

Major modifications following the various reviews

Minor editorial changes were made throughout the document, and only larger changes are discussed below.

Management Plan for the Dolphin and Union Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus groenlandicus x pearyi*) in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut

Preface

- No large changes.

Acceptance Statement

- No changes, as the statements will be made at a later date.

Acknowledgements

- Names of individuals that provided comments during the First Jurisdictional Technical Review were added.

Executive Summary

- Clarification was added to the comparison of Dolphin and Union Caribou to other sub-species and populations.
- Information about the 2015 population estimate was added.
- Information about adaptive management added.

Acronyms

- Acronym table was added for reference.

Table of Contents

- Added a List of Figures, and a List of Tables.

1. Introduction

- Section was shortened to avoid repetition in other areas and to make the text more succinct.

2. Plan Development

2.1 Purpose and Principles

- Section was shortened to avoid repetition and to make the text more succinct.

2.2 Planning Partners

- Suggestions added to clarify the roles of planning partners / legislation added.

2.3 Management Planning Process

- Section was shortened slightly to avoid repetition and to make the text more succinct.

2.4 Inuit Qaujimatugangit and Traditional Knowledge

- No large changes.

3. Historical and Social Perspective

- Section was shortened slightly to avoid repetition and to make the text more succinct.

3.1 Communities that Harvest Dolphin and Union Caribou

- Section was shortened slightly to avoid repetition and to make the text more succinct.

3.2 Use of the Herd and History of Harvest Management

- Additional information about past harvest reporting was included.

4. Species Information

4.1 Species Status Assessment

- The COSEWIC and SARC status assessments were moved from Appendix B to this section.
- Text was added to clarify the difference between how COSEWIC/SARA classify Dolphin and Union Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus groenlandicus*) compared to how the GNWT/GN classify the population (*Rangifer tarandus groenlandicus x pearyi*).

4.2 Species Description and Biology

- Clarifying information about how to distinguish Dolphin and Union Caribou from other sub-species and populations was added.
- Section was shortened slightly to avoid repetition and to make the text more succinct.

4.2.1 Life Cycle and Reproduction

- Information about the timing of life cycle events was added.

4.2.2 Natural Mortality and Survival

- No large changes.

4.2.3 Diet

- No large changes.

4.2.4 Habitat Needs

- Section was shortened slightly to avoid repetition and to make the text more succinct.
- Figures were modified to include place-names mentioned in the section and document overall. The placement of figures within the text was also changed for better flow of the document, and one figure was added to show fall migrations.
- Information about the timing of crossings

4.3 Population and Distribution

- Restructured this section by creating Table 2 to make the text more succinct regarding population and distribution information.
- Information about the 2015 population estimate was added.

5. Threats and Limiting Factors

5.1 Threat Assessment

- The threats table provided in Appendix D was moved to this section so major threats to the species can be quickly assessed.

5.2 Description of Threats

Changes to Sea Ice Affecting Migration

- Moved the discussion of cumulative impacts of climate change (sea-ice related issues) and shipping traffic after reviewing each of these threats separately. It is now more clear to the reader what each of the threats is before reviewing their cumulative impact.

Predation and Competition

- No large changes.

Harvest

- Added text explaining the change of rank between 2014 and 2016 threat assessment.

Parasites, Diseases and Insect Harassment

- No large changes.

Other Habitat Changes due to Climate Change

- This section was moved below to avoid confusion with the first section of the Threats addressing changes to sea ice.

Icing Events

- No large changes.

Mining

- No large changes.

Roads

- No large changes.

Flights

- No large changes.

Other Threats

- Summarized the threats of this category in a paragraph and moved detailed information to the Appendix C.

5.3 Knowledge Gaps

- An additional knowledge gap was added: Potential impact of future development on Dolphin and Union caribou.
- Prioritized Knowledge gaps.

6. Management

6.1 Management Goal

- Rewording of the goal to make it clearer.

6.2 Management Objectives

- No large changes.

6.3 Approaches to Management of the Dolphin and Union Caribou

- This section was moved before the Approaches to Achieve Objectives to facilitate reading.
- Added a 'Threats and/or knowledge gaps addressed' column to link back to the initial reason for concern and how we are addressing that concern.
- Management Plan Goal row: moved this information in its own section at the end of the document called "7. Measuring Progress".

6.4 Approaches to Achieve Objectives

- Updated Objective 1, Objective 2 and Objective 3 to reduce redundancy and make it more clear how these 3 objectives are distinct from one another.

6.5 Current Management and Other Positive Influences

- This section was moved to the Management section to facilitate reading.

6.6 Managing Based on Population Status (Level)

- Replaced term 'herd' with 'population'.

Determining Population Status

- No large changes.

Management Actions Recommended

- No large changes.

7. Measuring Progress

- New section added: to define and measure progress toward achieving the management goal.

8. Next Steps

- No large changes.

9. References

- No large changes.

Appendix A: Dolphin and Union Caribou Management Framework

- No large changes.

Appendix B: Assessments of Dolphin and Union Caribou

- Appendix B was removed as the status assessments were placed in the body of the document.

Appendix C: Effects on the Environment and Other Species

- No large changes.

Appendix D: IUCN Threat Classification Table and Threat Calculator Results for Dolphin and Union Caribou

- No large changes.