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HAVE YOUR SAY! ON A RECOVERY STRATEGY FOR **DOLPHIN AND UNION CARIBOU**

As an **Endangered** species in the NWT, Dolphin and Union caribou are facing imminent extinction—they could be gone from the NWT in our lifetimes.



DOLPHIN AND UNION CARIBOU

Dolphin and Union caribou are the only caribou with a seasonal lifecycle that depends on a twice annual migration across the sea ice between Victoria Island and the mainland. Unstable sea ice and weather changes due to climate change are affecting their migration, distribution, and access to food.

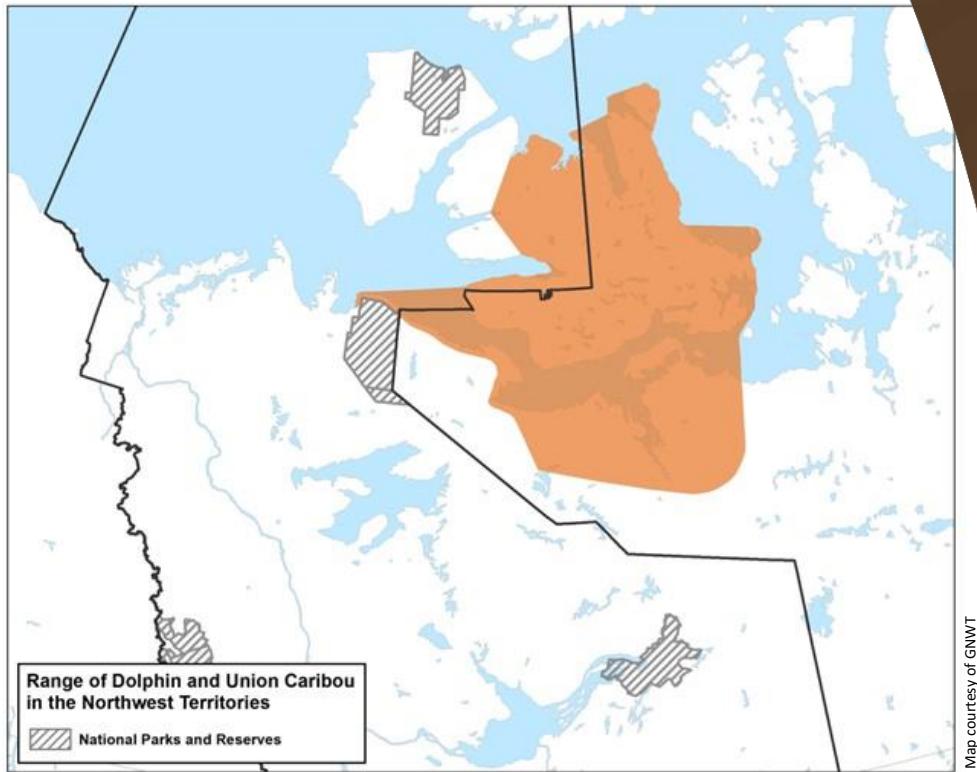
Inuvialuit and Inuit have depended on caribou for millennia. However, numbers of Dolphin and Union caribou have declined steeply since 1997. This population decline combined with changes in the distribution of Dolphin and Union caribou are a serious concern for local communities in Nunavut and the NWT.

WHY DO WE NEED A RECOVERY STRATEGY?

A recovery strategy is required for any species listed as **Endangered** under the *Species at Risk (NWT)* Act. It provides long-term guidance on the long-term conservation and recovery of Dolphin and Union caribou.

A management plan is already in place—it was developed collaboratively by Inuvialuit and Inuit organizations and the governments of NWT, Nunavut and Canada, and released in 2018.

The NWT Conference of Management Authorities is adopting the management plan together with an NWT addition, building on the collaborative work that is already underway to conserve and recover Dolphin and Union caribou in the NWT and Nunavut.



An extended range based on Indigenous and community knowledge can be found in the [Species Status Report for Dolphin and Union Caribou in the NWT \(2023\)](#).



To learn more about the recovery strategy, visit: www.nwtspeciesatrisk.ca.

WHAT'S IN THE RECOVERY STRATEGY

The proposed NWT recovery strategy is made up of two parts: the [Management Plan for Dolphin and Union Caribou in the NWT and Nunavut](#) – including its goal, objectives and approaches – and an NWT addition that points to the most recent Indigenous, community and scientific knowledge on Dolphin and Union caribou.

The addition was developed by the [Conference of Management Authorities](#); that is, the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

This approach helps to ensure up-to-date guidance is in place for the recovery of the species while preserving the collaborative and coordinated nature of our NWT-Nunavut approach to Dolphin and Union caribou conservation and management.

WHAT ABOUT HARVESTING?

Communities have taken significant proactive measures to reduce harvest pressure on Dolphin and Union caribou and develop solutions to mitigate the risks of icebreaking activities.

Automatic prohibitions or protections (such as harvesting restrictions or habitat protection) are not part of the proposed recovery strategy.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

- Is there anything missing from the recovery strategy?
- Do you have suggestions to improve the NWT addition (Part 1)?

NWT Species at Risk Secretariat

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