

August 19, 2024

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

Via Email
tammy.steinwand@tlicho.ca
heather_sayine-crawford@gov.nt.ca

Heather Sayine-Crawford, Director
Environment and Climate Change
Government of the Northwest Territories
Email: heather_sayine-crawford@gov.nt.ca

Re: Joint Management Proposal for Sahtı̨ (Bluenose-East) Ekwò Herd

Dear Ms. Steinwand-Deschambeault and Ms. Sayine-Crawford:

As per section 12.5.1 of the Tłı̨chǫ Agreement, the Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) considers the above-mentioned proposal, submitted by the Tłı̨chǫ Government (TG) and the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) on August 1, 2024, a wildlife management proposal.

The WRRB understands the short-term goal of the joint management proposal is to promote conditions that will allow for the continued recovery of the Sahtı̨ Ekwò herd while working towards the longer-term goal of enabling a sustainable caribou harvest that meets the needs of Indigenous communities across the Sahtı̨ herd's range. Further, the Board understands the joint management proposal to include management and monitoring actions in the following categories, as defined in the *Taking Care of Caribou Management Plan*, for December 2024 to July 2026: 1) harvest, 2) predators, 3) land use and habitat, 4) education, and 5) monitoring and research.

Following review of the joint management proposal, and based on the WRRB's Rule for Management Proposals, the WRRB has determined to undertake a modified Level 1 review (Motion #932-13-08-2024). As such, the Board will open the 2024 Sahtı̨ Ekwò Management Proceeding on August 19, 2024, including the establishment of a public registry on the WRRB's website (<https://www.wrrb.ca/public-information/public-registry>). A public notice of proceeding along with a schedule is attached for your information. The Board will review and make its final recommendations regarding the joint management proposal at their December 2024 board meeting. A final Reasons for Decision Report will be submitted to TG and GNWT by no later than January 15, 2025.

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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

Attachment

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

Dr. Brett Elkin, Assistant Deputy Minister, Director, Wildlife and Forest Management
Environment and Climate Change, Government of the Northwest Territories