

An aerial photograph of a wide river with a gravel bar in the center. A herd of approximately 15-20 deer is gathered on the gravel bar. The riverbanks are covered in dense, dry brush and some evergreen trees. The water is dark and calm.

Gwich'in Harvest Survey

*2024 PCMB Annual Harvest Meeting
February 13th, 2024*

Jackson Sung Hoon Joo
Environmental Coordinator, GRRB



Outline

- Survey Overview
- Survey Participation Rate
- Reported & Estimated Total Harvest
- Porcupine Caribou Body Condition
- Harvester Observations
- Conclusions/Advice to PCMB



Survey Overview

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 (GSA).

This presentation looks at Porcupine Caribou harvests from June 2022 to May 2023.



Frequency

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

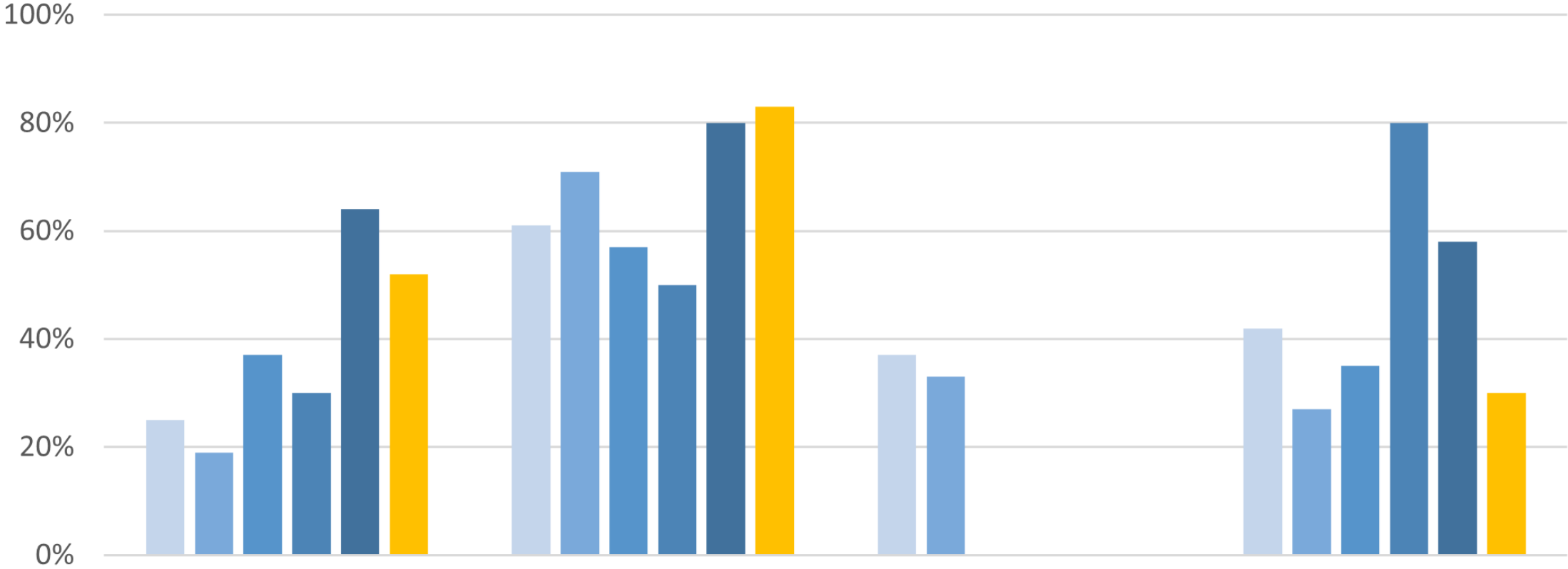
Population

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.

Participation Rates by Community



Nov 2020 - May 2021

June - Oct 2021

Nov 2021 - May 2022

June - Oct 2022

Nov 2022 - May 2023

June - Oct 2023



Estimated Total Harvest

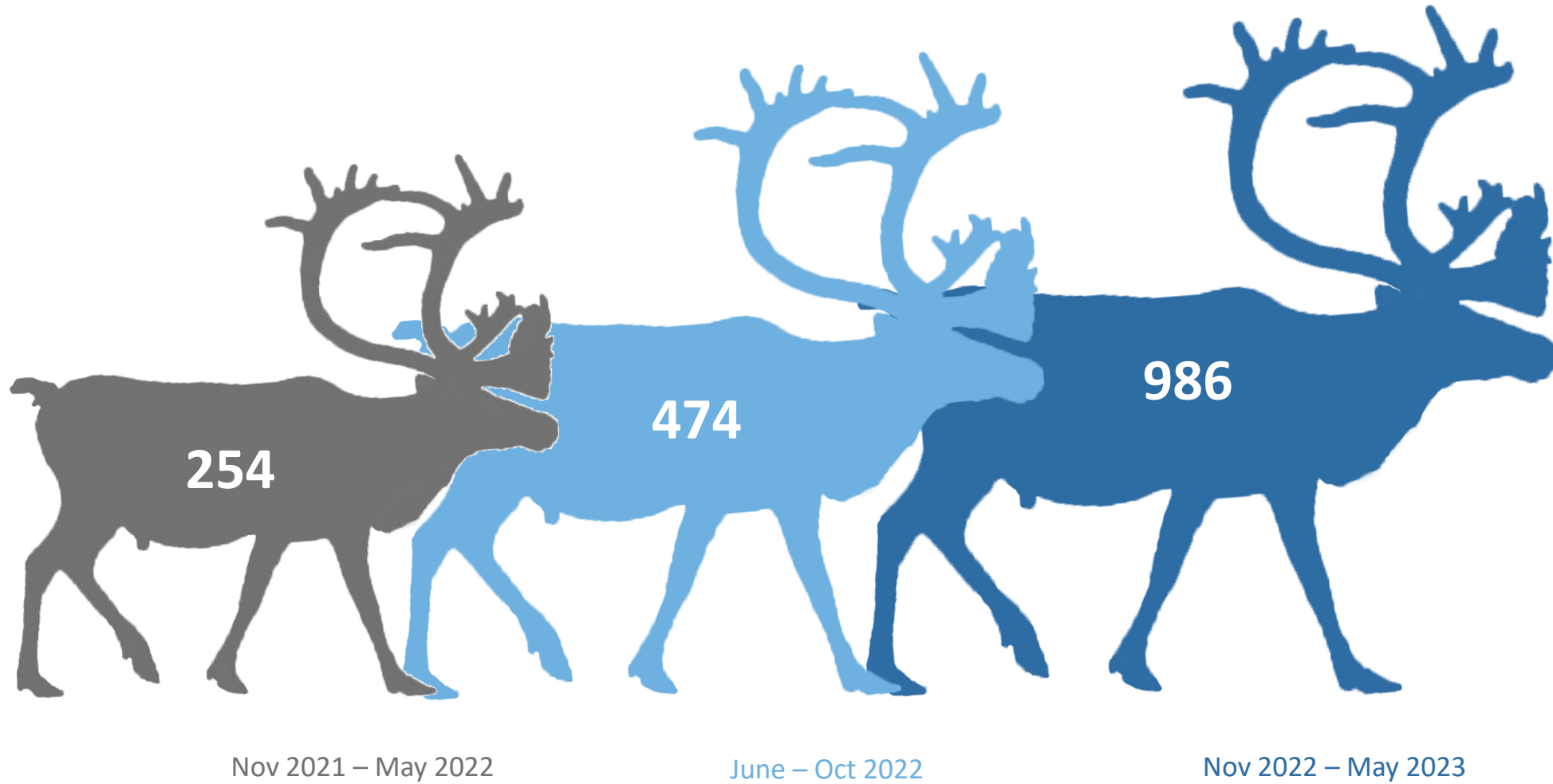
June 2022 - May 2023

	Male	Female	Total
Reported	558	172	730

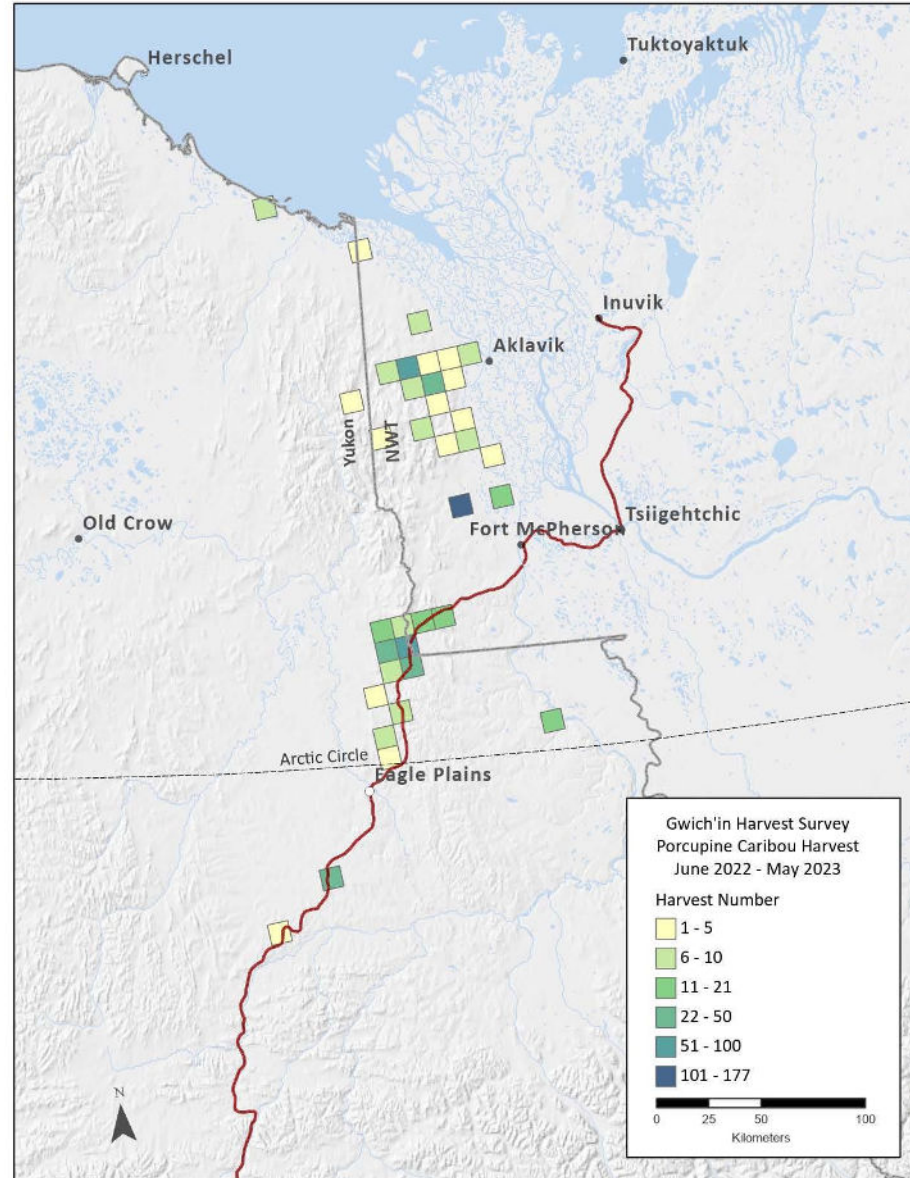
M/F Ratio: 3.24

	Jun - Oct 2022	Nov 2022 - May 2023	Total
Estimated	474	986	1460

Estimated Total Harvest



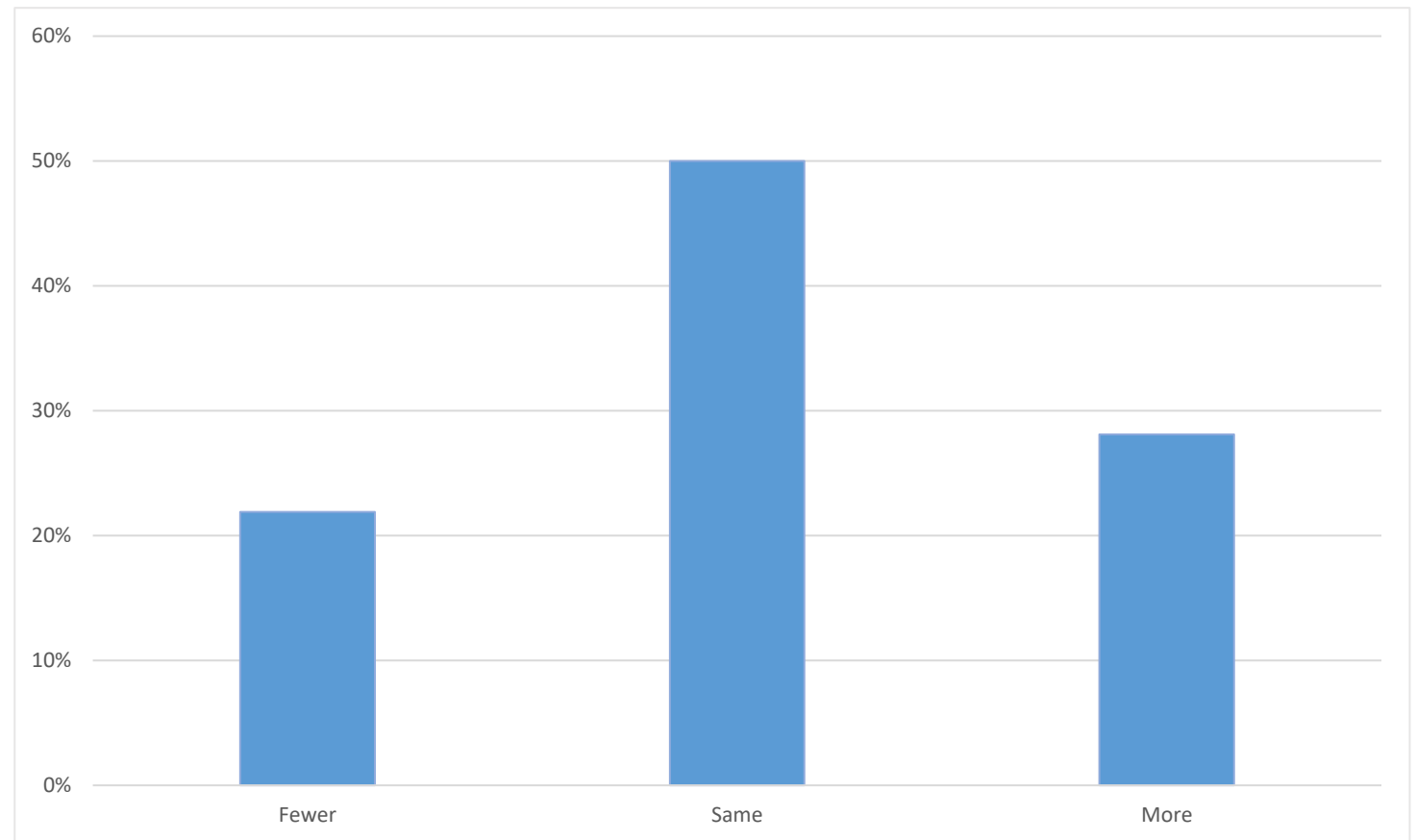
Porcupine Caribou Harvest Locations



Population Trends



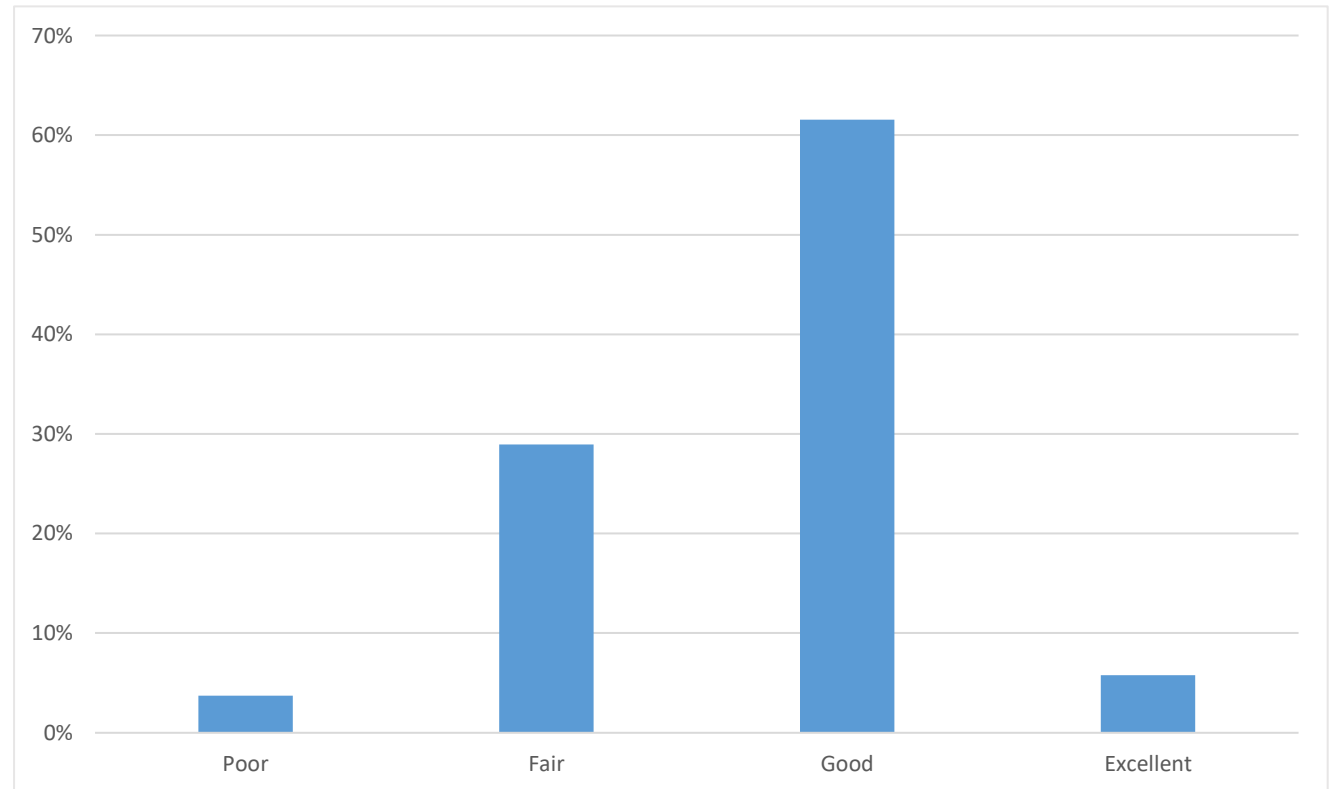
- 50% of 242 respondents from the June 2022 – May 2023 survey period had seen about the same number of Porcupine Caribou return.





Body Condition

- 61% of 242 respondents from the June 2022 – May 2023 survey period harvested Porcupine Caribou with good body condition.
- Only 4% reported poor body condition.



Observations

Landscapes

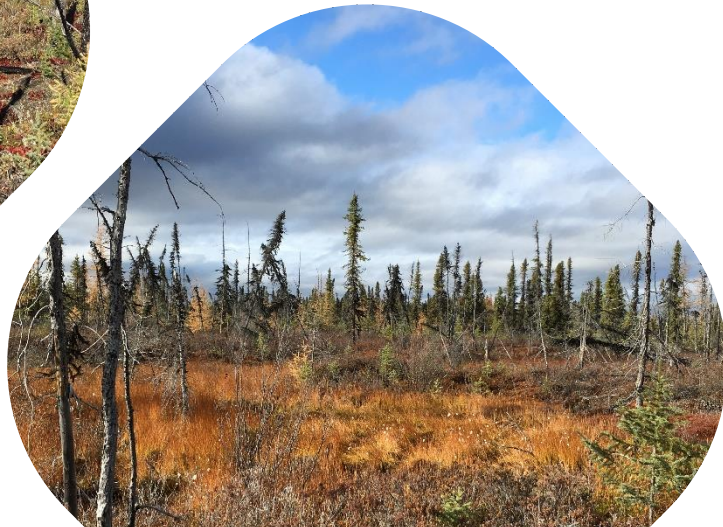
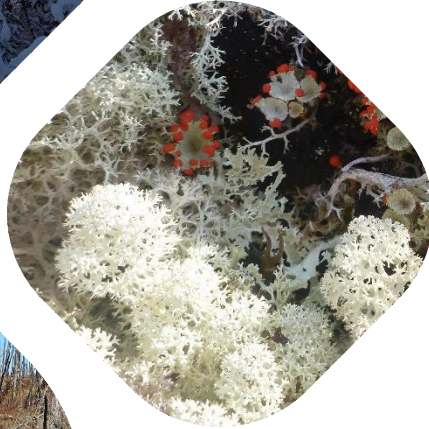
- Landslides, high water, floods, and fires

Weather

- More snow during winter and hotter summer

People

- Hunters are expressing concerns of overharvesting and increasing unnecessary disturbances to wildlife using ATVs and snowmobiles.





Recommendations

01

ZONE

Maintain the Green Zone designation

02

MANAGEMENT

Promote traditional management practices

03

CONSERVATION

Promote community conservation and education initiatives

Acknowledgement

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 Council Coordinators** for doing all the local coordination work
- **Environment and Climate Change, GNWT** for providing the funding
- The **Porcupine Caribou Management Board** for bringing together the stakeholders from all the communities across the herd's range.



Acknowledgement

Pictures & Maps

- **Title Page:** Nathan Millar from GRRB
- **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)
- **PC Harvest Location Maps:** Édouard Bélanger from Government of Yukon
- **Recommendations:** Jan Adamczewski from ENR
- **Acknowledgements:** Jan Adamczewski from ENR





Hai cho, Mahsi cho, Thank you!