

VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNMENT

Government of Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation

CHIEF AND COUNCIL



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May 4, 2023

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

To: jtetlich31@northwestel.net
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erika.tizyatramm@vgfn.net; jeremy.brammer@vgfn.net

Dear Mr. Tetlich

RE: PCMB Annual Harvest Meeting Recommendations

The Vuntut Gwitchin Government would like to thank the Porcupine Caribou Management Board (PCMB) for all its hard work and the ability of board members and staff to work together on preserving our precious vadzaih. We received the document entitled "Porcupine Caribou Management Board Recommendations to the Parties" on April 6th, 2023. It is with appreciation that we submit our comments as follows:

Vuntut Gwitchin Government is in full support of the document's "Section B: Recommended Harvest Management Zone and Harvest Management Actions". Specifically, we support the recommendation to remain in the green management zone as outlined in the Harvest Management Plan (pg.20). This entails the following actions:

- Harvest only the amount needed;
- Licenced hunters receive a maximum of two bull tags;
- Shooting will be accurate and wounded animals will be retrieved; and
- Parties will collect rigorous and verifiable harvest data, to be provided for the Annual Harvest Meeting.

In addition, the Vuntut Gwitchin Government also supports the recommendations in Section D:

1. Increase community accessibility to Annual Harvest Meeting
2. Advise the Board of PCH outreach priorities for the development of communication materials
3. Parties recommend the HMP and IP be reviewed following completion of the Conservation Plan or as needed, pending the herd status.

In particular, VGG is excited to hear more from the Board regarding strategies to increase community access to the 2024 AHM. Community participation is essential to ensure the deliberations of the Board and Parties reflect the realities faced by the user communities. Moving forward, VGG requests that future correspondence related to the Annual Harvest Meeting be ccd to VGG technical staff, specifically Natural Resources Director (erika.tizyatramm@vgfn.net) and

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Fish and Wildlife Manager (jeremy.brammer@vgfn.net). This will facilitate VGG's participation in the Annual Harvest Meeting, and VGG's ability to meet the milestones of the Harvest Management Plan. In addition, VGG also requests that the two VGFN representatives (main Marvin Frost Sr., alternate Jeffrey Peter) both receive Board communication materials and be invited to participate in Board meetings. VGG would like both representatives to be well informed regarding the PCH, and we are willing to cover additional honoraria fees should that be necessary.

We would like to take this time to express our appreciation of the efforts the board has made with the Annual Harvest Meeting and Harvest Management Plan. We concur with the Board's recommendations and look forward to building a strong partnership between the PCMB and Vuntut Gwitchin Government.

Sincerely,



Chief Pauline Frost
Vuntut Gwitchin Government