# **PCMB** Annual Harvest Meeting

February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

#### Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in

FISH AND WILDLIFE BRANCH

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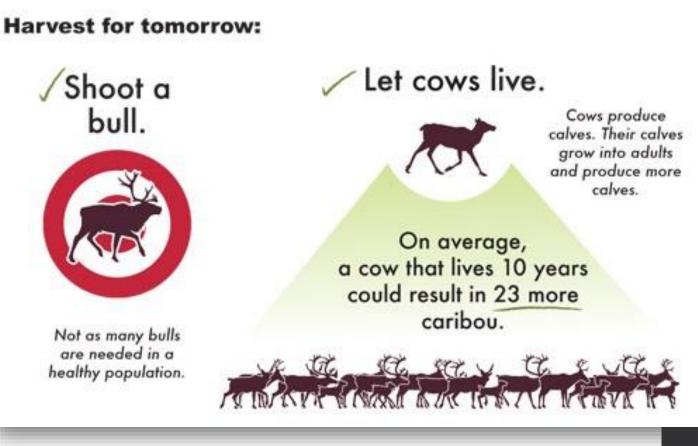
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## Harvest Data Collection

- TH F&W actively seeks harvest data information from Citizens through a variety of methods:
  - $\circ$  Mail-outs
  - $\circ$  Door-to-door surveys
  - $\circ$  Phone calls
  - $\circ$  Word of mouth and follow-up
  - $\circ$  Citizen meetings
  - $\circ$  Wildlife Monitoring
  - $\circ$  TH Website
  - Social Media





#### **TH Harvest Survey**

TRANDEK HWEGHIN Hard March 31, 2022			HUNTING EFFORT			HARVEST		OBSERV	ATIONS							
TR'ONDEK HWECH'IN HARVEST SURVEY For the harvest year: April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022 Fill OUT THIS SURVEY TO ENTER THE FISH & WILDLIFE PRIZE DRAW. Prices to be drawn at 4 pm on April 4, 2022	WILDUFE SPECIES	How much time did you	Where did you SEARCH? (check all that apply)	How much time did you SEARCH	Successful HARVEST?		did you SHARE harvest with?	Was the animal(s) HEALTHY?	Any COMMENTS or OBSERVATIONS							
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FILL OUT THIS SURVEY. Prizes to be drawn at 4 pm on April 4, etc. Prizes to be drawn at 4 pm on April 4, etc. Prizes Bushnell range finder rize: Skimmer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize: GSL Yeti cooler 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize: Bushnell range finder rize: Skimmer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize: GSL Yeti cooler 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize: Bushnell range finder rize: Skimmer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize: GSL Yeti cooler 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize: Bushnell range finder	MOOSE	SEARCHING?	Goldfields Dempster	year? More	D No	All Nobod	ly outside of my	🗆 Fat								
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	CARIBOU	No time	Goldfields Dempster	More	D No			🗆 Fat	[							
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Harvest Dates June 1 <sup>st</sup> – May 31 <sup>st</sup>	Reported Harvest Numbers
2012/ 2013	1
2013/ 2014	2
2014/ 2015	6
2015/ 2016	12
2016/ 2017	0
2017/ 2018	0
2018/2019	1*
2019/2020	3
2020/2021	0
2021/2022	0

TH Reported Harvest

Porcupine Caribou Herd



### **Body Condition/ Animal health**

- Information from questions asked about caribou condition and availability during mail-outs and door-to-door surveys
- No observations were reported for the porcupine caribou herd by TH in the 2021/22 harvest year

W	as the animal(s)	
	HEALTHY?	
(ch	eck all that apply)	
	Fat	
	Normal	
	Skinny	
	Sick/injured	
	Fat	
	Normal	
	Skinny	
	Sick/injured	
	Fat	
	Normal	
	Skinny	
	Sick/injured	
	Fat	
	Normal	
	Skinny	
	Sick/injured	
	[at	
	Sick/injured	
	Fat	
	Normal	
	Skinny	
	Sick/injured	

Were the fish	
HEALTHY?	
(check all that	
apply)	
Net marks	
Lamprey marks	
Diseased	
Bruising	
Ripe (females)	
Net marks	
Lamprey marks	
Diseased	
Bruising	
Ripe (females)	
Normal	
Wounds	
Disease	
Fungus	
Worms	
Normal	
Wounds	
Disease	
Fungus	
Worms	
Normal	
Wounds	
Disease	
Fungus	
Worms	
Normal	
Wounds	
Disease	
Fungus	
Worms	

Were the plants HEALTHY? check all that apply) Abundant Average Scarce Diseased	
Abundant Average Scarce Diseased	





#### **Population Trends & Habitat**

- Population trends and habitat observations are hard to establish with the low number of Porcupine caribou that Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Citizens harvest – for example, no porcupine caribou were known to be harvested by TH Citizens this past year.
- In recent years, the PCH has spent very little time (if any) in the THTT, so we have had fewer opportunities to observe the herd in general.



#### **TH Communication Efforts**

- The TH F&W branch receives direction from Council, and communicates and consults with Elders' Council, Youth Council and the General Assembly to discuss any harvest management changes that may need to be considered
- The F&W branch informs TH Citizens of harvest management strategies for certain species
- We communicate current population estimates for various species and share communication materials developed by our government and others
- We are involved in various education programs (i.e. First Fish, Fall Harvest Camp, First Hunt, First Trapper, etc.)

## Education

For over two decades, TH has been educating our youth on the respectful harvesting practices at TH's successful program, "First Hunt"

Since 1994, TH has held a camp every year up the Dempster Highway at Cache Creek

Today, our youth and Citizens go out onto the land and harvest food by using the practices they've learned from the First Hunt camp

TH Leaders, Elders, Citizens and other members of the Dawson community strongly support this program to ensure that respectful practices of taking food from the land will continue for generations to come



Education is a key responsibility for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in subsistence harvest.



## **First Hunt**





# **Nothing Wasted**

for of Indian Skin-house." From Tappan Adney, The Klondike Stampede, 1900.

Traditional Uses of Caribou



*Everything on that caribou is used. Even the feet* was hanging dry. They hang it up, it don't spoil. Like the moose nose they burn the hair off it. You could hang it and it'll keep for a long time to come. Then they start to bundle dry meat just like baling fish...In the fall time there's lots of fat caribou. Nothing is wasted on that. They make lard out of the fat, and they use all the bone. They pound it up and they make grease out it. That's something like Crisco. Real high rich fat, grease... They make clothes with parky skin...They make sleeping robe with skin, and they make Skidoo suit for little kids. They look like Skidoo suit so I call it Skidoo suit, because I had one myself. It was one you don't need underclothes under. You just slip it on and we go. You never get cold with that one. That's how caribou is used for many things. You make robe. You make rope with it. You make dog harness, dog collar, so everything there is for everything.

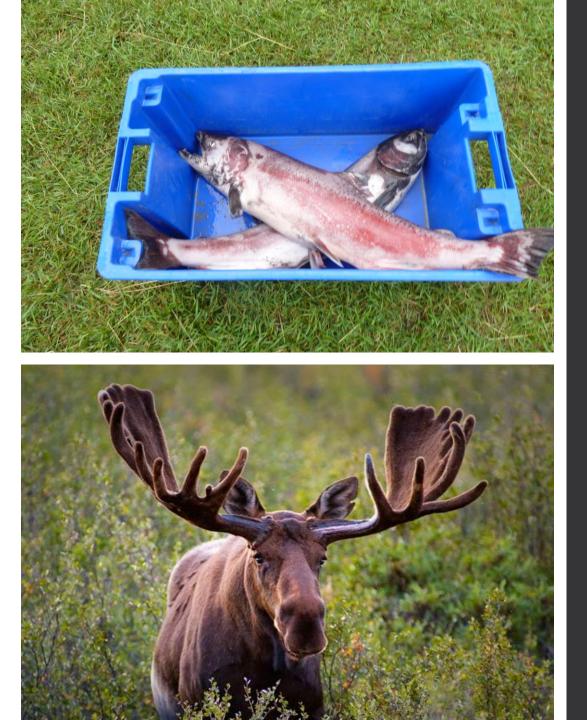
ANNIE HENRY, BLACK CITY, 1992

nd of a decurated bone bearies (Murgen), rom Catherine McClellan, Part of the Land

Satherine McCienan, Part of UM Douglas & McIntyre, Vancouver

#### **Harvest Pressure**

- Current increasing pressure on moose and declining salmon populations increases the demand for other sources of wild meat – such as the Porcupine Caribou Herd
- Looking forward, the Porcupine Caribou Herd will continue to be increasingly important as a food source within the TH Traditional Territory



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## **TH Priorities**

#### Harvest Reporting & Collection of Traditional Knowledge

- > Improve communications with TH Citizens for harvest data reporting
- > TK-based survey to collect information on changes to weather patterns, herd migration, hunting corridors, health of the land, etc.
- > Offer meat processing workshops (with H&S) to teach butchering skills and meat processing techniques (e.g. sausage making, dry meat, freezer packaging, etc.)



Cultural skills workshops such as hide tanning and drum making, and traditional clothes making.

#### Ethical & Respectful Harvesting

- > TH community and Councils support ethical and respectful harvesting
- > TH supports continued communications and education on Best Practices
- > TH supports education initiatives carried out by the PCMB
- > Respect your harvest
- > TH supports hunting camps that educate hunters on safe and respectful hunting practices

Shoot to kill. Take only what you need, and use all that you take.

# Mähsi cho

Thank you

