‘Working Together for Baffin Island Caribou’

WORKSHOP REPORT (AUGUST 2013)

Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut
Iqaluit, Nunavut

Executive Summary

In response to concerns about the very low numbers of caribou on Baffin Island, close to 60 wildlife co-management partner representatives met in Iqaluit on July 23rd and 24th, 2013, to discuss caribou management on Baffin Island. Workshop participants were encouraged to share information about caribou and collaborate and discuss possible actions for conservation. The workshop was an important first step in determining how caribou on Baffin Island will be managed in the future.

A community-based approach that supports Inuit self-management was identified as the preferred system for caribou management on Baffin Island. Under this system, local Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs) will work with community members to establish community restrictions and management actions, in partnership with various wildlife co-management partners, including the Government of Nunavut. Communication and collaboration amongst and within all communities and organizations will be essential in building timely and appropriate solutions for conservation. Working together will be of the utmost importance.

Representatives recognized their responsibility to share with their community members the information they received during the workshop so that the communities can be informed and participate in the decision-making processes concerning their caribou. The information provided in this report summarizes the discussions and ideas put forward during the workshop and will form a starting point for the management planning framework. The intention is to support this process within the communities, through planned, upcoming community consultations beginning in fall 2013.

Preface

This report represents the Department of Environment's best efforts to accurately capture and translate all of the information that was shared during the workshop.

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1.0 Purpose and Goals of the Workshop

Inuit knowledge and scientific information have shown that caribou numbers on Baffin Island are currently very low. Under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, wildlife co-management partners share responsibility for maintaining vital, healthy caribou populations and for restoring and revitalizing depleted caribou populations.

To assist with the management of the Baffin Island caribou population, a 'Working Together for Baffin Island Caribou' Workshop brought co-management partners together to:

1. Listen and Share Knowledge
2. Build Understanding and Collaboration
3. Address Key Stewardship and Caribou Management Questions for Baffin Island
4. Identify Conservation Measures that could be taken by Individuals, Communities, and Management Authorities.

The Workshop agenda is presented in Appendix 1.

2.0 Workshop Participants and Structure

2.1 Workshop Participants - The `Working Together for Baffin Island Caribou' Workshop was hosted by the Honourable James Arreak, Minister of Environment, Government of Nunavut (GN). This timely and important workshop brought together co-management partners and invited Elders from across Baffin Island and Nunavut, including representatives from:

- Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTO);
- Elders Advisory Committee (EAC) with the Department of Environment, GN;
- Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB),
- Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB);
- Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI);
- Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut (DOE).

The workshop also welcomed Laisa Ninguik (Grise Fiord) and Noah Kadlak (Coral Harbour), who shared their experience in caribou management from their respective communities.

The workshop was co-chaired by Gabriel Nirlungayuk (Director of Wildlife and the Environment, NTI) and David Akeeagok (Deputy Minister, Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut).

2.2 The Baffin Island Caribou Steering Committee (BICSC) – The BICSC is comprised of one to three representatives from each of the co-management partner organizations, including the Department of Environment, Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and Nunavut Tunngavik

Inc. The Steering Committee was established to collectively develop and implement the workshop and provide continuing guidance and direction during the community consultation and caribou management planning processes. The Steering Committee played an important role in building the objectives and format of the workshop, and will continue to work closely to steer the co-management process by reviewing information shared and exploring the suggestions put forward by the participants.[1]

2.3 Format of Discussions – The Workshop was very well attended, so to facilitate orderly discussion, regional breakout groups were held to discuss agenda items. The north Baffin region consisted of representatives from Arctic Bay, Hall Beach, Igloolik and Pond Inlet. The northeast Baffin region consisted of Clyde River, Pangnirtung and Qikiqtarjuaq representatives, while south Baffin brought together representatives from Cape Dorset, Iqaluit and Kimmirut. Following regional discussions, all workshop participants reconvened and reported back on their group discussions.

This report outlines the general outcomes of those discussions. Section 3.0 summarizes current scientific information regarding the status of caribou on Baffin Island. Section 4.0 summarizes comments made regarding monitoring, while Section 5.0 presents some of the possible tools for decision-making. Section 6.0 highlights food security issues and, lastly, Section 7.0 outlines some future actions with respect to the management of the Baffin Island caribou population.

3.0 Status of Caribou on Baffin Island

Currently, three sub-populations of caribou are recognized on Baffin Island: South Baffin, North Baffin, and Northeast Baffin. Previous projections of the abundance of caribou in the early 1990`s ranged between 60,000 to 180,000 for South Baffin, 50,000 to 150,000 for North Baffin, and >10,000 for the Northeast (Ferguson and Gauthier, 1992). These estimates were generated using local knowledge and observations, as well as information from tagging and collaring studies.

Inuit observations and scientific studies have shown that caribou numbers on Baffin Island are currently very low. Caribou are an extremely important food and clothing resource to Inuit, and there is widespread concern about various threats to caribou and their habitat.

In 2012, a large scale aerial survey was conducted by a team of GN researchers and community observers to estimate the abundance of caribou on South Baffin Island. The results of that survey estimated that the density of caribou in the South Baffin region was critically low at only 5.3 caribou per 1,000 km^2 (95% CI 3.8-7.4/1,000 km^2), or an abundance estimate of less than 5,000 caribou (95% CI 1,065 to 2,067 caribou one year or older). The findings are consistent with and support Inuit knowledge and local observations of low caribou abundance on Baffin Island in recent years (Jenkins *et al., 2012)*.

On North Baffin Island, researchers were unable to generate density estimates from reconnaissance aerial surveys designed to deploy Global Positioning System (GPS) collars on caribou in 2008 and 2009

[1] See Appendix 4 for a list of Baffin Island Caribou Steering Committee Members

due to the very low number of caribou observed. Local community observations and concerns also affirmed low caribou abundance in North Baffin (Jenkins and Goorts, 2011, 2013).

4.0 Monitoring: Inuit Knowledge, Community-Based Monitoring, Scientific Research

4.1 Including both Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) and Science in Management and Research - Inuit knowledge is an important part of wildlife management in Nunavut and greatly contributes to the development of a solid information base for Baffin Island caribou. Participants outlined the need to combine IQ and science in order to identify the causes or factors contributing to the decline of caribou on Baffin Island and to come up with appropriate conservation actions.

The vast expanse and remoteness of Baffin Island provides a number of logistical constraints for wildlife research. Many feel that there should be a greater reliance on Inuit Knowledge in wildlife research because it is very difficult to conduct successful and accurate aerial surveys. As well, some people may have a hard time understanding biologists when IQ is not used or referred to. Participants strongly felt that community-based monitoring, as well as Inuit input into study design must be integral for future scientific population assessments.

4.2 Caribou Surveys – Suggestions for Future Work - Many participants voiced concern over the design of survey work on Baffin Island and made a number of suggestions for improvement and/or addition.

- Consultation with Elders and Experts – Elders and local experts to advise researchers where caribou may be located and when and where to focus survey effort.
- Transects - Ten kilometer spacing of transect lines, as was the design for the 2012 South Baffin aerial caribou survey, was viewed as being spaced too far apart. Closer spaced transect lines (such as five kilometers) were recommended.
- Timing – Suggestions were made to survey in the fall during the rut, in addition to surveying in the spring.
- Ground Surveys – There was significant interest to conduct grounds surveys by skidoo to compliment aerial surveys. It was suggested that ground surveys be informed by Elders and local experts, and the results be used to confirm and/or add to the information collected during aerial surveys (e.g. numbers, group size, sex, age). Participants in grounds surveys would include local experts, hunters, Elders, youth, and be coordinated between adjacent communities.

4.3 Community Involvement in Research - Workshop participants expressed a need for greater community involvement in research, and highlighted the benefits of working closely with the government and biologists when designing and implementing research studies. Suggestions to promote community involvement included:

- Increased awareness in the communities of research activities;

- Having Elders and local experts assist in the design of research studies (i.e. consultation on where caribou might be and when and where to focus survey effort);
- Having hunters, Elders and youth participate in surveys;
- Providing timely results and making information readily available in the communities; and
- Providing funding and support for community-driven research initiatives.

4.4 Frequency of Surveys and Other Studies - A full Island caribou survey of Baffin Island has never been conducted. Previous abundance estimates for the early 1990s were derived using Inuit Knowledge, partial surveys, and collaring and tagging studies. Currently, a multi-year aerial caribou survey of the entire island is proposed. However, to date, an abundance estimate is only available for South Baffin Island. Once again, due to the very low number of caribou observed in North Baffin Island during reconnaissance aerial surveys in 2008 and 2009, it was not possible to derive an abundance estimate for the North Baffin region.

Participants voiced the need to complete surveys and monitoring studies on a more regular basis, stressing that 20 years is too long between population estimates. Suggestions included monitoring after a 3-5 year term following new management actions in order to assess the effect of conservation measures outlined in a developing management plan. Monitoring and conservation efforts would then be reassessed and modified as appropriate. Again, community involvement is understood as integral.

4.5 Disease, Body Condition, and Health - There is very little current information about the occurrence of disease in Baffin Island caribou. Participants shared their knowledge that disease became prevalent when caribou numbers cycled high, also pointing out the beneficial function of wolves to cull the weak and sick, thereby keeping caribou populations healthy. The Department of Environment has initiated a hunter-based sample collection program, the `Caribou Health Monitoring Program', whereby hunters can submit samples from their harvested caribou. The samples are then analyzed for a number of health parameters, including the presence of disease and parasites, and the results are reported back to the communities. Two communities on Baffin Island are actively participating in the program - efforts are under way to extend the program to all communities that hunt on Baffin Island.

4.6 Harvest – Little to no monitoring of harvest activity exists for caribou on Baffin Island. Inuit harvest of caribou on Baffin Island is currently unrestricted. No accurate caribou harvest statistics are collected by the HTOs.

Sport-hunt tags (for non-beneficiaries) are available for purchase through the Conservation Office; however, harvesters are not required to report if the tag has been filled. Commercial tags are also available through the Conservation Office, as well as the HTO in Iqaluit. These are required for the sale of caribou parts by non-beneficiaries to commercial businesses. Inuit do not need commercial tags. Under the NLCA, Inuit can sell legally harvested wildlife to anybody. Both sport-hunt and commercial tag use are reported to be low, providing little overall information to the harvest of caribou on Baffin Island.

The reporting of *all* harvest was included in the list of suggestions for potential management actions. *(See 'What Management Actions Can We Take?').* Most participants recommended that harvest reporting be mandatory, whether a TAH is implemented or not, and that this be managed by the Conservation Officers or the HTO.

4.7 Predators - Some workshop participants were concerned that predation by wolves may be contributing to the low numbers of caribou on Baffin Island. Some suggested the government should provide compensation or payment to hunters in order to promote the harvest of wolves to reduce their numbers.

During aerial caribou surveys, incidental wildlife observations including wolf sightings and wolf sign are recorded. The most recent information is provided in the 2012 Summary Report, 'Estimating the Abundance of South Baffin Caribou' (Jenkins *et al., 2013).*

4.8 Mineral Exploration and Development – During consultations in 2011 and 2012, many HTO members expressed concern about the negative effects that exploration and development may be having on caribou. Particular concern was raised around Baffinland Iron Mine's 'Mary River Project', located in the core range of North Baffin caribou. Some workshop participants felt that development should be more restricted in areas of caribou migration paths, and that caribou may find particular sounds that are associated with this type of activity distressing. Helicopters were identified as being disturbing to caribou, as they are very loud.

4.9 Climate Change – Several participants shared their observations of changing climate, including an increase in winter icing events that can cause die-offs of caribou due to inaccessibility to food.

4.10 Technological Advances in Harvest Methods/Gear – Elders and participants commented that the overall exploitation of caribou has increased greatly due to technological advances in harvesting, including: snowmobiles, high powered rifles and scopes, GPS, cell phones, aerial survey information, greater access to former areas of refuge for Baffin Island caribou. The current exploitation may not be sustainable for the caribou or allow their numbers to come back in the same way that they have in the past through normal population cycling.

4.11 Increasing Population / Demand for Country Food – As the human population on Baffin Island increases (approx. 60% of all Nunavummiut), the demand for country food and basic needs level of harvest may be exceeding the sustainable replacement needs of the wild caribou population. Internet sales, commercial restaurant demand in Iqaluit and low freight rates are contributing to the potential imbalance in caribou exploitation relative to what wild caribou populations can sustain.

5.0 Tools for Decision Making

5.1 How Caribou Populations Fluctuate Over Time **-** Many workshop participants noted that caribou populations undergo natural fluctuations in abundance; they cycle both up and down in response to varying factors, including climate, food availability, and disease. Some participants suggested that caribou populations cycle over the course of a 30-year period, while others suggested the cycles take approximately 50-75 years. Regardless of the specific timeframe, everyone agreed that caribou populations throughout Nunavut have undergone dramatic changes in abundance for generations. For example, one workshop participant noted that in the past, during times of caribou scarcity, people from across Baffin Island would frequently meet at common hunting locations in the Island's interior. However, during the 1960's caribou were so prevalent on Baffin Island that hunters did not have to travel very far from their communities. The population continued to increase until the 1990's.

According to several participants, including members of the DOE Elders Advisory Committee, caribou on Baffin Island are currently at a natural low in their population cycle. While many suggested that the population will eventually increase, others noted that the use of new and improved technologies (snowmobiles, high-powered rifles, etc.) and man-made disturbances (aircraft, mineral exploration, roads) may hinder or prevent their natural recovery. It was agreed that co-management partners must work together to help aid their recovery and promote the continued conservation of caribou on Baffin Island.

5.2 Process to Make Decisions **-** Workshop participants agreed that the decision-making process must centre on a community-based approach, whereby local HTOs begin working with community members to draft a set of mutually agreed-upon community bylaws. After each community has had an opportunity to draft their own rules pertaining to caribou management, they would consult with adjacent hamlets to ensure the measures are equivalent or complementary (i.e. rules regarding wastage, prescribed hunting seasons/areas, no hunting refuge areas adjacent to communities, non-quota limitations (NQLs), and total allowable harvests (TAHs), for example). Some communities may wish to make the rules voluntary, while other may choose to explore different options for making the rules enforceable – *see Section 1.3 'What Management Actions Can We Take?'*.

After the HTOs in conjunction with community members have created a set of hamlet-specific and/or inter-settlement bylaws or rules, they may wish to approach the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board or the Government of Nunavut (as per the Southampton Island HTO shared experience) to ask for assistance enforcing the guidelines. Several workshop participants noted it would be helpful to consult with Department of Environment biologists throughout the decision-making process, as their input could help inform community-based management plans. Government assistance may also be required to help develop such plans.

Many participants noted that they would like to see the decision-making process begin immediately in order to have the agreed-upon measures implemented as soon as possible. The July 2013 workshop,

along with this report and a draft management plan framework, may be used to help guide the process. Numerous participants stressed the importance of working together to ensure everyone's needs and concerns are addressed, including those of the caribou and future generations of Inuit.

***5.3 What Management Actions Can We Take?* -** There are two general avenues for creating and implementing caribou management regulations in Nunavut. The first, as noted in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (Article 5), is based on the recognition of Inuit systems of wildlife management. According to the act, Inuit can introduce *non-binding* hunting restrictions through local HTOs and RWOs. For example, in response to declining Peary Caribou numbers during the 1960-70's, the community of Grise Fiord and its HTO introduced a harvest restriction whereby hunters were not allowed to harvest caribou within a prescribed area outside of Grise Fiord. Essentially, a large Peary Caribou refuge area was established adjacent to the community to allow Peary Caribou to replenish themselves close to the community again, and across a prolonged season by not allowing hunters to take early arrivals of caribou, nor later ones. Hunters had to travel to areas located much further away from the community in order to harvest caribou and allow the nearby population to recover. The HTO/community-initiated moratorium lasted approximately ten years, and thanks to the cooperation of the hunters and people from Grise Fiord, Peary Caribou numbers in the area have continued to increase. Because the bylaws were created by the HTO/community and were non-enforceable under the *Wildlife Act,* they did not require approval from the Government of Nunavut or the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. However, some workshop participants questioned the HTOs' ability to enforce their own bylaws by relying solely on social pressure, Elders, and HTO membership, for example.

The second avenue for crafting caribou management measures involves creating a formal *request for decision,* which is then sent to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and the Minister of Environment for consideration. HTOs can make any request they deem appropriate for the management of a particular species, including a request to establish a total allowable harvest (TAH). If the proposed management actions are approved by the NWMB and accepted by the Minister of Environment, the new regulations become *enforceable* by the Conservation Officers (DOE) under the *Wildlife Act.* In 2012, the Coral Harbour HTO sent a request to the NWMB asking to establish a total allowable harvest (TAH) for caribou on Southampton Island. Caribou numbers on the island had been steadily declining over the past decade due to several factors, and the HTO wanted enforceable regulations to help ensure the population recovered. The Government of Nunavut supported the HTO request and an annual TAH of 1,000 caribou was established for the Southampton Island caribou population, with joint co-management by the HTO and Conservation Officers. Currently, each household in Coral Harbour receives four caribou tags per year, and they are free to use the legally harvested meat as they wish. Again, because the TAH is sanctioned by the Government of Nunavut, it is enforceable. People must have a tag in order to harvest a caribou. In Coral Harbour, the HTO, together with GN, has found a way to assure the recovery of caribou on Southampton Island in a much shorter time period, while ensuring the sustainability of the herd in a fair manner to community members.

The following is a summary of potential management actions that were presented by participants during the workshop proceedings:

- Examine the effects of wolf predation on Baffin Island caribou populations. If wolves do in fact pose a conservation concern, consider introducing a cull and/or bounty for harvested wolves. Others commented that wolves were necessary to the caribou to keep the population healthy and balanced, free from disease;
- Relocate caribou from Baffin Island to proximal islands, where the vegetation may be more suitable and hunters could harvest closer to their communities;
- Establish community-specific non-quota limitations;
- Restrict/stop hunting in certain areas (i.e. known calving grounds);
- Restrict/stop hunting during certain times of the year;
- Stop all sport hunting and restrict the harvest of bulls, pregnant females and females with calves;
- *All* harvested caribou must be reported to a local Conservation Officer in order to keep detailed harvest records;
- Develop more community-based monitoring programs;
- Limit/regulate the inter-settlement sale of caribou meat;
- Implement a tag system, whereby each harvested caribou must have a harvest tag (no quota limitation);
- Implement a tag system , whereby each harvested caribou must have a harvest tag (with a total allowable harvest (TAH) to be determined and agreed upon by the community);
- Stop all commercial hunting until the population shows signs of recovery;
- HTOs adopt sole responsibility for distributing tags to ensure consistency and avoid confusion in harvest reporting.

5.4 Communication and Education - Perhaps the most recurring theme discussed throughout the workshop was the need for more education, specifically related to traditional hunting and conservation principles. Many workshop participants commented that children are no longer being taught how to properly care for and/or harvest caribou. This results in various management problems such as wastage, over-harvesting, and improper hunting and butchering techniques. Children used to learn by observing and listening to their elders. However, life today is very different than in the past, as children are educated in the formal school system where IQ principles are not taught. Children today learn primarily through reading and writing, while past generations of Inuit learned mostly through observation and personal experience. Opportunities are needed for children to learn how things were done in the past.

Accordingly, many workshop participants suggested that Elders, HTO representatives and knowledgeable community members should be more involved in educating youth, both in and outside of a conventional classroom setting. They suggested that the aforementioned people could receive funding from the Government of Nunavut and/or other organizations to visit schools and teach youth about caribou, other wildlife species, wildlife management, hunting practises, skills development, and environmental stewardship. Many participants noted that this form of inter-generational education should be directly incorporated into the school curriculum. Everyone agreed that it would greatly

benefit students, and the efforts to conserve caribou on Baffin Island. However, participants stressed that financial resources would be required to implement these initiatives. Minister James Arreak committed to communicating these concerns and need for action to the Minister of Education, Government of Nunavut, for follow-up discussions/planning.

Lastly, one workshop participant noted that Elders, HTO representatives, and other elected officials must also communicate with adults in their communities about how to properly care for and harvest caribou. Some people were not taught how to hunt properly, and some people need to be reminded about certain management principles. Regular education and communication initiatives are the best way to ensure that everyone is properly informed about IQ principles and rules pertaining to caribou management.

The following is a summary of specific education measures and principles that were presented during the workshop proceedings:

- Young people need to *observe* and learn how to properly care for and harvest caribou by accompanying Elders on hunting trips. It is important that youth experience this first-hand;
- Teach youth not to waste any meat, as every part of a caribou can be utilized;
- Teach people to take only what they need;
- There needs to be more funding available to have Elders, HTO representatives and community members visit schools to teach and share knowledge about wildlife management;
- Board representatives need to be more proactive when it comes to sharing their knowledge and exploring opportunities for funding;
- Teach youth that animals are not to be played with;
- Some schools try to incorporate IQ into their lessons, but many times it is used improperly;
- Inuit must know about every aspect of hunting and survival (firearms, knives, weather, first aid, skin sewing, making rope, building igloos etc.);
- Proper food preparation and storage techniques need to be taught in schools;
- Educate youth about when and where to harvest caribou, as this will help prevent management problems, such as wastage and over-harvesting.

5.5 Allocation of Harvest - Both the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* and the *Wildlife Act* outline detailed guidelines pertaining to the allocation of harvest within the territory - *please refer to these documents for further information*. It was specifically noted during the workshop that Inuit do have the right of first access to wildlife resources, once conservation needs are met. This means that if a total allowable harvest was to be established for caribou management on Baffin Island, the Inuit basic needs level (BNL) would represent the first and priority demand on the harvestable surplus, once conservation needs for stock replacement are met (precautionary principle). Any remaining quota above the basic needs level could be used for other types of harvesting (i.e. sport, commercial, non-beneficiary). If the total allowable harvest was equal to or less than the basic needs level, Inuit would have the right to the entire harvest.

Co-management partners and GN have the responsibility to ensure that caribou are managed according to the *Wildlife Act* under the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement,* so as to ensure the rights of Inuit and the sustainability of caribou.

The following is a summary of harvest allocation suggestions that were presented by participants during the workshop proceedings (ordered chronologically in the workshop):

- Establish an annual harvest limit for each household;
- Establish a moratorium on inter-settlement sale of caribou and caribou parts where the caribou population appears to be declining (5-year term);
- Each Inuk be limited to an annual harvest of eight caribou during times of scarcity;
- Limit the number of caribou that can be used for commercial sales;
- Discontinue all sport and non-beneficiary harvesting.

6.0 Food Security

It was noted at the outset of the workshop that caribou represent an essential, cost-effective and nutritious source of food and clothing, which has helped meet the dietary needs of Inuit for millennia. Accordingly, the current shortage of caribou on Baffin Island poses serious concerns for people who rely on caribou as a primary source of nutrition, especially those who are unable to afford adequate amounts of commercial foods.

Several workshop participants noted that if new hunting restrictions are in fact adopted for Baffin Island caribou, people will need to harvest different animals in order to maintain a healthy diet. What wildlife species could fill this void? Mention was made of the rich marine resources around Baffin Island (seals, bowhead whale, narwhal, beluga whale, arctic char, turbot), as well as opportunities for Ross' Goose (eggs, meat, down) for inter-settlement trade and/or sharing with Baffin Island Nunavummiut. Others suggested that hunters from the mainland and other parts of Nunavut could sell/give caribou meat to people on Baffin Island during this period of scarcity. As well, a Meat Replacement Program was suggested. Lastly, some individuals mentioned that some of the practices (*See Section 1.4 Communication and Education)* related to proper harvesting and caching techniques may help address this situation, albeit only slightly. Everyone agreed that this issue should be discussed further – *perhaps at the Nunavut Food Security Coalition.*

7.0 Timeline – What's Next?

- **Winter 2013 – 2014** - Community consultations ongoing to share information from the Caribou Workshop, and work together with communities, HTOs and co-management partners towards the development of a *Baffin Island Caribou Management Plan*;

- **Community Initiatives** - HTOs and communities can assert their co-management authority and initiate community-compliant rules or bylaws for caribou management of their own initiative, *as soon as possible*; this was the preferred co-management desired approach and outcome of the Workshop, according to the discussions among community and HTO representatives who participated in the Workshop.

  The above possible community initiatives may be as per the Grise Fiord and/or Coral Harbour examples, or according to a new co-management model that the HTOs and communities may design that fits the varying needs, leadership, vision, commitment and willingness of the communities in the various regions of Baffin Island to work together; Conservation Officers and/or DoE Wildlife Biologists or other co-management partners are available to assist;

- *'Working together for Baffin Island Caribou'.*

8.0 References

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Appendix 1. Workshop Agenda

Working Together for Baffin Island Caribou

Navigator Inn, Iqaluit

July 23-24, 2013

Co-Chaired by Gabriel Nirlingayak and David Akeeagok

Facilitated by Peter Hale

Goals of the Workshop

Bring Co-Management Partners together from across Baffin Island and Nunavut to:

1) ***Listen and Share Knowledge***
2) ***Build Understanding and Collaboration***
3) ***Address Key Stewardship and Caribou Management Questions for Baffin Island***
4) ***Identify Conservation Measures to be Taken by Individuals, Communities, and Management Authorities***

Day 1 – All about caribou and the people that rely on them

8:15-8:45	**Registration**	
8:45	**Opening Prayer**	
8:45-9:25	**Welcome and Opening Remarks**	Minister Arreak
	Session 1: What Do We Know?	
9:25-9:50	**Overview of Community Consultations, 2011-2012 – Sharing What We Know**	Jaylene Goorts
9:50-10:05	**HEALTH BREAK**	
10:05-11:15	**Changes in the Number and Distribution of Caribou on Baffin Island** • Caribou Abundance and Distribution - South Baffin Aerial Survey Results, 2012 • Caribou Aerial Survey, 2012 - Observer Experience and Observations • An Elder's Perspective of Caribou Numbers on Baffin Island Over Time	Lynda Orman Lew Philip

11-15-12:00	**Community Perspectives on Caribou (Small Groups Discussions)**	All Participants
12:00-1:30	**LUNCH**	
1:30-2:20	**Community Perspectives on Caribou (Report Back to All Participants)**	All Participants
2:20-3:00	**Social Science on Baffin Caribou (2013) – What the GN Has Heard**	Moshi Kotierk
3:00-3:15	**HEALTH BREAK**	

Session 2: What Is Happening Elsewhere in Nunavut?

3:15-5:00	**1) Peary Caribou in the High Arctic**	Laisa Ninguik
	2) Barrenground Caribou on Southampton Island	Noah Kadlak
5:00	**Closing Remarks for Day 1**	Gabriel Nirlingayuk, David Akeeagok

Day 2 – Moving Forward for the Conservation of Caribou

8:45	**Opening Prayer**	
8:45-9:05	**Opening Remarks for Day 2**	Gabriel Nirlingayuk, David Akeeagok

Session 3: What Can We Do to Conserve the Caribou?

9:05-9:35	**Examining Inuit Laws and Their Application in Times of Scarcity**	Lew Philip
9:35-9:50	**Inuit Rights and Wildlife Management Under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement**.	Glenn Williams
9:50-10:05	**HEALTH BREAK**	

10:05-12:00	**Moving Forward on Baffin Island (Facilitated Discussion)** • Address Key Stewardship and Caribou Management Questions • Individual Action • Community-Based Action • Co-Management Partners / Government Action	All Participants (Facilitated by Peter Hale and Glenn Williams)
12:00-1:30	**LUNCH**	
1:30-2:00	**Implementing Solutions (Small Group Discussions)** • Propose Caribou Management Options for Baffin Island - Interim, Short-Term Management Options - Longer-Term Stewardship Solutions	All Participants
2:00-3:00	**Implementing Solutions (Report Back to All Participants)**	All Participants
3:00-3:15	**HEALTH BREAK**	
3:15-4:30	**Working Towards a Caribou Management Plan (Facilitated Discussion)**	All Participants (Facilitated by Peter Hale and Glenn Williams)
4:30-5:00	**Final Closing Remarks**	Gabriel Nirlingayuk, David Akeeagok

Appendix 2. List of Workshop Participants

Elders Advisory Committee (EAC)

Guy Alikut - Arviat
Hugh Tulurialik – Baker Lake
Johnassie Nakoolak – Coral Harbour
Joe Arlooktoo - Kimmirut
Lew Philip – Chair of EAC, Iqaluit
Laisa Ninguik – Grise Fiord
Jimmy Haniliak – Cambridge Bay
Barthelemey Nirlungayuk - Kugaaruk

Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) Representatives

Maliktoo Lyta – Kimmirut
Kapik Ikkidluak – Kimmirut
Simigak Suvega – Cape Dorset
Qimeataq Nungusuituq – Cape Dorset
Abraham Qammaniq – Hall Beach
Levi Kaunak – Hall Beach
David Irngaut – Igloolik
Abraham Ulayuruluk – Igloolik
Andrew Taqtu – Arctic Bay
Olayuk Naqitarvik – Arctic Bay
Elijah Panipakoocho – Pond Inlet
Jacobie Iqalukjuak – Clyde River
Imona Koksiak – Qikiqtarjuaq
Jacopie Newkingnak – Qikiqtarjuaq
Stevie Komourtok – Pangnirtung
Joshua Kango – Iqaluit
Jeetaloo Kakee – Iqaluit

South Baffin Caribou Survey (2012) Observers

Oquituq Ashoona – Cape Dorset
Jaypootie Akpalialak – Pangnirtung
Paul Idlout – Iqlauit
Chris Wex – Conservation Officer, DoE, Pangnirtung

Invited Speakers

Laisa Ninguik - Grise Fiord
Noah Kadlak – Coral Harbour HTO Chair

Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB)

James Qillaq – President
Jackie Price – Coordinator, Research and Planning

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB)

Sheila Oolayou – Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Coordinator
Sarah Spencer – Terrestrial Wildlife Management Biologist

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI)

Gabriel Nirlungayuk, Director, Wildlife and Environment, Workshop Co-Chair
Paul Irngaut – Wildlife Communications Advisor
Glenn Williams – Wildlife Policy Advisor, Workshop Facilitator
David Lee – Wildlife Biologist

Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut (DoE, GN)

David Akeeagok – Deputy Minister, Workshop Co-Chair
Drikus Gissing – Director, Wildlife Management
Lynda Orman – Manager, Wildlife Research
Jaylene Goorts – Wildlife Technician (Baffin Region)
Tyler Ross – Acting Communications Manager
Moshi Kotierk – Social Science Researcher
Peter Hale – GN/Canadian Wildlife Service, Workshop Facilitator
Jimmy Noble – Senior Manager of Operations, Wildlife Management
Jason Aliqatuqtuq – Wildlife Manager, Operations – South Baffin
Brenda Panipakoocho – Wildlife Manager, Operations – North Baffin
George Koonoo – Conservation Officer, Pond Inlet
BJ Hainnu – Conservation Officer, Clyde River
Alden Williams – Conservation Officer, Iqaluit
William Flahrty – Conservation Officer, Iqaluit
Aaron Skoblenick – Conservation Officer, Cape Dorset

Appendix 3. Baffin Island Caribou Steering Committee Members

Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut (DoE, GN)

Lynda Orman (Chair) – Wildlife Research Manager
Jaylene Goorts – Wildlife Technician (Baffin Region)
Tyler Ross – Acting Communications Manager
Moshi Kotierk – Social Science Researcher
Peter Hale – GN / Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS), Workshop Facilitator

Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB)

Jackie Price – Coordinator, Research and Planning

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB)

Sheila Oolayou – Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Coordinator

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI)

Paul Irngaut – Wildlife Communications Advisor
Glenn Williams – Wildlife Policy Advisor, Workshop Facilitator

***Sharina Kennedy and Workshop Coordinator/Biologist, Debbie Jenkins (DOE) contributed greatly to the initial preparation and planning of the workshop. Tyler Ross and Jaylene Goorts (DOE) documented the Workshop and prepared this report.

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Taima.

Qujannamiik