



PHOTO: JAN ADAMCZESKI, ENR



Northern mountain caribou are one of five types of caribou found in the NWT (the others are boreal caribou, barren-ground caribou, Dolphin and Union caribou, and Peary caribou). They are somewhat larger than other types of caribou in the NWT and live in the Mackenzie Mountains area of the territory. There are six herds in the NWT (Bonnet Plume, Redstone, Tay River, South Nahanni, Coal River, and La Biche), all of which are shared with the Yukon.

The NWT Species at Risk Committee (SARC) determined that northern mountain caribou is a species of **Special Concern** in the NWT, reflecting its vulnerability to climate change and human disturbance. Ice patch habitat, used to escape insects and cool down in the summer, is declining noticeably in the Mackenzie and Selwyn mountains in response to climate change. There have been reported population declines in some areas of the range. Other threats, including disrespectful harvesting, recreation activities, and resource development are expected to have measurable negative impacts in significant portions of the range, including within the calving and summering range of the Redstone herd, the largest herd in the NWT.

SARC is an independent group of experts who hold Indigenous, community, and scientific knowledge about species and habitat in the NWT. Their species assessments are based on objective biological criteria and a status report containing the best available information on the species.

Details of the assessment and more information on northern mountain caribou can be found here:

[www.nwt-species-at-risk.ca](http://www.nwt-species-at-risk.ca)

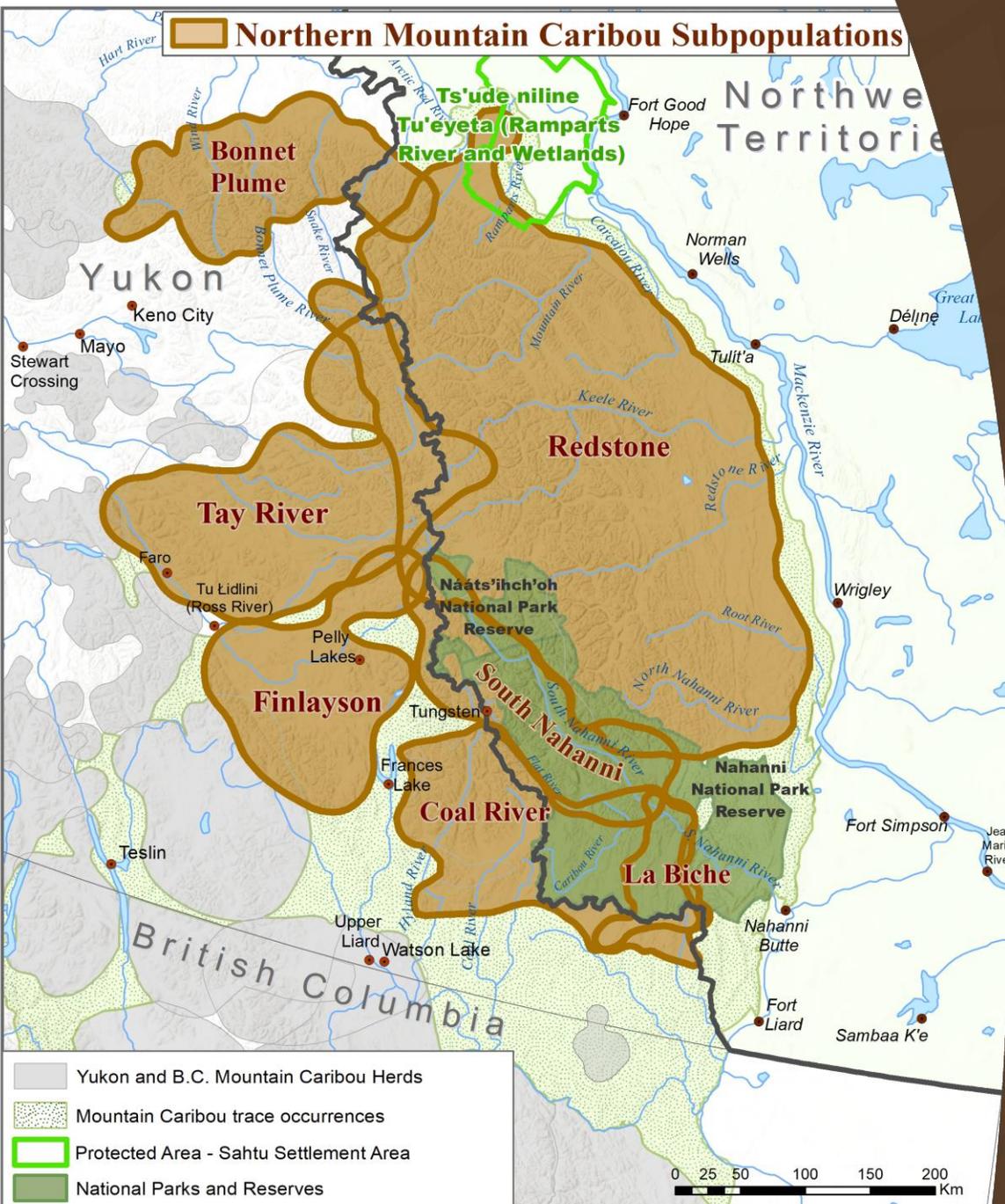
## NORTHWEST TERRITORIES NORTHERN MOUNTAIN CARIBOU

*Vadzaih (Teetl'it/Gwichya Gwich'in), shúhta ʔepé/goʔepé (Shúhtaot'ine), shíhta goʔədá (K'ashógot'ine), bedzih (Shúhta Dene), kudzih (Kaska Dene), mbedzih (Dene Zhatie/Yati)*

### SHOULD NORTHERN MOUNTAIN CARIBOU BE ADDED TO THE NWT LIST OF SPECIES AT RISK AS A SPECIES OF **SPECIAL CONCERN**?

**Special Concern** means that they may become threatened or endangered in the NWT because of limiting biological characteristics and identified threats.





Contact your local NWT renewable resources board OR the NWT Species at Risk Secretariat for more information at [sara@gov.nt.ca](mailto:sara@gov.nt.ca) or toll-free at 1 (855) 783-4301.

## LISTING NORTHERN MOUNTAIN CARIBOU

The legal listing of northern mountain caribou as a species of **Special Concern** in the NWT would mean a management plan would be required within two years of listing. The management plan would recommend objectives and approaches to recover and conserve northern mountain caribou in the NWT. There is already a national management plan and a regional community-based planning process that could help fulfill this requirement.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. There is already management for northern mountain caribou, so how would an NWT listing help?  
*Species at risk status would help focus and track management efforts by requiring management planning, implementation agreements, and regular reviews of progress.*
2. If northern mountain caribou are added to the NWT List of Species at Risk, will harvesting still be allowed?  
*Adding a species to the NWT List of Species at Risk does not mean harvesting must stop. Adding northern mountain caribou to the NWT List of Species at Risk will not automatically change quotas, by-laws, or regulations already in place.*

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

- \*Should northern mountain caribou be added to the NWT List of Species at Risk as a species of Special Concern? Why or why not?
- \*If northern mountain caribou were added to the List, do you think there would be any impacts (positive or negative) from the listing? If so, what?
- \*Is there new or missing information that was not considered in the status report? If so, can you provide it to us or tell us where to find it?