



April 21, 2021

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

Dear Mr. Tetlich:

Re: Harvest Management Plan 2021 Annual Harvest Meeting – Porcupine Caribou Management Board Recommendations

Thank you for your letter dated March 8, 2021 outlining management recommendations established at the tenth Annual Harvest Meeting for the Porcupine Caribou Herd held virtually over Zoom.

The Government of Yukon accepts the Porcupine Caribou Management Board's recommendation that the Porcupine Caribou Herd is in the Green Zone. We will continue to manage the herd consistent with the Green Zone, as described in the Harvest Management Plan. Specifically:

- Harvesters will be encouraged to only take what they need. We echo the Porcupine Caribou Management Board's recommendation of taking bulls where possible, as harvesting bulls impacts the herd less than harvesting cows.
- Licensed harvesters will receive a maximum of two bull tags.
- We will continue to support hunter education and awareness programs, including "sight in your rifle" events and initiatives that speak to the importance of retrieving wounded animals.
- We will continue to work internally and with other parties to improve the collection of accurate and verifiable harvest information. This information will be provided to the Porcupine Caribou Management Board before the 2022 Annual Harvest Meeting.

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With respect to the Porcupine Caribou Management Board's recommendations regarding other concerns, the Government of Yukon offers the following for consideration:

- **Parties' technical staff meet this year to discuss harvest reporting programs:** Government of Yukon officials would be pleased to attend a workshop-style meeting with subject matter experts to discuss Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement, Parties' harvest reporting challenges, concerns, and successes. Yukon's mandatory harvest reporting requirement continues to enable the collection of accurate and verifiable harvest data from Yukon's licensed hunters.
- **Parties review the Harvest Management Plan and Implementation Management Plan with respect to whether an evaluation should be completed and report back their recommendations at the 2022 Annual Harvest Meeting:** As agreed to during the 2021 Annual Harvest Meeting, Government of Yukon officials will be prepared to discuss the need for adjustments to both the Harvest Management Plan and the Implementation Management Plan at the 2022 Annual Harvest Meeting.

We appreciate the ongoing efforts of the Porcupine Caribou Management Board and Parties to ensure the sustainable management of the Porcupine Caribou Herd, as described in the Harvest Management Plan and Implementation Plan. Our government remains committed to the collaborative management of the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

If you have any further questions, please contact Marc Cattet, Director, Fish and Wildlife Branch, at marc.cattet@yukon.ca or 867-667-5715.

Sincerely,



John L. Bailey, PhD
Deputy Minister of Environment