

September 2, 2021

Karin Clark, Manager Wildlife and Fish Division Environment and Natural Resources Government of the Northwest Territories Box 1320 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Via Email Karin_Clark@gov.nt.ca

Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9 Email: <u>Karin Clark@gov.nt.ca</u>

Re: Kok'èetì Ekwò (Bathurst Caribou) Management Plan

Dear Ms. Clark:

The Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) has a mandate for wildlife, plants, forests, and protected areas in Wek'èezhìi and adheres to the principles and practices of conservation in fulfilling its duties. The Board makes decisions and recommendations on an ecosystemic basis using Tłįchǫ knowledge, science, and expert opinion. At its recent September 2021 meeting, the Board reviewed the *Bathurst Caribou Management Plan* (BCMP) and the *Bathurst Caribou Management Plan* | *What We Heard Summary*, which were submitted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), Government of the Northwest Territories as a wildlife management proposal on August 20, 2021.

The WRRB understands that the main goal of the BCMP, which was developed collaboratively by the Bathurst Caribou Advisory Committee (BCAC), is to guide the short-term recovery and long-term resilience of the Kok'èetì Ekwô herd through management actions related to harvest, habitat and range management, predator relationships, research and monitoring, and communication and education. Further, the Board understands that the status of Kok'èetì Ekwô will be determined annually by BCAC through discussion of all relevant Indigenous, community, and scientific information for the herd. As such, the WRRB approves the Bathurst Caribou Management Plan as presented (Motion #780-01-09-2021).

The WRRB encourages ENR and BCAC to implement the BCMP as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (867) 873-5740 or jpellissey@wrrb.ca.

Sincerely,

Joseph Judas Chair

Cc Heather Sayine-Crawford, Director, Wildlife Environment & Natural Resources, GNWT

Michael Birlea, Manager Culture & Lands Protection, Tłıcho Government