



February 17, 2021

Judy Williams, Biologist (Ungulate Studies)  
Environment and Natural Resources  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9  
Email: Judy\_Williams@gov.nt.ca

*Via Email*  
*Judy\_Williams@gov.nt.ca*

**Re: Wildlife Research Permit application – Monitoring of the Bathurst, Bluenose-East and Beverly Caribou Herds 2021-2022**

Dear Ms. Williams:

As per section 12.5.1 of the Tł̨ch̨ Agreement, the Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) considers the above-mentioned Wildlife Research Permit (WRP) application for monitoring activities on Bathurst, Bluenose-East and Beverly Caribou Herds as a management proposal.

The WRRB understands the management proposal to include the following monitoring actions from May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022:

- The use of satellite collared caribou to facilitate the monitoring of movement and distribution of migrating caribou on a weekly basis;
- Deployment of approximately 35 collars total with the objective to have a total of 70 collars on both the Bathurst and Bluenose-East herds and 50 on the Beverly herd;
  - 50 collars on cows and 20 on bulls for the Bathurst and Bluenose-East herds;
  - 30 collars on cows and 20 on bulls for the Beverly herd;
- Deployment of collars involves:
  - Net-gunning capture by helicopter (no immobilization drugs will be used);
  - A hired professional capture crew;
  - Handling of caribou to fasten collars;
  - No measurements taken except for blood, hair and fecal samples to assess pregnancy status and for other testing and possible genetic studies; and,
  - Shooting or pithing an animal if it is critically injured;
- July 2021 calf:cow composition survey used to determine calf mortality;
- Late-winter calf survival/spring recruitment surveys (March-April 2022) to measure annual calf survival for the three herds, and to compare herd trends;
- Fall sex-ratio survey for all three herds (October 2022); and,
- June 2021 composition survey, rescheduled from June 2020.

The WRRB has taken a Level 1 review, as outlined in the Board's Rule for Management Proposals. The WRRB has no concerns with the project as presented in your application and looks forward to

receiving results from the upcoming field season (Motion #752-10-02-2021). The Board asks to be contacted if there is any opportunity for Board or staff involvement in your work.

The WRRB requests that upon completion of each monitoring action an update will be provided to the Board. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Judas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joseph Judas  
Chair

Cc Michael Birlea, Manager  
Culture and Lands Protection, Tłıchǵ Government

Heather Sayine-Crawford, A/Director, Wildlife  
Environment and Natural Resources