



Grand Chief George Mackenzie
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NOV 26 2019

Mr. Joseph Judas, Chair
Wek'èezhii Renewable Resources Board
4504 49TH AVENUE
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Dear Grand Chief Mackenzie and Mr. Judas:

**Initial Response to WRRB Reasons for Decision Final Report – Kòk'èetì ekwò
(Bathurst Caribou) Herd**

The Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) acknowledges receipt of the Wek'èezhii Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) letter dated November 4, 2019. This letter was in regards to the WRRB Reasons for Decision Final Report on the joint ENR and Tłıchų Government joint management proposal on the Bathurst barren-ground caribou herd.

The joint management proposal was developed collaboratively by the Tłıchų Government and ENR, and reflects our commitment to work together in the spirit of co-management. The two governments are working together on a final joint response to the WRRB's Final Report, which will include a formal response to Recommendation #17-2019 on the development of an adaptive management framework led by the WRRB.

In light of the letter from the Tłıchų Government to the WRRB dated October 31, 2019, ENR would like to reaffirm its willingness to work collaboratively with the Tłıchų Government and the WRRB on the development of adaptive management frameworks for the Bluenose-East and Bathurst barren-ground caribou herds.

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Technical staff from ENR will continue to work with the WRRB and the Barren-ground Caribou Technical Working Group throughout all stages of this process.

Sincerely,



Dr. Erin Kelly
A/Deputy Minister
Environment and Natural Resources

- c. Dr. Brett Elkin
A/Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations
Environment and Natural Resources

Ms. Laura Duncan
Tłchq Executive Officer
Tłchq Government

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Executive Director
Wek'èezhli Renewable Resources Board

Mr. Bruno Croft
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Ms. Tammy Steinwand-Deschambeault
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