



September 22, 2022

Heather Sayine-Crawford, Director
Wildlife and Fish Division
Environment and Natural Resources
Government of the Northwest Territories
Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9
Email: heather_sayine-crawford@gov.nt.ca

Via Email
heather_sayine-crawford@gov.nt.ca

Re: Kòk'èetì Ekwò (Bathurst Caribou) 2022 Action Plan

Dear Ms. Sayine-Crawford:

The Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) has a mandate for wildlife, plants, forests, and protected areas in Wek'èezhì and adheres to the principles and practices of conservation in fulfilling its duties. The Board makes decisions and recommendations on an ecosystemic basis using Tłchq knowledge, science, and expert opinion. At its recent September 2022 meeting, the Board reviewed the *Annual Review on Bathurst Caribou – 2022 Action Plan*, which was submitted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), Government of the Northwest Territories as a wildlife management proposal on August 16, 2022.

The WRRB understands that the main goal of the 2022 Action Plan, which was developed collaboratively by the Bathurst Caribou Advisory Committee (BCAC) at its 2021 Annual Review, is to determine the Kòk'èetì Ekwò herd's status based all relevant Indigenous, community, and scientific information shared and recommend management responses for the coming year. The Board understands that BCAC determined the herd status to be "critical low" and recommended a suite of managements actions for harvest, predators, research and monitoring, habitat and disturbance, and communication and education. As such, the WRRB approves the Bathurst Caribou 2022 Action Plan as presented (Motion #825-14-09-2022).

In order to support appropriate implementation in the future, the WRRB recommends that ENR and BCAC develop and submit the annual Action Plan by no later than March 31st of each year. The WRRB looks forward to continuing to work with ENR and BCAC for the management of the Kòk'èetì Ekwò herd. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (867) 873-5740 or jpellissey@wrrb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Judas".

Joseph Judas
Chair

Cc Karin Clark, Manager, Wildlife and Fish Division, Environment & Natural Resources, GNWT
Michael Birlea, Manager, Culture & Lands Protection, Tłchq Government