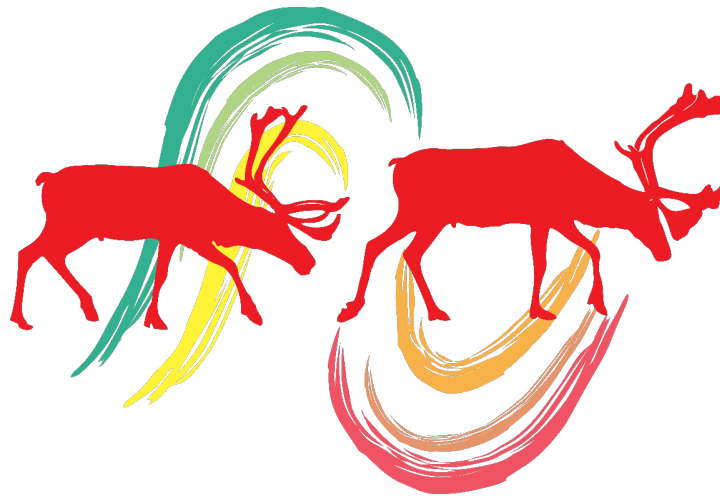


Action Plan for 2019/2020

BLUENOSE-EAST CARIBOU

– *RED STATUS* –



Tuktuvialuk (Inuvialuktun, Siglitun dialect)
Tuktut (Inuinnaqtun, Kugluktuk, Western Kitikmeot)
ʔedə (K'áhsho Got'ine, Dela Got'ine)
ʔehdaɣla Goʔekwé (Déljine Got'ine)
Sahti ʔekwò (Tłjchq, Wek'èezhii)

**Prepared by the Advisory Committee for
Cooperation on Wildlife Management**

January 2019

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Production note:

This Action Plan was prepared by the Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management Working Group. For additional copies contact:

Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management
c/o Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board
102 A 4504 49th Avenue, Yellowknife, NT X1A 1A7 Tel.: (867) 873-5740 Fax: (867) 873-5743
Email: jpellissey@wrrb.ca

About the ACCWM

The Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management was established to exchange information, help develop cooperation and consensus, and make recommendations regarding wildlife and wildlife habitat issues that cross land claim and treaty boundaries. The committee consists of Chairpersons (or alternate appointees) of the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT), Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board, ʔehdzo Got'ɪnɛ Gots'ɛ Nákedı (Sahtú Renewable Resources Board), Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, and Tuktut Nogait National Park Management Board.

**About Taking Care of Caribou and the associated Action Plans**

In late 2014 and early 2015, members of the ACCWM approved *Taking Care of Caribou: the Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West, and Bluenose-East barren-ground caribou herds management plan*. The Plan was developed in consultation with 17 communities that harvest from the three herds. The intent is for the Plan to address caribou management and stewardship over the long term. It was presented to the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources (Government of the Northwest Territories), the Minister of Environment (Government of Nunavut), and the Environment Minister (Government of Canada) in 2014. The Management Plan is supported by two companion documents: a report summarizing recent scientific information about the herds, and a report that provides a summary of the information that was shared during community meetings to develop the Plan. Individual Action Plans were then developed for each of the three herds. These Action Plans provide details on the types of actions that are recommended based on a herd's status, as well as who is responsible for the actions, and when they should be done.

Disclaimer:

The ACCWM recognizes that the implementation of management actions moving forward is subject to appropriations, prioritizations, and budgetary restraints of the participating agencies and organizations.

ACCWM and the Taking Care of Caribou Management Plan

The **Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management** (ACCWM) was established in 2008, to exchange information, help develop cooperation and consensus and make recommendations regarding wildlife and wildlife habitat issues that cross land claim and treaty boundaries. *In 2014 the ACCWM recommended the **Taking Care of Caribou** management plan to the governments with management jurisdictions of these three herds.* That plan can be found here: [link](#)

How a Herd's Status and Appropriate Management Actions are Determined

The ACCWM is responsible for determining herd status each year and developing appropriate management actions based on that status. Each fall, the member boards meet for the Annual Status Meeting (Terms of Reference [TOR] can be found [here](#)) to share information and make collaborative decisions regarding the herds, including herd status, according to the requirements of regional legislation and land claims agreements. The implementation of the Action Plans is also reviewed at this time and actions for the BNE herd can be found in Table 2.

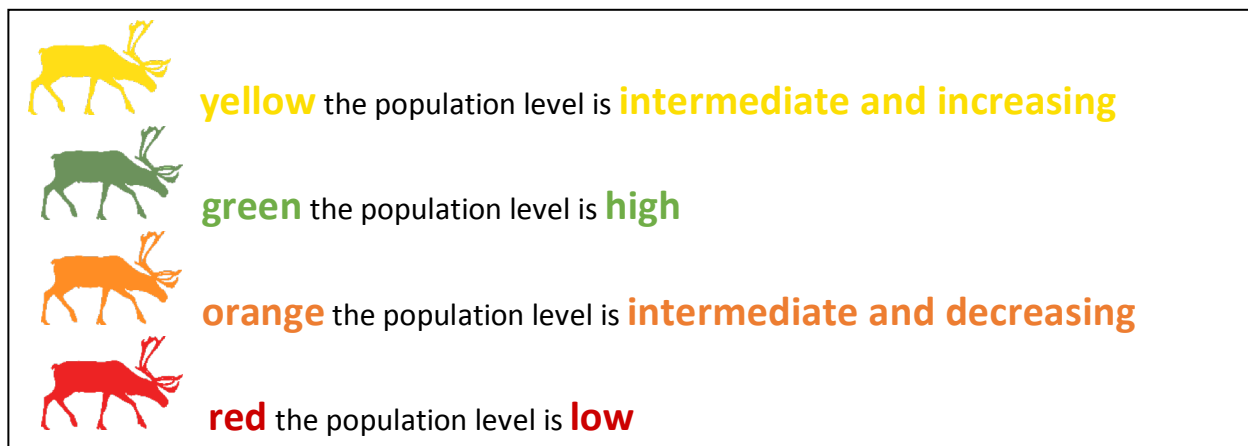


Figure 1: Phases of the population cycle with the colour-coded "traffic light" approach used in the Management Plan and associated Action Plans.

Time (population cycle approximately 30 to 60 years)

Caribou Population

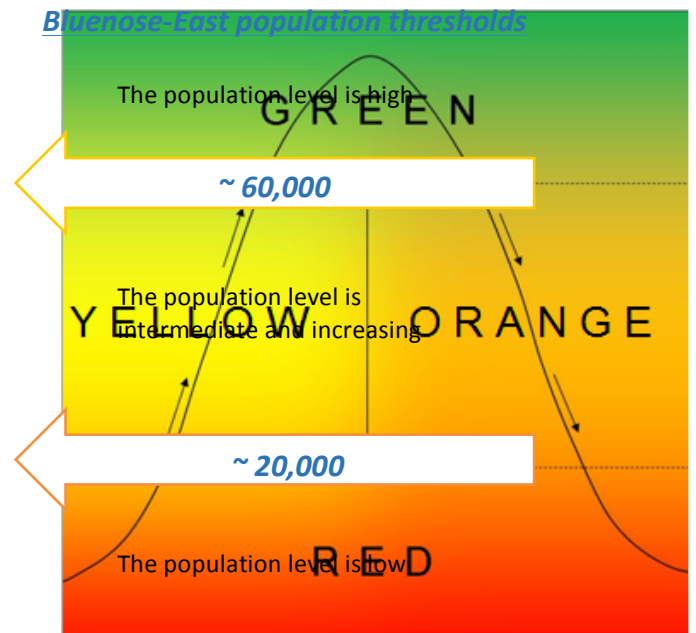


Figure 2: Phases of the population cycle with the colour-coded "traffic light" approach used in the Management Plan and associated Action Plans.


Status Decision 2018

Management actions are based on these phases of the population cycle, using approximate levels or "thresholds" as a guide. Thresholds for the herds were determined by the ACCWM based on known historic highs and lows, with input received from community and technical experts in a consensus-based process. **However, it is not only the threshold value that is used to determine the colour zone – the determination of herd status takes into account all available information.** The traffic light approach to understanding risk in caribou population cycles is shown in Figure 2 along with the approximate thresholds for the Bluenose-East herd.

According to the process outlined in the Management Plan, numerous criteria are used to make an annual status decision. Information considered by the ACCWM in making the 2018 decision is summarized in Table 1 below.

Based on the information provided, the ACCWM determined the Bluenose-East herd status colour zone to be **red (low)** in November 2018. This decision recognizes the worsening population number as the herd can no longer be classified as orange (intermediate and decreasing). The forthcoming 2019/20 actions will be based on this determination. The herd size continues to be low and there are concerns about the low adult survival rates leading to a steep decline in the population. There was limited community data on the status of the herd as a result of the herd remaining far from each of the communities throughout the year. As such,

it was felt that it was best to use the precautionary principle and downgrade the status of the herd based on the population numbers presented by the Government of Northwest Territory, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR).



In 2018/19

the Bluenose-East caribou population status is

RED: low

Table 1: Criteria used to assess Bluenose East herd status in 2018.¹

Criteria	Community-Based Information	Scientific Information	Comments
Population size	<p>Kugluktuk: The population is still on a slow decline.</p> <p>Sahtú & Tł̨chq̨: Data is limited as the BNE herd stayed far from the communities. As such, there are no comments on the indicators here and below.</p>	<p>Estimated number of adult caribou at least 1.5 years old in 2018: 19,294 ± 4,729.</p> <p>Estimated number of breeding cows 11,675 ± 2,040.</p>	<p>Kugluktuk: ENR should extend the range of surveys further from the collar locations.</p> <p>ENR: Population estimates are based on June calving ground survey. The October composition survey was used to estimate sex ratio.</p>
Population trend and rate of change	<p>Kugluktuk: The herd is moving farther south and further west of Kugluktuk. Not close to the coast this year.</p>	<p>Estimated 19-20% annual rate of decrease 2015 to 2018; same rate of decline 2010-2013 and 2013-2015.</p>	<p>Kugluktuk: Caribou are far from community Spring, Summer, and Fall 2018. Difficult to make observations.</p> <p>ENR: Herd declined by half 2015-2018. High adult and calf mortality do not indicate a stable population, though pregnancy rates do look better</p>

¹ This table is populated with information presented to the ACCWM to assess herd status in 2018 and is adapted from the monitoring criteria table included in [Taking Care of Caribou](#).

			<p>this year.</p> <p>Estimated herd size: 2018 = 19,294 ± 4,729 2015 = 38,592 ± 4,733 2013 = 68,295 ± 18,041 2010 = 120,880 ± 13,398</p> <p>June calving ground photo surveys, number of breeding cows ± 95% CI:</p> <p>2018 = 11,675 ± 2040 2015 = 17,396 ± 2,308 2013 = 34,472 ± 4,364 2010 = 51,757 ± 11,092</p>
Productivity and recruitment	Kugluktuk: Not many twins. Difficult to say of cow-calf ratio.	Percent breeding females June 2018 on calving grounds: 83%. Pregnancy rate of captured cows 2014-2018: 94% (46/49). Calf-to-cow ratio April 2018, 37.5 ± 2.5:100. Calf-to-cow ratio Oct. 2018, 25.7 ± 3.4:100.	<p>Kugluktuk: Caribou are far from community Spring, Summer, and Fall 2018. Difficult to make observations.</p> <p>ENR: Average March calf-to-cow ratio 2014-2018, 30.1:100. 2018 results suggest good initial productivity (June), poor calf survival first 4-5 months (October).</p>
Adult composition	Kugluktuk: Large herds, so difficult to say of bull-to-cow ratio.	Bull-to-cow ratio Oct. 2018, 38.0 ± 5.7:100.	<p>Kugluktuk: Caribou are far from community Spring, Summer, and Fall 2018. Difficult to make observations.</p> <p>ENR: Slightly lower than bull-to-cow ratios from 2009, 2013, 2015 of 42-43:100. Increasing herds in NWT in early 1980s had ratios of about 65:100.</p>
Body condition and health	Kugluktuk: Caribou were observed to be fairly healthy; the bulls were fat.	No new information – minimal harvest North Slave Region last 2 winters.	<p>ENR: Délı̄ne and Kugluktuk may have information.</p> <p>Délı̄ne: 21 health monitoring kits submitted to ENR in 2016</p>
	Kugluktuk: Very low at this time compared to last	Total reported harvest N Slave region NWT –	Kugluktuk: Caribou are far from community Spring,

<p>Harvest levels</p>	<p>year, 49 (30 males, 19 females) reported to date, Nov 8. Some tags still signed out.</p> <p>In 2017/18, 174 were harvested.</p> <p>Sahtú: Zero caribou were harvested in Délı̄ne.</p> <p>Wek'èezhii: No authorization cards were used.</p>	<p>winter 2016-2017, 15 bulls; winter 2017-2018, 10 bulls.</p>	<p>Summer, and Fall 2018. Harvest levels of moose and muskox have increased.</p> <p>Community implemented a no hunting zone from June 1st to July 1st for the BNE Herd. TAH of 340.</p> <p>ENR: Bluenose-East caribou have been in remote areas last 2 winters in NWT in N Slave region; most N Slave hunters have hunted Beverly/Ahiak caribou in east on mine winter roads. DGG reported the harvest of seven but are stating they are boreal caribou.</p> <p>Wekweèti (Tı̄chq): If we take everything now, it will be gone for generations.</p> <p>Wek'èezhii: 750 TAH allocated between a number of regions and indigenous organizations.</p> <p>Délı̄ne (Sahtú): maximum harvest threshold: 150</p>
<p>Predator populations</p>	<p>Kugluktuk: Lots of wolves, grizzly bears, wolverines. Grizzly bears with twins, triplets. Predator tracks constantly heading west.</p> <p>GN is providing funding for predator carcasses. The price for wolverines has stayed the same while the price for wolves has increased.</p>	<p>Limited Information on numbers. June 2018 calving ground survey: 44 grizzly bear sightings, 9 wolves.</p>	<p>ENR: Continued trend of more grizzly bears than wolves seen on Bluenose-East calving grounds 2010-2015.</p> <p>Kugluktuk: No tags needed for grizzly bear hunt. Most of the grizzlies that are killed are subadult males shot in the community.</p> <p>Raptor studies are underway to understand impacts from predation on caribou.</p>

	<p>Déline: there has been an increase in grizzly bear and wolf sightings.</p>		
<p>Range and movement patterns</p>	<p>Kugluktuk: Spring, west of Kugluktuk. Summer/fall, still very far.</p> <p>Wekweèti (Tłı̨chǫ): There used to be caribou but now there are not even tracks.</p>	<p>Fidelity of Bluenose-East collared cows to calving ground 2008-2017: 97-98%.</p> <p>Herd wintered on own 2017-2018, little mixing with other herds. Very late spring 2018 movement to calving grounds.</p>	<p>ENR: Some years Bluenose-East have mixed a lot with Bathurst caribou to the east.</p>
<p>Environment and habitat</p>	<p>Kugluktuk: Cool summer, fewer bugs, fair amount of rain, moist land, good eating. Caribou farther inland, not on coast, like to face south wind.</p> <p>Wekweèti (Tłı̨chǫ) Forest fires and climate change have changed the land so that caribou don't come around anymore.</p>	<p>There were very few fires in the 2018 season. Fairly wet summer in NWT generally.</p>	<p>Déline (Sahtú): 2016-2017: Lots of ice around Port radium made it hard to reach the herd.</p> <p>Déline (Sahtú): Hardly any mosquitos lots of sand flies earlier than usual.</p>
<p>Human disturbance</p>	<p>Kugluktuk: Last few seasons, not close to Kugluktuk, except for aircraft, i.e., surveys. Proposed roads and mines in the areas far to the east.</p>	<p>Very limited, no active mines.</p>	<p>ENR: Tundra Copper exploration on calving grounds – not active last 3 years.</p>

Red Status Management Actions for Bluenose East Caribou

Management actions described in *Taking Care of Caribou* fall into five main categories: **Education**, **Habitat**, **Land Use Activities**, **Predators** and **Harvest Management**.

We have included a sixth category here to capture the *Monitoring* actions that were also identified in the Management Plan. Monitoring is a key part of learning and assessing the success of management actions. For the most part, monitoring actions differ from management actions as they are not as dependent on herd status – they are ongoing in many cases, but their frequency or intensity may change with changing status.



To make it easier to find specific information for each of these action categories they have been colour-coded throughout this document.

Different actions are often required depending on whether a herd's status is determined to be green, yellow, orange or red. A table summarizing appropriate management actions for all status levels as agreed to in *Taking Care of Caribou* is included in **Appendix B**. As the status of the Bluenose East herd is **red (low)**, each of the bulleted actions outlined for red status in that table has now been developed into a series of specific tasks in the **Management Actions Table** of this Action Plan.

Because most activities under *Education* and *Habitat* require very long-term approaches to be effective, the suggested management actions remain the same no matter the status of the herd. For actions in the *Land Use Activities*, *Predators*, and *Harvest Management* categories to be responsive to different phases of the population cycle, different actions are required depending on a herd's status – for example, when setting a herd Total Allowable Harvest (see **Appendix G** for an explanation of how allocations and the Total Allowable Harvest for a herd are set).

Management Actions Table for Bluenose-East Caribou: Red Status

Following principles laid out in *Taking Care of Caribou*, all actions and tasks described in this table will draw upon both community-based knowledge (including traditional knowledge) and scientific information. The ACCWM recognizes that documenting and using traditional knowledge is a priority for all member boards.

A. Education ²					
A – 1. Develop education strategy <i>Objective – address community concerns regarding a lack of education (see various themes identified in Taking Care of Caribou) and clarify an approach</i>					
Task	Partners ³	Performance Measure	Deliverable date	Priority level ⁴	Status November 2018 – plans for 19/20
A.1.1 Strike an Education and Communication Working Group	ACCWM and government partners ⁵	Education and Communication Working Group meeting	2017/18	Top	Done
A.1.2 Develop a Terms of Reference	ACCWM Working Group	Finalized TOR, approved by ACCWM	2017/18	Top	Approved (2018)
A.1.3 Determine existing materials, programs, gaps, and opportunities for collaboration	Education and Communication Working	List of existing materials and programs, and opportunities for	2017/18 2018/19	Top	Ongoing; Dropbox with existing materials has been created.

² Education specific to industrial land uses is dealt with in section C – Land Use Activities (C.3.1 and C.3.2).

³ Potential partners have been identified for individual tasks. Leads on tasks may vary and will be determined at a later date.

⁴ While the ACCWM member boards feel that most of the management actions included here have a high priority, only those tasks and actions that call for immediate attention have been given a priority and deliverable deadline to date. These actions/tasks are categorized as ‘Top’ priority in the table. Further

	Group	collaboration			
A.1.4 Engage community organizations ⁶ for input on educational strategy	Education and Communication Working Group, with assistance from ACCWM	Summary of input / guidance from communities and related revisions	Every year before annual status meeting	Top	Input from annual community tours
A.1.5 Develop educational strategy, allowing for regional differences	Education and Communication Working Group	Document outlining strategy	2017/18 2018/19	Top	The strategy is done (2018). Ask for ACCWM guidance on priorities (e.g., Respect, Wounding, Why ACCWM?)
A.1.6 ACCWM reviews educational strategy and provides advice to member boards ⁷ for approval	ACCWM	Advice provided to member boards	2018/19	Top	
A.1.7 Implementation of educational strategy	Member boards, government partners and	Summary report	2018/19 and onwards	Top	The Strategy is was discussed at the 2018 meeting.

⁶ Throughout this document, “Engage community organizations” means that the member boards of the ACCWM will decide in any circumstance whether the community perspective is adequately represented within each boards’ discussions, or whether a further process of community/community organizations’ engagement is necessary. ACCWM member boards have discretion as to what community organizations are engaged and how the engagement takes place.

⁷ Throughout this Action Plan, the term ‘member boards’ refers to the six boards which are members of the Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management (ACCWM), including the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT), Gwich’in Renewable Resources Board, ʔehdzo Got’Inę Gots’ę Nákedí (Sahtú Renewable Resources Board), Wek’èezhì Renewable Resources Board, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, and Tuktut Nogait National Park Management Board.

	regional partners ⁸				
A – 2. Develop education materials <i>Objective – address community concerns regarding a lack of education on sustainable and respectful use, as well as caribou ecology</i>					
A.2.1 Develop draft materials based on results of A.1.3 and A.1.4	Education and Communication Working Group	Draft education materials	2018/19	Top	<p>Several materials have been developed by the Communications and Education Working Group. This includes, thank you notes and posters, post cards, shooting targets, etc.</p> <p>SRRB: Déljñę developed educational materials as part of conservation plan implementation and door to door campaign, including poster and brochure.</p> <p>ENR provided an animated map of herd movements that was useful as a decision-making tool. This should be updated yearly.</p>
A.2.2 Engage community organizations regarding types of materials and distribution		Summary of input / guidance from communities and related revisions	2018/19	Top	SRRB: Engagement through community conservation planning, especially with Colville Lake.
A.2.3 Revise and distribute materials		Send finalized educational materials	2018/19	Top	
A – 3. Community education events / programs <i>Objective – address community concerns regarding a lack of education on sustainable and respectful use, as well as caribou ecology. Limit wounding loss and improve identification of individual caribou</i>					
A.3.1 Develop events / programs based on results of A.1.3 and A.1.4	Education and Communication Working Group	Develop 1-3 workshop curricula / programs			SRRB: Déljñę open house and sight your rifle event with presentation of community conservation plan, in collaboration with Déljñę ʔehdzo Got'jñę (Renewable Resources Council).

⁸ Regional partners, which vary significantly by region, may include individual community members, community organizations, such as RRCs/HTCs/HTOs, and regional organizations.

	Group, with assistance from ACCWM WG and regional partners				
A.3.2 Engage community organizations regarding type and timing of workshops in each region	Education and Communication Working Group, with assistance from ACCWM WG	Summary of input / guidance from communities and related revisions			KHTO worked with the University of Calgary to teach people how to properly use sampling kits. One workshop was held for the public and one for the schools.
A.3.3 Deliver workshops / events	Education and Communication Working Group, with community organizations and government partners	Minimum target: delivery of one workshop / event per region, per year			
A.3.4 Hold sight in your rifle events		Minimum target: delivery of one workshop / event per region, per year		Top	
A – 4. School and youth education events / programs <i>Objective – address community concerns regarding need for education and engagement of youth. Increase knowledge transfer between elders and youth</i>					
A.4.1 Adapt education materials (developed in A – 2) for school use (at elementary and high school levels)	Education and Communication Working Group	Education packages for community agency / organization use			
A.4.2 Adapt community		Draft youth-			

education programs / events (developed in A – 3) for use in school and youth-focused settings appropriate for each community and region (e.g., back to the land camps)		focused workshop curricula / programs			
A.4.3 Engage community organizations regarding types of materials and program delivery		Summary of input / guidance from communities and related revisions			
A.4.4 Program delivery	Community groups / agencies	Minimum target: delivery of one workshop / event per region, per year			
A.4.5 Encourage and promote hunter mentorship – develop programs	Community groups / agencies, with schools	Minimum target: delivery of one workshop / event per region, per year			

B. Habitat					
B – 1. Identify and recommend protection for key habitat areas					
<i>Objective – address community concerns that key habitat areas are not protected sufficiently</i>					
Task	Partners	Performance Measure	Deliverable date	Priority level	Status

B.1.1 Compile and review ENR Technical Report, SARC BGC Status report, land use plans, results of monitoring programs, etc. for information	Government partners and ACCWM WG	Compilation of existing materials	2017/18 2018/19	Top	Ongoing. WRRB report sent to ENR & some TK reports available; Délı̄ne Plan⁹ approved and some mapping done; SLUP; TLUP. Dropbox folder created for people to add materials.
B.1.2 Engage community organizations for identification of key habitat areas	ACCWM WG	Summary of input / guidance from communities	2017/18 2018/19	Top	Ongoing. Délı̄ne Plan identifies key habitat areas as does the land use plan for the Sahtú. The Wek'èezhii land use plan currently covers private lands and is in development for crown lands.
B.1.3 Identify key habitat areas in a sensitive habitat report based on information from B.1.1 and B.1.2	Government partners and ACCWM WG	Provide report to ACCWM, including draft maps of key areas	2018/19	Top	
B.1.4 ACCWM reviews sensitive habitat report and provides advice to member boards for approval	ACCWM	Advice provided to member boards	2018/19	Top	
B.1.5 Member boards make and	Member boards	Recommendations provided	2018/19	Top	

⁹ Several community-based plans specific to caribou conservation have been prepared or are currently being prepared. They include: *Belare Wile Gots'ę ʔekwé (Caribou for All Time)*, Délı̄ne, NT; *Integrated Caribou Conservation Management Plan*, Kugluktuk, NU; and the *Colville Lake Caribou Management Plan*, Colville Lake, NT. They will be referred to here as the Délı̄ne Plan, the Kugluktuk Plan, and the Colville Lake Plan.

communicate recommendations to appropriate authorities					
B – 2. Review results of monitoring, including cumulative effects, to ensure enough habitat is available and caribou are able to move between areas of good habitat					
<i>Objective – ensure research and monitoring programs are relevant and addressing current information needs for habitat management</i>					
B.2.1 Map and track landscape disturbances	Government partners	Compilation map			GNWT ‘Inventory of Landscape Change’ being updated Annual tracking of wildfire footprint Mackenzie Valley GIS submission standards
B.2.2 Identify and review recent relevant information (e.g., including results from research, monitoring; see C – Land Use Activities, also F – Monitoring Actions)	ACCWM WG and government partners, academics	Summary report	Every year before annual status meeting		Délįnę is working a TK mapping project in the Great Bear Lake area.
B.2.3 Identify and / or review any gaps or previous gaps assessments		List of gaps identified			
B.2.4 Seek collaborators to help refine research questions and knowledge gaps		Advice included / received from collaborators			
B.2.5 ACCWM reviews	ACCWM	Advice provided to member			

information and provides advice for research and monitoring based on information from B.2.1-4		boards			
B.2.6 Member boards make and communicate recommendations to appropriate authorities	Member boards	Recommendations provided			
B – 3. Recommend important habitat as a 'value at risk' for forest fire management <i>Objective – ensure sufficient winter habitat for caribou</i>					
B.3.1 Based on results of B – 1 and as results of B – 2 are available, provide advice to member boards on values at risk	ACCWM	Key areas identified for fire management and advice provided to member boards			
B.3.2 Member boards make and communicate recommendations to fire management	Member boards	Recommendations provided			

C. Land use activities					
C – 1. Review results of cumulative effects monitoring programs <i>Objective – ensure cumulative effects monitoring programs are operational and relevant</i>					
Task	Partners	Performance	Deliverable	Priority	Status

		Measure	date	level	
C.1.1 Building on work done in Habitat (B – 2), identify and review recent relevant information (e.g., CIMP, ENR, DOE)	ACCWM WG and government partners	Summary report			
C.1.2 Identify and / or review any gaps or previous gaps assessments		List of gaps identified. Collation of previous gap assessments			
C.1.3 ACCWM reviews information and provides advice for research and monitoring based on information from C.1.1 and C.1.2	ACCWM	Advice provided to member boards			
C.1.4 Member boards make and communicate recommendations to appropriate authorities	Member boards	Recommendations provided			
C – 2. Provide advice on mitigation of industrial impacts to proponents and regulators <i>Objective – minimize industrial impacts to caribou and their habitat</i>					
C.2.1 Identify parties involved in industrial activities on a herd's range	ACCWM WG and other relevant agencies /	List of regulators, proponents, active			

(e.g., regulators, proponents and active developers)	partners (e.g., Land and Water Boards, ILA)	developers			
C.2.2 Engage community organizations to identify land use concerns and how they should be addressed. Engage with regulators to identify any existing protocols	ACCWM WG	Summary of input / guidance from communities and current regulatory protocols			
C.2.3 Identify and / or develop mitigating advice and / or recommendations, targeted to specific audiences, including standards provided in <i>Taking Care of Caribou</i> (Appendix G)	ACCWM WG, regional and government partners	Recommendations provided			
C.2.4 ACCWM reviews information and advises member boards	ACCWM	Advice provided to member boards			
C.2.5 Member boards make and communicate recommendations	Member boards	Recommendations provided; results of C.2.2 and herd status			

to proponents (including air carriers and other subcontractors) and regulators, including updates on herd status and sensitive habitat report		provided			
C – 3. Provide active and accessible communication and recommend education programs for all, including proponents and airlines <i>Objective – address concerns regarding land use activities impacting caribou habitat, and a lack of information on best practices / mitigating advice</i>					
C.3.1 Develop and / or adapt existing education packages specific to proponents, regulators, air carriers and any other users not already covered by actions in A – Education, and C – 1 and C – 2 (recreational, traffic)	Education and Communication Working Group	Draft materials Next steps: The working group create fact sheets based on existing materials to educate groups about what the conditions are.		Top	
C.3.2 Communicate educational materials developed in C.3.1		Finalized materials sent out		Top	

C – 4. Recommend increased enforcement of land use regulations, including community monitors ¹⁰ <i>Objective – evaluate and track effectiveness of enforcement, and ensure community monitoring programs have a role in supporting application of land use regulations</i>					
C.4.A.1 Identify relevant agencies involved in inspection, enforcement and monitoring	ACCWM WG and other relevant agencies / partners (e.g., Land and Water Boards, ILA)	List of relevant agencies and regulations Next steps: approach GNWT Lands, regional Land & Water Boards re: list of who does what	2017/18 2018/19	Top	Ongoing. GNWT Lands, Regional Land & Water Boards (provide conditions), EISC, EIRB, ILA, and ENR.
C.4.A.2 Compile and review acts / regulations and current inspection and / or enforcement strategies and levels	ACCWM WG and regional partners	Summary report	2017/18 2018/19	Top	Ongoing. Dropbox folder created for people to add materials.
C.4.A.3 Engage community organizations regarding enforcement approaches	ACCWM WG and government partners	Summary of input and guidance	2018/19	Top	
C.4.A.4 Based on	ACCWM	Advice provided	2018/19	Top	

¹⁰ Enforcement is an action whereby delegated officers ensure compliance to an act of parliament or legislative assembly, or a regulation disseminated under an act where there is a sanction for failure to “comply” normally in the form of a fine or imprisonment. Monitoring is an action whereby community monitors (as described in this plan) observe and report on all aspects of land-use activities and wildlife management to the relevant agencies and/or regulators. A community monitor has no delegated legal authority.

information from C.4.A.2 and C.4.A.3, assess enforcement, and provide advice about increased inspection or enforcement and / or regulation changes as required		to member boards			
C.4.A.5 If and as required, member boards provide recommendations to appropriate authorities	Member boards	Recommendations provided	2018/19	Top	
C.4.B.1 Compile and review information on capacity, roles and opportunities for community monitors. Include identification of existing programs	ACCWM WG and regional partners	Summary report	2017/18 2018/19	Top	Ongoing. Recent developments of NWT Guardians of the Land Programs may apply here.
C.4.B.2 Engage community organizations regarding potential opportunities for community monitors	ACCWM WG and regional partners	Summary of input and guidance	2018/19	Top	
C.4.B.3 Provide	ACCWM	Advice provided	2018/19	Top	

advice and ensure that mitigating advice provided in (C.2.3) includes roles for community monitors where appropriate		to member boards			
C.4.B.4 If and as required, member boards provide recommendations to appropriate authorities	Member boards	Recommendations provided	2018/19	Top	

D. Predators

D – 1. Review results of research programs that monitor predator abundance and predation rates
Objective – determine which predators impact caribou and the relative intensity of their impacts

Task	Partners	Performance Measure	Deliverable date	Priority level	Status
D.1.1 Gather, compile, review and present predator research and monitoring results to ACCWM (including community and scientific monitoring results)	ACCWM WG and government partners	Summary report	2017/18 2018/19	Top	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Completed wolf feasibility assessment (Nov 2017)¹¹</p> <p>KHTO & GN DOE are working on a wolf pilot sampling program</p> <p>Dropbox folder created for people to add materials.</p>

¹¹ <https://www.wrrb.ca/sites/default/files/FINAL%20Wolf%20Feasibility%20Assessment%20-%202010nov17.pdf>

D.1.2 Engage community organizations to identify and prioritize research needs by region	ACCWM WG	Summary of input / guidance from communities	2017/18 2018/19	Top	Ongoing Research prioritization (GRRB & WMAC-NWT)
D.1.3 Identify and prioritize research needs based on information resulting from D.1.1 and D.1.2	ACCWM WG and government partners	Advice provided to ACCWM	2018/19	Top	
D.1.4 ACCWM reviews and provides advice to member boards	ACCWM	Advice provided to member boards	2018/19	Top	
D.1.5 Member boards recommend research priorities to appropriate authorities	Member boards	Recommendations provided	2018/19	Top	
D – 2. Consider recommending options for predator management <i>Objective – review information from all partners to determine whether predator management is a viable option</i>					
D.2.1 Compile results from research regarding predator management / control programs	ACCWM WG and government partners	Literature review		Top	
D.2.2 Engage with other jurisdictions that have predator		Information for summary report		Top	

control experience					
D.2.3 Identify jurisdictional / regional rules and regulations around predator management		List of existing regulations and rules		Top	
D.2.4 Compile and review information from D.2.1-3		Summary report		Top	
D.2.5 Engage community organizations regarding potential options for predator management		Summary of input / guidance from communities		Top	
D.2.6 ACCWM provides advice to member boards regarding options for predator management	ACCWM	Advice provided to member boards		top	
D.2.7 If justified, member boards recommend predator management tools to appropriate authorities	Member boards	Recommendations provided, if needed		Top	

E. Harvest Management

E – 1. Resident, outfitter or commercial harvest remain closed¹²

Objective – limit licensed harvest to assist in herd recovery

Task	Partners	Performance Measure	Deliverable date	Priority level	Status
E.1.1 Based on results of discussions concerning a Total Allowable Harvest (TAH) and harvest ratios, member boards make and communicate recommendations to appropriate authorities	Member boards	Recommendations provided			Done (2015/2016).

E – 2. Review of mandatory limit for subsistence harvest for further reduction¹³

Objective – limit subsistence harvest to assist in herd recovery

E.2.A.1 Compile historical and current harvest information by region	Member boards and government partners	Summary documents		Top	
E.2.A.2 Review information from	Member boards and regional	Summary of input / guidance			

¹² The process differs in Nunavut, where the Land Claim Agreement (1993) specifies that an Inuk “shall have the right to dispose freely to any person any wildlife lawfully harvested. This includes the right to sell, barter, exchange and give either inside or outside the Nunavut Settlement Area” (5.7.30).

¹³ As strict conservation measures are needed areas with land claim agreements establish a Total Allowable Harvest (TAH). As circumstances require each ACCWM member (with the exception of the TNNPMB) will set the TAH for their region. When a herd is shared over land claim areas and/or areas without settled land claim agreements proportional allocations are set as to determine how the user groups will share the TAH.

preceding step with community organizations and advise regarding regional processes (e.g., public hearings)	partners	from communities			
E.2.A.3 Meetings to discuss and propose regional proportional allocations ¹⁴	Member boards and other traditional users	Provide percentages for inclusion in Action Plan			
E.2.B.1 Based on information presented at annual status meeting, ACCWM proposes a herd TAH and sex ratio	ACCWM	Proposed TAH and definition of majority bull harvest	Every year, following annual status meeting		
E.2.B.2 ACCWM advises member boards regarding the proposed herd TAH, based on E.2.B.1	ACCWM	Proposed TAH provided to member boards			
E.2.B.3 Each member board consults with communities on regional TAH as required by their respective land	Member boards	Summary of input / guidance from communities and related revisions			

¹⁴ The processes for determining Total Allowable Harvests and regional allocations are described in Appendix F.

claim agreements (including public hearings as required by respective land claim agreements)					
E.2.B.4 Boards recommend TAH to Wildlife Boards		Recommendations provided			
E – 3. Prioritize the collection of harvest information (see F – 1. Develop harvest monitoring program) <i>Objective – record accurate harvest information</i>					
E.3.1 Assess status of harvest reporting programs (see F – Monitoring) and identify any roadblocks / challenges to success	ACCWM WG with government partners and regional partners	Review report of existing programs		Top	
E.3.2 Based on E.2.B.1-3, work with communities / partners to identify what additional support or cooperation is needed, and how best to provide it		Regional workshops as required			
E.3.3 Adjust educational programming or communication plan if required		Revised materials, as needed			

(see A - Education)					
E – 4. Recommend harvest of alternate species and meat replacement programs, and encourage increased sharing, trade and barter of traditional foods					
<i>Objective – explore other species to harvest to reduce pressure on caribou</i>					
E.4.1 Based on available information, identify alternate species populations whose status allows increases in harvest	ACCWM WG with government partners	List and rationale of potential alternate species / populations			<p>Ongoing work as part of community-based planning programs</p> <p>Alternate harvests are being promoted regionally. In Nunavut there is a program to subsidize harvesting in Muskox, in the Sahtú alternate species are promoted for harvesting the GRRB is discussing options for commercial harvests.</p>
E.4.2 Engage community organizations to determine regionally appropriate species / populations and options for meat replacement programs	ACCWM WG	Summary of input / guidance from communities and related revisions			Ongoing
E.4.3 Based on information resulting from E.4.1 and E.4.2, develop list of regionally appropriate alternate species for harvest and options for meat		List of alternate species and meat replacement options			

replacement programs					
E.4.4 ACCWM reviews list and provides advice to member boards	ACCWM	Advice provided to member boards			
E.4.5 Member boards recommend alternate species populations and / or meat replacement programs to users. Collaborate with partners to recommend the development and funding of harvest or sharing programs (may include trade and barter, community hunts or freezers, etc.)	Member boards	Recommendations provided			
E.4.6 Adapt existing Communication Plan and educational materials to better promote use of alternate species and meat	Education and Communication Working Group	Draft communication plan and education materials			

replacement programs (see A – Education and Appendix C)					
E – 5. Recommend increased enforcement including community monitors (see footnote clarifying monitoring and enforcement responsibilities at C – 4).					
<i>Objective – maximize approaches and tools to ensure compliance of regulations</i>					
E.5.1 Identify relevant agencies involved in inspection, enforcement and monitoring, and prepare summary of regulations and policies they are operating from	ACCWM WG and other relevant agencies / partners	List of relevant agencies, regulations, and policies including summary	2017/18 2018/19	Top	Ongoing.
E.5.2 Engage community organizations and enforcement officers regarding enforcement approaches	ACCWM WG	Summary of input / guidance	2017/18 2018/19	Top	Ongoing.
E.5.3 Assess if current enforcement approaches and levels are adequate. Evaluate capacity, roles and opportunities (e.g., for community	ACCWM WG and regional partners	Summary report	2018/19	Top	

monitors)					
E.5.4 Based on information from E.5.1 - E.5.3, provide advice to member boards about increased enforcement and/or regulation changes as required	ACCWM	Advice provided to member boards	2018/19	Top	
E.5.5 Member boards provide recommendations to government	Member boards	Recommendations provided	2018/19	Top	
E.5.6 Engage partners to assist in training and implementing community monitoring programs	ACCWM WG	Funding plan, training program	2018/19	Top	

F. Monitoring					
F – 1. Develop a comprehensive harvest reporting program					
<i>Objective – develop or adapt existing harvest reporting programs to collect and provide standardized harvest data from all regions</i>					
Task	Partners	Performance Measure	Deliverable date	Priority level	Status
F.1.1 Compile and review information on existing harvest reporting	ACCWM WG	Summary report	2017/18 2018/19	Top	Ongoing.

programs and develop minimum standards					
F.1.2 Engage community organizations regarding appropriate programs for harvest data collection		Summary report	2018/19	Top	Ongoing.
F.1.3. Adapt harvest reporting programs based on information from F.1.1 and F.1.2. to standardize harvest data		Finalized harvest reporting program	2018/19	Top	
F.1.4 Implement harvest data collection program	Member boards and government partners	Collections initiated	2018/19	Top	
F.1.5 Establish annual data reporting template		Template	2018/19	Top	
F.1.6 Adapt and / or develop database and protocols		Pilot database program developed	2018/19	Top	
F.1.7 Gather, compile and present total herd harvest data to ACCWM	ACCWM WG	Summary report	2018/19	Top	Ongoing.

F – 2. Develop and initiate community-based monitoring (CBM) programs (including observational and experiential data)

<i>Objective – develop or adapt existing community-based monitoring programs to collect data in a format that can be used for decision-making</i>					
F.2.1 Compile and review information on existing community-based monitoring programs	ACCWM WG	Summary report			
F.2.2 Compile existing traditional knowledge documentation and identify any new documentation / work required as basis for a community-based monitoring program	ACCWM WG with regional partners	Draft 'state of traditional knowledge' report(s)			
F.2.3 Engage community organizations regarding appropriate programs for community-based monitoring to collect herd status information (see Table 1 in <i>Taking Care of Caribou</i>)	ACCWM WG	Summary of input / guidance from communities			
F.2.4 Adapt and / or develop CBM program(s) based		Finalized CBM program			

on information from F.2.1-3					
F.2.5 Recommend appropriate CBM programs including traditional knowledge studies	Member boards	Recommendations provided			
F.2.6 Establish data-sharing arrangements and / or information-sharing protocols	Member boards and regional partners	Signed data-sharing agreements			
F.2.7 Adapt and / or develop database	ACCWM WG	Database program developed			
F.2.8 Gather, compile and present results to ACCWM	Regional partners	Summary report	Annual ACCWM meeting		
F – 3. Conduct scientific monitoring to assess herd status <i>Objective – develop or adapt existing scientific monitoring programs to collect data in a format that can be used for decision-making</i>					
F.3.1 Compile and review information on existing scientific monitoring programs	Government partners and regional partners	Summary report		Top	
F.3.2 Engage community organizations regarding appropriate programs for scientific	ACCWM WG	Summary of input / guidance from communities		Top	

monitoring to collect herd status information (see also F.2.3) and appropriate ways to collaborate					
F.3.3 Research and develop mechanism for collaboration between regions, compiling information and reporting on research programs	ACCWM to determine responsible parties	Decide on mechanism for collaboration		Top	
F.3.4 Construct scientific monitoring schedule based on engagement and Table 1 in <i>Taking Care of Caribou</i>	ACCWM WG	Annual report / work plan	Annual status meeting	Top	
F.3.5 Support appropriate scientific monitoring studies	Member boards	Approval by member boards	Annual status meeting	Top	
F.3.6 Establish information sharing protocols	Government partners	Information shared according to protocol		Top	Member boards & ACCWM will ask for clarity on releasing scientific information.
F.3.7 Gather, compile and present results to ACCWM		Status of all monitoring criteria communicated	Annual status meeting	Top	

		to the ACCWM			
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Acronyms used in this Plan

ACCWM (WG)	Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management (Working Group)
CI	Confidence Interval
DoE	Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut
ENR	Department of Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT
GN	Government of Nunavut
GNWT	Government of the Northwest Territories
GRRB	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
HTC	Hunters and Trappers Committee
HTO	Hunters and Trappers Organization
ISR	Inuvialuit Settlement Region
NWMB	Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
NWT	Northwest Territories
PCA	Parks Canada Agency
RRC	Renewable Resources Council
SE	Standard Error
TAH	Total Allowable Harvest
TG	Tłıchq Government
TNNPMB	Tuktut Nogait National Park Management Board
TOR	Terms of Reference
WEMP	Wildlife Effects Monitoring Plan
WMAC (NWT)	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Northwest Territories)
WWHPP	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Protection Plans

Appendix A: List of ACCWM Working Group members

The ACCWM formed a working group to draft the Action Plans that accompany the *Taking Care of Caribou* Management Plan. The Working Group included representatives of the following organizations:

- ʔehdzo Got'Inę Gots'ę Nákedı (Sahtú Renewable Resources Board)
- Dehcho First Nations¹⁵
- Department of the Environment, Government of Nunavut
- Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), GNWT
- Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
- Inuvialuit Game Council
- Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board
- Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Organization (Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association)
- Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
- Parks Canada Agency
- Tłı̄chq̄ Government
- Tukturnogait National Park Management Board
- Wek'èezhı̄ Renewable Resources Board
- Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT).

¹⁵ The Dehcho First Nations organization is part of the Working Group, but has had very limited involvement. There is an outstanding invitation for them to join the ACCWM.

Appendix B: Summary table of management actions presented in *Taking Care of Caribou*

Management Actions Based on Herd Status/Colour Zone				
Management Action	The population level is intermediate and increasing	The population level is high	The population level is intermediate and decreasing	The population level is low
Education	<p>Recommend education programs for all status levels. Ideas for educational themes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting total use of harvested caribou, and proper butchering and storage methods; • Limiting wounding loss; • Letting the leaders pass; • Promoting community hunts with experienced hunters; • Use of alternate species; and • Increased sharing of traditional foods. 			
Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and recommend protection for key habitat areas; • Review results of monitoring, including cumulative effects, to ensure enough habitat is available and caribou are able to move between areas of good habitat; • Recommend important habitat as a 'value at risk' for forest fire management. 			
Land use activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review results of cumulative effects monitoring programs; • Provide advice on mitigation of industrial impacts to proponents and regulators. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review results of cumulative effects monitoring programs; • Provide advice on mitigation of the impacts of exploration and development activities to proponents and regulators. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review results of cumulative effects monitoring programs; • Provide advice on mitigation of industrial impacts to proponents and regulators; • Provide active and accessible communication and recommend education programs for all including proponents and airlines; • Recommend increased enforcement of land use regulations, including community monitors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work directly with proponents and regulators of exploration and development activities to advise on mitigation measures; • Review results of cumulative effects monitoring programs; • Provide active and accessible communication and recommend education programs for all including proponents and airlines; • Recommend increased enforcement of land use regulations, including community monitors.

Management Actions Based on Herd Status/Colour Zone

Management Action	The population level is intermediate and increasing	The population level is high	The population level is intermediate and decreasing	The population level is low
Predators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue research programs to monitor predator condition (e.g., carcass collection and community monitoring programs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue research programs to monitor predator condition (e.g., carcass collection and community monitoring programs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review results of research programs that monitor predator abundance and predation rates; Consider recommending options for predator management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review results of research programs that monitor predator abundance and predation rates; Consider recommending options for predator management.
Harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend easing limits on subsistence and then resident harvests ; Consider recommending outfitter and commercial harvests at discretion of the ACCWM. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support harvest by beneficiaries of a Land Claim and members of an Aboriginal people, with rights to harvest wildlife in the Region; Recommend that if subsistence needs are met resident harvest should be permitted (with limits); Potentially recommend resident (non-beneficiary), non-resident, sport hunts, and/or commercial harvests. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend a mandatory limit on subsistence harvest based on a TAH accepted by the ACCWM; Prioritize the collection of harvest information; Recommend no resident, outfitter or commercial harvest; Recommend a majority-bulls harvest, emphasizing younger and smaller bulls and not the large breeders and leaders; Recommend harvest of alternate species and encourage increased sharing, trade and barter of traditional foods, such as the use of community freezers; Recommend increased enforcement including community monitors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend harvest of alternate species and meat replacement programs, and encourage increased sharing, trade and barter of traditional foods; Prioritize the collection of harvest information; Review of mandatory limit for subsistence harvest for further reduction; Recommend increased enforcement including community monitors; Resident, commercial, or outfitter harvest remain closed.