

HTO Consultation

Bathurst Caribou

January 29, 2015

Issues:

Information meeting on the Alarming trends in size of the Bathurst Caribou from the 2014 reconnaissance calving ground survey.

Purpose of the Consultations:

A HTO consultation, with the HTO of Bay Chimo and Bathurst Inlet, was organized in Cambridge Bay on January 29, 2015 as the Bathurst herd appear to be in serious decline. The main objective to the meeting was to discuss with the two HTO boards on the GN position of establishing an interim measure of 100 TAH for the Bathurst caribou. The TAH will be reviewed after the next population survey happening in June 2015.

Communities visited: Kugluktuk

Representatives:

GN, DoE, Wildlife Biologist: Lisa-Marie Leclerc

HTO Bathurst, Board member (4 members)

HTO Bay Chimo, Board members (4 members).

KRWB: Ema and Attima Haldari

NTI: Bert Dean

Subjects discussed and community views:

- Bathurst HTO is concerned to have caribou for the future generations.
- KWRB mentioned that the Inuit harvest is not a problem as they take only a negligible harvest.
- Lisa: Thus, my point was that GN-DOE takes care of regulating not only the Inuit harvest, but also the non-beneficiary and as of right now there is nothing that stop 20 none-beneficiaries to take 5 tags each and harvest more caribou than what the Inuit presently take.
- Lisa: GN-DoE position was an interim TAH of 100 to reflect what the Inuit are actually harvesting.
- Bathurst Inlet came back with a TAH of 150.
- Inquiry about a wolf control program: Not supported by the GN
- The 100-150 TAH will be a temporary measure until the June survey is done and then we can revisit the TAH.
- They also want to be part of this survey and I spoke with GNWT to reserve them a place as observer.
- Due to the status of the Bathurst herd, the monitoring effort will increased and they will be opportunity to review the TAH every 3 years to readjust with the new population number.
- There seem to be some concerns about the sport harvest from the Bay Chimo HTO.
- Thus, when the TAH is given to the HTO, they have free disposition of the TAH and this will be up to them how to allocate it.