



May 11, 2010

Grand Chief Joe Rabesca
Tł'chǫ Government
Box 412
Behchokǫ, NT
X0E 0Y0

Hon. Michael Miltenberger
Environment and Natural Resources
Government of the Northwest Territories
Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2L9

Re: Progress Report – Bathurst Caribou Joint Management Proposal

The Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) acknowledges receipt of the required 30 April 2010 progress report on the discussions between Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) and the Tł'chǫ Government (TG) regarding updating the Bathurst Caribou Joint Management Proposal. Following close review of the materials, the WRRB notes that, despite slow progress, fruitful discussions have occurred. Therefore, the Board accepts the progress report as submitted and looks forward to receiving the fully developed joint management proposal on or before 31 May 2010. The WRRB will be reviewing the revised proposal during its next meeting, 8-9 June 2010.

As caribou cannot afford a delay, the WRRB will not accept any requests for extensions past the deadline date. If a revised proposal is not received by 5:00 p.m. on 31 May 2010, the Board will proceed to make all required decisions and recommendations based on the Joint Proposal on Caribou Management Actions in Wek'èezhìi, submitted 5 November 2009 .

The WRRB would like to caution the parties that broad discussions should not be allowed to slow the progress on key issues of importance to the Board, such as harvest limits. As well, the Board refers ENR and TG to its draft Interim Rule for Management Proposals (26 August 2009), which provides direction about the requested content of management proposals. This includes:

- background information on the species and issue;
- rationale for why the action is needed;
- description of the action including target species, timing, location, duration, implementation;
- desired outcomes of the proposed action (and outcomes that are incidental to the action);
- alternatives to the proposed action and reasons why these were rejected;

- consultation undertaken in preparation of the proposal and the results of such consultation;
- any monitoring that is required to assess the efficacy of the actions; and
- relevant supporting documentation, including any history of the project.

The WRRB looks forward to continuing to work on this critical issue with TG and ENR. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (867) 873-5740 or jsnortland@wrrb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Grant Pryznyk".

J. Grant Pryznyk
Interim Chair

Cc Ernie Campbell, Assistant Deputy Minister, ENR
 Susan Fleck, Director of Wildlife, ENR
 Eddie Erasmus, Director, Lands Protections Department, TG
 Bertha Rabesca-Zoe, Legal Counsel, TG