

# Gwich'in Harvest Survey

PCMB Annual Harvest Meeting  
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# Survey Overview

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The Gwich'in Harvest Survey began in 2008 and collects information on vadzaih (caribou), dinjik (moose), aak'ii (muskox), and divii (Dall's sheep) in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. This presentation looks at Porcupine Caribou harvests during the June 2021 – May 2022 survey period.

## **FREQUENCY**

Surveys are run twice a year and cover the periods of June-Oct and Nov-May.

## **POPULATION**

Results reflect harvesting by Gwich'in participants living within the GSA.

## **ORGANIZATIONS**

RRCs maintain harvester lists and run the local surveys. The GRRB analyzes the data.

## **COVID-19**

COVID has required a shift from in-person to telephone surveys.

# Challenges

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The GRRB is currently very understaffed. We lost our Environmental Coordinator, who oversees the harvest survey, in August.

The November 2021 survey was completed, but we only have partial data for June 2022. No survey was conducted in November 2022.





# Solutions

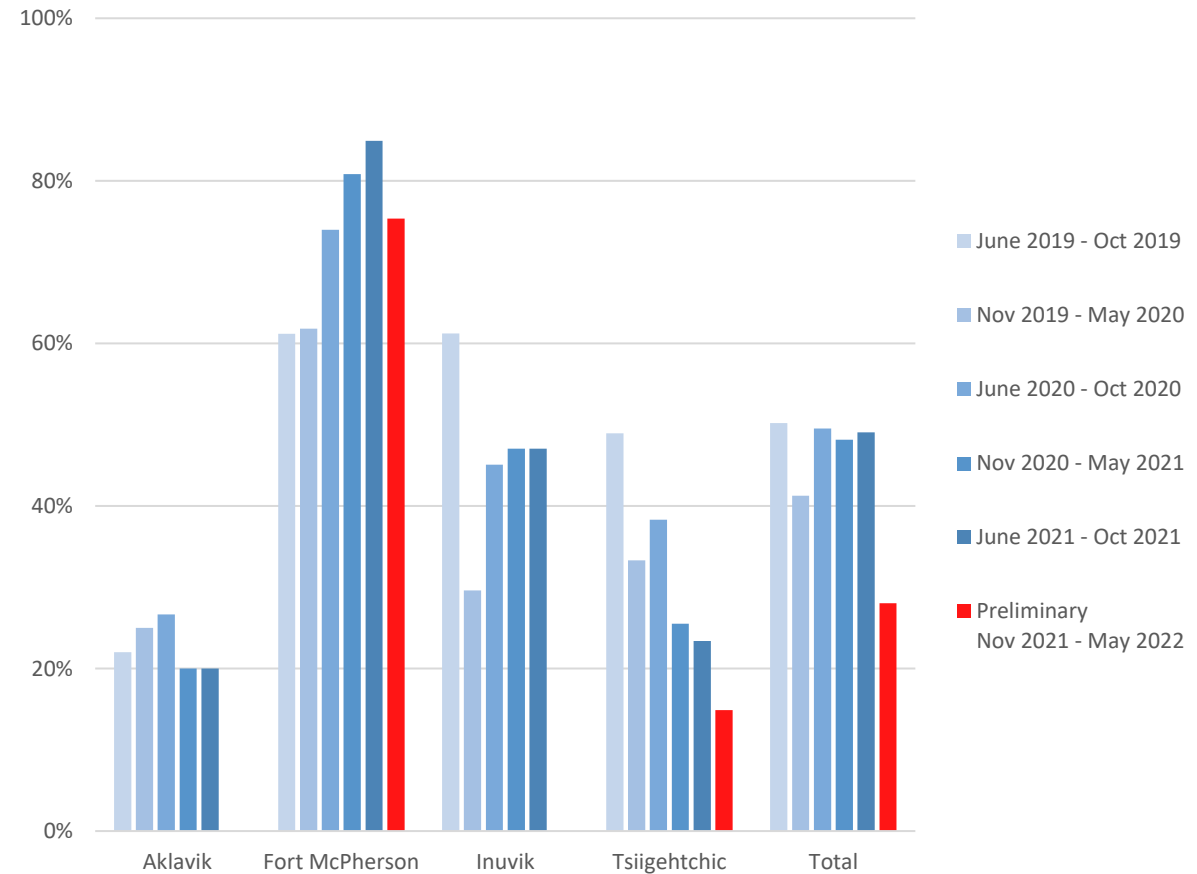
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- The GRRB has asked their wildlife biologist, Steve Andersen, to run the survey for now.
- Preliminary results for June 2022 have been compiled.
- A survey to collect the missing data from last year (Nov 2021 – Oct 2022) is underway.
- Hiring for a new Environmental Coordinator is in progress.

# Participation

Participation in the June – Oct 2021 survey was very similar to previous years.

The Nov 2021- May 2022 survey was not completed. Fort McPherson had good participation, Tsiigehtchic collected a few responses, and the other communities did not run surveys. Work is underway to finish collecting this data, so these numbers should be considered preliminary.





# Estimated Total Harvest

June 2021 - Oct 2021

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Reported</b>	43	0	43
<b>Estimated</b>	93	0	93
<b>Margin of Error</b>	30	0	30

Gwich'in participants harvested an estimated  $93 \pm 30$  animals, all of which were male. This includes Porcupine Caribou, plus any animals whose herd could not be determined. Animals whose sex was unknown were assumed to be female.





# Estimated Total Harvest - Preliminary

Nov 2021 - May 2022

	Aklavik		Fort McPherson		Inuvik		Tsiigehtchic	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
<b>Total Reported Harvest</b>	0	0	20	18	0	0	4	0
<b>Variance of Rep Harvest</b>	-	-	2.4	1.4	-	-	1.0	0.0
<b>Estimated Total Harvest</b>	-	-	26.5	23.9	-	-	26.9	0.0
<b>Variance of Est Harvest</b>	-	-	57.8	34.6	-	-	255.8	0.0
<b>Std Dev of Est Harvest</b>	-	-	7.6	5.9	-	-	16.0	0.0
<b>Margin of Error</b>	-	-	12.5	9.7	-	-	26.3	0.0
<b>Margin of Error / Est Harv</b>	-	-	47%	40%	-	-	98%	-

We have no data for Aklavik or Inuvik and the sample size for Tsiigehtchic is quite small. I would suggest extrapolating from Fort McPherson's numbers to calculate an estimate for the Gwich'in Settlement Area. McPherson typically has a higher than average harvest rate, so this should produce a somewhat high estimate.

M = Male, F = Female + Unknown Sex



# Estimated Total Harvest - Preliminary

Nov 2021 - May 2022

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Reported</b>	20*	18*	38*
<b>Estimated</b>	80	72	152

Based on the data from Fort McPherson, Gwich'in participants harvested an estimated 152 animals, with a male:female ratio of 1.1.

McPherson had 55 completed surveys and there are 221 harvesters in the GSA, so the estimated total harvest is almost exactly 4 times the reported harvest.

\* Reported by Fort McPherson only.



# Recommendations

01

## **ZONE**

Maintain the Green Zone designation

02

## **MANAGEMENT**

Promote traditional management practices

03

## **CONSERVATION**

Promote community conservation and education initiatives





# Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who makes the harvest surveys possible:

- The many **harvesters** who take the time to share their knowledge with us
- Our **interviewers** who collect the data
- The **Renewable Resources Councils** for doing all the local coordination work
- **Environment and Natural Resources** for providing the funding
- The **PCMB** for bringing together stakeholders from all the communities across the herd's range



# Acknowledgements

## PHOTOS

- **Title Page:** Nathan Millar from GRRB.
- **Population Trends:** *unknown*
- **Estimated Total Harvest:** Bering Land Bridge National Preserve ([link](#))
- **Body Condition:** *unknown*
- **Observations:** Jan Adamczewski from ENR (Caribou); Steve Andersen from GRRB (Snowy Trees); Sarah Lord from GRRB (Lichen, Jason Blake McLeod with Riffle, and Autumn Wetland)

- **Recommendations:** Jan Adamczewski from ENR
- **Acknowledgements:** Jan Adamczewski from ENR
- **Hai Cho! Mahsi Cho!:** “Nicholson” probably from ENR

## POWERPOINT TEMPLATE

Dublin Design





Hai Cho! Mahsi Cho!

