



## NOTICE OF SCIENCE TECHNICAL SESSION – DÌGA (WOLF) MANAGEMENT

On January 31, 2020, Environment & Natural Resources (ENR), Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and Tłıchǵ Government (TG) submitted a joint management proposal, entitled “Joint Proposal on Management Actions for Wolves (dìga) on the Bathurst and Bluenose-East Barren-ground Caribou (ǵekwǵ) Herd Winter Ranges: 2020 – 2025” (“the Proposal”). Following an initial assessment of the Proposal, the WRRB determined that a Level 2 review was appropriate. Therefore, on March 2, 2020, the Board established a proceeding and an online public registry.

On March 9, 2020, after hearing from the GNWT and TG, the WRRB held an emergency meeting and revised the procedure to be used to review the Proposal. The WRRB decided to amend its procedure for the review of the 2020 dìga management actions as proposed in the dìga joint management proposal to a Level 1 review. The Board decided to treat the 2020 dìga management actions as a pilot project only, and, as such, approved the proposed 2020 dìga management actions in the Proposal.

The Board requested that the GNWT and TG resubmit the dìga management actions proposed for 2021-2025 in the Proposal for a Level 2 review with the inclusion of lessons learned from the implementation of the 2020 management actions. On August 25, 2020, GNWT and TG submitted a revised joint management proposal, entitled “Revised Joint Proposal on Management Actions for Wolves (dìga) on the Bathurst and Bluenose-East Barren-ground Caribou (ǵekwǵ) Herd Winter Ranges: 2021 – 2024” (“the Revised Proposal”). Based on the WRRB’s Rule for Management Proposals, the Board deems a Level 2 Proceeding to be sufficient to serve the public interest.

The WRRB wishes to advise that its Science Technical Session related to the 2020 Wolf Management Proceeding is scheduled for **October 5, 2020, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. MDT**, hosted online through Zoom. Invitations to the Zoom meeting will be sent to participants prior to the technical session or can be requested by emailing [info@wrrb.ca](mailto:info@wrrb.ca). Topics of discussion will include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. The projected effects on caribou, based on PR (Wolf 2020): 019 - Summary Caribou Population Modeling of Varying Levels of Wolf Removal, and scenarios with a higher wolf abundance.
2. Estimating wolf numbers, including the Ungulate Biomass Indicator and its sensitivity to wolf removals and alternate prey. Options for additional methods.
3. Herd assignment of wolf removals and herd overlap, including discussion on how to reduce uncertainty and the wolf collaring program.
4. The effectiveness of ground harvesting in removing wolves assigned to Bathurst or Bluenose East herds and how to increase effectiveness.
5. Discussion of the program's adaptive management, including the precision and accuracy of candidate indicators and how to identify benchmarks.

Documents posted to the Public Registry for the 2020 Wolf Management Proceeding can be viewed at: [www.wrrb.ca](http://www.wrrb.ca).

**If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:**

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