

Ministre des Affaires autochtones  
et du développement du Nord



Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and  
Northern Development

AOUT 23 2011

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

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Mr. J. Grant Pryznyk  
Interim Chair  
Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board  
102A, 4504 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 1A7

Dear Mr. Pryznyk:

This letter is in response to the Recommendation Report related to the Revised Joint Proposal on Caribou Management Actions in Wek'eezhii. The Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board requested the Minister's response to three recommendations on October 12, 2010 and January 28, 2011. I regret the delay in my response.

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada agrees with the intent of the Board's recommendation No. 48: "The Board recommends the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada collaboratively develop best practices for mitigating effects on caribou during calving and post-calving, including the consideration of implementing mobile caribou protection measures." Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada will work with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories as appropriate.

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada agrees with recommendation No. 50: "The Board recommends that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada monitor landscape changes, including fires and industrial exploration and development, to assess potential impacts to caribou habitat." Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada anticipates developing a territory-wide cumulative impacts inventory for this purpose.

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada agrees with the intent of the Board's recommendation No. 57: "The Board recommends that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Tłı̨chǫ Government and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada implement its recommendations no later than January 1, 2011. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Emergency Interim Measures, put into effect on January 1, 2010, should remain in place until then," but Aboriginal Affairs

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and Northern Development Canada notes that this recommendation cannot be implemented by the identified deadline and will work with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Tł'cho Government as appropriate to develop a long-term management approach. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Emergency Interim Measures, put into effect on January 1, 2010, should remain in place until recommendations are implemented.

Should you require more information regarding Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's response to the Recommendation Report related to the Revised Joint Proposal on Caribou Management Actions in Wek'èezhii, please contact Ms. Teresa Joudrie, Director, Renewable Resources and Environment at 867-669-2647 or by e-mail at [Teresa.Joudrie@inac-ainc.gc.ca](mailto:Teresa.Joudrie@inac-ainc.gc.ca)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Duncan".

John Duncan, PC, MP

c.c.: The Honourable J. Michael Miltenberger, MLA  
Grand Chief Edward Erasmus