistent with the Green Zone of the Harvest Management Plan (HMP). Based on the information provided, we are in agreement with the recommendation of the Board.

We are also pleased that there is continued progress on the implementation of the tasks outlined in the HMP. However, late responses from Parties, low hunter participation and timely harvest reporting are still outstanding issues. We have expressed repeatedly in the past several years that failure of partners to provide full and timely harvest reporting data prevents necessary work to proceed. Not having the annual harvest data analyses complete for the Annual Harvest Meeting is a problem that needs to be addressed. Going forward, we hope that the Board can facilitate progress on these issues.

The successfully completed census in July 2017 using the new digital camera technology is timely and it was excellent news that the herd continues to grow. Environment and Climate Change Canada will continue to provide support to the Porcupine Caribou Technical Committee.

We are encouraged to see that communication, education materials and programs are being successfully implemented in the communities.

In terms of the Harvest Allocation measures, we recognize the hard work of the Parties and the PCMB this past year and we are pleased that the Native User Agreements are close to completion. We look forward to seeing a draft copy when it becomes available.

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We appreciate the vigilance of the Porcupine Caribou Management Board in ensuring harvest management actions are made on the basis of the best available information.

Sincerely,



Sue Milburn-Hopwood  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Canadian Wildlife Service

cc: Basile van Havre, Director General, Domestic and International Biodiversity  
Policy, Canadian Wildlife Service