

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT**

**FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2026
EAGLE ROOM
RISE OF HOUSE**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Prayer/Reflection
3. Review and Adoption of Agenda
4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
5. Public Matters
 - a) Public Briefing on Caribou Harvesting Enforcement and the 2026 Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road Season with the Honourable Minister of Environment and Climate Change
6. In Camera Matters
 - a) Debrief
 - b) Correspondence
 - i. 2026-05-14 Honourable Minister of Environment and Climate Change
 - ii. 2026-05-19 Honourable Ministers of Municipal and Community Affairs & Environment and Climate Change
 - iii. 2025-05-25 Honourable Minister of Finance
 - iv. 2026-04-07 Advocates for Safer Airports in Canada
 - c) Internal Briefing on 2025 Mackenzie Valley Operational Dialogue Meeting
 - d) Workplan
7. New Business
 - a)
8. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at Rise of House
9. Adjournment

OPENING REMARKS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT BRIEFING UPDATE ON BATHURST & BLUE-NOSE EAST CARIBOU MANAGEMENT

MINISTER JAY MACDONALD

- Good afternoon, Mr. Chair and Committee members.
- Thank you for the invitation to provide SCEDE with an update on Bathurst and Bluenose-East caribou management and the Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road season.
- Here with me this afternoon are:
 - Deputy Minister Robert Jenkins,
 - Assistant Deputy Minister Brett Elkin,
 - Assistant Deputy Minister Janice Ziemann,
 - Director of Wildlife Management, Heather Sayine-Crawford, and
 - North Slave Regional Superintendent Seth Bohnet.
- Barren-ground caribou management is a shared responsibility, is very complex, and needs to be done over the long-term.
- In the NWT we take an adaptive and collaborative approach that is grounded in both science and Indigenous knowledge.
- ECC has been working closely with co-management partners to advance a range of management actions while ensuring that Indigenous peoples continue to have opportunities to maintain their important relationship with caribou.

- These actions have included collaborative work on harvest, habitat and predator management, public education and awareness, and enhanced research and monitoring to help guide recovery efforts.
- As part of overall efforts, the GNWT and the Tlicho Government are preparing new joint management proposals for management of the Bathurst and Bluenose-East herds within Wek'eezhii.
- We have also worked with the Tlicho Government, Yellowknives Dene First Nation and North Slave Metis Alliance to support their monitoring and guardian programs along the Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road and ensure they are coordinated with our compliance and enforcement efforts.
- The vast majority of our harvesters abide by traditional laws, follow respectful harvesting practices and are in compliance with GNWT legislation, but work continues to deter and investigate any potential illegal activities.
- Overall, I am happy with the level of compliance we saw over this year's winter road season, and we will continue to work with our partners going forward to keep illegal harvest at a minimum.
- I will pass it over to Deputy Minister Jenkins to walk you through the presentation.
- Thank you Mr. Chair.



Update on Bathurst & Bluenose-East Caribou Management

SCEDE – May 29, 2026

Government of
Northwest Territories

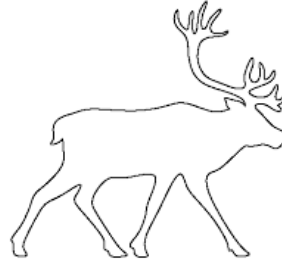
Outline

- Barren-Ground Caribou Co-Management
- Winter Road Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement
- Bluenose-East and Bathurst Barren-Ground Caribou Joint Management Proposals

Co-Management



Caribou Management is a shared responsibility.



Wildlife Co-Management System

Renewable Resources Boards (established under land claims)

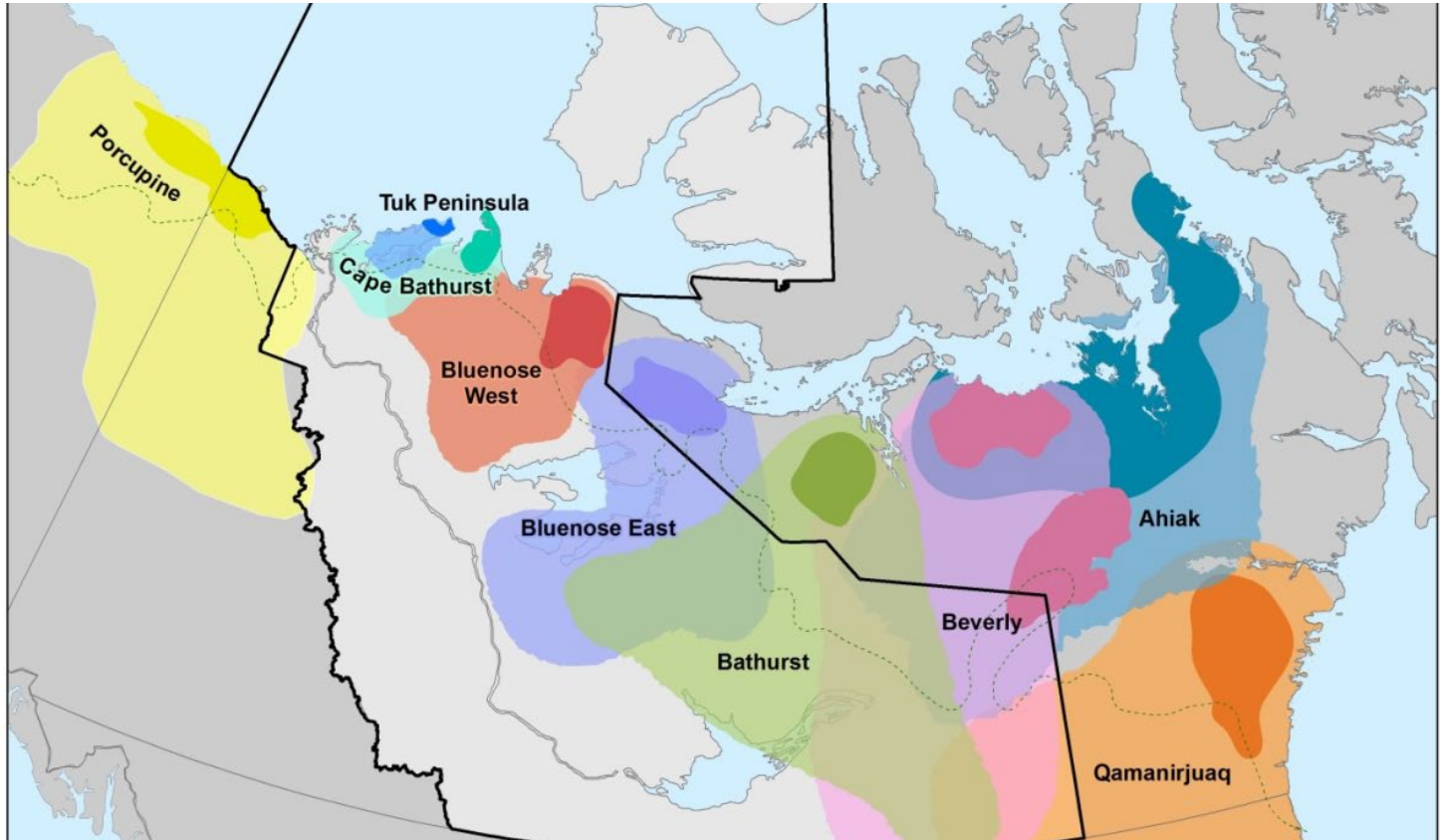
Indigenous governments and Indigenous organizations

Herd-Specific Management Boards



Working Together Takes Time and Commitment.





Renewable Resource Boards



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT
ADVISORY COUNCIL (NWT)



Herd-Specific Caribou Management Boards



Porcupine Caribou
Management Board



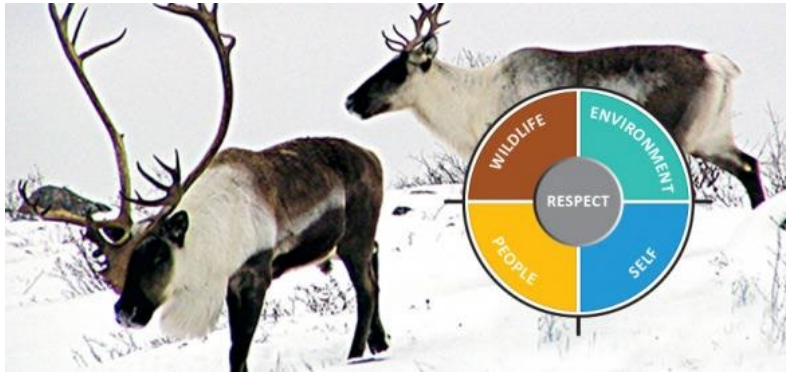
Bathurst Caribou Advisory Committee



Advisory Committee for
Cooperation on Wildlife
Management (ACCWM)



Winter Road Wrap Up 2026



- TCWR was open February 14 to April 10
- ECC presence mid-January to mid-April
- Activities based out of TCWR Camps & 2 ECC Patrol Stations
- Supported and worked with Indigenous-led monitoring and Guardian programs
- Emphasis: visibility & public education



Winter Road Wrap Up 2026

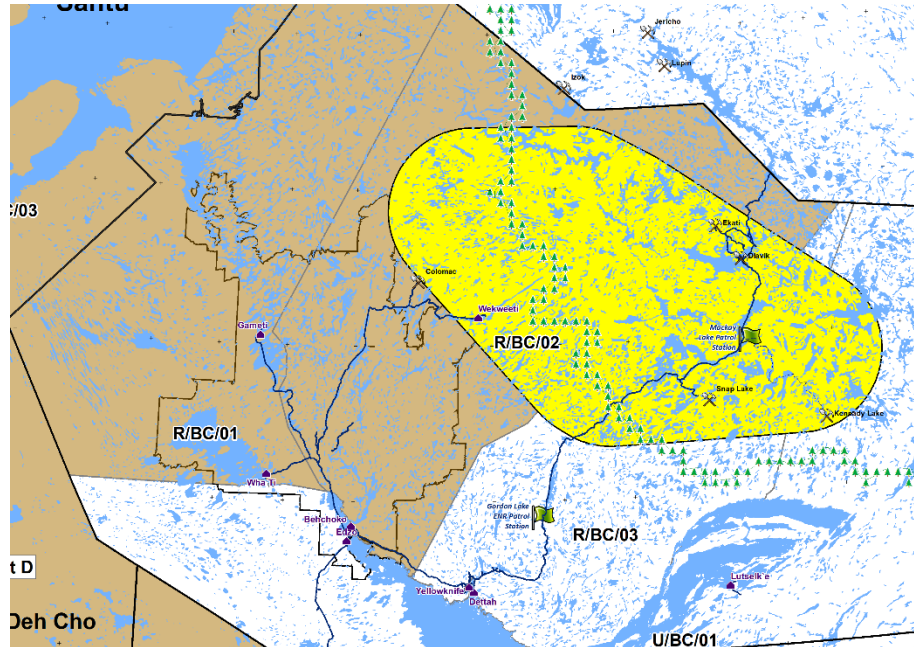


Next Steps

- Review 2026 Operations
- Advance Investigations
- Committee participation



Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement



- 1 investigation of illegal harvesting in the Mobile Zone
- 4 wastage investigations (outside the Mobile Zone)
- 1 investigation of wounded animals (outside the Mobile Zone)

Joint Management Proposals

- Requirement of the Tłıchǫ Final Agreement
- Submitted to the WRRB
- Public Review Process





Questions?

Mársı | Kinanāskomitin | Thank you | Merci | Hąǰ' | Quana | Qujannamiik | Quyanainni | Máhsı | Máhsı | Mahsı

