

North Slave Metis Alliance Comments - Joint Management Proposal for Sahti (Bluenose-East) Ekwò Herd

Submitted to the WRRB via website, April 15, 2022, 16:54

Please see our comments for the Bathurst herd as they all apply here along with the following:

Harvest monitoring and reporting are essential in building our understanding.

“Low adult and calf survival rates in the Bluenose-East herd at that time suggested that predation may be a key limiting factor” – we are wondering if other hypotheses were considered, such as bad weather or lack of food that could have contributed to this? What evidence was gathered for the various explanations?

“Changes in abundance of migratory barren-ground caribou herds like the Bluenose-East herd likely reflect a combination of factors, potentially including underlying natural cycles, weather in all seasons and a changing climate, predation, harvest, and the cumulative effects of development, including exploration camps, roads and other infrastructure” – is there anything specific being implemented or tested?

The noted stability in the population trend for the Bluenose East herd is encouraging and a good reason to continue the current approach.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

-NSMA