

December 18, 2023

Stefan Goodman, Regional Wildlife Technician III Department of Environment and Climate Change Government of the Northwest Territories 3803 Bretzlaff Drive Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P9 Via Email

Stefan_Goodman@gov.nt.ca

Re: Wildlife Research Permit application – Muskox Surveys North Slave Region March 2024

Dear Mr. Goodman:

As per section 12.5.1 of the Tłıcho Agreement, the Wek'èezhiı Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) considers the above-mentioned Wildlife Research Permit (WRP) application for muskox surveys in the North Slave Region as a management proposal.

The WRRB understands the management proposal to include the following monitoring actions for February 2024 – March 2025:

- Survey muskox using two fixed-wing aircraft in the majority of the study area;
- Four observers are planned to come from Łutsël K'é fir the larger survey;
- Survey using one fixed-wing aircraft in a smaller portion of the study area;
- Strip-transect and distance sampling methods will be used to test methods that can be used south of the treeline in the smaller survey;
- Photographs of muskoxen will be taken to test if sex and age can be determined aerially in the smaller survey; and,
- Muskox abundance and distribution information will be gathered through the combined larger and smaller survey areas.

The WRRB has no concerns with the project as presented in your application and looks forward to receiving results from the upcoming field season. The Board asks to be contacted if there is any opportunity for Board or staff involvement in your work.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call our office.

Sincerely,

Joseph Judas Chair

Cc Michael Birlea, Manager, Culture and Lands Protection, Thcho Government Heather Sayine-Crawford, Director, Wildlife Management, Environment & Climate Change