

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON...

PORCUPINE CARIBOU HERD CONSERVATION PLANNING

FALL/WINTER 2022



Why do we need a conservation plan?

Together, those of us with a responsibility to manage Porcupine Caribou have developed a Harvest Management Plan, a Native User Agreement, and other tools to guide us. We are very proud of what we have accomplished collectively for the herd! The missing piece is how to collectively care for caribou habitat, especially as our climate changes. *We need a range-wide conservation plan.*

The Porcupine Caribou herd is a “barren-ground” type of caribou, which means they migrate long distances and come together in large groups to have their calves. The Government of Canada is considering listing barren-ground caribou across the country as “Threatened.” Unlike our herd, many other barren-ground herds are in serious decline.

A “Threatened” designation means that a national recovery plan would be developed. Our Porcupine Caribou Conservation Plan will help inform the national plan. *Importantly, we will be able to emphasize the unique ecological, cultural, and management context that sets the Porcupine Caribou herd apart from other barren-ground herds.*

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Who is the plan for?

The Conservation Plan is for

- everyone with a management responsibility for the herd;
- communities who are stewards and caretakers of the herd;
- researchers who are working to build more knowledge about the herd; and
- people who are interested in sharing stories and wisdom about the herd.



Who is involved?

The Porcupine Caribou Management Board (PCMB) is leading the development of the Conservation Plan. We are working with all of the Porcupine Caribou herd user communities, the Parties to the *Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement*, and other stakeholders to make sure the Conservation Plan is inclusive and representative.



What we know already

We are fortunate to have a collective wealth of knowledge about Porcupine Caribou already! The herd is one of the most scientifically studied groups of barren-ground caribou. The communities who have lived with and depended on the herd for generations have also gathered considerable insight and wisdom about how caribou live and what they need.

Communities have directed us to pull together these existing threads of knowledge, particularly Indigenous knowledge, to create the new Conservation Plan. Work is underway to gather what has already been documented. This project is called the *Traditional Knowledge Data Mobilization Project*.



Traditional Knowledge Data Mobilization Project

The project will apply documented traditional knowledge that has been shared with the PCMB to three main topics:

- Changes in habitat and the types of food available for caribou: Is the land changing? What are the differences? Does it seem to make a difference to caribou?
- Changes in herd range and movement: Where do caribou go? Have their migration patterns changed? Do we know why?
- Changes in local herd management: How did each community manage caribou in the past? How does each community approach it today?



"Conserving the Porcupine Caribou herd is our responsibility. This plan will guide our collective actions for years to come."

JOE TETLICH, CHAIR OF THE
PORCUPINE CARIBOU
MANAGEMENT BOARD

How can you be a part of planning?

We will be working with each Porcupine Caribou community throughout the whole planning process.

Phase 1 - What's it all about? Introducing the planning process and seeking guidance about the focus of the Conservation Plan.

Phase 2 - How are we doing? An opportunity to share back to the communities what we learned in Phase 1 and to get more detailed guidance on the contents of the Conservation Plan.

Phase 3 - Any last thoughts? We'll share an early draft of the Conservation Plan and welcome any remaining feedback to improve the draft.

We are currently in Phase 1. In this early phase of planning, we have a few questions for you that will help us start shaping the Conservation Plan.



We appreciate you taking the time to be part of this important planning process!

HOW TO SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK:

The attached feedback form is one way for you to get involved with the planning process. You can also participate and learn more about Porcupine Caribou online at pcmb.ca. Please submit your completed feedback form in one of the following ways:

By mail:

Porcupine Caribou Management Board

Box 31723

Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 6L3

By Fax: 867-393-3904

By email: dlemke@pcmb.ca

Or you can drop off your completed form in person in your community:

AKLAVIK: Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee office or Ehdiitat Renewable Resource Council office

FORT MCPHERSON: Tetlit Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council office

TSIIGEHTCHIC: Gwichya Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council office

INUVIK: Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board office or Inuvik Hunters and Trappers Committee office

TUKTOYAKTUK: Tuktoyaktuk Hunters and Trappers Committee office

OLD CROW: Vuntut Gwitchin Natural Resources office

DAWSON CITY: Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Fish and Wildlife office

MAYO: Na-Cho Nyäk Dun Lands & Natural Resources office

If you have any questions about the feedback form or the planning process, please contact Deana Lemke at the PCMB by phone: 867-334-3400 or email dlemke@pcmb.ca, or Jennifer Smith, Project Manager, at 867-332-8333 or jennifersmithnorth@gmail.com

FEEDBACK FORM

The Porcupine Caribou Management Board would love to hear from you!

Phase 1 - fall/winter 2022

Tell us about yourself:

Name and email or phone number (to be entered in the draws for prizes):

Do you represent an organization? Which one?

Community (if you don't reside in your home community, please let us know which community you are representing with your answers):

Share your feedback:

1. How would you like to receive information about the planning process in the coming months? You can include more than one (e.g. in-person meetings, Facebook, info kiosk, brochures or newsletter, FM radio, PCMB website).

2. What are your priorities for the Porcupine Caribou herd across the Canadian range that you would like to see addressed in the Conservation Plan? (Note: there are some topics this plan will not cover, such as harvest and management actions outside of Canada.)

3. Do you have any concerns about the Porcupine Caribou herd across the Canadian range?

4. Do you have solutions to the concerns you've shared? Describe any ideas you have for addressing these concerns in the plan.



PLEASE TURN OVER FOR A COUPLE MORE QUESTIONS

FEEDBACK FORM

Phase 1 - June 2022



5. Above are possible themes that may be included in the Conservation Plan. Is there anything else you think should be included?

6. Is there anything else you would like us to consider in the planning process? Would you like more meetings? Presentations? More information about a certain topic?

7. Is there anything else you would like the Porcupine Caribou Management Board to know? Please share here:

