



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

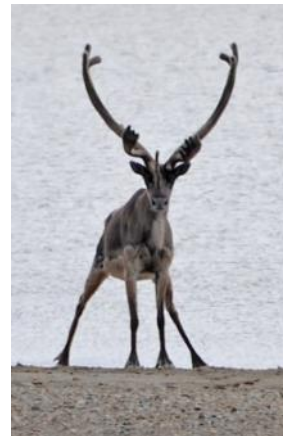


Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR



Barren-Ground Caribou Herds in NWT:

9 Herds

4 Land Claim Areas

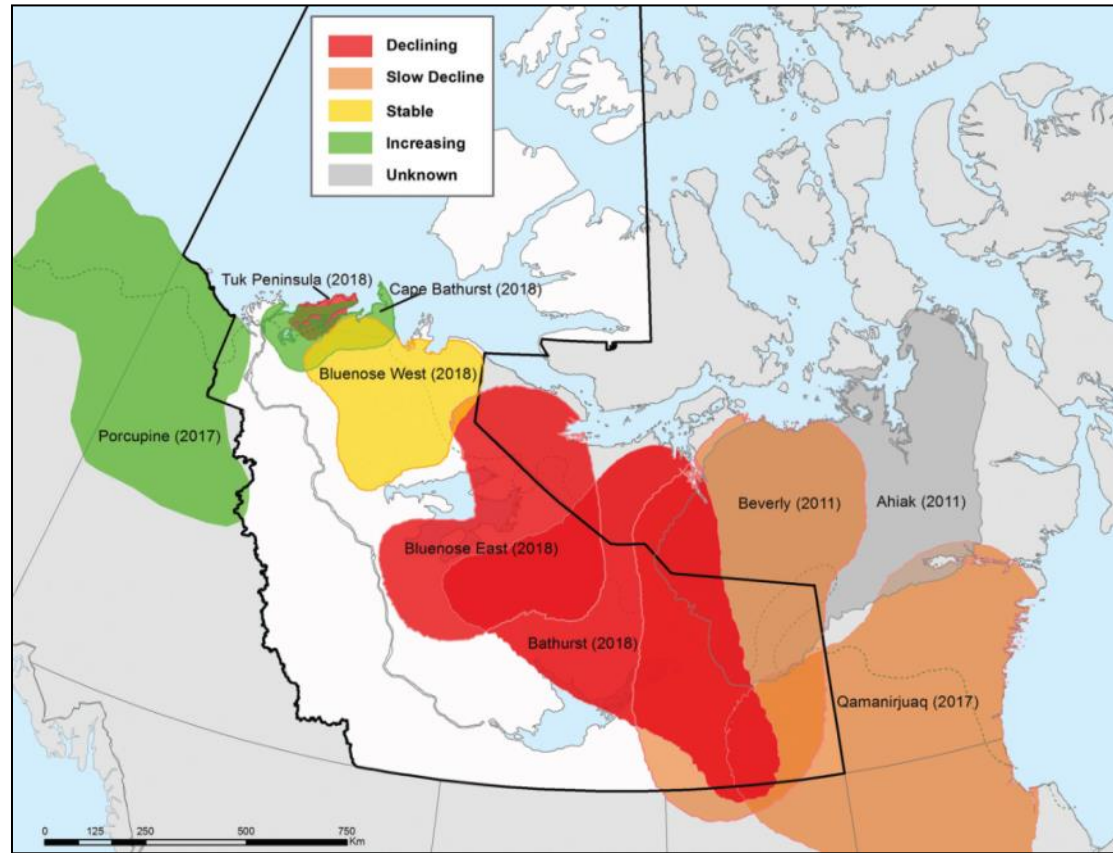
Map B, Fournier, ENR



Government of
Northwest Territories

Barren-Ground Caribou Herds in NWT: Trend in 2018

Map B, Fournier, ENR



Government of
Northwest Territories

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

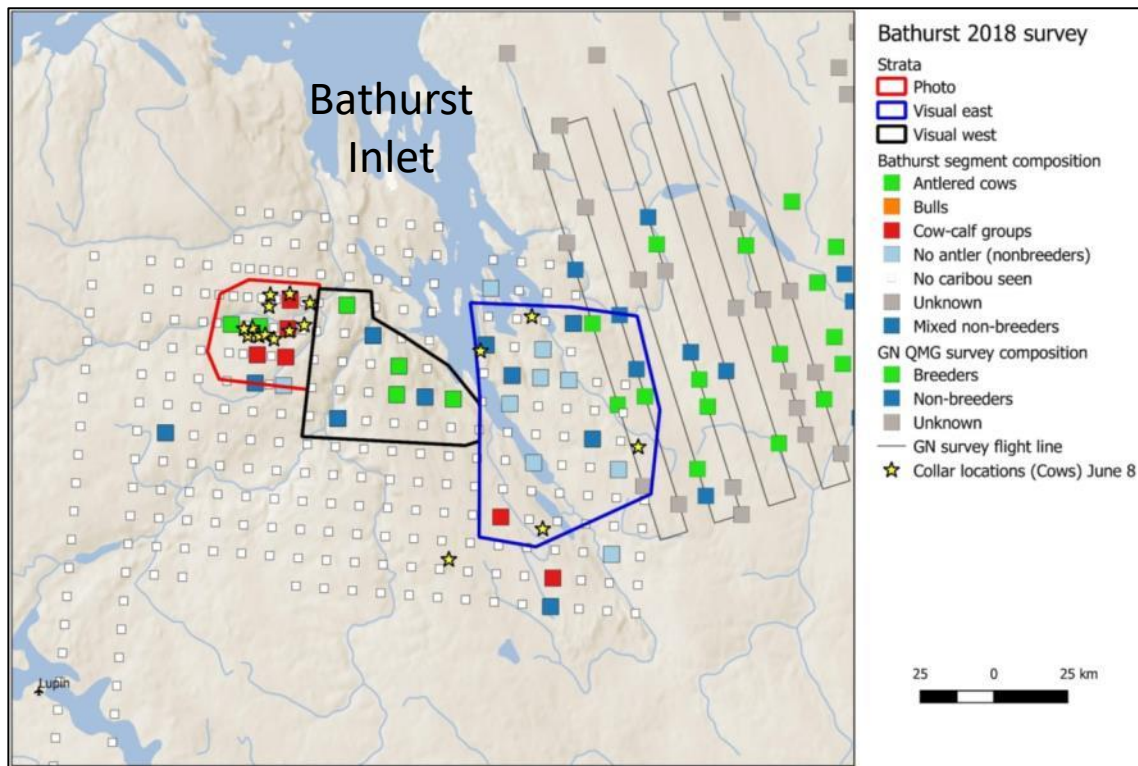


Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR

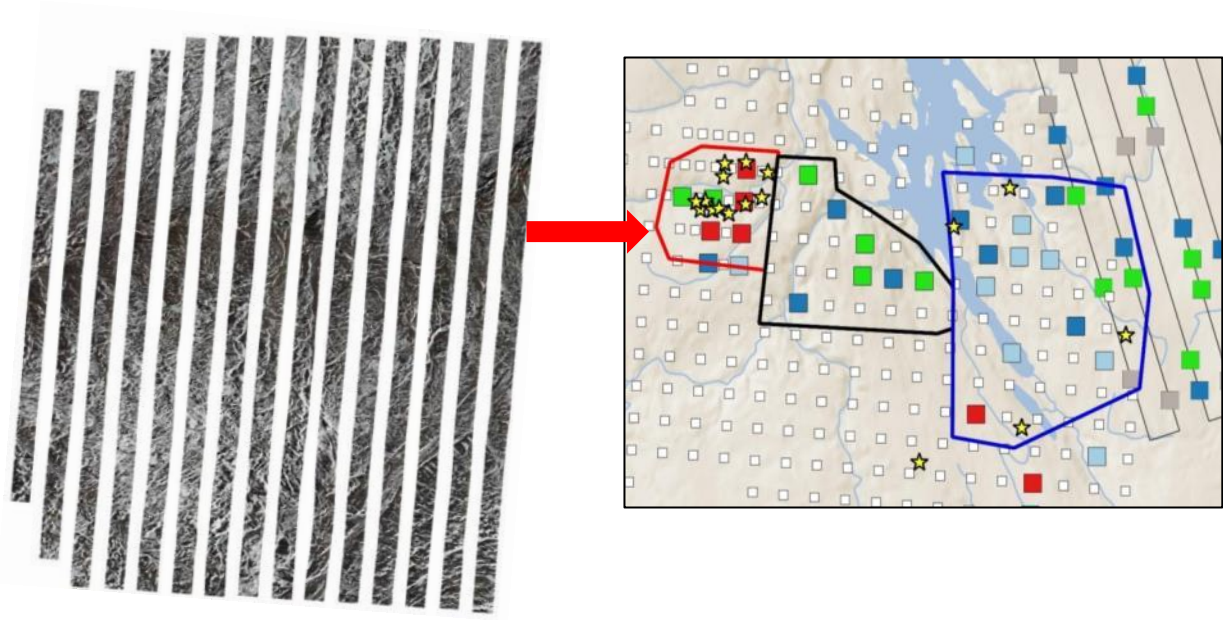
Map B. Fournier, ENR



Bathurst Calving Ground Survey Area June 2018



Bathurst Calving Ground Survey 2018: Composite Aerial Photos



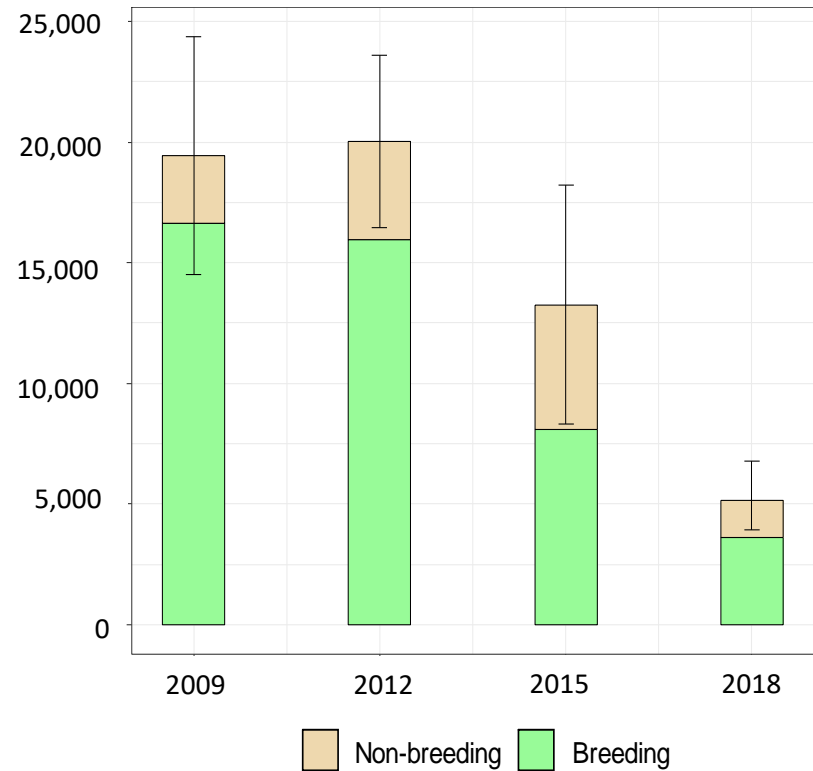
Bathurst Calving
Ground Survey
2018:
Example Aerial
Photo



Bathurst Estimated Numbers of Females 2009-2018



Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR



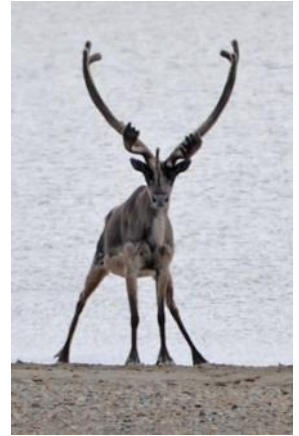
Caribou Herd Estimate: Cows & Bulls

- Calving Ground Survey: Number of Cows

Bulls not on Calving Ground

- Fall Survey (October): Cow:Bull Ratio

Add Bulls to Cows: Herd Estimate



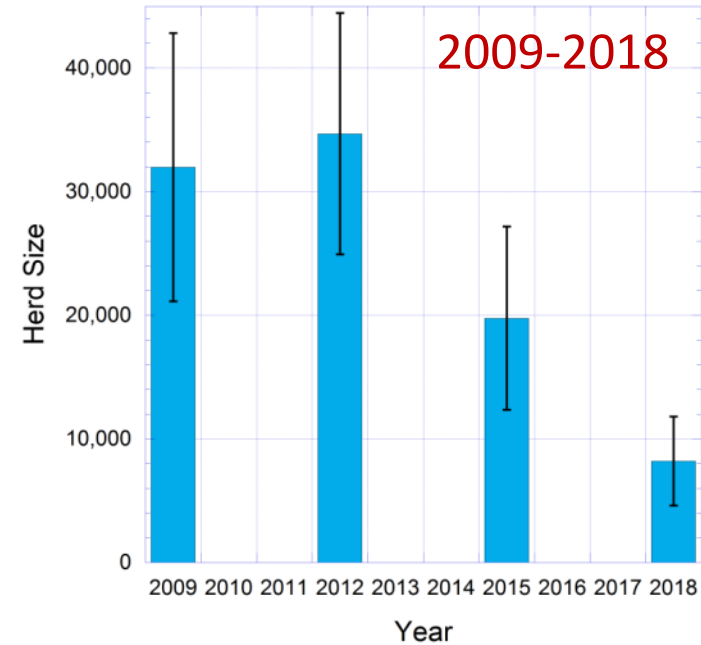
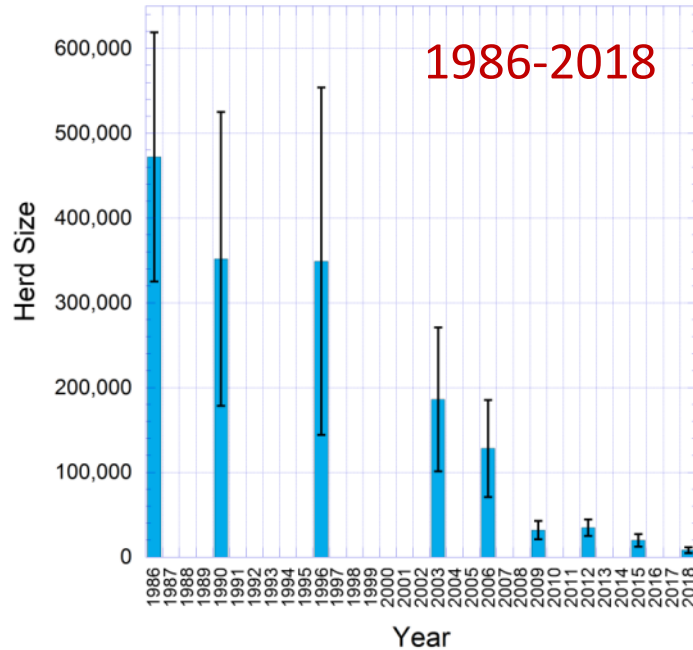
Photos J. Adamczewski, ENR



Bathurst Estimated Herd Size 1986-2018



Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR



Bathurst Herd:

Vital Rates 2015-2018



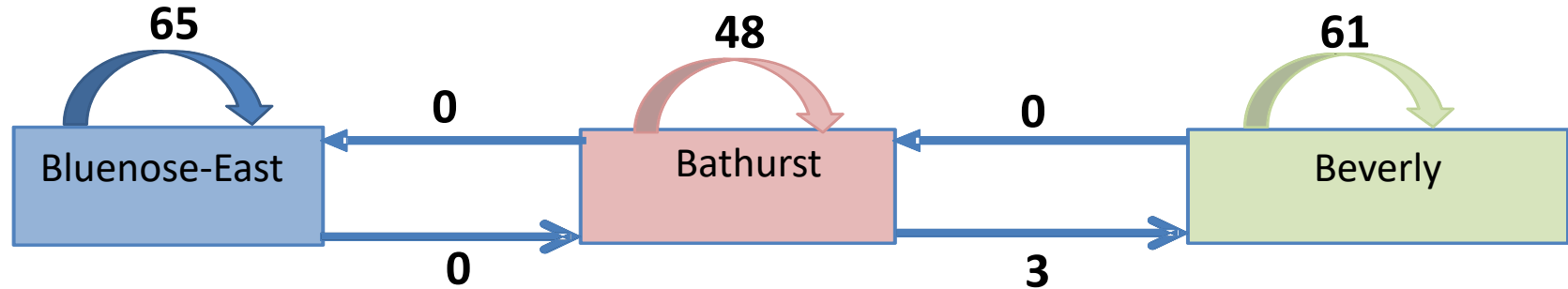
Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR

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

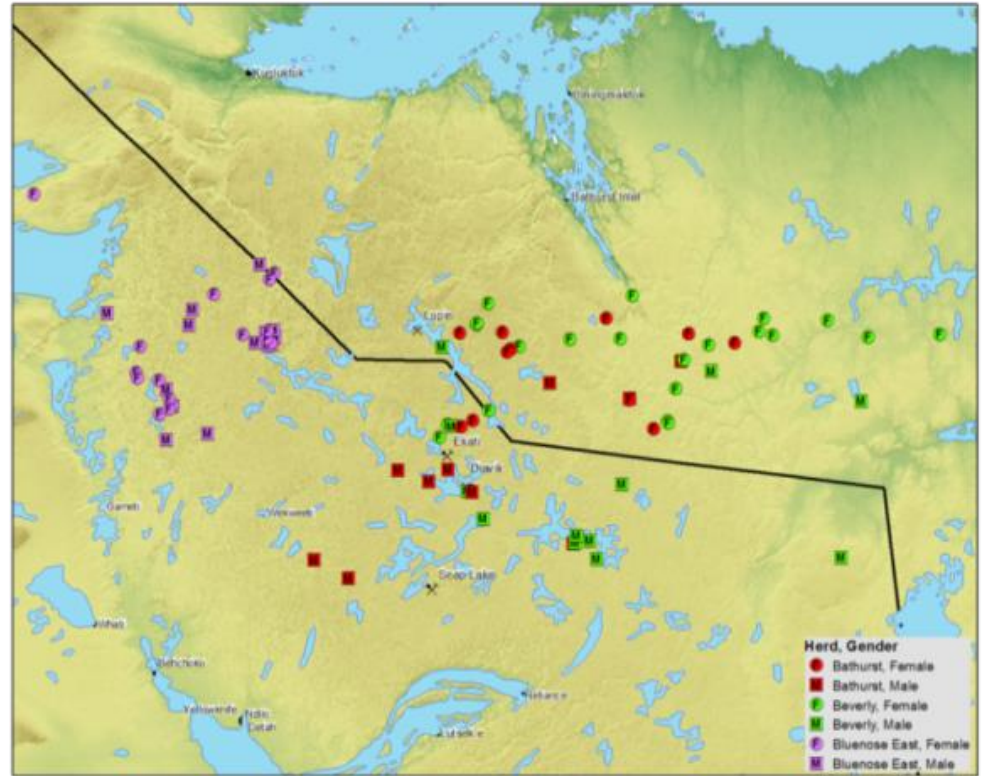
Collared Cows 2016-2018



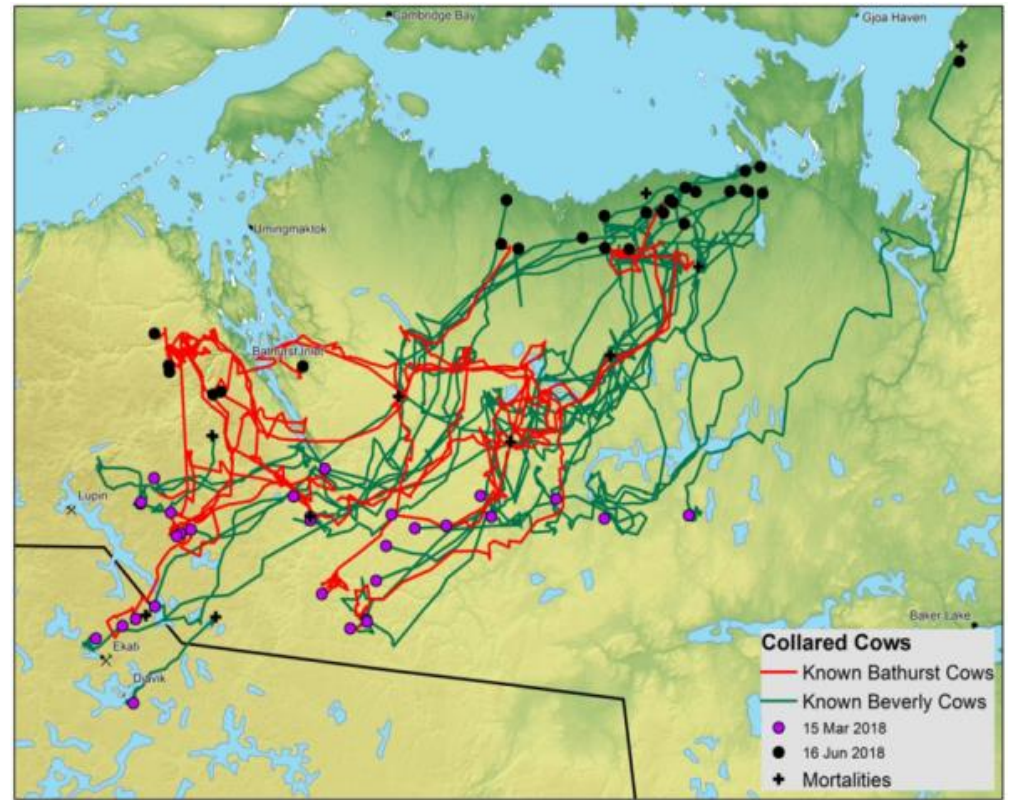
177 Consecutive Pairs of June Locations:
174 Returns to Same Calving Ground
3 Switches **(all in 2018)**
98.3% Loyalty to Calving Grounds



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



Bathurst & Beverly Caribou Spring Cow Migrations March 15 – June 16, 2018



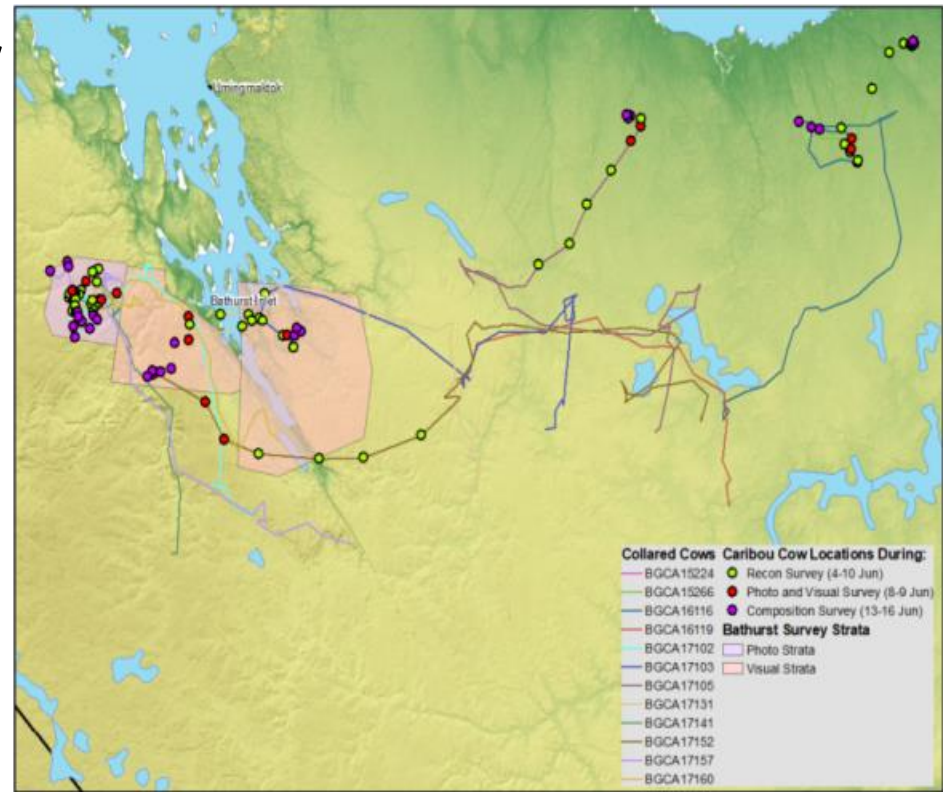
Bathurst (Known) Collared Cow

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



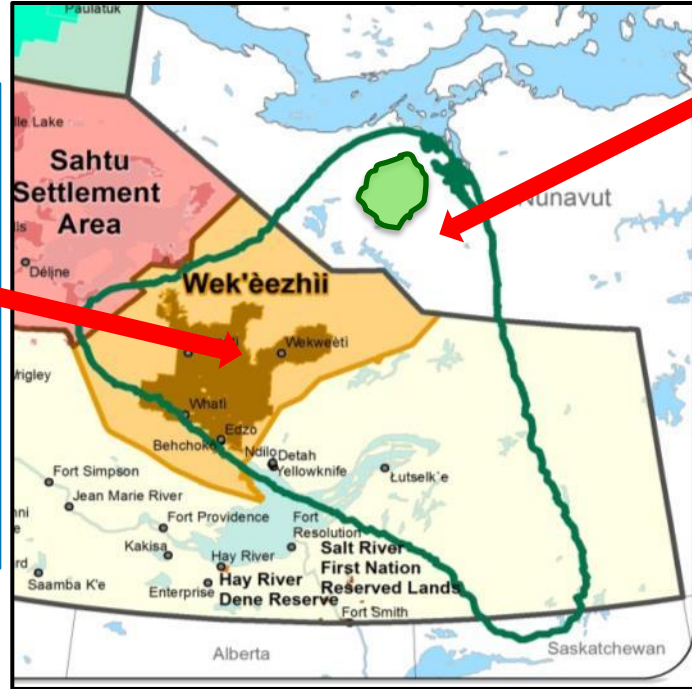
Photo J. Adamczewski, ENR



Bathurst Caribou: Shared Management

GNWT
TG
WRRB

Other Indigenous
Governments,
Communities



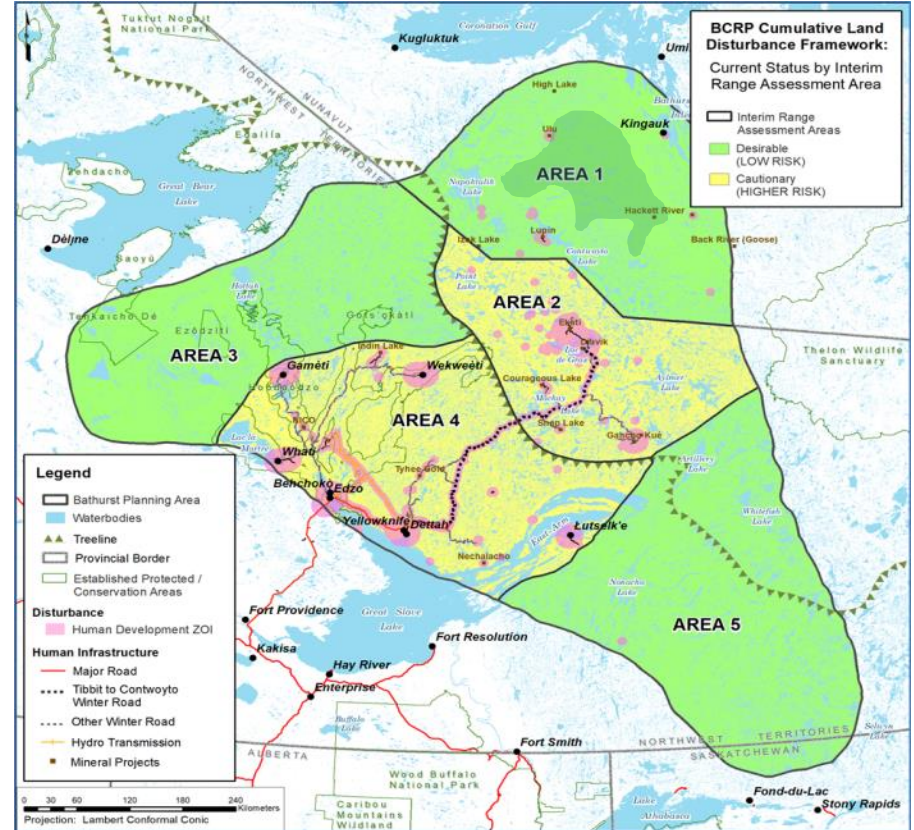
GN
NWMB
NU Communities

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



Government of
Northwest Territories

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



Bathurst Caribou Range Plan Recommendations



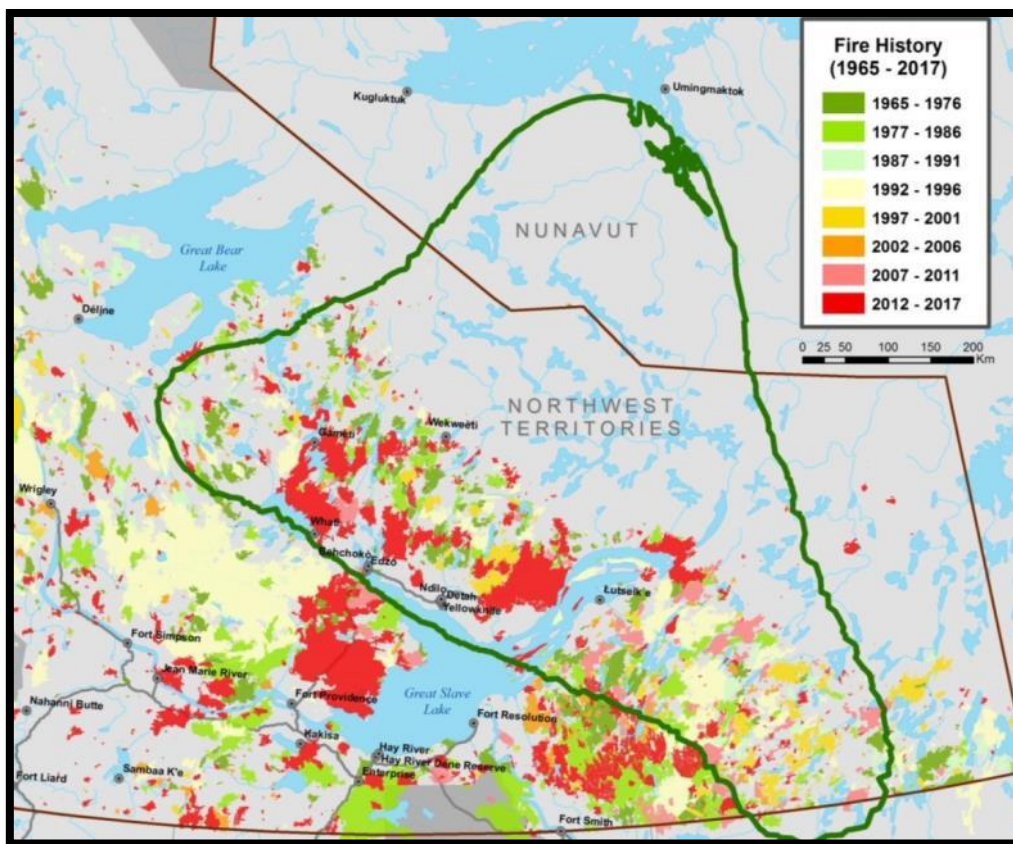
1. Cumulative Land Disturbance Framework
2. Support Community Guardianship
3. Habitat Conservation – Water Crossings & Land Corridors
4. Habitat Conservation – Calving & Post-Calving Ranges
5. Mobile Caribou Conservation Measures
6. Effective Road Planning and Management
7. Compensatory Mechanisms to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



Bathurst Herd: Fire History on Winter Range



Internet Photo



Bathurst Herd: Wolf Management

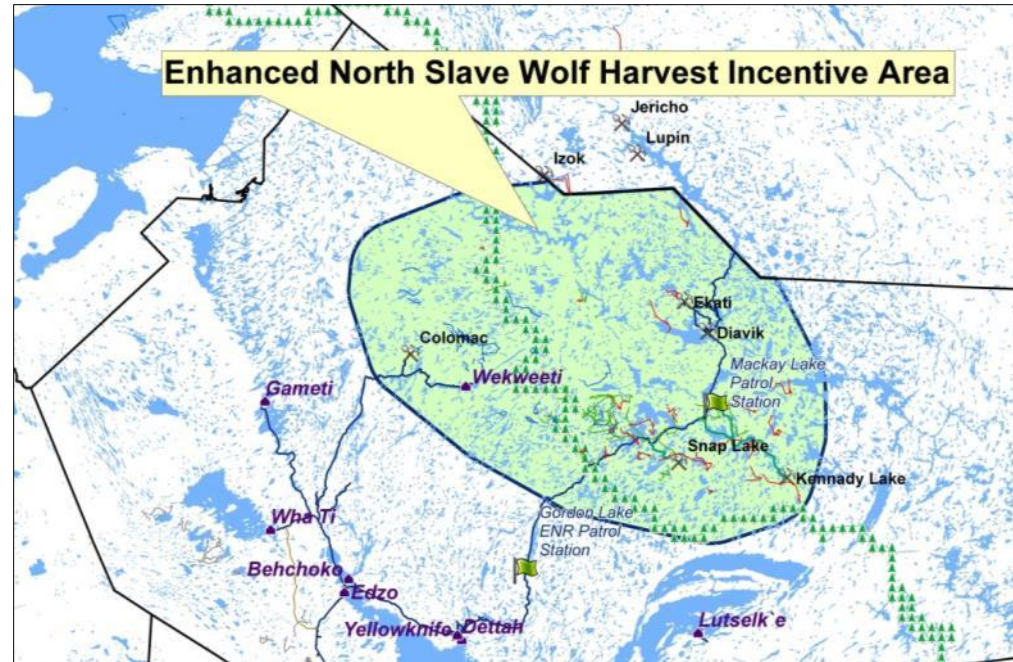


- Collaborative Wolf Feasibility Assessment 2017
- Increased Incentives for Wolf Hunters 2019-2020
- Tłıcho Wolf Hunting Winter Camps 2020
- Collaboration with Kugluktuk Wolf Hunters 2019-2020



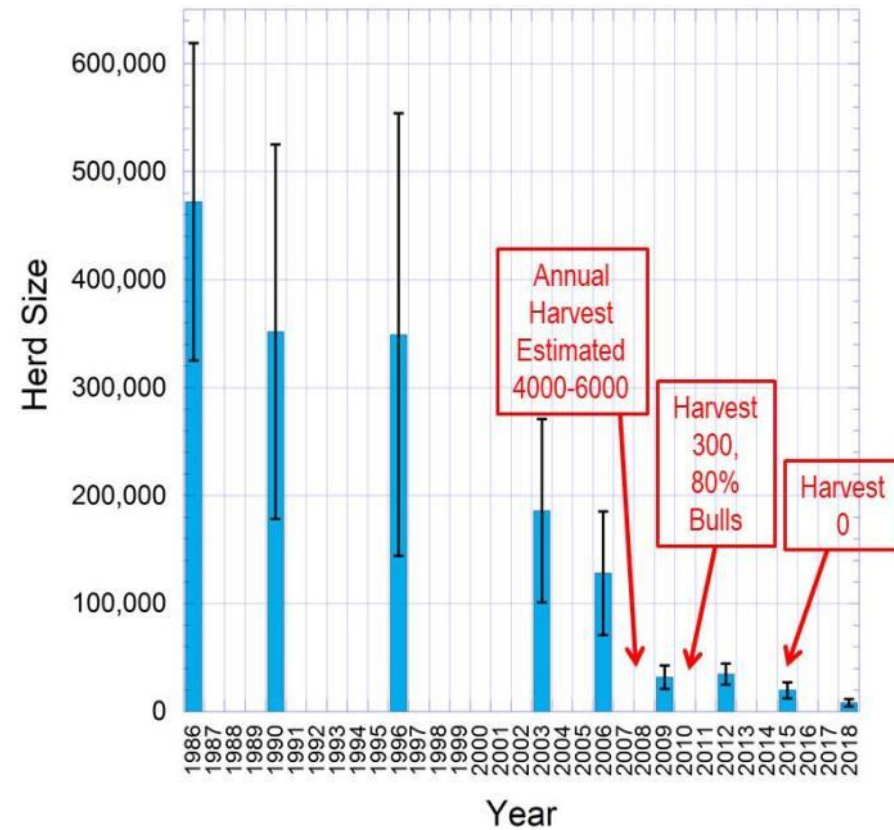
Enhanced GNWT North Slave Wolf Harvest Incentive Program (2019)

Incentives Apply Where
Bathurst & Bluenose-East
Caribou Are Wintering



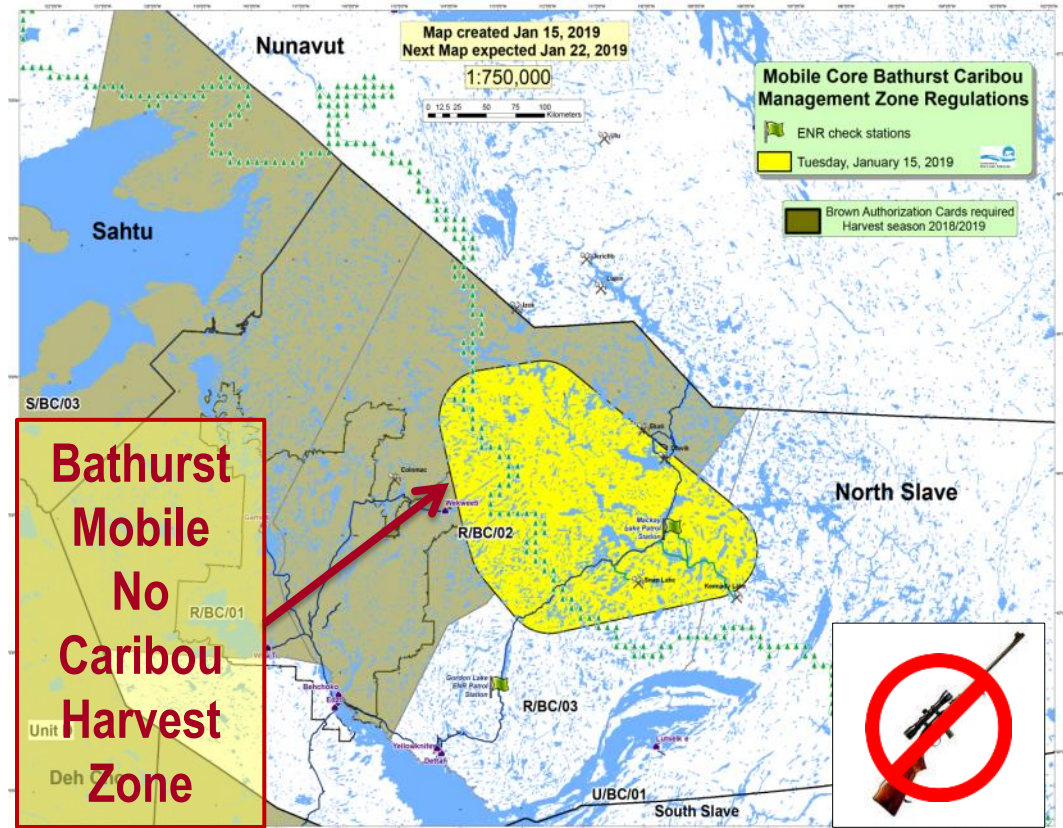
NWT Bathurst Caribou Harvest Management 2010-2019

- 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



Bathurst Caribou Mobile No Harvest Zone (Jan. 15, 2019):

- In Use Since 2015
- Built Around Collar Locations
- Shifts With Caribou



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

- Dèḻne 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

