



Both Environment Ministers recognize that protecting barren-ground caribou is a shared responsibility, and requires dedication, commitment, and action of all co-management partners.

Participants in this week's meeting reaffirmed a shared goal of wisely managing barren-ground caribou herds to ensure this important resource is protected for future generations.

### Quotes

"Caribou is central to the Inuit way of life. It has profound cultural significance and is a vital source of food. Both of our Territories have robust and collaborative wildlife management systems consisting of Indigenous people and co-management partners. We are committed to working collaboratively on this continued path of coordinated management of our shared herds for the benefit of present and future generations."

- **David Akeagok**, *Nunavut Minister of Environment*

"Barren-ground caribou are an invaluable resource for residents in the NWT, and it is up to all of us to do our part to support them during this time of low population numbers. By coming together as wildlife co-management partners, we are building on our shared expertise to strengthen the ways we work together to ensure caribou remain for future generations."

- **Shane Thompson**, *NWT Minister of Environment and Natural Resources*

### Quick facts

- There have been significant declines in many barren-ground caribou herds over the last three decades.
  - **Get details:** [News release: 2021 Barren-ground caribou population survey results](#)
- Collaboratively developed management plans are in place for most barren-ground caribou herds in the NWT and Nunavut, including the Bathurst and Beverly herds.
- Many factors may be contributing to caribou population declines, including weather and climate change, nutrition, disease, harvest, predators and habitat disturbance.
- Management actions are focused on those factors we can control, including human influences (harvest, development, and fire management) and predators.
- The most recent population estimate for the Bathurst herd was released in 2021.
  - **View:** [2021 Barren-ground caribou population survey results](#)

## Relevant links

- [News release: Bathurst caribou management plan](#)
- [Barren-ground caribou](#)

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