

December 10, 2025

Abbey Wilson
Wildlife Biologist, Carnivores, Wildlife Management Division
Department of Environment and Climate Change
Government of the Northwest Territories
5th Floor Scotia Centre, Yellowknife NT
PO Box 1320, X1A 2L9

<u>Wildlife Research Permit Application – A Predator Health Monitoring Framework Through Diet,</u> <u>Genetics and Parasites</u>

Dear Ms. Wilson:

The Wek'èezhìı Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) has reviewed your Wildlife Research Permit (WRP) application for a dìga (wolf) health monitoring, which studies samples of dìga that have already been collected over the past 15 years. Some of the samples were from dìga harvested within Wek'èezhìı. The WRRB is listed as a partner organization that has been consulted and assisted with this proposal's development.

The WRRB understands the management proposal to include the following monitoring actions for December 8, 2025 to November 11, 2030:

- Use stable isotope analysis of muscle and bone to reconstruct diga diets at different timescales, estimate the proportion of prey species in diets, and identify population specializing on ekwò;
- Identify parasite DNA in diga intestines and feces as well as pathogens and canine viruses that impact diga and ekwò health; and,
- Identify distinct diga genetic units, levels of inbreeding and temporal changes in diversity and reveal dynamics of diga populations by relating genetic analysis to diet and parasite analyses.

The WRRB is in support of the permit as written. The WRRB requests results be provided to the Board upon completion of work.

Please feel free to give us a call with any questions you might have. Sincerely,

Jody Pellissey
Executive Director

Cc Stephanie Behrens

Manager, Lands Protection & Enewable Resources

Department of Culture and Lands Protection, Tłycho Government

Rhona Kindopp, Director Wildlife Management, Environment & Climate Change, GNWT