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NORTHERN MOUNTAIN CARIBOU

Northern mountain caribou are larger and darker than barren-ground caribou, with thicker and broader antlers and longer legs. They look the same as boreal caribou but have different habitat preferences and behaviour.

In the Northwest Territories (NWT), northern mountain caribou live in large groups in the Mackenzie Mountains, where they move up or down in elevation depending on the season.

They face threats from climate change, resource development and disrespectful harvesting practices. Loss of key habitat, such as ice patches used to escape insects and cool down in the summer, is already occurring. Increasing mineral exploration is expected to further open access to caribou for hunters and predators.

WHY DO WE NEED A MANAGEMENT PLAN?

- A management plan is required for any species listed as **Special Concern** under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*. Northern mountain caribou were listed in July 2021 and a management plan is required by July 2023.
- The management plan will provide guidance on the management of northern mountain caribou in the long-term.
- Automatic prohibitions or protections (such as harvesting restrictions) are not part of the management plan.
- Management of northern mountain caribou in the NWT is a shared responsibility. Decisions will continue to be made by consensus among governments and wildlife co-management boards.

NWT SPECIES AT RISK HAVE YOUR SAY! ON A DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR NORTHERN MOUNTAIN CARIBOU

As a species of **Special Concern** in the NWT, northern mountain caribou are at risk of becoming Threatened or Endangered due to biological characteristics and/or identified threats.

What actions should be taken now to manage northern mountain caribou?

Do you have suggestions to improve the draft management plan?



WHAT'S IN THE DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

The draft management plan describes existing and potential threats and positive influences to northern mountain caribou in the NWT, as well as recommendations to conserve and manage the species. It was developed by the Conference of Management Authorities—the co-management authorities that share responsibility for northern mountain caribou in the NWT.

The plan is made up of two parts: the federal management plan for northern mountain caribou and an NWT addition with information on positive influences, community-led planning and knowledge gaps in the NWT.

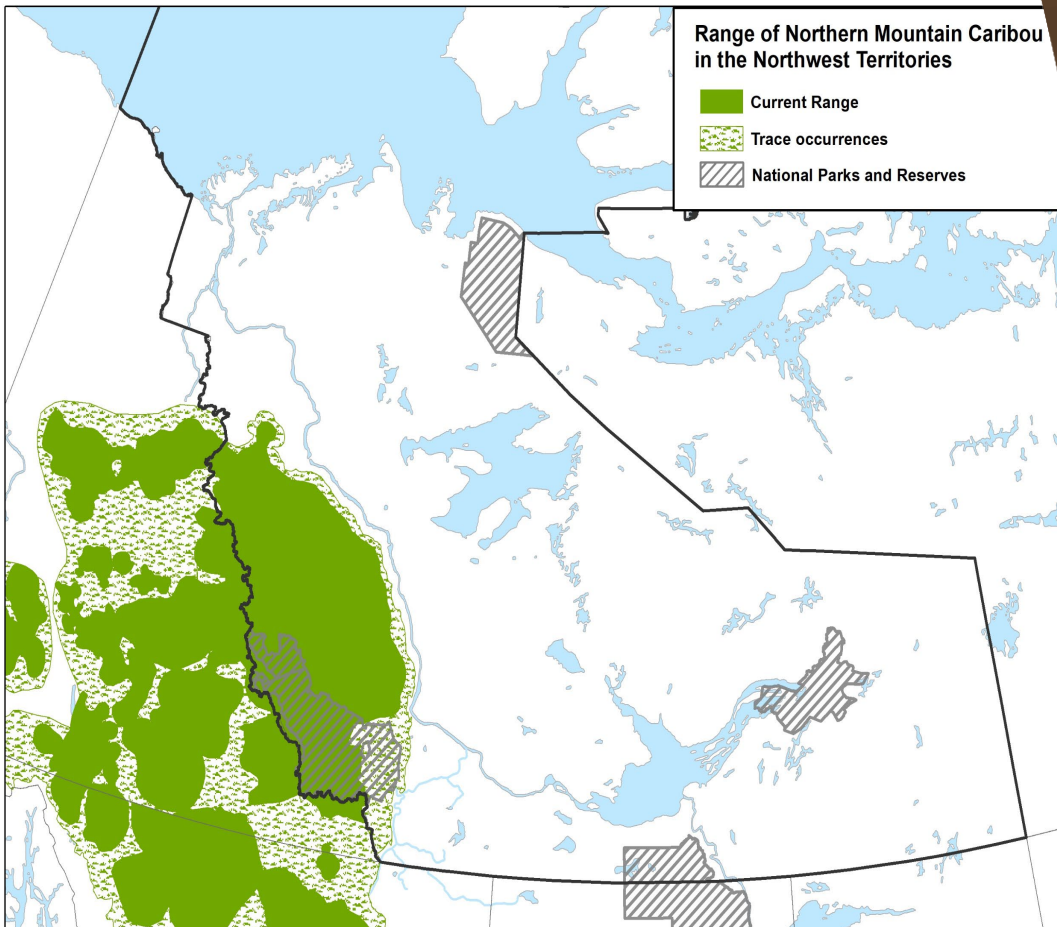
MANAGEMENT GOAL

Prevent northern mountain caribou from becoming Threatened or Endangered by having responsible agencies cooperatively work together to care for caribou and their habitat.

WHAT KINDS OF ACTIONS ARE BEING CONSIDERED?

- Monitor herd distributions, trends and composition.
- Track harvest data and develop sustainable harvest rates.
- Develop harvest strategies for transboundary herds.
- Assess health risks that limit or influence the population.
- Assess the relative importance of caribou predators and/or competitors and map their distribution.
- Delineate key habitats, and map and evaluate current habitat availability.
- Conserve key habitats using existing land designation tools.
- Manage human disturbances of caribou and their habitat.
- Disseminate information about northern mountain caribou and support stewardship activities.

To learn more about the draft management plan, visit:
www.nwt-species-at-risk.ca



Caribou range data from Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT), Government of Yukon, Government of British Columbia and Government of Yukon. Map courtesy of B. Fournier, GNWT.

For more information, contact your local renewable resources board or the NWT Species at Risk Secretariat at sara@gov.nt.ca or by calling toll-free: 1 (855) 783-4301.