

# PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

**PROJECT NUMBER:** 2-14-07

**RESEARCHER:** Mitch Campbell

**TITLE:** Distribution and Abundance of Baffin Island Barren-ground Caribou, March 2014

**ORIGINALLY FUNDED:** 2014-2015

**NWMB FUNDING:** \$75,000

**PROJECT SUMMARY:** The principle goal of this investigation was to determine the abundance and distribution of caribou on Baffin Island. This research was guided by 3 main objectives: 1) observe and record the number and location of caribou within their late winter range; 2) estimate yearling and adult caribou abundance; and 3) involve Baffin Hunters and Trappers Organizations and their representatives with the research program in a meaningful way through both ground and aerial survey efforts and survey planning and reporting.

## FINANCIAL REPORT:

<b>Amount from NWMB:</b>	\$ 75,000
<b>Amount from Others:</b>	\$ 75,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 150,000
<b>Expenses:</b>	\$ 170,564
<b>Difference</b>	- \$20,564

**COMMENTS:** The Baffin Island caribou survey began on February 26th and was concluded on March 21st, 2014. The researcher used a stratified random transect aerial survey technique utilizing distance sampling and a double observer platform. The survey used 5 strata classes. The selection of all strata classes were made utilizing past aerial survey observations and Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit collected during community consultations prior to the survey effort. Using the results of the aerial summary, it was calculated that there are between 3,462 and 6,250 caribou on all of the Baffin Island complex. Survey results were shared with co-management partners and community representatives at the November Baffin Island caribou workshop. As indicated in the interim financial report, fuel drum removal, which was scheduled to start in the 2014/2015 fiscal year was done in late March and funded by the 2013/2014 year funds. Additional funding was provided by the Government of Nunavut to cover the variance.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. NWMB Wildlife staff do not have any recommendations for this reporting period. The project leader has met all of the reporting requirements to date. A final financial report will be required by June 30<sup>th</sup> 2015 as per the NWRT policy. Project results will be captured in the final project report which is required by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

**CONSULTATIONS:** Sarah Spencer, Wildlife Management Biologist, NWMB

**PREPARED BY:** Karla Letto, Wildlife Management Biologist, NWMB