

December 18, 2023

Allicia Kelly, TASR Environmental Assessment Biologist Department of Environment & Climate Change Government of the Northwest Territories
Box 1320 600, 5102 – 50th Ave
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Via Email Allicia_Kelly@gov.nt.ca

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Re: Wildlife Research Permit application – Boreal caribou and wolf monitoring program for the Theho All-Season Road Project 2024-27

Dear Ms. Kelly:

As per section 12.5.1 of the Tłįchǫ Agreement, the Wek'èezhìı Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) considers the above-mentioned Wildlife Research Permit (WRP) application for monitoring activities for the Tłįchǫ All-Season Road as a management proposal.

The WRRB understands the management proposal to include the following monitoring actions for February 2024 – February 2027:

- Deploy up to 10 GPS collars on todzi in the TASR study area and up to 3 GPS collars on todzi in the northern portion of the Mackenzie study area annually;
- Deploy up to 5 GPS collars on diga in the North Slave portion of the todzı range total;
- Conduct an aerial todzı classification survey in late winter each year;
- Investigate mortalities of collared animals to determine cause of death, and opportunistically collect and analyze biological specimens; and,
- For up to 5 collared todzı per year, add acoustic devices on their collars, which will detach after 5 months. These will record calf survival, feeding, nursing, and resting patterns.

The WRRB has taken a Level 1 review, as outlined in the Board's Rule for Management Proposals. The WRRB has no concerns with the project as presented in your application and looks forward to receiving results from the upcoming field season (Motion #894-15-12-2023). The Board asks to be contacted if there is any opportunity for Board or staff involvement in your work.

The WRRB requests that upon completion of each monitoring action an update will be provided to the Board. 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