

# Porcupine Caribon Management Board













Annual Report 2005-06 Special 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition



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# Chair's Message

I am honoured to be given the responsibility of serving on the Board, for the communities and the Porcupine Caribou Herd. I have been working on this Board for more than a decade, and I still enjoy the challenges of ensuring the herd and the caribou traditions thrive.

The good news is that the caribou appear to be healthy. Unfortunately, we are worried about the numbers. We have been unable to receive a count of the herd since 2001 because cool weather and forest fires have prevented regularly scheduled censuses. In the absence of exact numbers, and bearing in mind that there are natural fluctuations in the herd's population, the Board is becoming increasingly concerned. We can only speculate as to the cause for the herd's decline, and even if we did know what is causing it we might not be able to address that problem directly. Climate change, for example, is very likely a contributor, but the Porcupine Caribou Management Board is in no position to affect a global problem of this nature in any meaningful way. The best bet, and the only factor that is realistically under human control, is encouraging responsible harvest.

"If hunters can change the way they hunt – without limiting their harvest – the caribon population is preserved and hunting traditions are also preserved."

To be most effective in protecting the herd, we must begin now to look closely at harvesting practices. To that end, we are working toward developing a Harvest Management Strategy. If we can engage all the user communities in developing the strategy, we can ensure that all groups' perspectives can receive fair consideration. And by making decisions cooperatively, we will be doing our best to ensure we are seeking the best possible solutions for all groups.

Ideally, we will be able to work together to develop strategies for preserving the herd while still preserving harvesting rights for everyone. If hunters can change the way they hunt - without limiting their harvest - the caribou population is preserved and hunting traditions are also preserved. One example is reducing wounding loss. If wounded animals run away and die in the bush, then hunters need to kill more caribou. By making hunting more effective, the caribou are actually better protected. These types of measures, whether taken by regulation or education, can protect the herd and still not reduce the amount of meat that hunters bring home.



Jointly developing a Harvest Management Strategy ensures the ability – not just the right – of future generations to hunt the caribou is preserved well into the future.

This past year saw the PCMB working hard to set the groundwork for the development of this Harvest Management Strategy. We will soon be working directly with user groups on the actual development of the Strategy and a Harvest Management Agreement, to be signed by all relevant First Nation and Inuvialuit governments.

Last year, we also reviewed hunting regulations on the Dempster Highway. We had always planned on reviewing the regulations after observing how they affected hunters for a few years. Based on the feedback our Board members received from the organizations they represent as well as from community meetings we have held in conjunction with our regular Board meetings over the years, the Board developed proposed regulation changes. We then wrote letters submitting our proposal to the communities and user groups and held a public meeting in Whitehorse. We are currently reviewing our recommendations based on the feedback we received and will soon forward our recommendations to the Ministers.

The final way we are looking at improving harvest practices is through hunter education. In particular, we are working to develop a comprehensive Porcupine Caribou hunter education program to assist hunters in sustainable hunting practices. We have drafts of several sections of this program already, and we will be working with user groups in the upcoming year to develop the curriculum further. This program is being designed to be used either on its own or to supplement existing programs. It will be designed to be delivered by any user group and to be adapted for youth or adults and for First Nation or resident hunters.

In this last year, we began some new long-term projects. Thus, as we enter this coming fiscal year we are beginning an exciting time of progress.

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Joe Tetlichi

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**Steven Taylor** Dawson City - member Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in



James Andre Fort McPherson - member Gwich'in Tribal Council



Forrest Kendi Inuvik - alternate Gwich'in Tribal Council



Joe Tetlichi Old Crow - Chair



**Gerald Buyck** Mayo - member First Nation of Na Cho Nyäk Dun



Danny A. Gordon, Jr. Aklavik - member Inuvialuit Game Council



ROAR

**Richard Moses** Mayo - alternate First Nation of Na Cho Nyäk Dun



**Georgie Moses** Old Crow - member Vuntut Gwitch'in First Nation



No alternate member was appointed during this reporting period for Vuntut Gwitch'in First Nation.



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**Roberta Joseph** Dawson City - alternate Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in



**Doug Larsen** Whitehorse - member Government of Yukon



Deana Lemke Whitehorse - Secretariat



**Dorothy Cooley** Dawson City - alternate Government of Yukon





**Donald Aviugana** Aklavik - alternate Inuvialuit Game Council



**Tim Devine** Inuvik - alternate Government of Northwest Territories

Ron Morrison Inuvik - member Government of Northwest Territories



**Mike Walton** Whitehorse - altenate Government of Canada

**Ian McDonald** Inuvik - member Government of Canada



# Two Decades of Co-management

The PCMB was formed as part of an effort to recognize the many interests in the herd: First Nations and Inuvialuit, the Government of Canada, the Government of Yukon, and the Government of Northwest Territories. With all these groups having their own regulatory interests in different parts of the range, it makes good sense to bring all interested parties together to do studies, make plans and harmonized recommendations for the entire herd, rather than have different rules for each of the small fragments of the range within each jurisdiction. The co-management model, then, functions with an emphasis on cooperation, common goals, compromise and consensus building.

The comprehensive membership of the Board pools the collective knowledge and experience of the member organizations and ensures consistency in efforts to protect the herd. With members representing all parties, a co-management board ensures each group's needs are considered. The sponsoring organizations appoint the person they believe will best represent their interests on the Board. The Board members consult with their sponsoring organizations as well as the members of their communities about the caribou. The Board members debate the issues and make decisions during the meetings. When decisions are made, they return to their sponsoring organizations and communities to explain the Board's decisions.

"Compromise is often required, but all members are loyal first to the herd."

The Board's recommendations to the governments are not binding, but they are taken very seriously. After all, the recommendations come from the collective position of all the Board's member organizations through their appointed representatives. This collective voice gives Board recommendations a great deal of weight.

Compromise is often required, but all members are loyal first to the herd. In addition, all sponsoring organizations recognize that occasional compromise is preferable to having separate management regimes for each of the jurisdictions in the range of the herd. Cooperation, then, is the key to co-management.

As with some other co-management boards, the Porcupine Caribou Management Board recognizes scientific research as well as traditional knowledge. This ensures the Board is guided by the best, most comprehensive information available from all its members and outside organizations.

Because the strength of the comanagement model lies in the Board's membership, the PCMB would like to acknowledge all the persons who have served as chairs, board members or alternates over the past two decades.

## PCMB Chairs 1986–2006

Joe Tetlichi (November 1995 to present) Billy Germaine (Acting 1995) Albert Peter (1990-1994) Victor Mitander (1986-1989)

## Board Secretariats 1986–2006

Deana Lemke (2003 to present) Linda Hoffman (1996-2003) Doug Urquhart (1986-1996)



## Board Members 1985 to March 2006

John Abel **James Andre Billy Archie Donald Aviugana** Fred Bennet **Roger Binne** Gerald Buyck Andy Carpenter **Carl Charlie** Johnny Charlie, Sr. **Dorothy Cooley** William Day Frank Edwards Vince Fraser Dennis Frost, Sr. Joe Ganske **Billy Germaine Clayton Gordon** Danny A. Gordon, Jr. **Richard Gordon Percy Henry** 

Harvey Jessup **Roberta Joseph** Ed Kormendy **Doug Larsen Bob Lewis** Kevin Lloyd Ian McDonald **Hugh Monaghan Ron Morrison Georgie Moses Roy Moses** John Nagy Gladys Netro Stan Njootli Frank Patterson Brian Pelchat **James Roberts Hank Rodgers** Don Russell John Russell

## Board Alternates 1985 to March 2006

Alan Anderson John Bailey Bruce Chambers Robert Charlie Tim Devine Alan Fehr Dorothy Frost Shane Goeson Bobbie Joe Greenland Ed Henderson Forrest Kendi Larry Leigh Richard Moses Frank Pokiak Larry Semmler Jack Semple Charlie Snowshoe Steven Taylor Randall Tetlichi Mike Walton

Porcupine Caribou Management Board

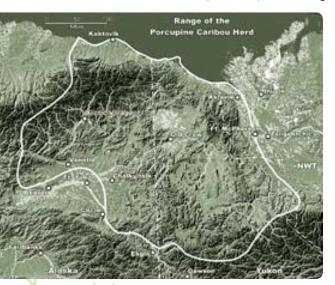
# Herd Range

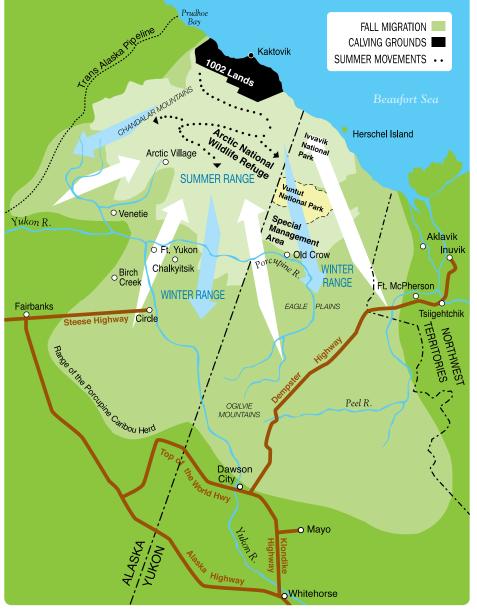
The range of the Porcupine Caribou Herd covers approximately 260,000 square kilometres of the northern parts of Alaska, Yukon and Northwest Territories.

The herd migrates between its winter ranges in northeastern Alaska, the northern Yukon and the Richardson Mountains in the Northwest Territories and its summer range in northern Alaska and northern Yukon. This migration pattern takes them through 12 different management regimes, including two countries, which complicates management of the herd.

The primary calving ground of the herd is on the Alaskan coastal plain in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Alternate calving grounds for the herd are found in Canada and are protected by Ivvavik and Vuntut National Parks.

The Alaskan coastal plain provides the best combination of nutrient-rich food, relief from biting insects and protection from predators. In years when the cows are unable to reach their preferred calving grounds, the calf survival rate declines significantly.





The caribou often continue their migration to the coastal plain after calving, and many calves drown along the way. Many more calves and

> weakened cows fall to predators outside the calving grounds. If development displaces the herd from this vital calving area, the consequences for the herd could be devastating.

The State of Alaska's Department of Fish and Game reported that in the spring of 2005 most of the herd had reached the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge by the end of June, and the largest concentration of calving caribou was in the 1002 lands. The caribou typically remain on the coastal plain until July, when they break into smaller groups and move toward the Richardson Mountains and the southern Brooks Range. This is exactly what happened this year, and then they moved northeast of Arctic Village, Alaska, before moving east into the Yukon.

After the first snows, the caribou typically move south of the treeline and toward the Porcupine River. They remain on the winter range for around eight months, scattering through winter ranges in the Peel and Porcupine River watersheds in the Yukon as well as in northeastern Alaska.

# HARVEST DATA AND HERD USE

Porcupine Caribou are harvested by Gwich'in, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, Na Cho Nyäk Dun, Inuvialuit and Inupiat people from 17 communities on or near the herd's range. For many people in these communities, the caribou are an important source of meat. In addition, several hundred caribou are harvested by non-native hunters or native hunters from outside the user communities each year.

Traditional caribou use involves every part of the caribou — not just the meat. The preservation of the hunting tradition is crucial for preserving the Aboriginal and First Nation cultures around the herd's range. In addition, in the far north, the cost of meat in the stores is prohibitive.

Given the demonstrated decline in the herd's population, the Board is concerned and tends to lean toward the conservative side. In addition, the absence of a recent photocensus, combined with incomplete harvest data, creates uncertainty and thus is a significant concern for the Board.

In Yukon, it is mandatory for licensed hunters to report their harvest to wildlife officials. Managers also have access to information collected in native harvest studies for Aklavik and the Northwest Territories Gwich'in



communities. The PCMB has requested that other First Nations in Yukon collect and submit information about caribou harvested by First Nation hunters in order to better understand the effect, if any, of harvesting on the herd.

The check station at the southern end of the Dempster Highway in the Yukon opened on October 14 and closed on November 30. Each year, hunters are invited to enter a draw for a prize of a \$400 gas voucher from the PCMB. This year's winner was Colin Remillard.





# HERd Size

The number of caribou in the Porcupine Caribou Herd has been estimated since 1972, when the size of the herd was approximately 101,000 caribou. Similar population estimates of the herd have been obtained periodically since that time.

Because of normal population fluctuations, in the absence of a

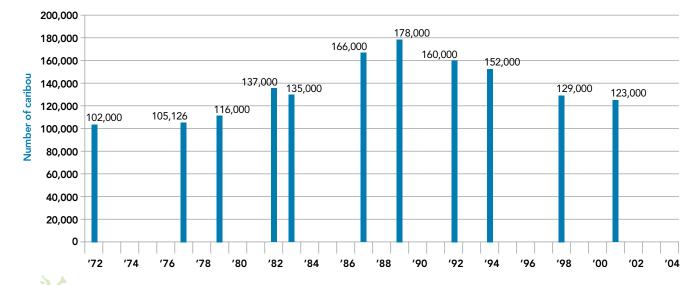
clearly identifiable event, trends and averages are as important as total numbers from any individual year.

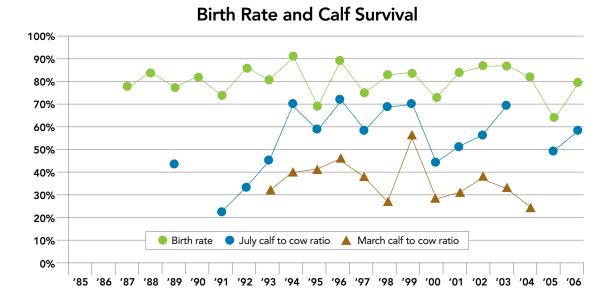
In the 1980s, an annual five-percent increase in the number of caribou in the herd was observed. An annual decline of 2.5 to four percent occurred between 1989 and 1998. Since 1998, the herd has been in a slow but steady decline of around 1.5 percent annually.

Bad winters between 1990 and 1993 lowered rates of calf production and survival. In those years, cold springs and late thaws prevented cow caribou from making it to their customary calving grounds on the Alaska coast in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

## Estimated Porcupine Caribou Herd Size (by photocensus, 1972 to present)

- 1989 nearly 178,000 caribou
- 2001 estimated at 123,000 caribou
- Decrease of approximately 55,000 caribou between 1989 and 2001
- Current population est. between 110,000 and 115,000 caribou based on data obtained by methods other than by photocensus





Between 1994 and 1998, the population dropped by about four percent per year.

The last census was in 2001. At that time, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated the population of the herd at 123,000. This reflects a 1.5-percent annual decrease between those years.

A photocensus was planned for July 2004 to estimate the size of the herd, but smoke from forest fires obscured visibility and a count could not be undertaken. In 2005, because the herd failed to aggregate in a concentration sufficient to perform a census, surveys could not be conducted. An attempt to conduct a photocensus of the herd will be made again in 2006.

The State of Alaska provided the PCMB with the results of its June 2005 Porcupine Caribou Herd Calving Survey, and the results from these annual studies have been interpreted in the graph above.

The State of Alaska has been providing calving survey information, including calving success and survival, since 1987. The parturition rate (the pregnancy/birth rate) and calf-to-cow ratio for this year were among the lowest ever recorded. Typically, in an average year, about 82 percent of the cows will give birth to a calf. In 2005, this rate was just 60 percent. By early July, typically about 40 percent of the calves die. This year it was 49 percent. By early March, there are usually 35 calves for every 100 cows, and we do not yet have a count for March 2006. It is likely that the very low calf survival in 1990 to 1993 started the decline in herd size, but the herd should have recovered by 1995.

Based on the productivity levels since the last photocensus, the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game estimates the current size of the herd is likely between 110,000 to 115,000 caribou.

It is important to note that while the exact population of the herd is uncertain, biologists are concerned about the population trend. It is true that wildlife populations tend to go through cycles, and fluctuations are normal and expected. All arctic barren ground caribou herds tend to follow a similar cycle; however, the Porcupine Caribou Herd increased at a slower rate than other herds in the 1980s. its population peaked sooner than other herds, and the decline started earlier than other herds. Although the Porcupine Caribou Herd's birth rate was normal, fewer calves survived between 1990 and 1993. However, lower calf survival does not account for the decline continuing after 1995. Consequently, scientists are looking for other causes of the decline, such as low yearling or adult survival rates.

# Communities in the Canadian Portion of the Herd's Range

## **Gwich'in Communities**

The word Gwich'in means "people of the land." The Porcupine Caribou Herd is at the heart of all the Gwich'in communities, which are all strategically located to have access to the herd for harvesting. The Gwich'in people have inhabited this region for 20,000 years, and the relatively new Canada-United States political boundary divides the Gwich'in Nations. There are 19 Gwich'in villages in northern Alaska, Yukon and Northwest Territories, and there are some 7,500 members of the Gwich'in Nation. The Vuntut Gwitch'in First Nation, through the Gwich'in Steering Committee, leads international efforts for the protection of the Porcupine Caribou Herd's calving grounds at the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The traditions involving harvest and use of the Porcupine Caribou Herd unite the Gwich'in First Nations. As with all First Nations in the herd's range, many people still observe subsistence traditions of hunting, fishing and trapping. The Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement recognizes the special relationship between the Gwich'in people and the Porcupine Caribou.

## Tsiigehtchic, Northwest Territories

Formerly referred to as Arctic Red River, this community has a population of around 200 people. Tsiigehtchic is the home of the Gwichya Gwich'in First Nation, which means "the people of the flats." Many residents continue to follow a traditional lifestyle involving hunting, trapping and fishing. In the 1940s, there were only three families living permanently in Tsiigehtchic, and the construction of



the Dempster Highway facilitated the revival of Tsiigehtchic. This community is accessible by ferry from the Dempster Highway and is the home of the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute.

## Old Crow, Yukon

This community of around 300 people is home of the Vuntut Gwitch'in First Nation, whose name means "people of the lakes." The only Yukon community located north of the Arctic Circle, it has no road access except for occasional temporary ice roads. Old Crow was named to honour Chief Deetru` K'avihdik, whose name means "Crow May I Walk," after he passed away in the 1870s. The community school teaches the Gwich'in language to school children, and all students are required to go on field trips on the land. Each spring, community members travel to Crow Flats for traditional muskrat trapping.

## Fort McPherson, Northwest Territories

The Tetlit Gwich'in First Nation, which means "the people of the head waters," calls Fort McPherson home. In all, this community has a population of around 900 people. Fort McPherson is accessible from the Dempster Highway, and it is the largest Gwich'in settlement in the Northwest Territories. The town was named for Murdoch McPherson, chief trader of the Hudson's Bay Company, in 1840. Fort McPherson was established as a trading post for traditional Gwich'in trappers and eventually became a fulltime settlement for the Tetlit Gwich'in people. More than 80 percent of Fort McPherson residents are of Gwich'in descent.

## Inuvialuit Communities

Once referred to as Mackenzie Inuit and Mackenzie Eskimo, the preferred name is now Inuvialuit. Sea mammals such as beluga whales and seals provide much of the diet for the Inuvialuit, but caribou provide an important source of meat as well as skins for clothing. In addition to Porcupine Caribou, Inuvialuit hunters in the range of the Porcupine Caribou Herd also harvest animals from the Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West and Bluenose-East caribou herds.

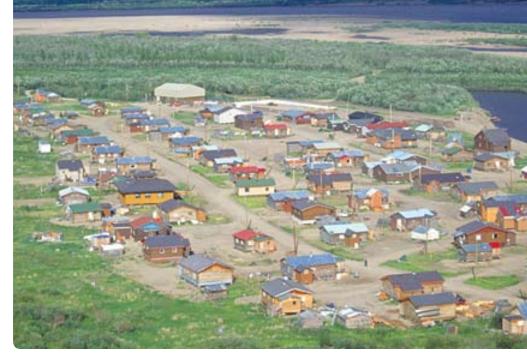
## Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories

The name of this town of 1,010 people means "looks like a caribou" in Inuvialuktun. Low tide reveals reefs that look like caribou. Tuktoyaktuk is the northernmost community on the Canadian mainland, and its population is over 90 percent aboriginal. In the winter, ice roads connect Tukoyaktuk to Inuvik and Aklavik. Air access is available yearround. Tuktoyaktuk was originally a traditional place for harvesting caribou. When the Hudson's Bay trading post was established in Tuktoyaktuk in the 1920s, it attracted many people to the community from Herschel Island.

## Gwich'in and Inuvialuit Communities

## Inuvik, Northwest Territories

This community, with a population of 3,300 people, is the largest town north of the Arctic Circle. Located at the end of the Dempster Highway, Inuvik is a hub for oil and gas activity. It was originally developed in 1955 by the Canadian government as an administrative centre for the Western Arctic region. It is now an important centre for tourism, as well. Inuvik, which means "the place of the people," is the home of the Nihtat Gwich'in First Nation,



which comprises 14 percent of the population. Nihtat Gwich'in means "mixed peoples," referring to the convergence of people from many Gwich'in communities in Inuvik. Another 37 percent of the population is of Inuvialuit descent, 40 percent is non-aboriginal, and seven percent is Métis.

## Aklavik, Northwest Territories

This community, "the place of the barren-land grizzly bears" has a population of around 780 people. In the winter, it is accessible by ice road from Inuvik. In the summer, there is no road access. This was the region's trade hub before Inuvik was developed in response to Aklavik's vulnerability to flooding. Aklavik is the home of the Ehdiitat Gwich'in First Nation, and it is a traditional meeting and trading place among the Gwich'in and Inuvialuit. Most people in Aklavik still practice hunting, trapping and fishing traditions, but gas and mineral exploration, tourism and transportation have been important contributors to the economy in recent years. Sale of traditional Gwich'in arts and crafts contributes to the economy. In addition to caribou hunting, muskrat trapping is an important part of local Gwich'in and Inuvialuit traditions.

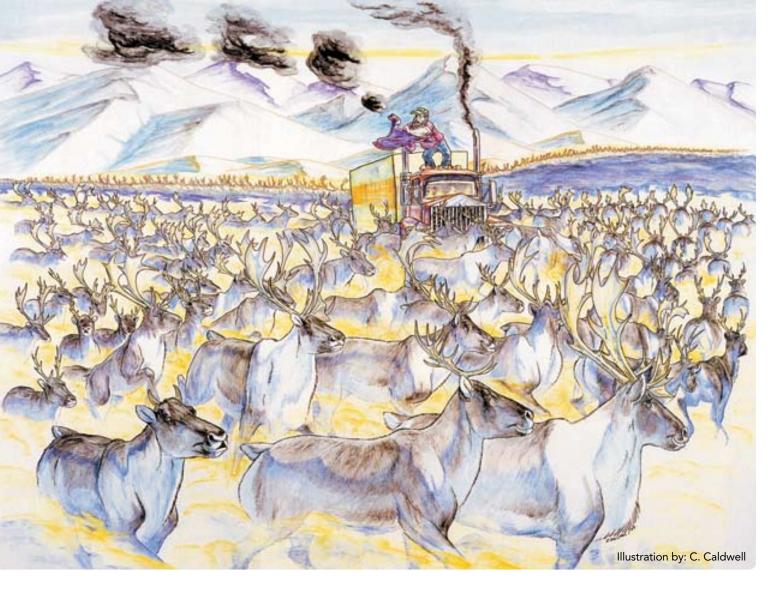
## **Other Communities**

## Mayo, Yukon

This town of 366 people is the home of the First Nation of Na Cho Nyäk Dun. The First Nation's name translates to mean "Big River," reflecting its location on the Stewart River. The First Nation of Na Cho Nyäk Dun, with 435 members, is part of the Northern Tutchone language and culture group. In 1992, the First Nation of Na Cho Nyäk Dun was one of the first four Yukon First Nations to sign their land claim agreement. Mayo is located on the famous Silver Trail Highway and was once busy with silver mining activities. The town was named after Alfred H. Mayo, who was a circus acrobat in Maine before coming to Mayo in 1895.

## Dawson City, Yukon

This town at the heart of the Klondike has 2,000 residents and receives approximately 60,000 visitors every year. It is the home of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, which means "people of the Klondike River". There are approximately 600 members of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in. This First Nation works hard to revive traditional practices, including Porcupine Caribou hunting traditions. It is well known for its First Hunt program, which involves youth in community hunts.



# DEMPSTER HIGHWAY

The construction of the Dempster Highway 25 years ago provided easy access to previously remote areas of the herd's range. This access dramatically changed hunting practices. Since the fall of 1999, the Board has made recommendations to the Ministers for regulations designed to mitigate the additional hunting stress on the herd as well as to mitigate hunter safety issues that arise from the increased concentration of hunting.

Board-recommended regulations require a one-week hunting closure to allow the leaders of the herd to pass undisturbed. This regulation is based on traditional hunting practices to help ensure that hunting does not disrupt migration patterns. This year, after 5,000 to 8,000 caribou were located 40 kilometres west of the Ogilvie Camp, the highway was closed from October 7 to 14. This closure appears to have been well timed, as caribou appeared on the highway in the middle of the hunting closure. This year the caribou were observed farther south on the highway than ever recorded before by scientists.

On October 5, 2005, the Board made a formal recommendation to the Yukon's Minister of Environment for a second hunting closure along the Dempster Highway in certain instances. Because the geographical landmark that is meaningful to the caribou is the Ogilvie River, not the boundary between Yukon and Northwest Territories, the Board proposed that the north portion of the highway correspond with the Northwest Territories' hunting closure. This would not result in longer hunting closures, just more sensible timing. In other instances, migration patterns might require a second closure on the south end of the Dempster Highway. The Minister has accepted this recommendation and will undertake the required government-to-government consultation prior to any implementation. Yukon Conservation Officers reported a total of 22 hunting investigations on the Dempster this year, mostly for violations such as hunting too close to the highway, hunting during the closure, dangerous hunting, and exceeding bag limits. Warnings were issued for failing to affix seals. Overall compliance levels were better than last year.

The Delta hunters' fall access to the caribou was limited because the Peel River ferry service closed earlier this year for mechanical reasons. Early snow allowed for snowmobile use after the one-week closure ended.

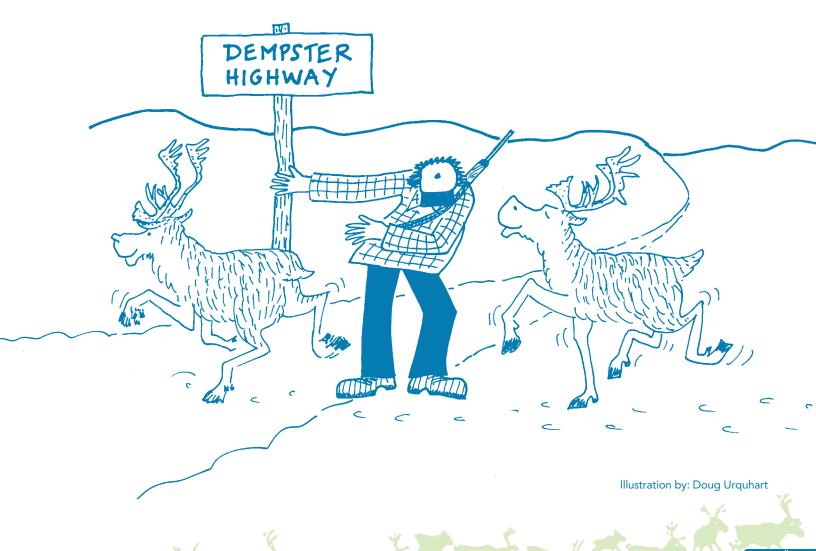
To protect the herd's ability to maintain its population, signs have been placed along the Dempster Highway requesting hunters to refrain from hunting cow caribou.

## **Regulation Review**

This year, the Board undertook its routine review of Dempster Highway regulations. In particular, after extensive discussions, the Board proposed six regulation revisions. It sought feedback on regulation proposals involving enforcing a shorter hunting season, removing the 500-metre no-hunting corridor from portions of the Dempster Highway, and requiring use of blaze orange safety vests. The Board also sought feedback relating to non-regulatory recommendations concerning educational programs, harassment of caribou from snow machines, and encouraging a voluntary hunting ban of mature bulls from October 10 until November 1 each year.

In addition to soliciting and receiving extensive input from stakeholders in the user communities as well as interested organizations outside the range of the herd, the Board invited the Yukon public to provide feedback. There were announcements and invitations to provide feedback in the newspapers and on the radio stations to invite as broad a contribution as possible from the general public.

The Board has been reviewing the extensive feedback received and will be making recommendations to the Minister based on that information.





# HARVEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Harvest management is complicated because the herd migrates through the U.S. and Canada (through Yukon and the Northwest Territories). It migrates through the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, the Gwich'in Settlement Area and the Traditional Territories of the Vuntut Gwitch'in First Nation, the First Nation of Na Cho Nyäk Dun and the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in. All Canadian First Nations and Inuvialuit within the range of the herd have settled their land claims and have some authority to regulate their own beneficiaries and manage their settlement lands. These First Nations can take an active role in developing consistent hunter education strategies and request harvest restrictions on their beneficiaries if they deem it necessary. All land claim agreements allow for government imposed restrictions on harvesting for conservation and public safety reasons.

With so many jurisdictions involved, it is imperative to bring all parties together to work out a plan to harmonize harvest management. A forward thinking plan will minimize conflicts between user groups. A sensible, uniform approach throughout the range will improve hunter compliance. In addition, implementing sound, proactive management measures by utilizing small changes in hunting practices now might prevent crisis management in the future, when there might be few caribou remaining to hunt.

The PCMB is working to bring together representatives of the user organizations to develop a Harvest Management Strategy. The Strategy is intended to provide an opportunity for governments, First Nations and Inuvialuit to collaborate on the development of a plan to conserve the herd on the Canadian side of the range. The planning process will involve an education component addressing caribou conservation, and it will address the First Nation and Inuvialuit rights and obligations under the land claim agreements. By working together, these groups will have a strong voice in ensuring the herd is protected in a way that satisfies the requirements of all users. This proactive approach is especially important in view of the fact that both territorial ministers are empowered to restrict hunting rights for conservation purposes.

The Harvest Management Strategy will use modern scientific studies and the traditional wisdom of community members. All communities will be brought together to weigh harvest regulation options, and the parties will develop an agreement on uniform enforceable regulations throughout the range of the herd. By recognizing the First Nations as key decision makers, improved hunter compliance is anticipated.

The development of the Strategy is intended to happen in three phases over three years. Phase I involves community consultation and developing the planning Protocol. Phase 2 is the development of the Harvest Management Plan. Phase 3 is the development of a Harvest Management (Native User) Agreement, which will be signed by all relevant First Nation and Inuvialuit governments.

The Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation provided funds for the initial scoping document setting out this plan. The Governments of Canada, Yukon, and Northwest Territories, the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board, Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) and the PCMB have already provided financial contributions for Phase I. Most other shareholders have expressed commitment to participate and provide in-kind contributions.

# **BOARD MEETINGS**



In keeping with the communication strategy of the Board, the members try to meet in the Porcupine Caribou Herd user communities as often as possible. The community members are encouraged to attend and observe the meetings. As well, the Board regularly holds a public meeting in conjunction with the regular Board meetings to encourage the residents to voice their concerns and to discuss current caribou related issues.

- A Board meeting was held on November 5 and 6, 2005, in Inuvik, Northwest Territories.
- A Board meeting was held on February 27 and 28, 2006, in Whitehorse, Yukon.

Board members meet with their respective community organizations before and after board meetings to keep abreast of community concerns and share information about PCMB activities. Prior to the regular board meeting, the Board met in Whitehorse to review public input on its proposed regulation recommendations and to discuss the Harvest Management Strategy. Lindsay Staples was contracted to facilitate discussions around harvest management and the Board's responsibilities under First Nation and Inuvialuit final agreements.

## Roles, Responsibilities and Rights Workshop

On February 25, 2006, the Board met in Whitehorse to discuss roles, responsibilities and rights with respect to the management and harvesting of the Porcupine Caribou Herd in Canada. This topic is important because the *Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement* (PCMA) pre-dates most land claim agreements. Lindsay Staples facilitated the workshop. Participants reviewed the PCMA and relevant sections of all land claim agreements within the herd's range. Generally speaking, most land claim agreements have "subject to" and "exception" clauses that can be interpreted to recognize the PCMA as paramount in matters related to the Porcupine Caribou Herd. These documents were read carefully to make Board members familiar with them and so the documents can guide Board member decisions.

There was also discussion about how the PCMB relates to land claim boards such as Renewable Resource Councils (RRCs) and Hunters and Trappers Committees (HTCs). Some land claim agreements specifically describe the relationship, and the Board reviewed those documents. It was noted that PCMB responsibilities specific to Porcupine Caribou overlap with general responsibilities of many land claim based boards. The Board recognized that its effectiveness relies on the support and input of these groups and particularly the parties appointing members to the Board. If the PCMB did not exist, it would fall to the other boards to work directly with one another in the management of the herd - a formidable challenge. The Board recognized, however, that even if it makes recommendations, that does not prevent other boards from making their own recommendations to ministers, as well. In addition, nothing in the PCMA prevents the Board from advising the land claim bodies on matters related to the Porcupine Caribou and its habitat. In fact, the Board is required under the PCMA to provide advice to other groups. One way to facilitate communication is for the PCMB to establish working groups/ subcommittees involving groups such as First Nations, RRCs and HTCs.

Board communications were also discussed. The Board's Secretariat is the primary instrument for communications to ensure consistency of information to communities, RRCs, HTCs, and individual board members. In addition, the Board or individuals representing the Board (with Board approval) communicate with community organizations (RRCs, HTCs, Inuvialuit Game Council, Gwich'in Tribal Council, First Nations, etc). It is the responsibility of appointing parties to contact the Board if they want information. The Board's recommendations and communications are collective recommendations, and the Board and its members speak with one voice.

The Board also discussed whether consultation with the public on hunting regulations is within the mandate of the Board. It was determined that prior to making management recommendations, the PCMB should consult with the general public in places and communities that facilitate broad opportunities for consultation. This is not a requirement of the PCMA, however. The Board recognizes the distinction between public participation, which involves sharing information, versus "consultation" as defined in the Yukon First Nation final agreements.

In addition, the Board discussed its responsibility to address aboriginal hunting rights in relation to the harvest of Porcupine Caribou. There is justification for regulations that affect aboriginal hunting rights only when it is agreed that there is a conservation or public safety concern. Once that requirement is established, the paramount consideration is the conservation of the herd; the second consideration is the protection of preferential aboriginal harvesting rights. If the Board recommends regulations for hunting Porcupine Caribou for purposes of conservation or public safety, First Nation and Inuvialuit harvesting rights may be affected in that circumstance.



# **REPRESENTATION IN MEETINGS**

The Board was represented at other local, regional, national and international engagements.

## Meeting with the Minister

On May 17, 2005, the Chair and Secretariat met with the Yukon Minister of Environment and the Deputy Minister to discuss PCMB issues, the Harvest Management Strategy, the Hunter Education Program, hunting regulations, the regulations consultation process and current regulation recommendations.

## Parks Canada's Aboriginal Leadership Development Program

On May 17, 2005, Joe Tetlichi appeared as a panel member in a discussion about the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for Parks Canada's Aboriginal Leadership Development Program at Yukon College in Whitehorse. Approximately 40 students attended and participated in a discussion about the Porcupine Caribou Herd, its migration, its dependence on its habitat and the Gwich'in culture.

## Council of Yukon First Nations General Assembly

The Chair attended the General Assembly in Pelly Crossing, Yukon, on June 28 to 30, 2005. He discussed the Board's mandate, activities and link between Council of Yukon First Nations and the First Nation Chiefs.

## Alaska Wilderness Week

Board member James Andre attended the Alaska Wilderness Week activities in Washington, D.C., with funding provided partly by the Alaska Wilderness League and partly by the Government of Canada (INAC), from September 16 to 22, 2005. This summer's Wilderness Week was particularly important because the U.S. government proposed to allow oil leasing in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge — the herd's calving grounds, a critical habitat — in its budget. James Andre attended to ensure lobbyists, politicians and their staff understand the real consequences of disrupting the calving grounds for the caribou herd and the people who rely on it.



## Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board

The Chair and Secretariat attended the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board meeting on October 4, 2005. He briefed the Board on the Harvest Management Plan, updated them on PCMB activities, and discussed the link between the PCMB and the Fish and Wildlife Management Board.

## North Yukon Land Use Planning Workshop

Board members Dennis Frost and Doug Larsen attended the North Yukon Land Use Planning Workshop in Whitehorse, Yukon, on June 22 and 23, 2005, to discuss appropriate scenarios for a computer simulation program to predict effects of a number of variables on the caribou population and future land-use management planning.

## Yukon First Nation Caribou Users Meeting

On October 19, 2005, the Chair attended a Yukon First Nation caribou users meeting to discuss the PCMB, its mandate, its current activities, the history of the Dempster Highway hunting regulations, the public consultation process for regulations, and the current regulation consultation. He also discussed the Harvest Management Strategy and harm mitigation in the event the United States government opts to allow for oil development in the herd's calving grounds.

## **Dempster Highway Hunting Tour**

Immediately following the Caribou Users Meeting, the Chair travelled to Tombstone to observe hunting activities along the Dempster Highway. He discussed safety concerns with hunters and presented information about safety, regulations, traditional hunting practices and ethical hunting. The presence of a Board representative during the hunt was valuable in ensuring open communication among the Board, hunters, and other users of the herd.

## **Regulation Consultation Public Meeting**

On November 1, 2005, the Board held a public consultation meeting in Whitehorse in relation to the Dempster Highway regulations. The Chair, Board members Doug Larsen and Dorothy Cooley, and Secretariat represented the Board. The Chair described the Board and its role in the regulations process. The Board delivered a presentation about the history of the Dempster Highway hunting regulations and presented proposed regulation changes. These presentations generated many questions and much discussion with meeting participants. Questionnaires were distributed for participants to complete to ensure they had the opportunity to provide comprehensive feedback. The Board also noted verbal input about the regulation proposals and received letters to consider before making its final recommendations.



## Circum-Arctic Rangifer Monitoring and Assessment (CARMA)

On November 15 and 16, 2005, the Chair and Secretariat attended the Circum-Arctic Rangifer Monitoring and Assessment (CARMA) meeting in Vancouver, B.C. CARMA is a network of caribou experts from all around the circumpolar north. This meeting is essential in developing relationships and sharing knowledge with other traditional and scientific caribou researchers.

## **Peel Watershed Planning Commission**

The Secretariat attended the Peel Watershed Planning Commission meeting on February 8, 2006. This Commission's area of interest includes the winter range of the Porcupine Caribou Herd, and the PCMB's interest in the Commission's work was emphasized.

## Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board Meeting

The Chair attended a Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board meeting in Inuvik on February 23, 2006. At this meeting, he shared information about the herd's population decline, harm mitigation, harvest management, the PCMB's regulation review and protection of critical habitat.

## Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Society Annual Gathering

The Chair and Secretariat attended the Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Society Annual Gathering in Old Crow on March 18 and 19, 2006. At this meeting, representatives of seven communities in the range of the Porcupine Caribou Herd presented findings obtained in structured interviews with 20 community members in each community who spend a significant amount of time out on the land from each community. These observations were systematically documented on questionnaires based on key indicators identified by the Arctic Borderlands Co-op. The traditional knowledge obtained in these interviews is used in combination with scientific knowledge, and thus this gathering brings together important experts to discuss changes in the weather, the land and the animals.





## **Johnny D. Charlie** (1930 – 1998)

Johnny D. Charlie was one of the founding PCMB members. He served on the PCMB until his passing in September of 1998. He was well recognized for his expertise in living on the land and all that entails, including hunting,

trapping, and running his own dog team.

As a political leader, Johnny served as Tetlit Gwich'in Band Councillor for 15 years and then as Chief for 10 more years. He earned great respect throughout the Mackenzie Valley in his work advocating for the land claim. Highlights in his career include attending the initialling of the Dene-Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement in Yellowknife in 1990. In addition, he was with the Gwich'in Leadership in Ottawa when the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement was initialled in 1991. He was also the master of ceremonies at the signing of the Gwich'in Agreement in 1992 in Fort McPherson.

Johnny had extensive knowledge of the traditional trails between Old Crow and Fort McPherson. With the knowledge passed on from his father, he led many trips over the mountains with his people by his side. In this way, he helped re-establish ties between the Tetlit Gwich'in and the Vuntut Gwitch'in.

Johnny served as a mentor and advisor to the Gwich'in Tribal Council, and his leadership was demonstrated by the fact that his people still considered him to be a chief and continued to rely on him for direction, advice and leadership right up until his death. The PCMB, among so many others, is grateful for his leadership.

# Chief Johnny Charlie Scholarship

The Board applied for and received a Student Training and Employment Program (STEP) grant, offered by the Government of Yukon, to employ a student in the summer of 2005. This grant paid half the funds for this position, and the PCMB funded the remainder. To honour Johnny Charlie, a respected Gwich'in elder, the Board's financial contribution to the summer position is referred to as the "Chief Johnny Charlie Scholarship".

The aim of this program is to provide on-the-job experience to help the student gain an understanding of the herd as well as common practices of biologists. In turn, the PCMB benefits from having a new expert contributing to the body of knowledge of the herd. Having a summer student working for the PCMB provides a vital connection between the reallife activities of the biologists and the academic world.

Brian Bell was selected to work with alternate board member and Government of Yukon Regional Biologist Dorothy Cooley. He assisted her in her Dawson City office and accompanied her at work in the field. He also drafted one of the Caribou Update columns for the Board. The PCMB appreciates Brian Bell's important contribution to the PCMB's work last summer.

The Chief Johnny Charlie Scholarship has been awarded annually since 1992. Over the years, the following students have been recipients:

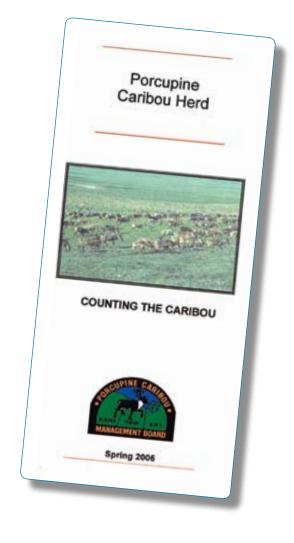
- Vince Fraser, 1992-93
- Mike Seguine, 1994
- Ben Sewell, 1995
- Penny Lou Sheardown, 1996
- Doris Hausleitner, 1997
- Elena Jones, 1998-99
- Rob Savard, 2000
- Kieran O'Donovan, 2001
- Darcie Matthiessen, 2002-03
- Brian Bell, 2005



# **COMMUNICATION HIGHLIGHTS**

One of the priorities of the Board has been to implement an effective communications strategy and communications plan. The following list highlights this year's communications activities:

- The Annual Report contains extensive information about the herd and the Board's activities. This is distributed to such broad recipients as user organizations in the U.S. and Canada, environmental organizations throughout the world, lobby groups that advocate for protection of the herd's habitat in Canada and the United States, scientists, universities and libraries.
- All stakeholders and the general public are invited to attend PCMB meetings to observe the Board's discussions and decisions. Invitations to the meetings are distributed to stakeholders and interested parties. Public service announcements of upcoming PCMB meetings are published in newspapers and broadcast on radio stations.
- Public open houses are held in conjunction with the Board meetings in the communities. During these meetings, Board members and the public engage in dialogue regarding the Board's priorities, activities and plans. Just as importantly, members of the public share their observations and concerns with the Board.
- Meeting Summaries are very brief reviews of meeting activities. These are distributed by the Board members and Secretariat to user groups and other interested groups on request.
- Newspaper columns are printed in the Yukon News to distribute detailed information about specific issues for the broader public. The Yukon News is distributed in all Yukon communities, and is read by the general public, caribou users, resident hunters and persons concerned about the environment.
- Community Caribou Update newsletters are distributed to stakeholder organizations and others who have expressed interest.
- In promoting hunter safety, blaze orange toques and vests printed with the message "Think Safety First" are loaned to hunters on the Dempster Highway.





- The Chair tours Porcupine Caribou Herd user communities and attends various other board and community meetings throughout the year.
- Radio and newspaper interviews are done throughout the year.
- PCMB brochures, annual reports and other printed materials are made available at all Board meetings as well as other events that Board members attend.
- The Board's Web site is regularly updated with current information and announcements.
- The Board distributes pamphlets, pins, pens, and t-shirts at community meetings, speaking engagements and public information events. Requests for the printed material are frequently received.
- The Board's *Counting The Caribou* brochure was designed and distributed widely. This brochure was developed in response to frequent questioning about what is the size of the herd and how certain is that estimate.
- There was a review of the Dempster Highway regulations, culminating in new recommendations to the territorial ministers. The Board undertook extensive communication activities with community groups as well as licensed hunters to ensure the Board received



the most comprehensive feedback as was practical to guide its recommendations. During this consultation, participants raised issues and voiced concerns that were outside the scope of the regulation review, and these matters were nonetheless noted by the Board.

• The PCMB holds an annual school poster contest. See more of the students' artwork on the following pages.



# **Annual Poster Contest**

The PCMB holds an annual school poster contest. Each winter, schools within all the herd's user communities are invited to participate. Over the years, to keep this initiative engaging, there have been variations of the contest. Themes such as "harvesting" or "conservation" have been introduced. One year, the contest was a photography contest. Other years, students have had the option to submit short stories, as well. The contest has been open to three age-group categories. This initiative is a fun way to raise awareness about the special concerns regarding the herd and to encourage stewardship. By engaging the creativity of youth, we are encouraging them to reflect on their values. Every year, winners in each category were presented with PCMB t-shirts and books about the caribou, and all contestants were given either PCMB pins or pens, to reward them for their awareness and stewardship. Awarding prizes to all participants ensures they all receive tangible reminders of their creative success and thoughtfulness. And when youth bring their prizes home, they have a story to tell their families and friends.



Karly King-Simpson - age 7, grade 1



Tyler Hansen - age 7, grade 1



Kristen Elias - age 8, grade 3



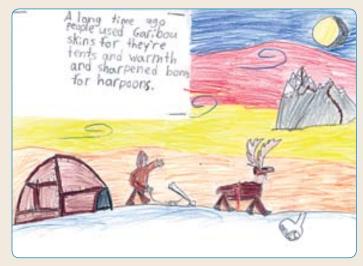
Bryanna Storr - grade 4

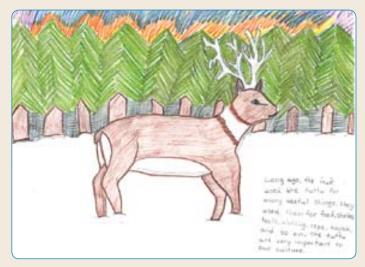


Meredith Baskin - age 9, grade 4



Samuel Roland - age 9, grade 4





Norman Snow - age 10, grade 5



Janelle Arey - age 11, grade 6

Tamara Vondrach - age 11, grade 6



Melanie Wolki - age 11, grade 6

# Other Herds

Last summer, the Government of Northwest Territories census results noted a startling decline in the Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West and Bluenose-East caribou herds. The Cape Bathurst Herd declined from 17,500 caribou in 1992 to 2,400 caribou in 2005. The Bluenose-West Herd declined nearly 75 percent over four years, from 89,000 caribou in 1987 to 20,800 caribou in 2005. The Bluenose-East Herd declined from 104,000 caribou in 2000 to 66,600 caribou in 2005. The territorial government has ordered a recount for this summer to confirm the findings.

Because these three herds are near the range of the Porcupine Caribou Herd, increased restrictions on these herds might result in an increase in hunting pressure on the Porcupine Caribou Herd. Governments are working with the communities to develop strategies to deal with this potential problem.

In view of the population crises of nearby herds, and in view of the consequent increased hunting pressure put on the Porcupine Caribou, obtaining up-to-date census "... increased restrictions on these herds might result in an increase in hunting pressure on the Porcupine Caribon Herd."

data and harvest data on the Porcupine Caribou Herd is even more important. In addition, these population crises highlight the need for a proactive Harvest Management Strategy for the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

There are continuing concerns about harvest of caribou from the Hart River Herd, which is a small herd of woodland caribou. Sometimes hunters can inadvertently harvest Hart River Caribou while they are hunting Porcupine Caribou because the ranges of these two caribou herds overlap at times. Discussions are underway to identify ways to lessen the stress on Hart River Caribou.



# CREATIVE INSPIRATION FROM CARIBOU

Over the years, the Porcupine Caribou Herd has captured the fascination of many artists. While we cannot possibly name them all, here are a few of the highlights of projects that drew national and international attention.

The Caribou Commons Project has brought slide shows, concerts and music recordings to audiences the world over. Led by Matthew Lien, this project includes a CD entitled Arctic Refuge, inspired by trips Lien made with fellow musicians to the herd's calving grounds and other parts of the herd's range. Included on the Caribou Commons Web site is a letter from Robert Redford from June 20, 2001, condemning President George W. Bush's plans to open the 1002 lands of Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for oil and gas exploration and development.

In 2003, Karsten Heuer and Leanne Allison followed the Porcupine Caribou Herd's migration on foot for three months. They documented their journey and produced the film *Being Caribou* and a book by the same name. The book won Grand Prize on the Banff Mountain Book Festival competition in 2005.

Subhankar Banerjee's book Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land, documented a 14-month journey through the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. An exhibition of photos from this journey exhibited in museums across the U.S. and Canada. Photographer **Izuru Toki** featured the herd in his Over Brooks to Arctic Ocean: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge series and his Seasons of Far North series.

In an effort to protect the herd's calving grounds, **Lenny Kohm** toured North America, accompanied by Gwich'in representatives, in the *Last Great Wilderness Show*, supported by the PCMB. They presented slides featuring the Porcupine Caribou Herd and illustrating its importance to the Gwich'in culture.

**Fritz Mueller** is a Whitehorse photographer who has featured the Porcupine Caribou in his recent works.

Joyce Majiski is a biologist, wilderness guide, printmaker, painter and multimedia artist of international renown. She operates out of her Whitehorse studio, Tuktu Studio, creating works inspired specifically by the Porcupine Caribou.

**Chris Caldwell** has featured Porcupine Caribou on several pieces of her artwork, much of which has been reproduced as prints.

**Scott Schuldt**, an American multimedia artist, has embarked on the Caribou Project, which includes a map of the herd's range made with beadwork on canvas, an interpretation of calving season using beadwork on deerskin, and willow sculptures of caribou.

Artists of the Arctic Refuge: Shared Visions is a collective of artists,

writers, and photographers inspired by the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge who seek its permanent protection from development.

**Parks Canada** has run the Artist in the Park program in Ivvavik National Park, home of the herd's secondary calving grounds, in which several artists are invited to spend time at the park, interpret the experience through their chosen artistic media, and then exhibit the works in a group show.

Two prominent children's books were written. **Debbie S. Miller** wrote *A Caribou Journey*, which was illustrated by **Jon Van Zyle**. The Big Caribou Herd: Life in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge was written by **Bruce Hiscock**.

The herd has also captured the attention of many environmental organizations. The protection of the herd's calving grounds in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska has become one of the hottest environmental issues of our time. Some of the prominent organizations that have worked to protect the herd include:

- Alaska Coalition
- Alaska Wilderness League
- National Resource Defense Council
- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
- Audubon Society
- Sierra Club
- World Wildlife Fund
- U.S. Public Interest Research Group
- The Wilderness Society

# Auditor's Report

To the Members of Porcupine Caribou Management Board:

We have audited the balance sheet of Porcupine Caribou Management Board as at March 31, 2006 and the statements of surplus and revenue and expenses and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Board's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Board as at March 31, 2006, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Whitehorse, Yukon June 15, 2006

Held Markila

Chartered Accountants

## Balance Sheet March **31**, 2006

ASSETS	2006	2005
Current Cash Accounts receivable Prepaid expenses	\$   26,265 20,746 	\$ 42,115 31,374 500
Capital (Note 2)	47,011 1,547	73,989 1,547
	<u>\$ 48,558</u>	<u>\$ 75,536</u>
LIABILITIES Current Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	<u>\$ 10,031</u>	<u>\$ 25,129</u>
EQUITY		
Investment in capital assets (Note 2) Surplus	1,547 36,980	1,547 48,860
	38,527	50,407
	<u>\$ 48,558</u>	<u>\$ 75,536</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD: \_\_\_\_\_ Director Uni\_\_\_\_ Director RI-TA

Porcupine Caribou Management Board 29

## Statement of Surplus March 31, 2006

	2006	2005
Surplus, beginning of year	\$ 48,860	\$ 30,164
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses		
General "1002" Intervention	 (9,513) (2,367)	 18,851 (155)
Surplus, end of year	\$ 36,980	\$ 48,860

## Statement of Cash Flows March 31, 2006

	2006	2005
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses Add (deduct) net change in non-cash	\$ (11,880)	\$ 18,696
working capital items	(3,970)	(1,467)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	(15,850)	17,229
Cash, beginning of year	42,115	24,886
Cash, end of year	<u>\$ 26,265</u>	\$ 42,115

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## General Statement of Revenue and Expenses March 31, 2006

	2	006	2005
Revenue			
Government of Canada - DIAND		13,950	\$ 13,950
- Other		23,633	19,450
Government of Yukon		57 <b>,</b> 934	48,000
Government of North West Territories	4	40,300	38,000
Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation		-	5,000
Other		2,000	 4,361
	1 '	37 <b>,</b> 817	128,761
		<u> </u>	 120,101
Expenses			
Advertising and promotion		8,792	1,016
Bookkeeping		1,852	1,777
Communications		6,626	7,064
Contracts		21,700	-
Honoraria		11,050	31,282
Office and miscellaneous		14,715	5,412
Student		8,581	_
Harvest management plan		6,400	_
Professional fees		2,638	3,526
Secretariat		34,499	31,660
Telephone and internet		1,214	1,326
Training Travel and accommodation	,	5,475	-
Traver and accommodation		23,788	 26,847
	14	47,330	109,910
		<u> </u>	 <u> </u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenue			
over expenses	<u>\$</u> (	9,513)	\$ 18,851

## "1002" Intervention Statement of Revenue and Expenses March 31, 2006

	2006	2005
Revenue		
Government of Canada - DIAND	\$ 30,050	\$ 38,800
Environment Canada	1,468	_
Other	2,131	753
	33,649	39,553
Expenses		
Administration	6,240	11,075
Advertising and promotions	1,855	3,599
Harm mitigation	3,532	-
Hunter education & cultural camps	-	2,072
Media and communications	2,500	-
Office and miscellaneous	1,012	250
Printing	1 <b>,</b> 177	10,103
Professional fees	1,200	1,200
Public information	15,427	1,925
Telephone	516	-
Travel and honoraria	1,857	4,984
Website	700	4,500
	36,016	39,708
Excess (deficiency) of revenue		
over expenses	<u>\$ (2,367)</u>	<u>\$ (155)</u>

<sup>32</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Report 2005-06

## Notes to the Financial Statement March 31, 2006

## 1. Purpose of the organization

The Porcupine Caribou Management Board is a non-profit, charitable organization. The object of the organization is to enhance the well-being of the Porcupine Caribou herd in the Yukon and Northwest Territories by studying the herd to determine its condition and to track migration and habits, holding workshops and seminars and publishing information to educate the public.

## 2. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting practices generally accepted in Canada. In preparing these financial statements management has made estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## Revenue recognition

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

## Capital assets

The full cost of capital assets is capitalized on the balance sheet in the year of purchase. Payments toward those costs are expensed in the year they are made. The Investment in Capital Assets represents the historical cost of all assets owned by the Board. The Board does not amortize its capital assets.

## Financial instruments

The Board's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Board is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

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Caribou Management Board

# Appendix One

## Plan for the International Conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd\*

## 1. BACKGROUND

### A. The Porcupine Caribou Herd

The Porcupine Caribou Herd is a population of barren-ground caribou that ranges across two Canadian Territories and the State of Alaska. The herd is of major economic and cultural importance to a number of Alaskan and Canadian communities located on or near its range. The herd is also of great public interest and used by non-local people. Porcupine caribou are a key component of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska and Ivvavik National Park in the Yukon.

#### B. The International Conservation Agreement

Conservation of the Porcupine caribou herd can only be effective through coordination among the various political jurisdictions responsible for its management. In 1987, the Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America on the conservation of the Porcupine caribou herd (Agreement) was signed by which both countries agreed to cooperate on fundamental requirements to conserve the herd.

### C. The International Porcupine Caribou Board

The Agreement provided for the formation of an International Porcupine Caribou Board (IPCB). The Agreement established the IPCB's role as one of facilitating coordination, communication, and cooperation between the Parties, and to provide advice and recommendations to the Parties. The IPCB's purpose is to further the objectives of the Agreement and to conserve the Porcupine caribou herd and its habitat.

Clause 4(d)3 of the Agreement empowers the IPCB to make recommendations on "cooperative conservation planning for the Porcupine caribou herd throughout its range."

## 2. THE CONCEPT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION PLAN

#### A. Purpose

The International Conservation Plan (Plan) focuses on identifying and coordinating aspects of Porcupine caribou management that require international cooperation. The Plan outlines IPCB consensus on what areas require coordination, and a mechanism to monitor the Parties support of the Agreement.

#### **B.** Operation

The Plan is based upon the four principle objectives of the Agreement. Under each of these objectives, the Plan identifies areas requiring international cooperation and recommends what such cooperation should entail.

For each of the cooperative initiatives, the Plan proceeds to describe the IPCB's role and actions. In most cases, the actions consist of recommendations from the IPCB to the Parties, and often request responses from the Parties. The responses will be used by the IPCB for monitoring support of the Agreement by the Parties and for informing the public.

Above all, the Plan has been designed as a functional document. Thus, all IPCB actions are specific rather than general and recommend a product or undertaking that can be reviewed by the IPCB. It is intended that the Plan be phased in over several years to ultimately establish an operating mechanism composed mainly of background reports and annual updates through which implementation of the Agreement can be guided and assessed.

This Plan may be revised and updated by the IPCB as needed to address changing conditions of the herd, new conservation issues related to the herd or user concerns. Throughout the Plan, the terms conserve or conservation have the meaning as defined in Clause 1.c., of the Agreement (1987).

## 3. PLAN OBJECTIVES, IPCB ROLES AND ACTIONS

## **Objective** A

To conserve the Porcupine caribou herd and its habitat through international cooperation and coordination so that the risk of irreversible damage or long-term adverse effects as a result of use of caribou or their habitat is minimized.

### 1. Herd Status

To cooperate in monitoring the status of the Porcupine caribou herd, including population characteristics, health and physical condition, and contaminants.

### IPCB Role:

To advise on and recommend programs for monitoring herd status. (Clauses 4(d) and 4(e) of the Agreement)  $% \left( \frac{1}{2}\right) =0$ 

#### IPCB Actions:

- a) Recommend a joint technical committee be formed to coordinate and report on research and monitoring of the Porcupine caribou herd.
- b) Recommend an annual herd status statement be prepared by the Parties for the IPCB.

## 2. Harvest

To collect and share harvest data and to mutually determine harvest limits. *Harvest Data* 

## IPCB Role:

To advise on and recommend actions for the collecting and sharing of harvest data. (Clause 4(d)1 of the Agreement)

#### IPCB Actions:

- a) Recommend the management agencies, in consultation with users, prepare a report on the methods that have been used to collect harvest data and evaluate their relative reliability.
- Recommend the Parties report annual harvests and data collection methods to the IPCB for inclusion in its reports.

### Harvest Limits

#### IPCB Role:

To advise on and recommend overall harvest and harvest limits for each country. (Clause 4(d)4 of the Agreement).

## IPCB Actions:

Recommend the management agencies, in consultation with users, jointly prepare guidelines for when harvest limits will be considered.

#### 3. Habitat

To: a) take appropriate action to conserve the herd's habitat; b) ensure the herd's habitat is given effective consideration in evaluating proposed activities; c) notify and consult where an activity is likely to cause a significant impact; d) avoid or minimize activities that would significantly disrupt migration or other important behavior patterns of the herd.

### IPCB Role:

To advise on and recommend actions for monitoring and conserving the habitat of the herd. (Clauses 4 (d) and 4 (e) of the Agreement)

#### IPCB Actions:

- Recommend the management agencies monitor habitat quality and land use throughout the range of the herd and report their findings to the IPCB.
- b) Recommend the management agencies submit to the IPCB a summary of proposed activities which may significantly affect the herd's habitat and update the summary in a timely manner.
- c) Review, and comment, if proposed activities have been subjected to appropriate impact-assessment and review, and have adequately considered cumulative impacts and mitigation.

### 4. Sensitive Habitat

To identify sensitive habitats deserving special consideration for the Porcupine caribou herd and to conserve such habitats.

#### IPCB Role:

To identify, advise on and recommend actions to conserve sensitive habitats for the Porcupine caribou herd. (Clause 4.d.5 of the Agreement)

### IPCB Actions:

- Prepare, in consultation with users, a report identifying sensitive habitats and current management regimes, and report to management agencies.
- b) Recommend each management agency, in consultation with users, review for adequacy their management regimes on sensitive habitats and update the IPCB when required.

# Appendix One

### **Objective B**

To ensure opportunities for customary and traditional uses of the Porcupine caribou herd.

IPCB Role:

To advise on and recommend ways of ensuring opportunities for customary and traditional uses of the herd. (Clauses 3(b); 3(f); 3(g); 4(d)4 of the Agreement)

**IPCB** Actions:

- Recommend the management agencies, in consultation with users, prepare a report describing the customary and traditional uses of the Porcupine caribou herd.
- Recommend each management agency provide statements on laws, regulations and policies affecting the customary and traditional uses of Porcupine caribou.
- c) Review, and comment, if proposed activities have adequately considered the interests of users of Porcupine caribou.

#### **Objective** C

To enable users of Porcupine caribou to participate in the international coordination of the conservation of the Porcupine caribou herd and its habitat. *IPCB Role*:

To advise on and recommend ways to enable user participation in the

# Appendix Two

## Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement

This agreement made on the 26 day of October, 1985 between:

The Government of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Minister of the Environment, (hereinafter referred to as "Canada");

- and -

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON, as represented by the Minister of Renewable Resources, (hereinafter referred to as "Yukon");

- and -

The Government of the Northwest Territories, as represented by the Minister of Renewable Resources, (hereinafter referred to as "GNWT");

- and -

THE COUNCIL FOR YUKON INDIANS, (hereinafter referred to as"CYI"); - and -

THE INUVIALUIT GAME COUNCIL, (hereinafter referred to as " IGC'); - and -

THE DENE NATION AND THE MÉTIS ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, (hereinafter referred to as the "Dene/Metis\*").

WHEREAS the Porcupine Caribou Herd within Canada historically migrates across the boundary between Yukon and the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS the continued well-being of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and the maintenance of its habitat require co-ordinated management, good will and co-operation between Governments and the traditional users of these caribou;

AND WHEREAS the parties hereto recognize the value of these caribou to Canada generally and that a special relationship exists between native users and these caribou.

Now THEREFORE this Agreement Witnesseth that the Government parties hereto, under their respective authorities to enter into agreements of this

IPCB Actions:

a) Recommend each Party ensure user representation on, and in the activities of, the IPCB.

### Objective D

To encourage cooperation and communication among governments, users of Porcupine caribou, and others to achieve the objectives of the Agreement. *IPCB Role:* 

To advise on and recommend ways to encourage, and to facilitate, communication among governments, users and others. (Clause 2(d) of the Agreement)

**IPCB** Actions:

- a) Recommend each management agency report to the IPCB the content and methods of communications undertaken each year concerning the conservation of the Porcupine caribou herd.
- b) Recommend means for management agencies to achieve effective communication with users.
- c) Summarize and report on the status and conservation of the Porcupine caribou herd as appropriate.
- d) Provide summaries of all IPCB meetings and activities to the public.

kind, agree to act within their legislative authorities for the management of Porcupine Caribou and the protection and maintenance of Porcupine Caribou habitat, in a co-operative manner together with the other parties to this Agreement, to give effect to its terms as follows.

#### A. DEFINITIONS

In this Agreement:

- 1. "Allowable harvest" means that level of harvest of the Porcupine Caribou Herd in Canada as set pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.
- 2. "Board" means the Porcupine Caribou Management Board established herein.
- **3.** "Conservation" means the management and use of Porcupine Caribou and its habitat which best ensures the long term productivity and usefulness of the Herd for present and future generations.
- "Habitat" means the whole or any part of the biosphere upon which the Porcupine Caribou Herd depends, including all of the land, water and air that it inhabits, crosses or utilizes at any time.
- 5. "Harvest" means to shoot, kill, harm, capture, trap, or collect for any purpose, or to attempt to engage in such activities.
- 6. "Management" means the methods and procedures which are necessary to ensure the health and protection of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and the maintenance of its habitat, which may include but are not limited to the following activities associated with wildlife and land management: law enforcement, research, census-taking, monitoring, public information, education and functions provided for in this Agreement.
- 7. "Minister(s)" means the appropriate responsible Minister of the Government of Canada, Government of Yukon or Government of the Northwest Territories.
- 8. "Native user" means a person whose entitlement to the subsistence harvest of Porcupine Caribou has been recognized by a native user community and who is:
  - (a) an aboriginal person who is a traditional user of the Porcupine Caribou or the descendant of such a person; or
  - (b) an aboriginal person who is a current user of the Porcupine Caribou at

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the time of signing this Agreement and meets a reasonable residency requirement satisfactory to his native user community; or

- (c) A Canadian aboriginal person who has not traditionally or currently harvested the Porcupine Caribou but meets a reasonable residency requirement satisfactory to the Board.
- 9. "Native User Community" means any one of the communities of Old Crow, Dawson, Mayo, Fort McPherson, Arctic Red River, Aklavik, Inuvik or Tuktoyaktuk and may also include such other new communities as may be determined through native user agreements in effect from time to time. The native users within these communities shall be represented by a Chief and Council, a Hunters and Trappers association or other appropriate native leadership body, including those bodies defined through the comprehensive land claims process.
- 10. "Parties" means the parties to this Agreement and may include their successors or assigns, as defined through the comprehensive land claims process or otherwise.
- 11. "Porcupine Caribou" means members of that herd of barren ground caribou which regularly bears its young in north-eastern Alaska and northwestern Yukon and historically moves southward within Alaska, Yukon and the Northwest Territories for the winter. Its Canadian range, the limits of which are defined within Yukon by current Yukon game management subzones, is generally depicted for Yukon and the Northwest Territories on the map attached as Appendix I to this Agreement.
- 12. "Preferential Right" means the right to harvest Porcupine Caribou for subsistence usage and to be allocated, subject to conservation and the terms of this Agreement, quantities of Porcupine Caribou sufficient to fulfill the native users requirements for subsistence usage before there is any allocation for other purposes, such right of allocation being provided for by the establishment, when necessary, of the allocation hereinafter referred to as the "native user allocation."

## **B. OBJECTIVES OF THE PARTIES**

1. To co-operatively manage, as a herd, the Porcupine Caribou and its habitat within Canada so as to ensure the conservation of the Herd with a view to providing for the ongoing subsistence needs of native users;

2. To provide for participation of native users in Porcupine Caribou Herd management;

3. To recognize and protect certain priority harvesting rights in the Porcupine Caribou Herd for native users, while acknowledging that other users may also share the harvest;

4. To acknowledge the rights of native users as set out in this Agreement; and

5. To improve communications between Governments, native users and others with regard to the management of the Porcupine Caribou Herd within Canada.

## C. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PORCUPINE CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

1. The Government parties to this Agreement shall establish a Board, to be known as the Porcupine Caribou Management Board, to provide advice and recommendations to the Ministers.

2. Subject to paragraph 3(f) of this Part:

- (a) The Board will always include representation from each of the parties to this Agreement.
- (b) The Board will always contain equal Government and native representation and equal representation of native users from Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

3. Eight voting members shall be appointed within a reasonable time to the Board, as follows:

- (a) Canada shall appoint one member to represent Canada;
- (b) (i) Yukon shall appoint two members to represent Yukon;
  - (ii) CYI shall nominate two members to represent the native users of Old Crow, Dawson and Mayo;
- (c) (i) GNWT shall appoint one member to represent GNWT;
- (ii) The Dene/Métis\* shall nominate one member to represent the Dene/

Métis\* native users or Aklavik, Inuvik, Fort McPherson and Arctic Red River;

- (iii) IGC shall nominate one member to represent the Inuvialuit native users of Aklavik, Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk;
- (d) Upon receipt of notification from the parties, the Ministers shall confirm the nominations and appointments as required;
- (e) The members of The Board shall be appointed for a term of five years, subject to the right of the parties to terminate the appointment of their respective appointees at any time and have Board members reappointed in accordance with the above terms of reference
- (f) If, within a reasonable time, nominations or appointments are not made as provided for in this paragraph, the Board may discharge its responsibilities with those members who have been nominated or appointed.
- (a) A majority of the members of the Board shall nominate from outside the membership of the Board a Yukon resident as the first Chairman and shall notify the Ministers accordingly;
- (b) The Board shall determine criteria for the nomination of subsequent Chairmen;
- (c) If agreement on nomination of a Chairman cannot be reached within a reasonable time, any party to this Agreement may refer the matter to a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Yukon Territory acting as an arbitrator under the provisions of the Arbitration Ordinance and if the Court shall not provide a Judge, then to an arbitrator under the provisions of the Arbitration Ordinance;
- (d) The majority of the members of the Board shall confirm the acceptability of the Chairman as nominated and shell notify the Ministers of its confirmation;
- (e) The Chairman shall have tenure for a term of five years and may, with the approval of the Board serve additional terms;
- (f) Upon receipt of notification from the Board, the Ministers shall confirm the appointment or dismissal of Chairmen as required.

#### D. DUTIES OF THE BOARD

1. The Board shall establish and maintain communication with the native users of the Porcupine Caribou, between the native users of the Porcupine Caribou, between native users and Governments, among Governments and with other users, in order to assist in co-ordinated management and conservation of Porcupine Caribou and its habitat.

2. The Board shall determine the actions that are necessary to achieve the objectives described herein and shall recommend them to the Minister.

3. The Board shall hold such public meetings as are reasonably necessary to report on and discuss with native users and others its findings and recommendations and, in any event, shall inform the native user communities in writing of the Board's recommendations to the Minister.

4. The Board shall review technical and scientific information relevant to the management of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat and may advise the Minister of its adequacy.

5. The Board shall encourage native users and other harvesters of Porcupine Caribou to participate in the collection of statistics and biological information.

6. The Board shall maintain a list of eligible native users for each native user community and up-to-date information on the suballocation of the native user allocation among communities all of which shall be made available to Governments for management purposes.

#### E. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD

Without restricting the generality of Part D of this Agreement, the parties agree that the Board may do the following:

1. The Board may make recommendations to the Minister on any matter affecting the Porcupine Caribou and its habitat, including recommendations related to the making of policy, legislation and regulations regarding:

- (a) management strategies for the Porcupine Caribou Herd;
- (b) a herd management plan for the Porcupine Caribou Herd;
- (c) guidelines for native users' participation in Porcupine Caribou Herd

management plans;

- (d) training required to enable native users to participate in the management or the Porcupine Caribou Herd and the conservation of its habitat;
- (c) a predator management plan in respect of the Porcupine Caribou Herd, provided that no such plan shall be put into effect until the Minister has consulted with the Board;
- 2. The Board may also:
- (a) review and recommend development of Porcupine Caribou research proposals:
- (b) review available information and recommend further research where there appears to be a need;
- (c) review and recommend methods of data collection and presentation;
- (d) review the conservation and management of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat and make appropriate recommendations so as to ensure that productivity is maintained; and,
- (e) recommend criteria according to which non-native subsistence users may qualify to share in the native user allocation from the Porcupine Caribou Herd, if the affected native user community approves.
- 3. (a) Because of the dependence of caribou on its habitat, the Board may make recommendations to other boards and agencies, as well as to the Minister, on land use planning and land management throughout the Canadian range of the Porcupine Caribou Herd or any portion of it. Recommendations of measures to ensure the conservation and protection of habitat shall include, but are not limited to, measures related to specific projects, plans or activities which may:
  - impede, delay or disrupt Porcupine Caribou movements, affect behavioural patterns or reduce productivity;
  - (ii) affect Porcupine Caribou habitat; or
  - (iii) affect interactions between native users and Porcupine Caribou;
- (b) The Board may also identify sensitive habitat areas requiring special protection and recommend measures to protect such areas.

#### F. MINISTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Minister shall consider the recommendations of the Board and report his decisions or comments in a timely manner. The Minister shall, within thirty days of receipt of recommendations, either provide the Chairman with his response or, where he is not able to respond fully, he shall so inform the Chairman and advise him when his full response will be provided. When advised by the Board that an emergency situation has arisen and that a decision on a recommendation is necessary forthwith, the Minister shall govern himself accordingly.

2. The Minister may consult with the Board on any matter related to the Porcupine Caribou and its habitat.

3. Recommendations of the Board shall be submitted in writing to the Minister.

4. If the Minister disagrees with a recommendation or any part thereof, he shall refer the matter back to the Board for reconsideration with due consideration for any time schedule imposed by any statutory or regulatory requirements.

5. Where, as the result of a matter being referred back to the Board recommendations are submitted, the Minister may accept or reject the recommendations in whole or in part.

6. Where the Minister rejects a recommendation in whole or in part, he shall provide the Board with reasons therefore.

7. Where it appears to the Minister that an emergency situation has arisen which affects the well being of the Porcupine Caribou or its habitat, and where time does not permit consultation with the Board, the Minister may take such action as is necessary before consulting with the Board.

8. Where emergency action has been taken pursuant to paragraph 7 above, the Minister shall forthwith inform the Chairman and solicit the continuing advice of the Board.

## G. PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

The Board shall establish and make known, from time to time, rules and

procedures for its functioning, provided however, that:

- (a) thirty days' notice of meetings shall be given by mail, telephone, telegram or other appropriate means;
- (b) the Board shall establish its own quorum;
- (c) decisions of the Board shall be by consensus wherever possible, and shall always require a majority vote in favour, with each member having one vote;
- (d) the Board may decide that alternates be appointed to represent members when they are unable to attend Board meetings and shall establish the terms and conditions of the appointments. If it is decided that alternates are necessary, the parties shall each appoint alternates forthwith according to the terms provided for the appointment of Board members in Part C of this Agreement;
- (e) the Chairman shall, in the event of a deadlock or tie vote, be responsible for resolving the disagreement of the Board and shall, where necessary, cast the deciding vote on any issue which cannot otherwise be resolved;
- (f) the Board shall hold formal meetings at least twice yearly unless it decides otherwise;
- (g) the Board shall keep summary minutes and records of all its meetings and circulate them to its members;
- (h) the Board may establish and instruct such committees as it deems necessary to carry out its functions.

#### H. BOARD SECRETARIAT

There shall be a secretariat to administer the operations of the Board which shall be responsible to the Board under the direction of the Chairman. The secretariat shall receive and distribute information, prepare and circulate minutes of Board meetings and perform such other functions as the Board requires.

### **I. FINANCES**

I. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and to funds being appropriated by legislative authority on an annual basis the Government parties shall fund reasonable costs of the Board and Secretariat in equal portions and in such amounts as agreed annually, to ensure the Board and Secretariat functioning in a manner herein stated.

2. For further clarity, particular expenditures of the Board which are to be shared by the funding parties may include:

- (a) any salary or honorarium, and all travel, accommodation and related expenses incurred while working on Board activities, paid to the Chairman, provided that same is in accordance with Treasury Board guidelines;
- (b) the production of an annual report and its distribution;
- (c) a modest technical review capability in respect of primary research conducted by Governments and other sources;
- (d) the production of information or educational material, such as newsletters; and
- (e) such other costs as the funding parties may agree upon.

3. The Government parties shall be responsible for any salary or honorarium, and all travel, accommodation and related expenses of their Board members. In addition, Yukon shall be responsible for these expenses related to the participation of the Board members for CYI and GNWT shall be responsible for these expenses related to the participation of the Board members for IGC and the Dene/Metis.

4. The Board shall prepare and submit annual budgets for all expenditures under its control to the appropriate Government parties and shall be accountable for the expenditures of the Board and secretariat.

5. The Board shall account annually for all monies received and disbursed by the Board and secretariat and records of this accounting shall be made available to any of the parties to this Agreement for inspection upon thirty days written notice to the Chairman.

## J. ALLOCATIONS OF ANNUAL ALLOWABLE HARVEST IN CANADA

I. Any of the parties to this Agreement may provide the Board with information that will, in the opinion of the submitting party, assist the Board in

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determining its recommendation of the annual allowable harvest from the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

- (a) After the Board has considered all relevant information, the Chairman shall submit its report to the Ministers to facilitate the enactment of any necessary regulations.
- (b) The report of the Board may include, but is not restricted to, recommendations related to the following:
  - (i) annual allowable harvest;
  - (ii) categories and priorities of harvest allocations;
  - (iii) methods of harvest;
  - (iv) areas of harvest;
  - (v) means of access;
  - (vi) seasons;

(vii) age and sex of Porcupine Caribou to be harvested; and

(viii) research study requirements related to the harvest.

- (c) In determining the native user allocation the Board shall take into account, among other things, the following criteria:
  - (i) food and clothing requirements of the native users;
  - (ii) usage patterns and levels of harvest by the native users;
  - (iii) ability of caribou and other wildlife populations to meet the subsistence requirements of the native users; and
  - (iv) projections of changes in caribou populations.
- (d) The Board may also include in its report the appropriate principles, considerations and procedures that should be used in order to calculate a total annual allowable harvest and its allocations, and more generally to define the conservation limit for the harvest of the Porcupine Caribou Herd.
- (e) If the Porcupine Caribou Herd is healthy and of sufficient numbers to satisfy all reasonable completing needs, the Board may recommend that the setting of an annual allowable harvest is not required.

3. The territorial Governments shall, upon taking into consideration the recommendations of the Board and consistent with the preferential right of native users to harvest:

- (a) establish the total annual allowable harvest of Porcupine Caribou in Canada; and
- (b) determine the allocation of the annual allowable harvest in Canada for native users, taking into account the criteria set forth in paragraph 2(c) of this part and the reservation of two hundred and fifty (250) Porcupine Caribou referred to in paragraph 4 below.

4. Taking into consideration the interests of other users, the territorial Government shall allocate as they see fit from that portion of the annual allowable harvest not allocated under paragraph 3(b) of this Part, which shall consist of no fewer than two hundred and fifty (250) Porcupine Caribou, and shall regulate harvesting pursuant to their respective legislative authorities.

- (a) The native users shall sub-allocate native user allocation among themselves on a community basis.
- (b) The details of the sub-allocation shall be provided to the Board annually by CYI, IGC, and the Dene/Métis\* on behalf of the native user communities represented by them respectively so that the necessary information will be available for management purposes.
- (c) The respective hunting areas for native user communities are identified on the map attached as Appendix II to this Agreement.
- (d) When access to its community hunting area has been granted by a native user community to a native user or users from another community, notice in a form acceptable to the appropriate Governments shall be provided.

6. Where a sub-allocation of Porcupine Caribou is made to the native users of Dawson and Mayo, the Yukon Wildlife Management Board (that is referred to in the Yukon Indian Agreement-in-Principle) and Yukon shall be so informed by the Board.

7. The parties recognize the respective responsibilities of the Yukon Wildlife Management Board for all wildlife south of 65°30' in Yukon and of the Porcupine Caribou Management Board as set out in this Agreement. Therefore, in territorial game management subzones or parts thereof, where the Hart River and Wernecke Caribou or other herds in Yukon mix with the Porcupine Caribou, Yukon may, on the advice of and in consultation with the appropriate board(s), take the necessary measures to protect these herds that mix with the Porcupine Caribou Herd for such periods of time as are required.

8. The parties recognize the special dependence of all native users on the Porcupine Caribou and in particular, the unique dependence of the native users of Old Crow on the Porcupine Caribou.

### K. THE RIGHTS OF NATIVE USERS

I. The rights of native users as set out in this Agreement are subject to laws of general application with regard to conservation and public safety.

2. Subject to the terms of this Agreement, native users shall have a preferential right to harvest Porcupine Caribou.

3. Native users shall have the right to harvest Porcupine Caribou without being required to pay fees or obtain licenses, permits or tags except that licenses, permits or tags may be required for conservation and management purposes. In such circumstances any such licenses, permits and tags will be issued locally and without cost.

4. The Government parties to this Agreement shall use their best efforts to enact any laws and regulations to allow native users the right to transport lawfully harvested Porcupine Caribou across any jurisdictional boundary within the Canadian range of the herd.

5. Native users shall have the right to employ traditional and current methods to harvest the Porcupine Caribou and the right to both possess and use all equipment reasonably necessary to exercise that right.

6. The development of lists of eligible native users shall be made in each native user community with the assistance of the appropriate native leadership body. These lists shall he provided to the Board annually by CYI, IGC and the Dene/Métis\* on behalf of the native user communities and shall be updated as required.

7. Notwithstanding paragraph 3 of this Part, native users may be required for conservation and management purposes to show evidence that they are native users.

#### L. COMMERCIAL HARVEST

- 1. There shall be no commercial harvest of Porcupine Caribou in Canada.
- 2. Notwithstanding paragraph I above, native users may:
- (a) barter or trade with other native users for caribou meat; and
- (b) subject to paragraphs 2(c) and 2(d) of this Part, sell caribou meat to other native users who are unable to hunt by virtue of age, illness or other disadvantages or where there is an emergency situation when access for the hunting of caribou is not feasible for a native user community, provided that the money received for the sale does not exceed the reasonable expenses incurred.
- (c) The Board shall establish guidelines from time to time on:
  - the circumstances that qualify a native user as being disadvantaged, for example when a family does not have a provider;
  - (ii) categories of costs which may be considered reasonable expenses;
  - (iii) the circumstances that would create an emergency situation when access for the hunting of caribou is not feasible for a native user community.
- (d) The Board shall establish procedures for the expeditious consideration of individual situations contemplated by paragraph 2(b) of this Part which do not fall within the guidelines established pursuant to paragraph 2(c) above.

3. Native users shall be permitted to sell the non-edible parts of legally harvested Porcupine Caribou.

4. This part does not apply to commercial guiding or outfitting activities.

#### **M. INFORMATION**

1. All parties to this Agreement agree to use their best efforts to provide the Board with all available information requested by it that is necessary to carry out its functions.

2. The Board may advise the parties on the adequacy of information provided to it by native users and others.

3. Subject to paragraph 4 of this Part, the Board shall provide available information upon request and may distribute its reports and recommendations to the public.

4. The Board will respect the confidentiality of such information provided to it on a confidential basis.

#### N. GENERAL

 The parties hereto shall jointly and severally indemnify and save harmless the Board and the individual members thereof, against any and all liability, loss, damage, cost or expenses, which the Board, or its individual members jointly or severally incur, suffer or are required to pay as a consequence of any contract or other obligation lawfully undertaken in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

2. All public reports, summaries or other documentation prepared or otherwise completed by the Board shall become the joint property of all parties hereto and any and all income derived therefrom shall be jointly shared among the parties in proportion to the expenditures incurred by each party generating such income.

3. The parties hereto agree to be bound by this Agreement, notwithstanding subsection 14(2) of the Northwest Territories Act, R.S.C. 1970, and subsection 17(3) of the Yukon Act, R.S.C. 1970.

4. The Government parties to this Agreement will attempt to enact any laws and regulations that may affect the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat in a manner consistent with this Agreement.

5. This Agreement may be amended following unanimous approval in writing by the parties hereto, and the Government parties agree to attempt to secure passage of any necessary legislation. 6. Those parties to this Agreement which are negotiating parties in comprehensive land claims shall act as soon as possible following the signing of this Agreement to incorporate this entire Agreement by reference, by means of sub-agreement or interim agreement, into the completed or ongoing Yukon Indian, Inuvialuit and Dene/Métis\* comprehensive land claims respectively. If any consequential amendments to existing sub-agreements, interim agreements or overall agreements are required as a result of the signing of this Agreement, they shall be made no later than the time of incorporation by reference referred to herein.

7. It is the intention of the parties to this Agreement that its provisions not be used to interpret or derogate from the provisions of any comprehensive land claims settlement and that the provisions of any comprehensive land claims settlement not be used to interpret the provisions of this Agreement.

8. In recognition of the fact that the Porcupine Caribou Herd is an international resource with a substantial part of its habitat in Alaska, the parties agree that it is desirable to negotiate a Porcupine Caribou bilateral agreement following the completion of this Agreement. In recognition of the fact that the provisions of a bilateral agreement might involve aboriginal and treaty rights within the meaning of the Constitution Act, 1982, as well as the Legislative and management responsibilities of the territorial Governments and the Porcupine Caribou Management Board in its role, Canada agrees to consult with the other parties to this Agreement prior to and during the course of any such bilateral agreement negotiations.

9. For greater certainty, and pending compliance with paragraph 6 of this Part, as well as final settlement of the Yukon Indian, Inuvialuit and Dene/Métis\* comprehensive land claims, it is intended that this Agreement shall come into full force and effect upon signature by the parties and that the Board shall carry out its functions in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

# Appendix Three

## Agreement Between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America on the Conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd

#### Ottawa, July 17, 1987 In force, July 17, 1987

The Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America, hereinafter called the "Parties":

Recognizing that the Porcupine Caribou Herd regularly migrates across the international boundary between Canada and the United States of America and that caribou in their large free-roaming herds comprise a unique and irreplaceable natural resource of great value which each generation should maintain and make use of so as to conserve them for future generations;

Acknowledging that there are various human uses of caribou and that for generations certain people of Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories in Canada have customarily and traditionally harvested Porcupine Caribou to meet their nutritional, cultural and other essential needs and will continue to do so in the future, and that certain rural residents of the State of Alaska in the United States of America have harvested Porcupine Caribou for customary and traditional uses and will continue to do so in the future, and that these people should participate in the conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat;

Recognizing the importance of conserving the habitat of the Porcupine Caribou herd, including such areas as calving, post-calving, migration, wintering and insect relief habitat;

Understanding that the conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat requires goodwill among landowners, wildlife managers, users of the caribou and other users of the area;

Recognizing that the Porcupine Caribou Herd should be conserved according to ecological principles and that actions for the conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd that result in the long-term detriment of other indigenous species of wild fauna and flora should be avoided;

Recognizing that co-operation and co-ordination under the Agreement should not alter domestic authorities regarding management of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat and should be implemented by existing rather than new management structures;

Have agreed as follows:

#### 1. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Agreement only:

a. "Porcupine Caribou Herd" means those migratory barren ground caribou found north of 64 degrees, 30' north latitude and north of the Yukon River which usually share common and traditional calving and post-calving aggregation grounds between the Canning River in the State of Alaska and the Babbage River in Yukon Territory and which historically migrate within the State of Alaska, Yukon Territory, and the Northwest Territories.

b "Conservation" means the management and use of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat utilizing methods and procedures which ensure the long term productivity and usefulness of the Porcupine Caribou Herd. Such methods and procedures include, but are not limited to, activities associated with scientific resources management such as research, law enforcement, census taking, habitat maintenance, monitoring and public information and education.

c. "Habitat" means the whole or any part of the ecosystem, including

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summer, winter and migration range, used by the Porcupine Caribou Herd during the course of its long-term movement patterns, as generally outlined on the map attached as an Annex.

#### 2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Parties are:

a. To conserve the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat through international co-operation and coordination so that the risk of irreversible damage or long-term adverse effects as a result of use of caribou or their habitat is minimized;

b. To ensure opportunities for customary and traditional uses of the Porcupine Caribou Herd by:

- (I) in Alaska, rural Alaska residents in accordance with 16 U.S.C. 3113 and 3114, AS 16.05.940(23), (28) and (32), and AS 16.05.258(c); and
- (2) in Yukon and the Northwest Territories, Native users as defined by sections A8 and A9 of the Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement (signed on October 26, 1985) and those other users identified pursuant to the process described in section E2(e) of the said Agreement;

c. To enable users of Porcupine Caribou to participate in the international co-ordination of the conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat;

d. To encourage co-operation and communication among governments, users of Porcupine Caribou and others to achieve these objectives.

## 3. CONSERVATION

a. The Parties will take appropriate action to conserve the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat.

b. The Parties will ensure that the Porcupine Caribou Herd, its habitat and the interests of users of Porcupine Caribou are given effective consideration in evaluating proposed activities within the range of the Herd.

c. Activities requiring a Party's approval having a potential impact on the conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd or its habitat will be subject to impact assessment and review consistent with domestic laws, regulations and processes.

d. Where an activity in one country is determined to be likely to cause significant long-term adverse impact on the Porcupine Caribou Herd or its habitat, the other Party will be notified and given an opportunity to consult prior to final decision.

e. Activities requiring a Party's approval having a potential significant impact on the conservation or use of the Porcupine Caribou Herd or its habitat may require mitigation.

f. The Parties should avoid or minimize activities that would significantly disrupt migration or other important behavior patterns of the Porcupine Caribou Herd or that would otherwise lessen the ability of users of Porcupine Caribou to use the Herd.

g. When evaluating the environmental consequences of a proposed activity, the Parties will consider and analyse potential impacts, including cumulative impacts, to the Porcupine Caribou Herd, its habitat and affected users of Porcupine Caribou.

h. The Parties will prohibit the commercial sale of meat from the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

#### 4. INTERNATIONAL PORCUPINE CARIBOU BOARD

a. The Parties will establish an advisory Board to be known as the International Porcupine Caribou Board, hereinafter called the Board.

b. The Parties will each appoint four members of the Board within a reasonable period following the entry into force of the present Agreement.

c. The Board will:

- (I) adopt rules and procedures for its operation, including those related to the chairmanship of the Board; and
- (2) give advice or make recommendations to the Parties, subject to concurrence by a majority of each party's appointees.

d. The Board, seeking, where appropriate, information available from management agencies, local communities, users of Porcupine Caribou, scientific and other interests, will make recommendations and provide advice on those aspects of the conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat that require international co-ordination, including but not limited to the following:

- the sharing of information and consideration of actions to further the objectives of this Agreement at the international level;
- (2) the actions that are necessary or advisable to conserve the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat;
- (3) co-operative conservation planning for the Porcupine Caribou Herd throughout its range;
- (4) when advisable to conserve the Porcupine Caribou Herd, recommendations on overall harvest and appropriate harvest limits for each of Canada and the United States of America taking into account the Board's review of available data, patterns of customary and traditional users and other factors the Board deems appropriate;
- (5) the identification of sensitive habitat deserving special consideration; and
- (6) recommendations, where necessary, through the Parties as required, to other boards and agencies in Canada and the United States of America on matters affecting the Porcupine Caribou Herd or its habitat.

e. It is understood that the advice and recommendations of the Board are not binding on the Parties; however, by virtue of this Agreement, it has been accepted that the parties will support and participate in the operation of the Board. In particular they will:

- provide the Board with the information regarding the conservation and use of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its habitat;
- (2) promptly notify the Board of proposed activities that could significantly affect the conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd or its habitat and provide an opportunity to the Board to make recommendations;
- (3) consider the advice and respond to the recommendations of the Board; and
- (4) provide written reasons for the rejection in whole or in part of conservation recommendations made by the Board.

### 5. INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Parties will consult promptly to consider appropriate action in the event of:

a. significant damage to the Porcupine Caribou Herd or its habitat for which there is responsibility, if any, under international law; or

b. significant disruption of migration or other important behavior patterns of the Porcupine Caribou Herd that would significantly lessen the ability of users of Porcupine Caribou to use the Herd.

#### 6. IMPLEMENTATION

Co-operation and co-ordination under and other implementation of this Agreement shall be consistent with the laws, regulations and other national policies of the Parties and is subject to the availability of funding.

## 7. INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION

All questions related to the interpretation or application of the Agreement will be settled by consultation between the Parties.

#### 8. ENTRY INTO FORCE; AMENDMENTS

a. This agreement which is authentic in English and French shall enter into force on signature and shall remain in force until terminated by either Party upon twelve months' written notice to the other.

b. At the request of either Party, consultations will be held with a view to convening a meeting of the representatives of the Parties to amend this Agreement.

## ACRONYMS

CBC	Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
CNN	Cable News Network
CPS	Canadian Parks Service
CWS	Canadian Wildlife Service
CYFN	Council for Yukon First Nations
DCB	Denendeh Conservation Board
DIAND	Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
DND	Department of National Defense
EISC	Environmental Impact Screening Committee
EIRB	Environmental Impact Review Board
GNWT	Government of the Northwest Territories
GRRB	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
GTC	Gwich'in Tribal Council
HTA	Hunters and Trappers Association
HTC	Hunters and Trappers Committee
IPCB	International Porcupine Caribou Board
NEDAA	"Your Eye", Northern Native Broadcasting
	(Yukon) Television Program
NWT	Northwest Territories
PCH	Porcupine Caribou Herd
PCMB	Porcupine Caribou Management Board
PCTC	Porcupine Caribou Technical Committee
PSA	Public Service Announcement
TVNC	Television Northern Canada
VGFN	Vuntut Gwitch'in First Nation
WMAC(NS)	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)
YLUP	Yukon Land Use Planning
YTG	Yukon Territorial Government



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