

February 18, 2022

Tammy Steinwand-Deschambeault, Director
Department of Culture & Lands Protection
Tłıchǫ Government
Email: tammy.steinwand@tlicho.ca

Via Email
tammy.steinwand@tlicho.ca
Bruno_Croft@gov.nt.ca

Bruno Croft, Superintendent, North Slave Region
Environment and Natural Resources
Government of the Northwest Territories
Email: Bruno_Croft@gov.nt.ca

Re: Joint Management Proposal for Kòk'èetı (Bathurst) Ekwò Herd

Dear Ms. Steinwand-Deschambeault and Mr. Croft:

As per section 12.5.1 of the Tłıchǫ Agreement, the Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) considers the above-mentioned proposal, submitted by the Tłıchǫ Government (TG) and the Government of the Northwest Territories, (GNWT) on January 28, 2022, a wildlife management proposal. The Board understands the short-term goals of the management proposal are to halt the Kòk'èetı Ekwò herd's decline and promote recovery while working towards the longer-term goal of enabling a sustainable caribou harvest that addresses Indigenous community's needs levels across the Kòk'èetı herd's range.

The WRRB understands the joint management proposal to include management and monitoring actions in the following areas for July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2024: 1) harvest management, 2) dıga (wolf) management, 3) habitat and land use, 4) education, and 5) monitoring and research.

Based on the WRRB's Rule for Management Proposals, the WRRB has determined to undertake a modified Level 1 review (Motion #803-08-02-2022). This review will include the following:

- The joint management proposal will be posted to the WRRB's website on the Management Proposals page (<https://www.wrrb.ca/management-proposals>) from February 18, 2022 to April 15, 2022. This will allow sufficient time for interested Parties and the general public to provide comment. Any documents, including correspondence, will be added as related attachments.
- All interested Parties will be contacted and invited to comment on the joint management proposal via the WRRB website.
- The Board will review and make its final recommendations regarding the joint management proposal at their May 2022 board meeting.

To assist the Board in making its final recommendations in May 2022, the WRRB requests that TG and GNWT provide the following information by no later than March 7, 2022:

1. With the heavy mixing of the Kòk'èetı and Beverly Ekwò herds, the Board requests

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information about the overall trends of the Beverly herd in Wek'èezhì as it relates to the Kòk'èetì herd.

2. Please clarify whether a population estimate will occur in 2022 and in 2023 for the Kòk'èetì Ekwò herd. Additionally, please clarify when the next population estimate will occur for the Beverly herd.
3. To assist with communications and understanding, please develop and share in each Tìchò community a plain-language summary and/or poster of the joint management proposal.

The Board staff may approach TG and GNWT staff with additional questions and clarifications prior to the May 2022 board meeting.

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 fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joseph" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Judas".

Joseph Judas
Chair

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

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