



Northwest Territories Environment and Natural Resources

Mr. Alfonz Nitsiza
Chair
Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board
Tlicho Government
WHATI, NT X0E 1P0

JAN 18 2007

FAX: 1-867-573-3222

Dear Mr. Nitsiza:

Proposal on Bathurst Caribou Herd Management Actions

I am writing to follow up on my letter of January 8, 2007 regarding the decision, on an interim basis, by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) to set the available Big Game hunting tags for Barten Ground Caribou in Unit "R" at a total of 750 tags for 2007. Outfitters have provided comments to the Department on this proposal which recommended a proportional allocation. Based on these comments and discussions with the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment, the Department is intending to proceed with a revised allocation of the 750 tags for 2007 for Unit "R" as follows:

1. Tags will be allocated on an equitable basis as has been the practice in the past whereby the same number of tags are reserved for each licence. The two-tag system will remain in place for the 2007 season.
2. Non-HTA outfitting licences - After May 15, 2007, whatever pool remains for the non-HTA outfitting licences will be allocated by the Department as per the existing process.

Outfitters will be advised that information provided to date on hunts booked suggests it is unlikely the pool will meet all additional needs. It will be strongly suggested that any bookings made that exceed the number of reserved tags per non-HTA outfitting licence should be on a conditional basis.

3. HTA outfitting licences - As per existing regulations, these tags will not be available to put into the pool for non-HTA outfitting licences.

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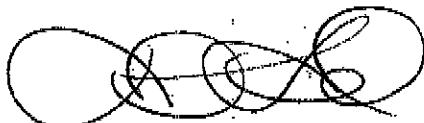


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We appreciate that the board is reviewing and consulting on the December 15, 2006 proposal submitted by the Department of ENR on management actions to limit harvest of the Bathurst herd. However, outfitters have indicated they urgently require direction regarding tag limits for 2007 so they may complete bookings and plan for the 2007 season. I intend to finalize a decision on the allocation to individual outfitters of the 2007 tag limit of 750 for Unit "R" shortly. I would appreciate a response from the Board by January 26, 2007 acknowledging this interim step so that we may inform the outfitters before the end of January.

Finally, a letter was sent on January 8, 2007 to the NWT Barren-ground Caribou Outfitters Association indicating that decisions on tags available for 2008 and future years will be based on recommendations from the Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) which I expect to receive prior to June 2007.

Sincerely,



Michael McLeod
Minister

c Honourable Joseph L. Handley
Premier

Honourable Brendan Bell
Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment

Mr. Rob Marshall
Executive Director, Wek'eezhil Renewable Resources Board
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