

ACCWM Meets to Discuss Bluenose Caribou Herds' Status & Management Actions

Inuvik, NT (December 2, 2016) – The Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management (ACCWM) met November 29 to December 1, 2016 in Inuvik to discuss and determine herd status and management actions under the framework of the *Taking Care of Caribou: The Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West, and Bluenose-East Barren-ground Caribou Herds Management Plan* (http://www.grrb.nt.ca/pdf/wildlife/caribou/CB_BNW_BNE_Mgmt_Plan_FINAL.pdf).

The meetings were open to the public, and both scientific and community-based monitoring information was reviewed. The ACCWM then went in-camera to discuss herd status and associated management actions for each of the herds in 2017/18. An action plan for each herd is being finalized based on information provided at the meeting and will be submitted to each Member Board of the ACCWM for review and approval. .

Following formal approval by the Member Boards, action plans for the Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West and Bluenose-East herds will be submitted to governments for implementation.

Background:

The ACCWM 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 the following Member Boards: Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT), Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board, ʔehdzo Got'ıne Gots'ę Nákedı (Sahtú Renewable Resources Board), Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, and Tukturnogait National Park Management Board.

The *Taking Care of Caribou: The Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West, and Bluenose-East Barren-ground Caribou Herds Management Plan* was developed by the ACCWM from 2009 to 2014 with input from most of the communities that harvest from the three herds. The ultimate goal is to ensure that there are caribou today and for future generations. The management goals are to maintain herds within the known natural range of variation, conserve and manage caribou habitat, and ensure that harvesting is respectful and sustainable.

In November 2014, the Taking Care of Caribou Management Plan was submitted to governments in both the NWT and Nunavut. The GNWT accepted the management plan as a guiding document for management of the Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West and Bluenose-East caribou herds in the NWT in June 2015. In January 2016, the ACCWM assessed the herds as Red status: Cape Bathurst and Orange status: Bluenose-West and Bluenose-East.



For more information, please contact the meeting co-hosts:
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