



# Gwich'in Harvest Data Collection Project: Update

PCMB, Annual Harvest Meeting  
Feb 13, 2018

*Presented by*  
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# Presentation Outline

- ▶ Gwich'in Harvest Data Collection Project
  - Background
  - Methods
  - Results
  - Harvester comments
- ▶ Challenges and Successes
- ▶ Summary

# Background



## Goal:

- ▶ Management planning, decision-making, research prioritization, monitoring
- ▶ Initiated in 2009
- ▶ Focused study-ungulates
- ▶ Must secure annual funding
- ▶ Bi-annual data collection
- ▶ Participation is voluntary



# Methods

## Community Driven Approach!

- ▶ GRRB role
- ▶ RRC role
- ▶ Community Interviewer role

## Unique to each community:

- Program promotion
- Survey methods
- Harvester incentives

**Nihtat Harvest Data Collection**  
Harvest Dates: 01 Jun 2014 to 31 Oct 2014

Harvester ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Group: Gwich'in Inuvialuit Other \_\_\_\_\_ Community: Inuvik \_\_\_\_\_ Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Interviewer Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Entered: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Checked: \_\_\_\_\_ (office use only)

Did you attempt to hunt in this period? Yes  No   
If yes were you successful? Yes  No   
Did you get meat from others? Yes  No   
Involved in a community hunt? Yes  No   
Who organized the hunt/date? Yes  No

If no why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
If no why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes from who? \_\_\_\_\_  
# Harvested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Males \_\_\_\_\_ Females \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown sex \_\_\_\_\_

Complete Table: **Ensure Map code is entered.** Use Age and Sex codes below. If the harvester hunted with others only report the animals he/she shot.

Date Day/Month	Place Name	Map Code	Species	How Many / Age / Sex	Hunting Party Names	Have you reported this elsewhere? Where?
Ex. 31 Aug	James Creek	28101	Caribou Porcupine	2 / A / M 1 / J / F	George Clooney George Jones	Yes, check station

**SEXES**  
Caribou - Porcupine  
Caribou - Bareground  
Caribou - Woodland

Moose  
Owl's Sheep  
Muskrat

**AGE CODES**  
A - Adult  
J - Juvenile  
C - Calf  
U - Unknown

**SEX CODES**  
M - Male  
F - Female  
U - Unknown



# Methods (Survey)

- ▶ Names are confidential
- ▶ Locations are recorded
- ▶ To minimize entry errors:
  - Multiple checks done
  - ENR shares checkstation data when available
  - Group hunt info is asked
  - Ethnic group is asked



# Methods (Statistical Analysis)

- ▶ Follows established protocol
  - Reviewed by statistician
- ▶ Harvest estimates require:
  1. No. of active/key harvesters
  2. No. who participated in survey
  3. No. of animals reported harvested
- ▶ Methods apply to any species of interest



# June 01, 2016 – May 31, 2017 Results



# Harvester participation rates



Overall participation: 52%

Survey period 1

Jun-Oct 2016

54% participation

- Range: 31% -74%

Survey period 2

Nov 2016- May 2017

50% participation

- Range: 13% -72%

# Reported harvest 2016-2017



	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
<b>Porcupine</b>	91	94

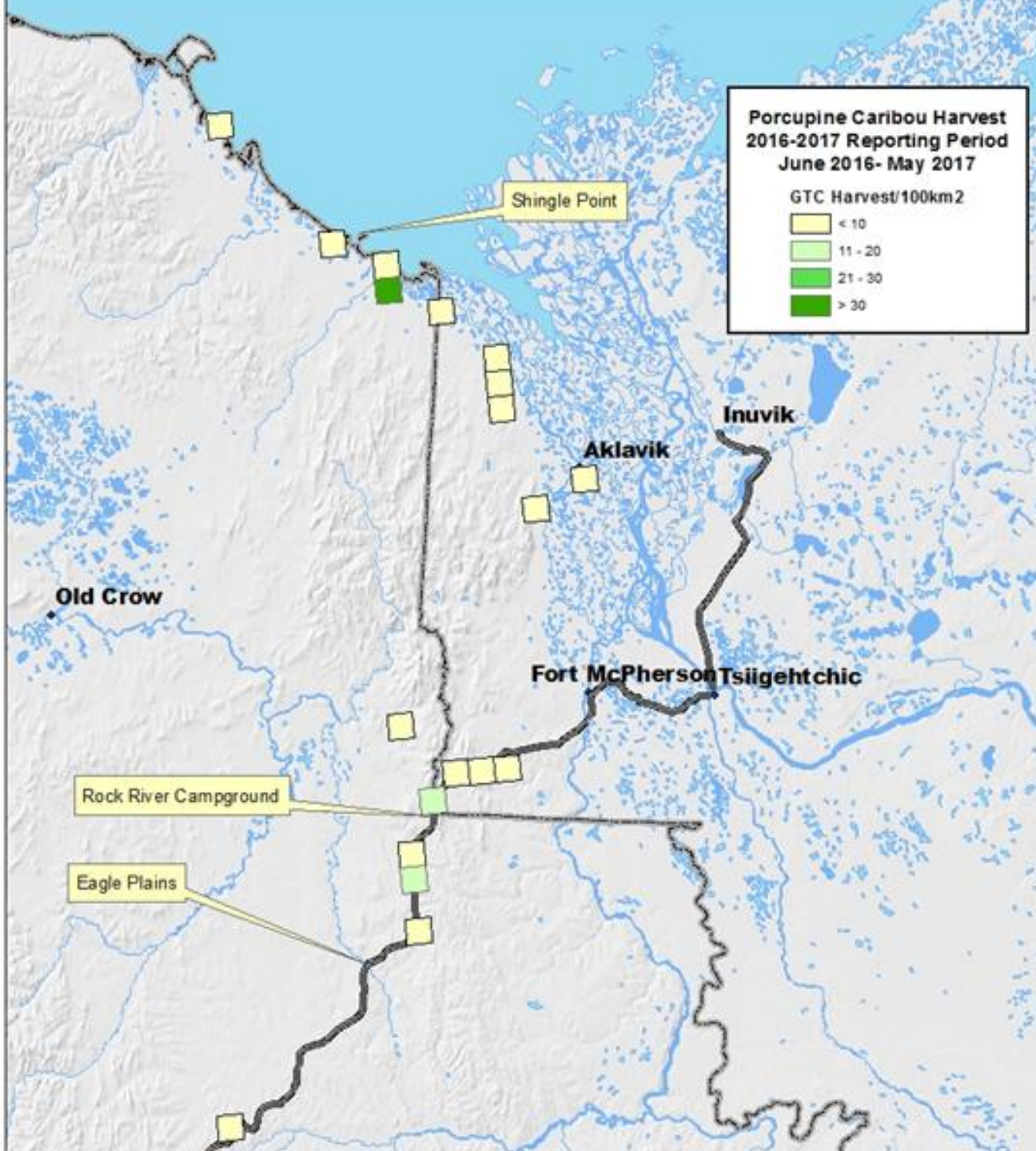
# Estimated harvest 2016-2017

## Porcupine caribou

	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
<b>Reported</b>	91	94
<b>Estimated</b>	220	188

<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED HARVEST</b>	<b>408</b>
<b>Overall harvester participation</b>	<b>52%</b>

# Gwich'in Reported Harvest Locations 2016-2017



# Harvester comments

## Harvester Ed workshop



*“Need monitoring where caribou are!”*

**Ex. check station locations**



## Seismic Lines

*“Used by caribou and predators.”*

*Some concerns about easier access for harvesters too.*



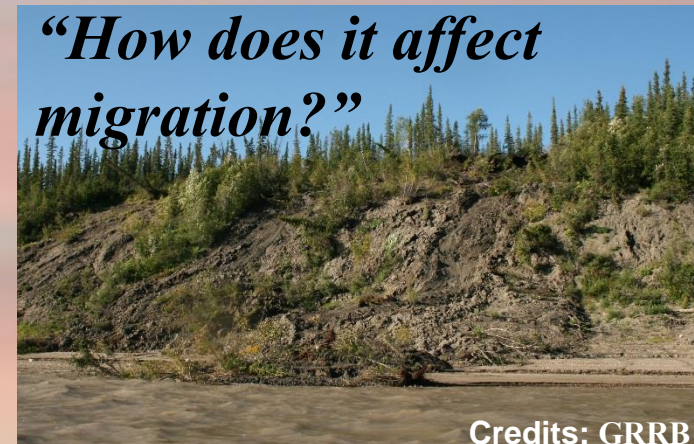
## Sight in your rifle



*“Use right bullet to kill animal”*  
*“Need harvester ed programs for whole community.”*

## Slope erosion

*“How does it affect migration?”*



# Interim results: Jun 01-Oct 31, 2017

- ▶ Harvester participation: 35% - 40%
  - 80 surveys so far
- ▶ Results:
  - 8 M + 2 F Porcupine caribou
  - 6 M Moose
  - 2M Dall's sheep
- ▶ No caribou around
- ▶ Few comments

# Challenges

- ▶ Dedicated resources
- ▶ Harvester participation variable
- ▶ Capacity & time

# Successes

- ▶ Survey is a model
- ▶ Statistical analysis
- ▶ Communication tool
- ▶ Relatively affordable
- ▶ Continuity (7 years)
- ▶ Current funding
- ▶ Next steps
  - Look at alternative technology for harvest reporting



Photo credit: GRRB

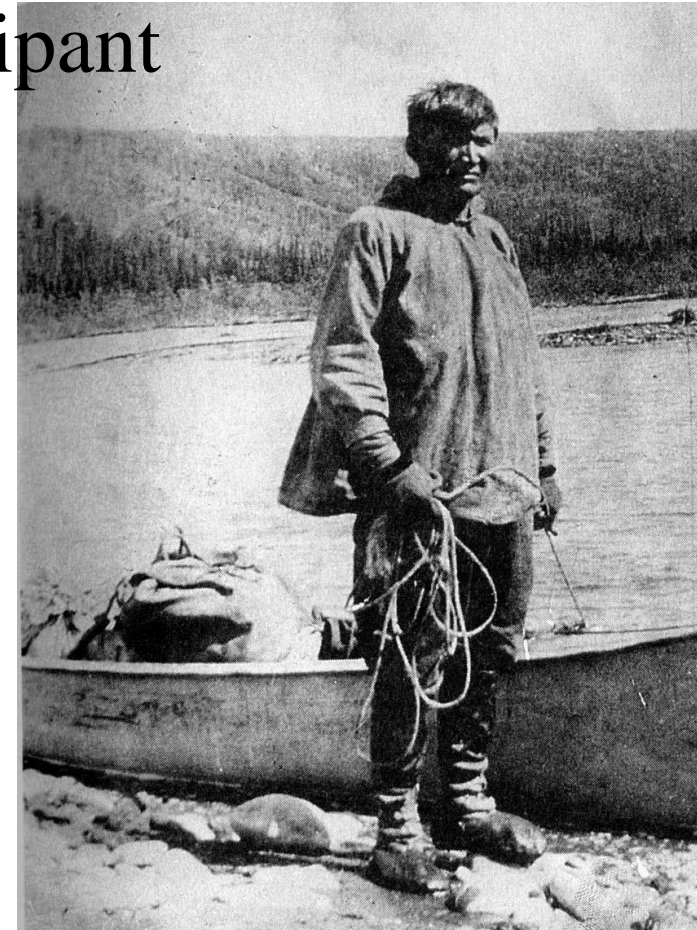
# GRRB Recommendations to PCMB and Parties 2018

- ▶ Maintain Green Zone designation
- ▶ Promote Traditional Management practices
- ▶ Continue to promote harvester and community conservation and education initiatives



# Traditional Management

*“The Gwich’in are natural conservationists”* –  
Sterling Firth, Gwich’in Participant



# Hai Cho, Mahsi Cho, Thank You!

**Gwich'in Renewable  
Resources Board**

[www.grrb.nt.ca](http://www.grrb.nt.ca)

[facebook.com/grrb.nt.ca](https://facebook.com/grrb.nt.ca)

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