



December 14, 2009

Gary Bohnet, Deputy Minister
GNWT-Environment and Natural Resources
Yellowknife, NT

Grand Chief Joe Rabesca
Tlicho Government
Bechoko, NT

Re: NSMA Information Requests

Dear Sirs:

Attached are documents from the North Slave Metis Alliance which were received at our office after the deadline set for receipt of information requests from intervenors.

The Board approved submission of these questions to your respective governments for your action and asks that your governments make best efforts to respond to them.

If you have any questions with respect to the above, please do not hesitate to call our office at 873-5740.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Grant Pryznyk
Interim Chair

Cc

Fred Mandeville-ENR

Eddie Erasmus –Tlicho Lands Dept

Jason McNeill-ENR

For Department of Environment and Natural Resources:

- How many barren ground caribou existed in the Northwest Territories each year from 1921 through 1990 and how was this number determined each year?
- What information was collected about sex and age for each year, and what trends are evident?
- How many barren ground caribou existed in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut each year from 1990 through 2009 and how was this number determined each year?
- What was the variance or margin of error for the estimated caribou populations for each year from 1921 through 2009?
- What efforts has the Government of the Northwest Territories made each year to collaborate with other Governments and Aboriginal Peoples responsible for the management of trans-boundary barren ground caribou herds?
- How many collars have been placed on caribou in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut in each of the past 50 years?
- How long is a collar expected to remain on a caribou and provide useful information?
- How often does a collar fall off prematurely and how has this affected survey results?
- How many times has a collared caribou calved in a different calving ground during the time period while wearing an active collar?
- In which years have all the barren ground caribou herds been surveyed at the same time?
- What do we know about the changes in range of male caribou from year to year, for each year between 1921 and 2009?
- How does the current caribou population decline compare to the declines of the 1950s and the 1980s in terms of speed and duration of decline and in confidence in survey results?
- How many commercial caribou tags have been issued in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut each year between 1921 and 2009?
- How many resident and non-resident sport hunters caribou tags have been issued each year in the NWT and Nunavut between 1921 and 2009?
- How many caribou have been harvested in northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba each year between 1921 and 2009?
- What mitigation is proposed to counteract the negative economic, cultural and health impacts to North Slave Métis if our harvest of caribou must be reduced or displaced?
- Documentation of all consultation that ENR has engaged in with regards to the management of barren ground caribou since 1921 to present day, broken down by Aboriginal People and stating whether or not capacity funding was provided and how much to each Aboriginal People each year.
- What has been the population of predators including insects each year from 1921 to present and do recent predator populations potentially account for the number of missing caribou? What is the error in the estimated predation mortality?
- Where are the remains of the missing caribou and what evidence do the remains show regarding the cause of death?
- What efforts have been made to quantify the aboriginal harvest and how have these efforts been funded?
- Does ENR intend to obtain the harvest information on indigenous Métis harvesters and if so how?

- In what way does ENR monitor the effects of mineral exploration and other transportation activities on the barren ground caribou? How long has this monitoring been done and what knowledge has been gained.
- How does ENR propose to require Indigenous Métis to report their harvest information and to whom? How will this work be funded?
- In what way does ENR propose that Indigenous Métis should be educated regarding traditional and ethical harvesting practices? How will this work be funded?

For Tłıchǫ Government

- How many caribou occupied Wek'èezhii each fall from 1921 through 2009?
- How many caribou occupied Wek'èezhii each winter from 1921 through 2009?
- How have these numbers been estimated and how precise are the estimates?
- What efforts has the Tłıchǫ Government made to consult with the indigenous North Slave Métis regarding caribou management in the portion of the North Slave Métis Traditional Territory which overlaps with Wek'èezhii?
- How does the Tłıchǫ Government propose to require Indigenous Métis to report their harvest information and to whom and how is it to be funded?
- What information does the Tłıchǫ Government have about Tłıchǫ citizen harvesting?
- In what way does the Tłıchǫ Government propose that Indigenous Métis should be educated regarding traditional and ethical harvesting practices by whom and paid for how?