



NWMB Bathurst Caribou Hearing March 5 & 6, 2020, Kugluktuk

GNWT Environment and Natural Resources Presentation

GNWT Environment and Natural Resources

Bathurst Caribou Presentation Outline

1. Bathurst Caribou Herd Status
2. Management Context
3. Recent Harvest & Management in NWT
4. Recommended Harvest in Nunavut

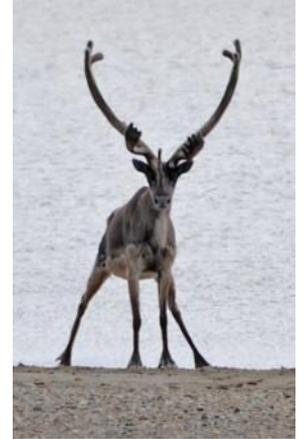


Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR



Barren-Ground Caribou Herds in NWT:

9 Herds

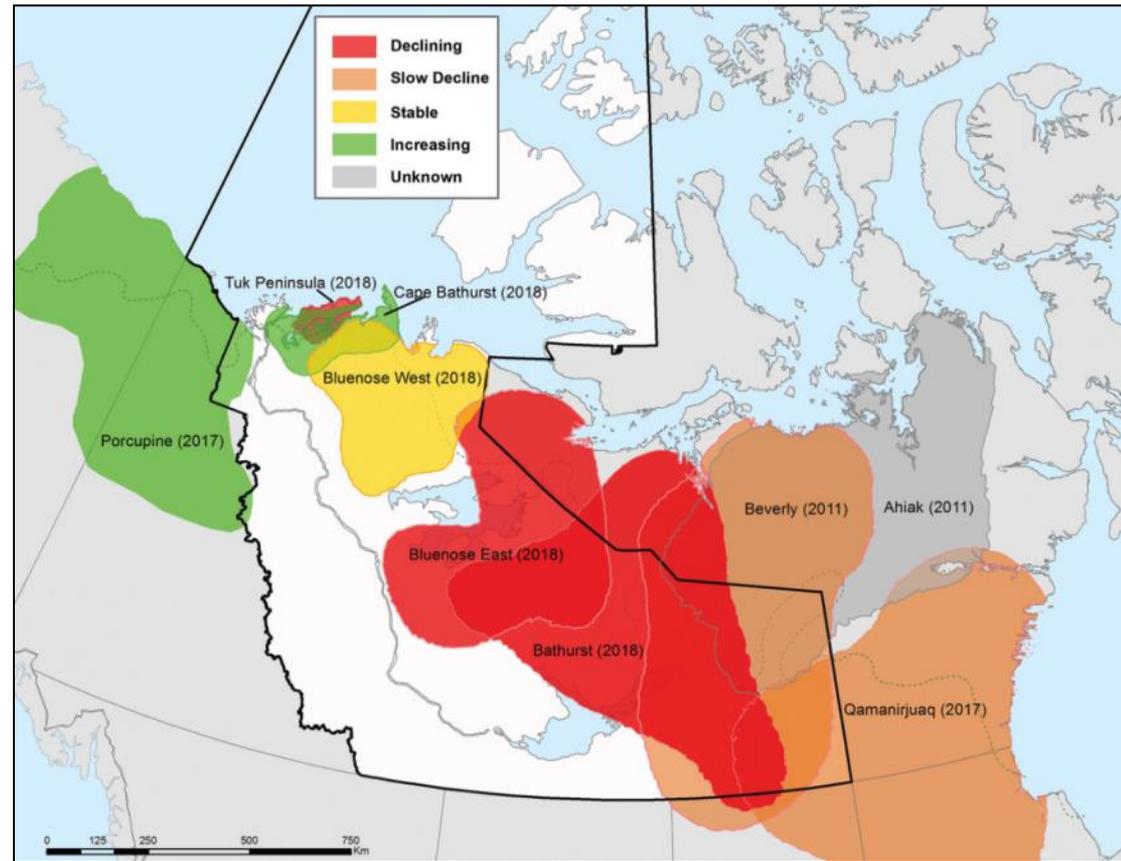
4 Land Claim Areas



Map B, Fournier, ENR



Barren-Ground Caribou Herds in NWT: Trend in 2018



Map B, Fournier, ENR



Barren-ground Caribou Species at Risk Processes

COSEWIC = Committee on the Status of
Endangered Wildlife in Canada

SARA = Species at Risk Act (federal)

SARC = Species at Risk Committee (NWT)

CMA = Conference of Management
Authorities (NWT)

- **Canada**
COSEWIC (2016): Threatened
SARA (pending)
- **NWT**
SARC (2017): Threatened
CMA (2018): Threatened



(Draft) Recovery Strategy for Barren-Ground Caribou Herds in NWT 2020

Overall Approach for All Herds

RECOVERY STRATEGY FOR BARREN-GROUND CARIBOU [DRAFT]

In the Northwest Territories



SPECIES AT RISK (NWT) ACT

Management Plan and Recovery Strategy Series 2019



Bathurst Caribou Range & Calving Grounds in NU & NWT

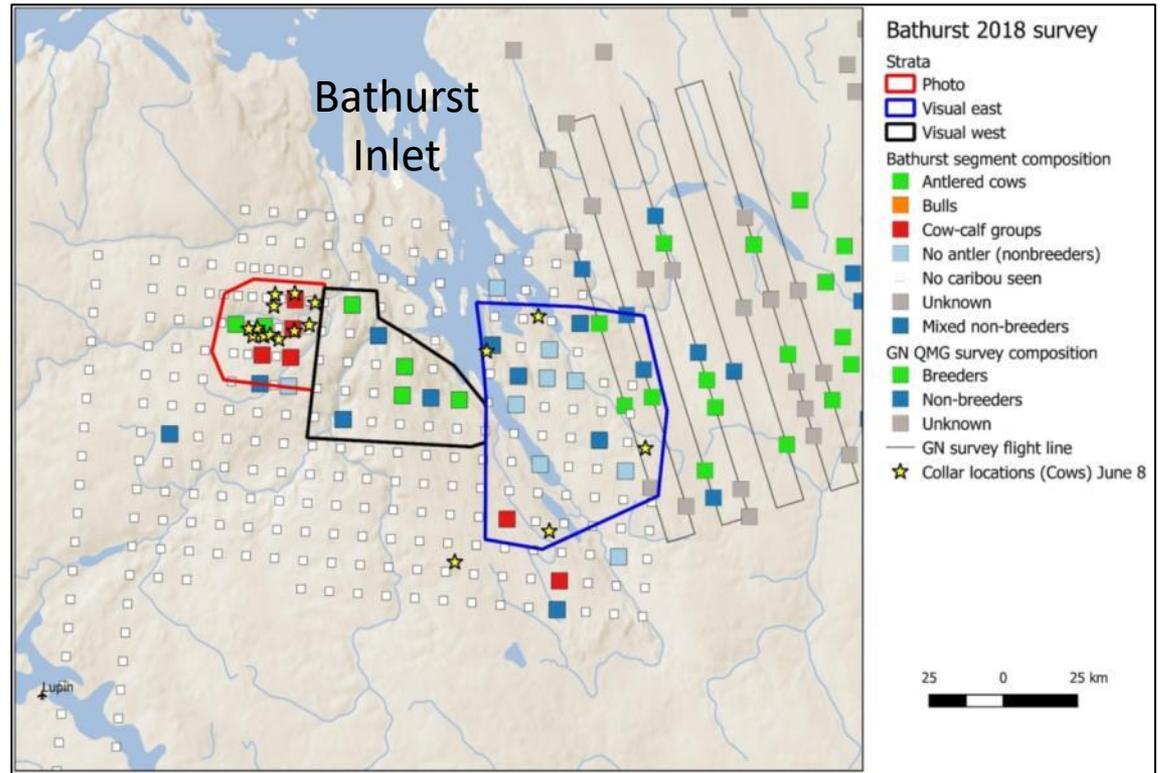


Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR

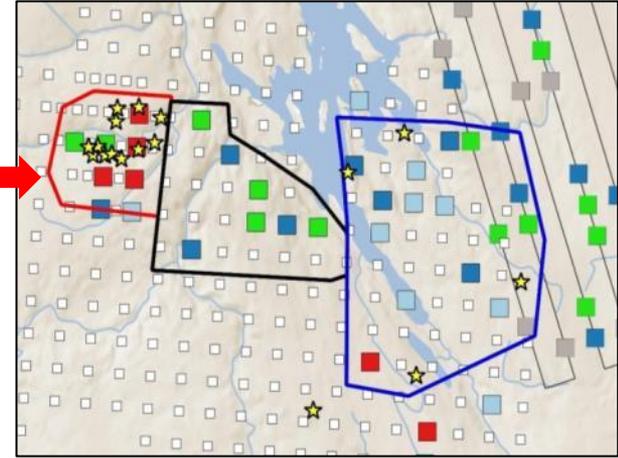
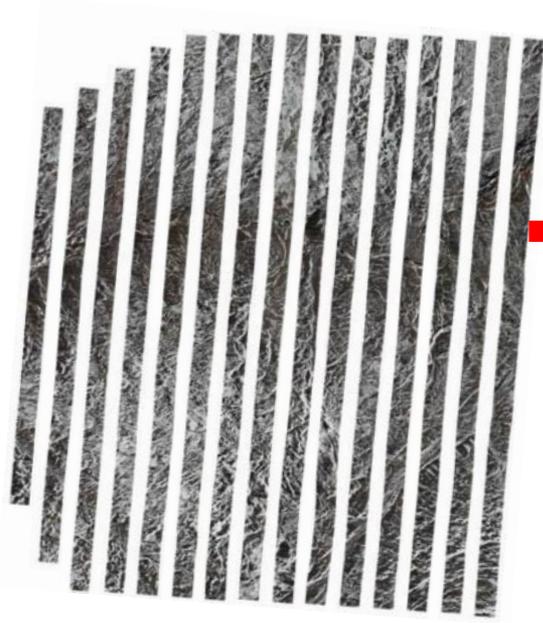
Map B. Fournier, ENR



Bathurst Calving Ground Survey Area June 2018



Bathurst Calving Ground Survey 2018: Composite Aerial Photos



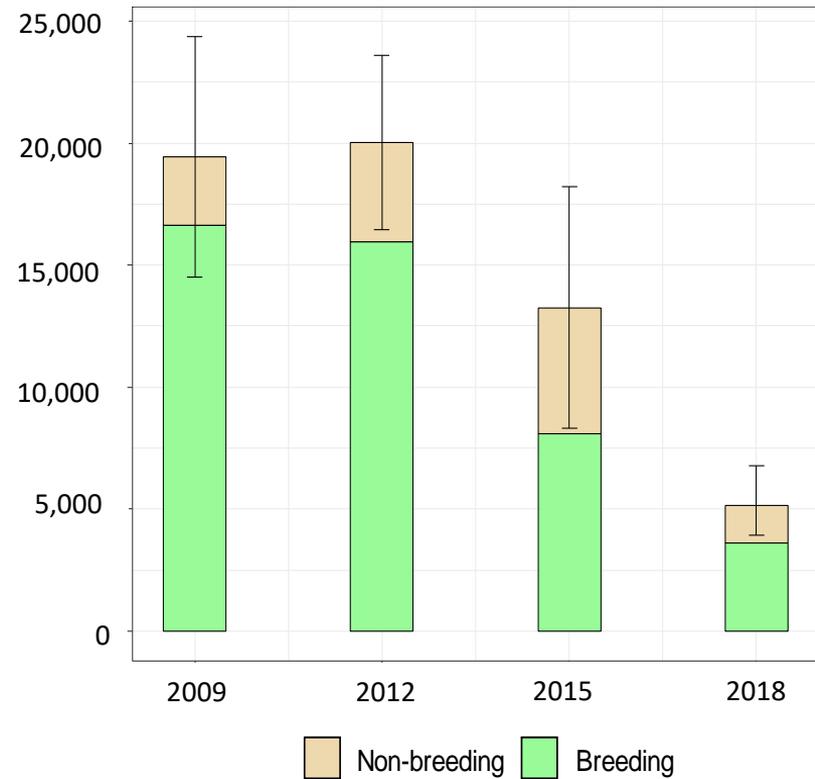
Bathurst Calving
Ground Survey
2018:
Example Aerial
Photo



Bathurst Estimated Numbers of Females 2009-2018



Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR



Caribou Herd Estimate: Cows & Bulls

- Calving Ground Survey: Number of Cows
Bulls not on Calving Ground
- Fall Survey (October): Cow:Bull Ratio
Add Bulls to Cows: Herd Estimate



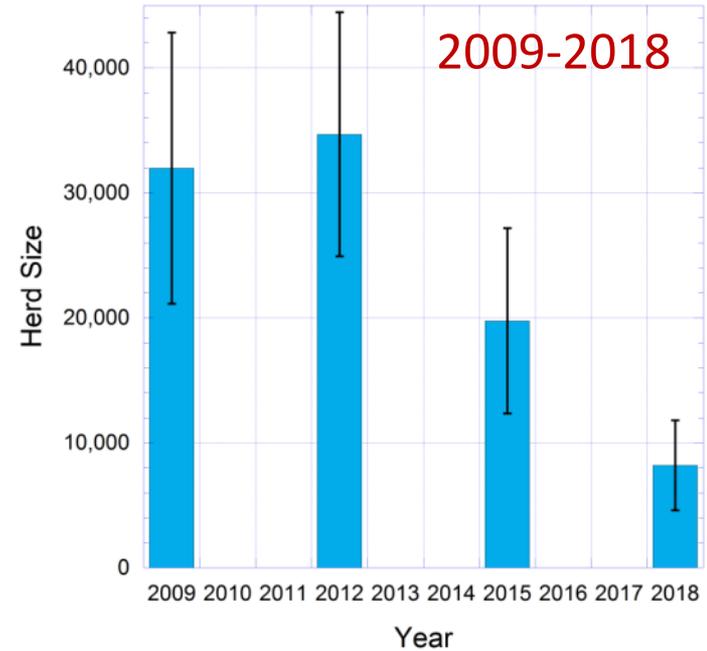
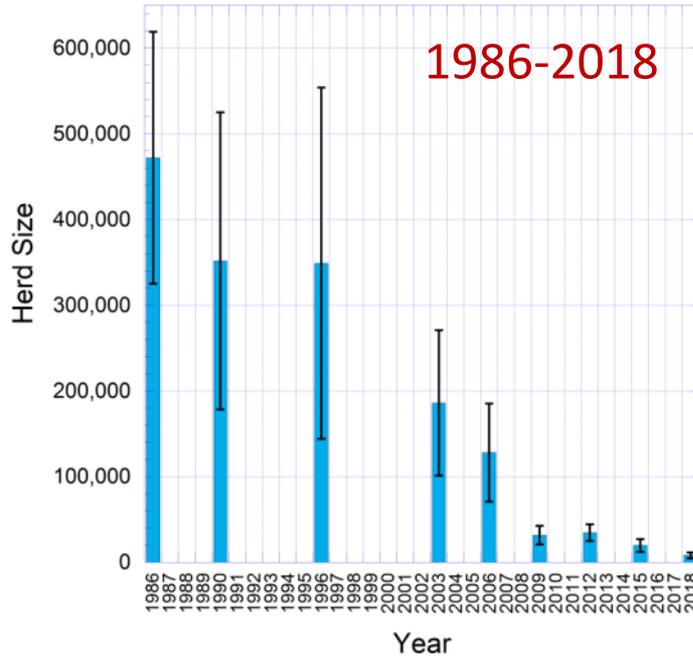
Photos J. Adamczewski, ENR



Bathurst Estimated Herd Size 1986-2018



Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR



Bathurst Herd: Vital Rates 2015-2018



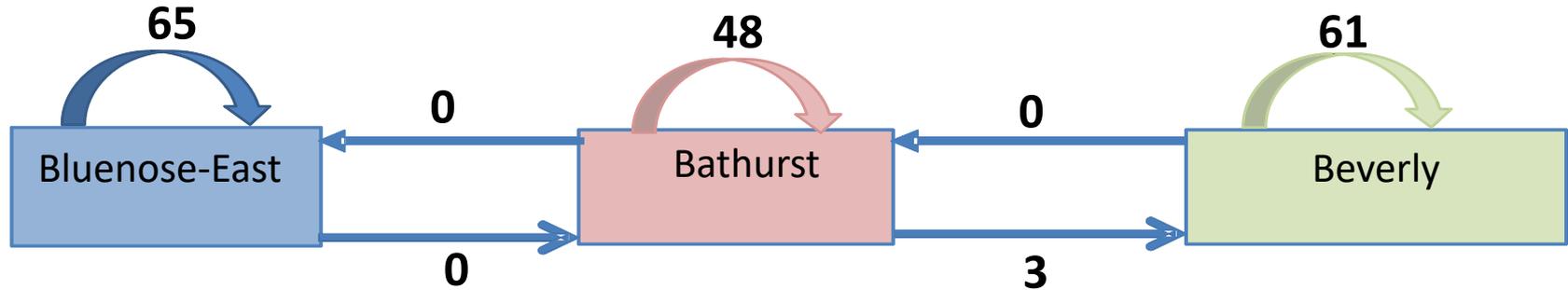
Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR

1. Cow Survival: 84-90% for stable herd
Estimated 78-82% 2015-2018
2. Calf Survival: 30-50:100 for stable herd
Averaged 25:100 2014-2016
3. Pregnancy: At least 80% in healthy herds
Estimated 60% 2015, 70% 2018, 86.0% 2019



Movement Between Bathurst & Neighbouring Herds

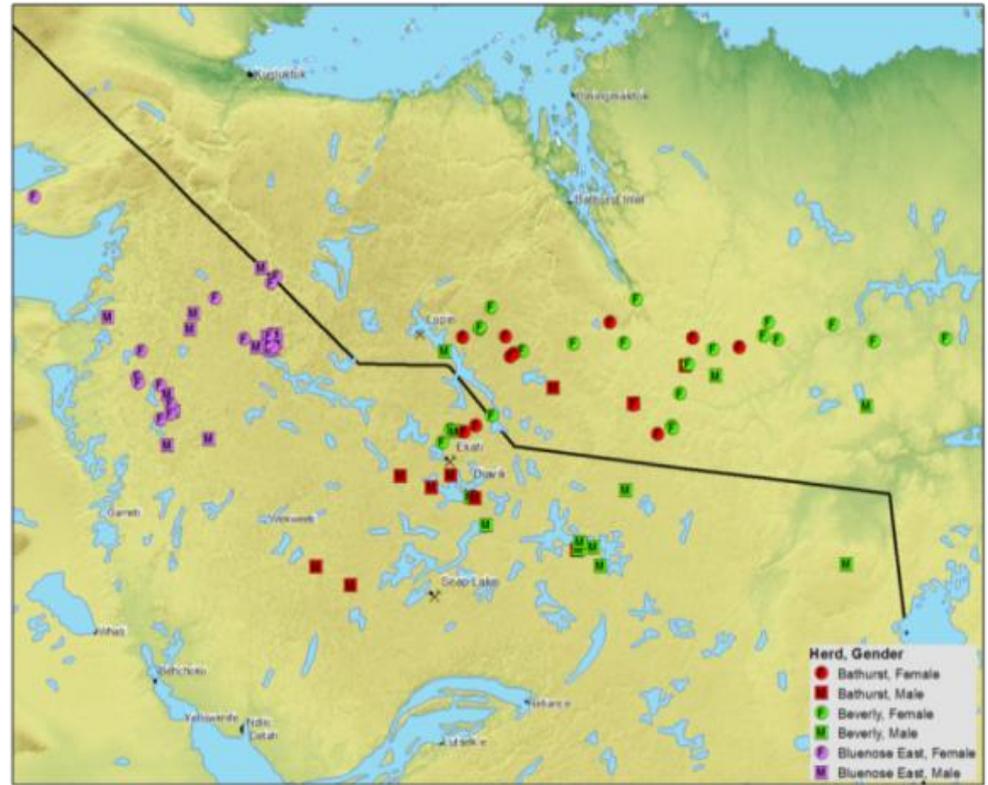
Collared Cows 2016-2018



177 Consecutive Pairs of June Locations:
174 Returns to Same Calving Ground
3 Switches **(all in 2018)**
98.3% Loyalty to Calving Grounds



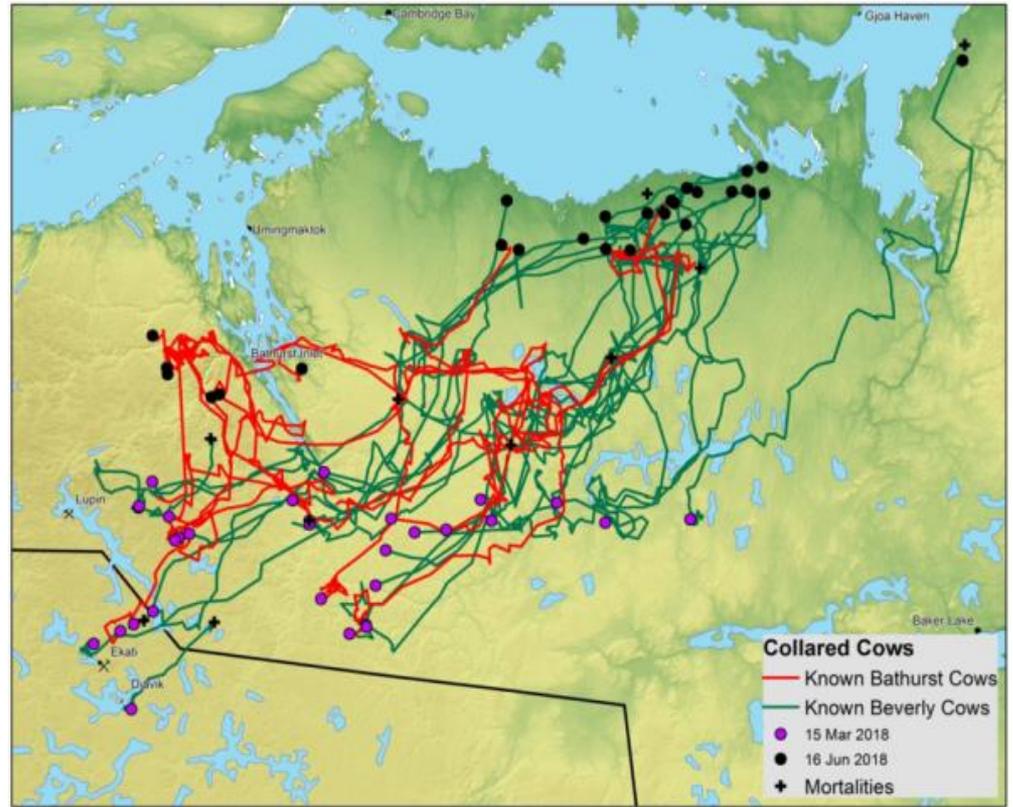
Bathurst,
Bluenose-East &
Beverly Caribou
Winter Locations
March 15, 2018



Bathurst & Beverly

Caribou Spring Cow Migrations

March 15 – June 16,
2018



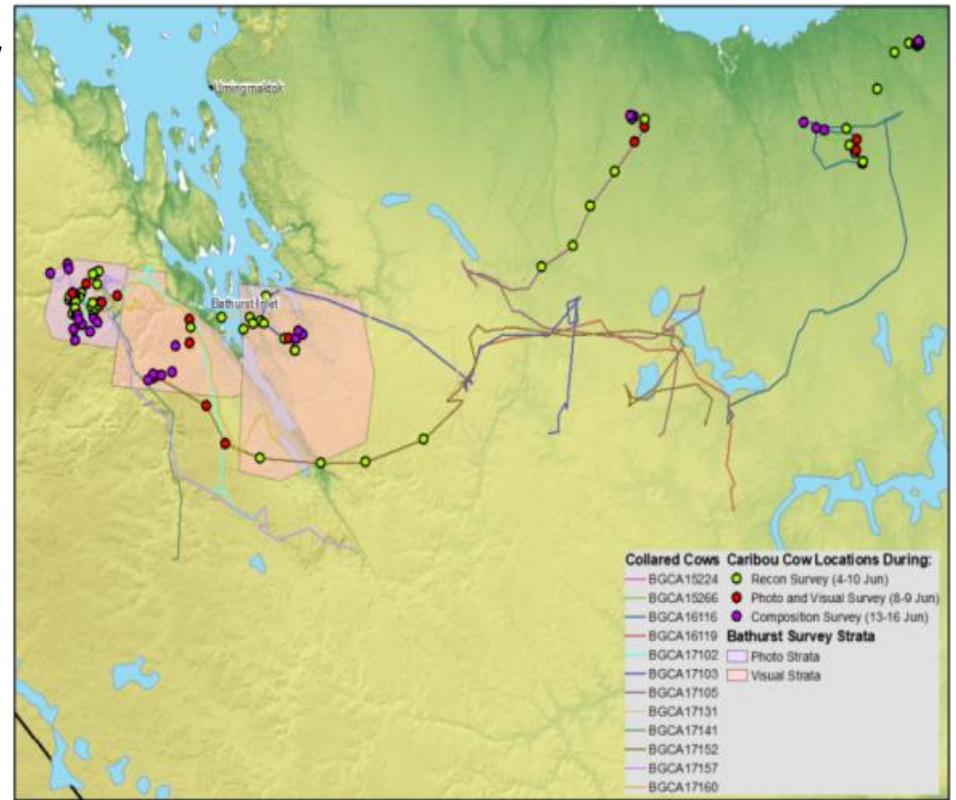
Bathurst (Known) Collared Cow

Locations June 4-16, 2018:

11 (73%) Cows Near or West of
Bathurst Inlet

3 (27%) Cows Moved East With
Beverly Cows, Did Not Return

June 2019: 3 of 17 (18%) Known
Bathurst Cows Moved East with
Beverly, Did Not Return



Bathurst Caribou Management Plan 2004



A MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BATHURST CARIBOU HERD

PREPARED BY
THE BATHURST CARIBOU MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE



NOVEMBER 4, 2004

Government of
Northwest Territories



Bathurst Caribou Management Plan 2020 In Development

**Bathurst Caribou
Advisory Committee**
18 Organizations
NWT, NU & SK



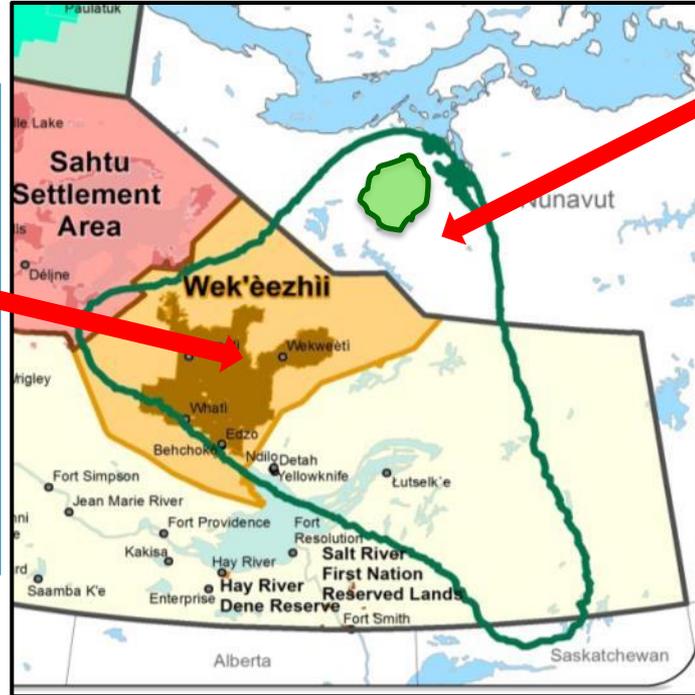
Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR



Bathurst Caribou: Shared Management

GNWT
TG
WRRB

Other Indigenous
Governments,
Communities

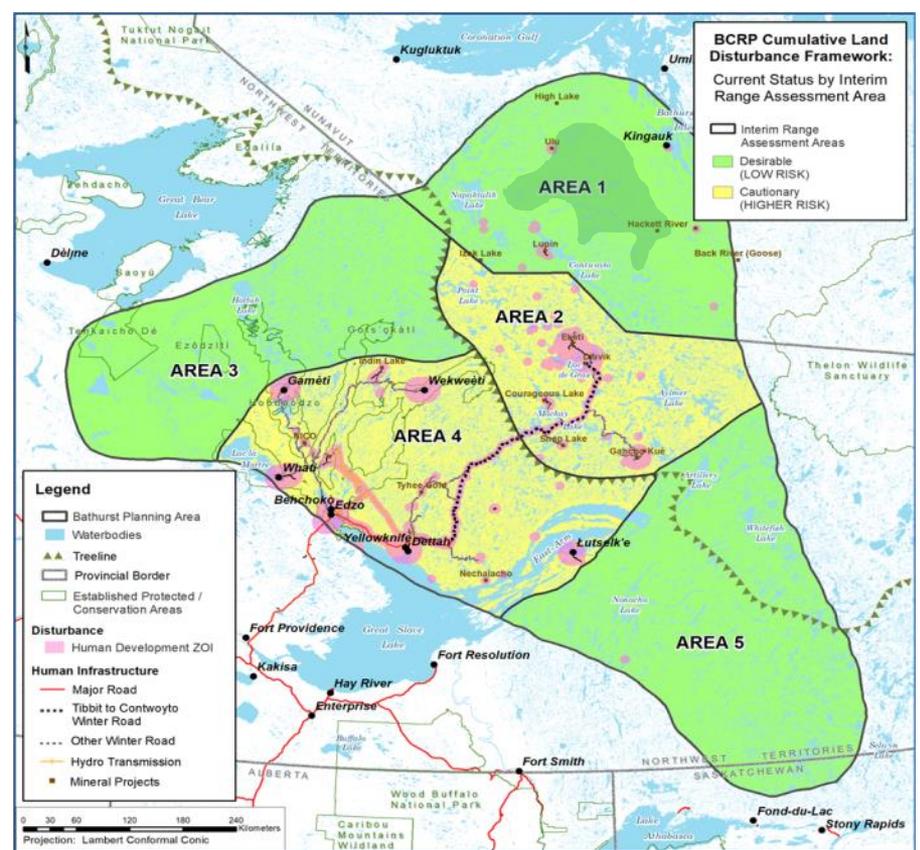


GN
NWMB
NU Communities

GN = Government of Nunavut
NWMB = Nunavut Wildlife
Management Board
TG = Tłı̨cho Government
WRRB = Wek'èezhì Renewable
Resources Board
GNWT = Government of Northwest
Territories



Bathurst Caribou Range Plan Finalized 2019 21 Organizations NWT, NU & SK



Bathurst Caribou Range Plan Recommendations



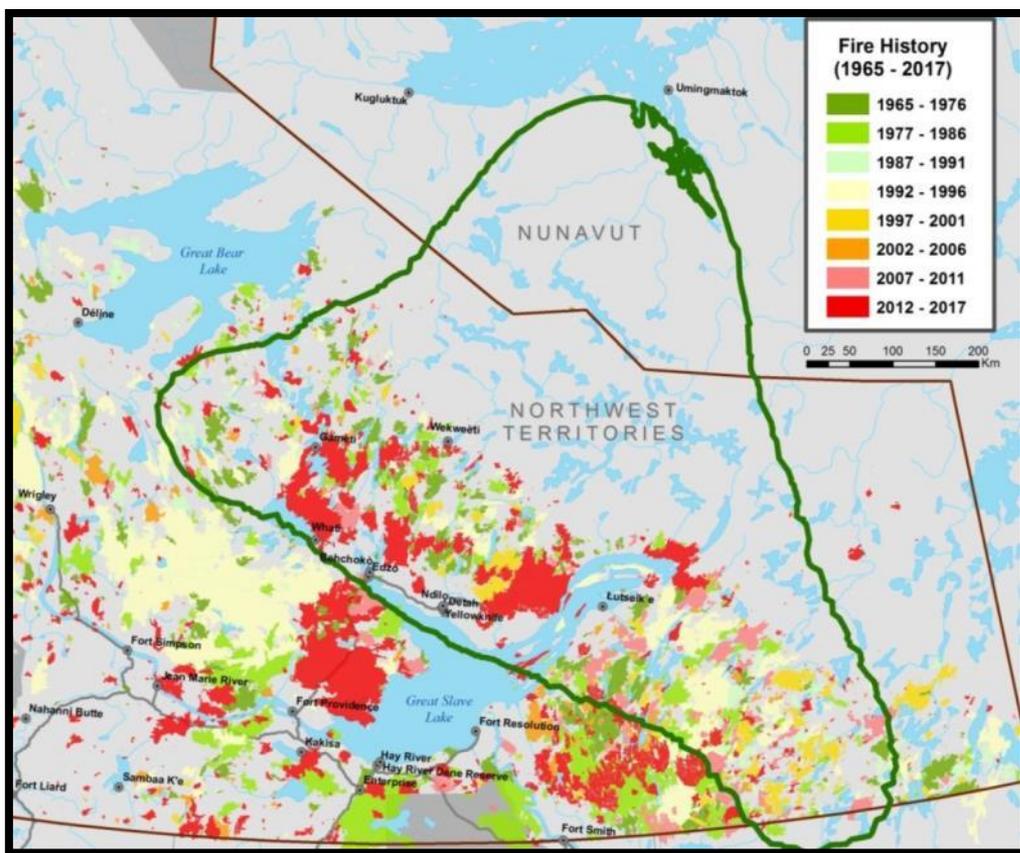
1. Cumulative Land Disturbance Framework
2. Support Community Guardianship
3. Habitat Conservation – Water Crossings & Land Corridors
4. Habitat Conservation – Calving & Post-Calving Ranges
5. Mobile Caribou Conservation Measures
6. Effective Road Planning and Management
7. Compensatory Mechanisms to Make Up for Impacts
8. Wildfire Management Practices
9. Online Staking



Bathurst Herd: Fire History on Winter Range



Internet Photo



Bathurst Herd: Wolf Management

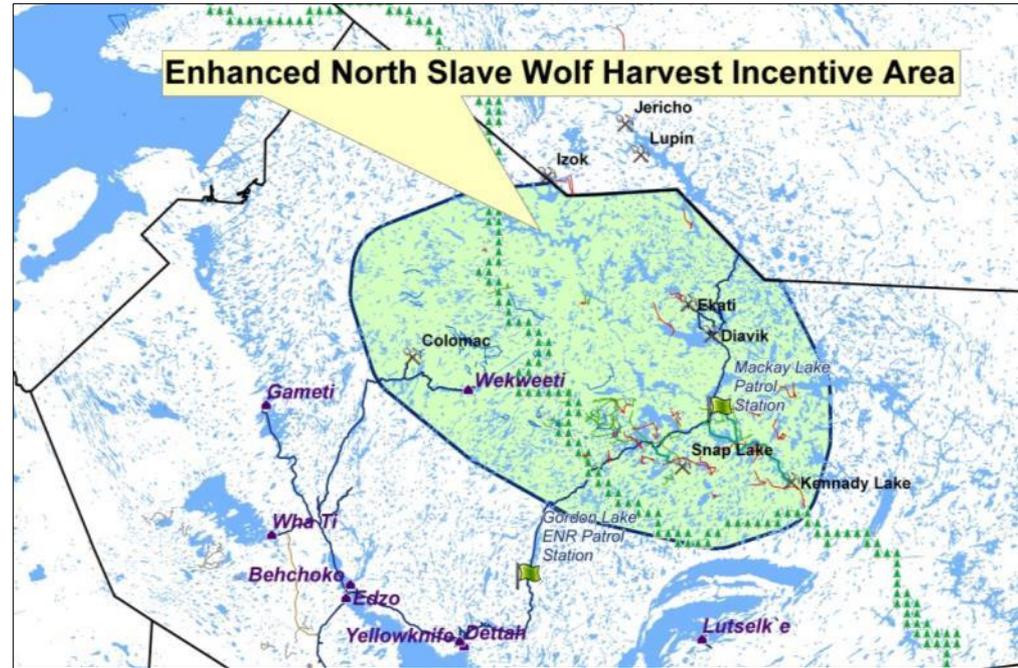


- Collaborative Wolf Feasibility Assessment 2017
- Increased Incentives for Wolf Hunters 2019-2020
- Tłıcho Wolf Hunting Winter Camps 2020
- Collaboration with Kugluktuk Wolf Hunters 2019-2020



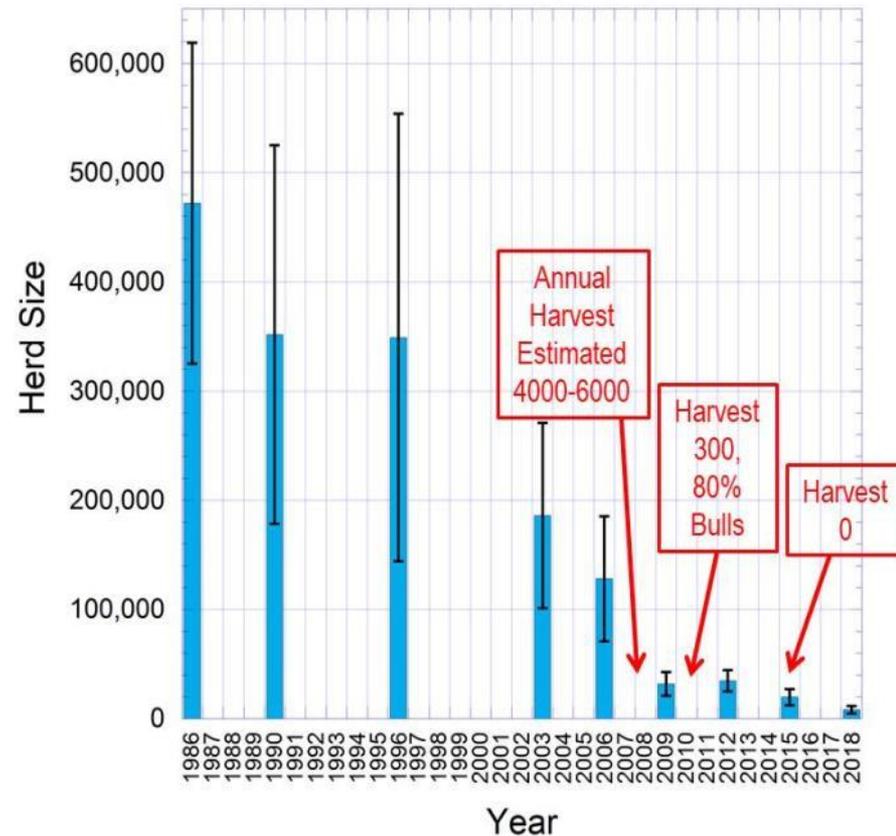
Enhanced GNWT North Slave Wolf Harvest Incentive Program (2019)

Incentives Apply Where
Bathurst & Bluenose-East
Caribou Are Wintering



NWT Bathurst Caribou Harvest Management 2010-2019

- 2010: Resident & Commercial Harvest Closed
- 2010: Indigenous Harvest Limit 300, 80% Bulls
- 2015: Indigenous Harvest Closed
- Tłıcho Government (TG) & GNWT Joint Proposals 2010, 2016, 2019
- Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board Hearings 2010 and 2016, Decisions 2010, 2015, 2016, 2019



0 Harvest of Bathurst Caribou



1. Herd decline > 98% since 1986
2. Herd at risk from further decline & emigration
3. Precedent for harvest closure at very low numbers:
 - Cape Bathurst harvest closed since 2007; herd ~13,000 in 2000 and ~3,000 in 2005 (WMAC-NWT)
 - Porcupine Harvest Management Plan: All harvest to close if herd < 45,000 (PCMB)
4. NWT Indigenous Communities Concerns:
 - All harvest closed in NWT since 2015, including Indigenous; sports hunts continuing in NU



GNWT Bathurst Caribou Engagement & Consultation 2018-2019: Overview

- Dèl̄ne Renewable Resources Council, Dec. 11 & 12, 2018
- Wekweètì & Gamètì Jan. 21, 2019, Whatì Jan. 22, 2019, Behchokò Jan. 23, 2019
- Yellowknives Dene First Nation Chiefs & Elders Council, Jan. 24, 2019
- Salt River First Nation, Ft Smith Métis Council, Smith's Landing First Nation, Jan. 29, 2019
- Tulita Renewable Resources Council & Sahtú Renewable Resources Board, Jan. 30, 2019
- Łútsël K'é Dene First Nation, Feb. 6, 2019
- North Slave Métis Alliance, Feb. 18, 2019
- Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Organization, Feb. 20, 2019
- GNWT & GN Ministers' Meeting, Kugluktuk, April 15 & 16, 2019



Photo J. Adamczewski



Thank You. Questions?



Photo J. Adamczewski

