

Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou

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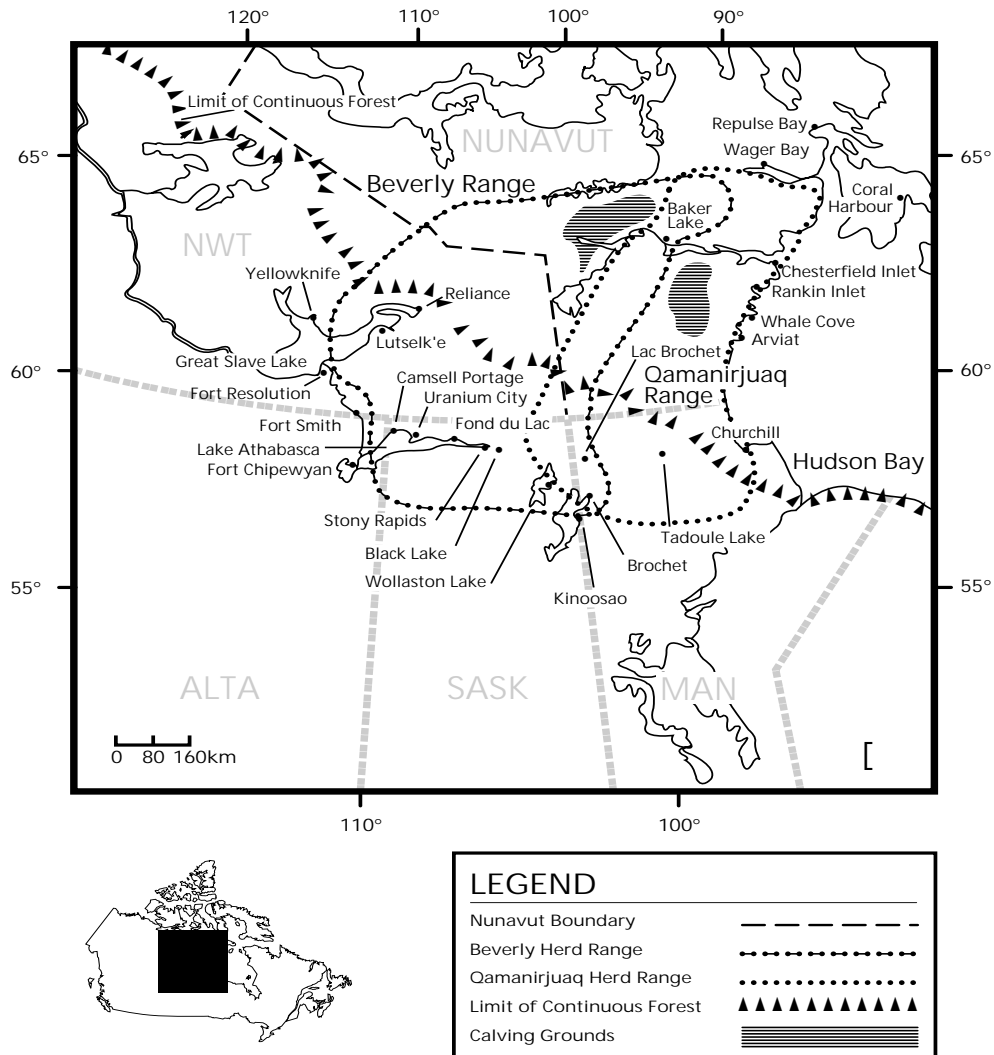
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The heritage and traditions of northern peoples have been shaped to a large extent by the availability and abundance of caribou.



The caribou resource is renewable. The economic and social benefits from caribou can endure if caribou users and governments co-operate in giving timely attention to caribou management problems. Stable or decreasing supply in the face of increased use and environmental changes will require refined management. It may even bring about new concepts and principles in caribou use. Consequently, it is important for resource managers, users, and government decision-makers to understand and support

management tools and techniques with conviction, optimism, and an open mind for the future.

Effective teamwork and patience—challenging as they are to deliver—are being called for throughout the 1990s. Issues involving natural resources management, aboriginal rights, community economic development and self-government point to co-management solutions.

There is growing public concern and awareness about the precious caribou resource. That, twinned

with co-management working relationships, achievements and trust—rather than confrontation—are the ingredients that work to protect the caribou herds.

The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Herds of Barren-Ground Caribou

This management plan is for two large herds of caribou: the Beverly herd and the Qamanirjuaq herd. These herds are migratory and are hunted by Inuit, Dene, Métis, Cree and non-native people. Each herd migrates from winter range, much of which is south of the treeline, to traditional calving grounds on the tundra in the Keewatin. After calving in June, they generally travel southward reaching treeline by August, rut in October, then enter the forest regions where they winter.

Over decades, caribou herds may increase and decrease in size. They may also undergo small or large-scale shifts in distribution. Such changes could result from natural events and human activities. Caribou habitat is particularly vulnerable to the changes that accompany development and human access.

The caribou, their use and their habitat must be managed if these two herds are to remain abundant and productive. Management must be co-operative and involve the full participation of users as well as governments.

The Caribou Management Board, and Management Agreement

Previous attempts to manage without the involvement of the users did not work. In 1981, representatives of native organizations and governments agreed to work together to achieve common goals.

Ultimately, better dialogue resulted in the first 10-year Beverly-Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement (Appendix 1) between the governments of Canada, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories (NWT). This in turn

spawned the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board (BQCMB) in 1982.

In the early years, the Board discussed the problems of caribou management and pinned down possible solutions. By summarizing those discussions, the first management plan—published in 1987—aimed to provide a logical framework within which the Board could function. The plan was, of necessity, dynamic and took into account that details might change as knowledge grew and the environment changed.

Since then, the Board has reviewed the plan on a periodic basis to record progress and reassign responsibilities for specific tasks. It has made recommendations on programs, budgets, policies, and regulations in the context of the management plan, and implemented various action plans.

In 1992, the 10th and final year of the first Management Agreement, an independent evaluation concluded that the Board had been successful and effective in providing a co-ordinating function for governments and a single forum for the management of an important renewable resource. That evaluation recommended that the Board's mandate be renewed for a further 10 years. This recommendation was endorsed by users and accepted by governments.

This management plan is an update of the original, and takes into account the findings of a major study of northern caribou management systems funded by the U.S. Man and the Biosphere Program with support from the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board. Certain events, such as the completion of a wildlife harvest study for Nunavut, may trigger a major review of this management plan.

Role of the Board

The Board's responsibilities, which are listed in the Agreement, include monitoring caribou habitat, conducting modest research, and making recommendations on caribou management and conservation. The Board also communicates its actions to herd range

residents and all concerned, co-ordinates efforts among the various governments and wildlife organizations involved, and assesses all matters referred to it.

In its first 10 years, the Board found it necessary to implement its own modest programs based on needs that were not being met within government programs and budgets. A caribou schools program, for example, was established, as were school competitions and public education programs. As well, surveys were taken of caribou range considered by the communities to be a priority for fire suppression, and a resurvey done of the Beverly herd in 1994.

During its second 10-year mandate, the Board continues to implement appropriate Board programs that reflect current needs, and are consistent with governmental direction and budgets. But this does not excuse the primary responsibility and mandate of governments. In other words, the Board's special programs will not replace or duplicate the programs normally the responsibility of governments; they will be in addition to them. Moreover, the Board recognizes the value of traditional knowledge and will develop action plans to integrate this knowledge with scientific caribou management.

The Value of Caribou

The barren-ground caribou of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds are a valuable resource for a number of reasons. More than 13,500 people currently live on or near the range of the two herds. Of this number, at least 11,000 are of native ancestry and qualify as "traditional users" under the Agreement. The use of these caribou fulfils economic, social, and cultural needs.

During the first eight years of the Agreement, an estimated annual average of 16,000 caribou were reported taken for subsistence use from these two herds. An average caribou yields 45 kilograms (100 pounds) of meat with a replacement value equal to the value of beef, thus the economic value of a caribou harvested is \$850 (using a beef value of \$8.50 per pound in northern communities) and approxi-

mately \$13.5 million per year for the two herds. This is the minimum economic value at the current kill rate, and could be much higher with a larger population of both caribou and traditional users. The economic potential of the resource is considerably larger when uses such as outfitting for non-residents are considered (up to \$3,000 per animal harvested).

Apart from purely economic factors, the use of caribou is important to the culture and traditional lifestyle of native people. This importance cannot be fully evaluated and quantified using the analytical tools of measuring economic value. Yet the benefits are immense, because caribou confer considerable advantages and strengths upon life in native communities.

Community Aspirations, and Role of Users

People living in communities on the range of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds hope that opportunities to harvest caribou will be safeguarded for their children and future generations. To them, membership on the Board is a chance to fully participate in decision-making that guarantees residents the option of a traditional lifestyle. Management actions must always ensure that caribou are accessible to people from the caribou-using communities, and that the chance to harvest caribou remains part of their future.

One of this plan's major objectives is to bring users in as full participants in the management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds. In order to achieve this, users must be equally as involved in the design and implementation of studies and programs. They must also receive support to make their full involvement possible, take part in educational programs and in monitoring caribou, and help find the best ways to exchange information.

The existence of large, free-ranging caribou herds such as the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds goes hand-in-hand with the vision of this country's natural heritage, a vision that is held not only by Canadians but by people around the world.

Purpose:

To safeguard the caribou of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds for traditional users who wish to maintain a lifestyle that includes the use of caribou, as well as for all Canadians and people of other nations.

Goals

- 1 To ensure that caribou are accessible and available to traditional users.
- 2 To increase knowledge of caribou ecology.
- 3 To encourage the wise use of caribou.
- 4 To co-operate with other northern wildlife management boards and to involve local individuals and organizations in management programs.
- 5 To strengthen public support for the conservation of caribou.
- 6 To recommend management action to maintain population levels for each herd between a minimum 150,000 (crisis herd size) and levels that can be sustained by the range while maintaining good caribou condition.
- 7 To monitor population levels to determine optimum herd size.
- 8 To protect caribou and their habitat from human disturbance.

Principles

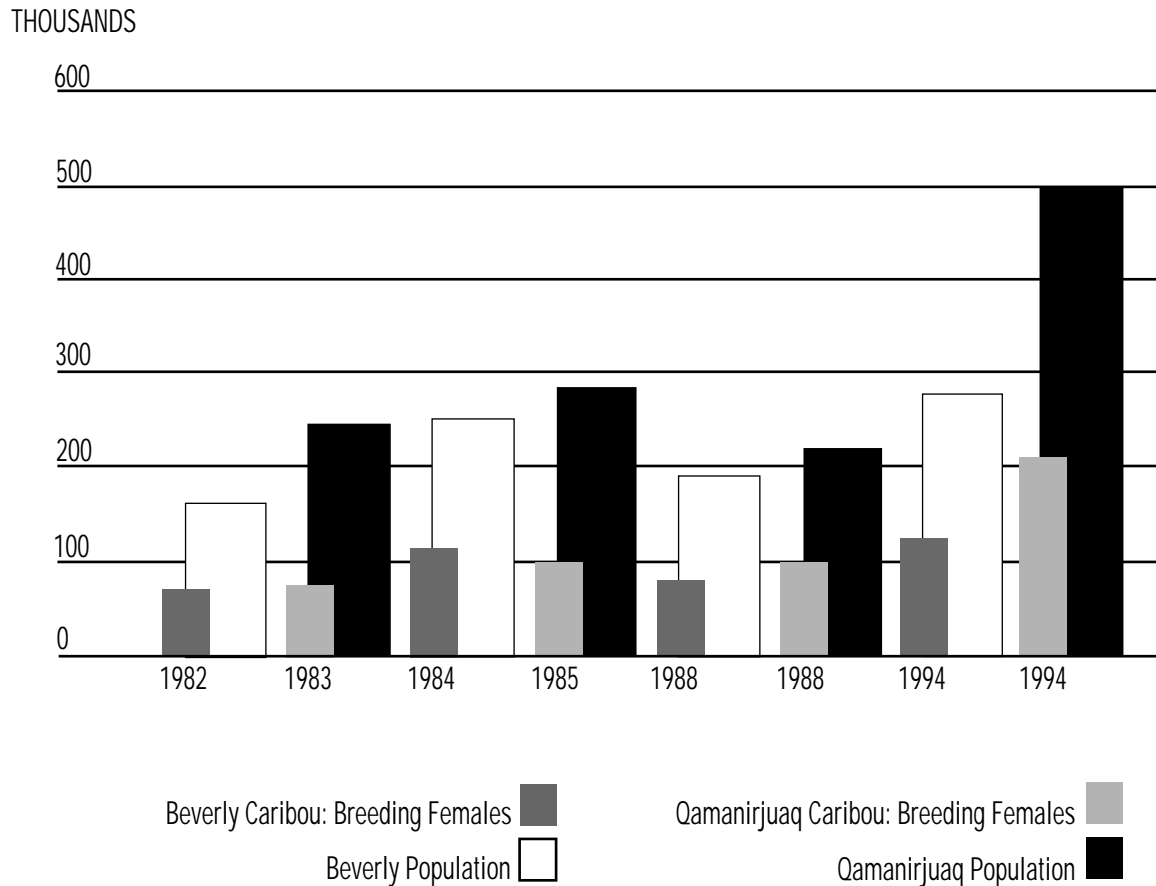
- 1 Effective caribou management must be based on co-operation and communication among traditional users and governments.
- 2 The governments of Canada, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories, as well as the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, recognize their complementary mandates to administer, manage, and allocate the barren-ground caribou in co-operation with the users so that viable caribou populations are maintained. Numbers are not permitted to decline to levels where the resource is diminished.
- 3 Governments and users recognize that traditional users depend on caribou not only for food but for its social, economic and cultural importance to the communities.
- 4 Improvements in caribou hunting methods and the use of caribou will be necessary, and could involve principles of allowable harvest, voluntary harvest restraints, and more effective harvesting techniques.

- 5 Caribou management programs will be explained and promoted based on the best scientific information and local knowledge possible, recognizing however that insufficient budgets may limit research efforts.
- 6 The value of wildlife organizations, hunters' and trappers' associations, and band councils in bringing local perspectives and traditional environmental knowledge to caribou management is recognized.
- 7 Scientific information and advice will be freely available to individuals and organizations.
- 8 The maintenance of suitable caribou habitat, including the preservation of calving grounds, wintering areas and migration routes, is essential.
- 9 To aid regional, territorial, and provincial organizations, governments, and user groups, the Board will be a clearinghouse in matters respecting caribou.

- 10 The Board will recommend on land management programs and on land use planning considering the effects of land use operations on caribou and the supporting habitat. The main emphasis will be on identifying the consequences of developments by means of rigorous project reviews.
- 11 Consistent with principles 2, 5 and 10, the Board will urge governments to maintain an adequate level of caribou management programs and budgets in keeping with their mandates and responsibilities.
- 12 The Board will support additional high priority projects and programs and will attempt to secure funding from various sources, including government, non-government and the Board's own budget. It will pursue partnerships and cooperative projects with appropriate government and non-government organizations for new or enhanced caribou management programs.
- 13 The participation of users on the Board and the implementation of the management plan shall be consistent with aboriginal and treaty rights as recognized in the Constitution Act and in other legislation such as the Natural Resources Transfer Agreements, and the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act.

Figure 1

Number of breeding females and estimated population size based on photographic surveys



Sustainable Development

This plan conforms with the fundamentals of sustainable development: development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development makes sure that the use of resources and the environment today does not damage prospects for their use by future generations.

All elements of the Board's management plan are consistent with the interdependent principles of sustainable development, including meeting human

needs, maintaining ecological integrity, achieving equity and social justice, self-determination and cultural diversity. These goals are in harmony with the Board's mandate.

Size, Trends, and Use of the Caribou Herds

Since 1982, calculating the size of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds has been based on photographic estimates of the number of breeding females on calv-

ing grounds. The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds remained stable in size between 1982 and 1988 (based on estimates of over-winter calf survival, wolf sighting rates and harvest). The 1988 estimate for the Beverly herd was approximately 190,000 animals, and for the Qamanirjuaq herd, about 220,000 animals.

The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds were surveyed again in 1994. The estimate for the Beverly herd was about 286,000 animals, and for the Qamanirjuaq herd about 496,000 animals. The number of breeding females relative to the estimated herd size is shown in Figure 1.

The proportion of calves in the herd in March and April is a measure of calf survival from birth (in June) to the age of one year, when they are considered to be recruited into the population. A measure of recruitment helps to understand population dynamics, by providing an index of potential herd growth. Recruitment in the Beverly herd was between 11% and 27% for the period 1982 to 1992. In the Qamanirjuaq herd, recruitment was between 14% and 26% for the same period. These recruitment levels are considered sufficient to sustain current harvests.

Crisis Herd Size—Research Directions and Management Options

Concern about the possible decline of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds during the 1970s was largely responsible for the establishment of the Board. Now in its second decade, the Board's primary goal remains to safeguard these two herds. The Board considers herd size of 150,000 for each of the herds as a "crisis" level. If herd numbers fall below this level, causes will have to be identified and management action considered.

The "crisis" herd size is the population size (excluding calves) where the number of caribou available to hunters would drop considerably. About 250,000 to 500,000 in each herd is needed to meet harvest requirements equal to the level experienced

over the past two decades. The Board recognizes that users and governments must agree there is a problem before management is possible.

The first step will be to verify that the herd is near, at, or below the crisis level. Herd size should be confirmed as soon as possible. Current information from the users on herd status should be compiled.

Given the six-year interval between population surveys, the following indicators will be used as a warning that the population is in decline and that management action may be required:

- 1 Low population:
 - a) Hunters throughout the herd range believe there are fewer caribou
 - b) Population estimate, excluding calves, is below 150,000 in two consecutive surveys
- 2 Abundance is down:
 - a) Hunters have noticed fewer caribou over previous several years
 - b) Number of breeding females is below 65,000 and declining in two consecutive surveys
- 3 Low calf survival:
 - a) Hunters report few calves (5-12 months old) in herds in winter
 - b) Recruitment (calves surviving to one year of age) averages less than 16% per annum over any four-year period
- 4 Harvest, even though it is declining, is increasing relative to population size:
 - a) Hunters find caribou more difficult to locate over several years
 - b) Harvest estimate is either more than 5% of herd estimate, or more than 12% of the number of breeding females

- 5 Caribou are in poor condition or unhealthy:
 - a) Hunters report thin adult female caribou in winter
 - b) Sampled caribou have lower indices of condition compared with data for 1966-68 (Qamanirjuaq herd) and 1980-87 (Beverly herd)
- 6 Pregnancy rates are low:
 - a) Hunters report many non-pregnant cows in winter
 - b) Pregnancy rates fall below long-term average for herds
- 7 Herd distribution is smaller:
 - a) Fewer communities have access to caribou over any four-year period
 - b) Collar and other data show reduced size of range over four years
- 8 Caribou are diseased or infested with parasites:
 - a) Hunters find many sick caribou
 - b) Samples show disease, parasites, or contaminants.

Low calf production, low calf survival, and low adult survival (or a combination of these) can contribute to a decline in the population. A logical sequence of investigation aims to determine the causes in order that management action can be considered. At the same time, a course of management action has to be drafted. Response must be immediate, based on current local knowledge and surveys.

The problem, however, is likely to be complex. There is no assurance that surveys or specific research will identify the causes. The natural mortality of adult caribou is difficult to measure, and the high variability in natural mortality and hunting may not lead to definite conclusions. Figure 2 outlines investigation required to establish and evaluate herd size.

Information Requirements

It is necessary to review information to provide management options for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou in the future, taking into account users' local and traditional knowledge, understanding, and support for current wildlife research and management techniques.

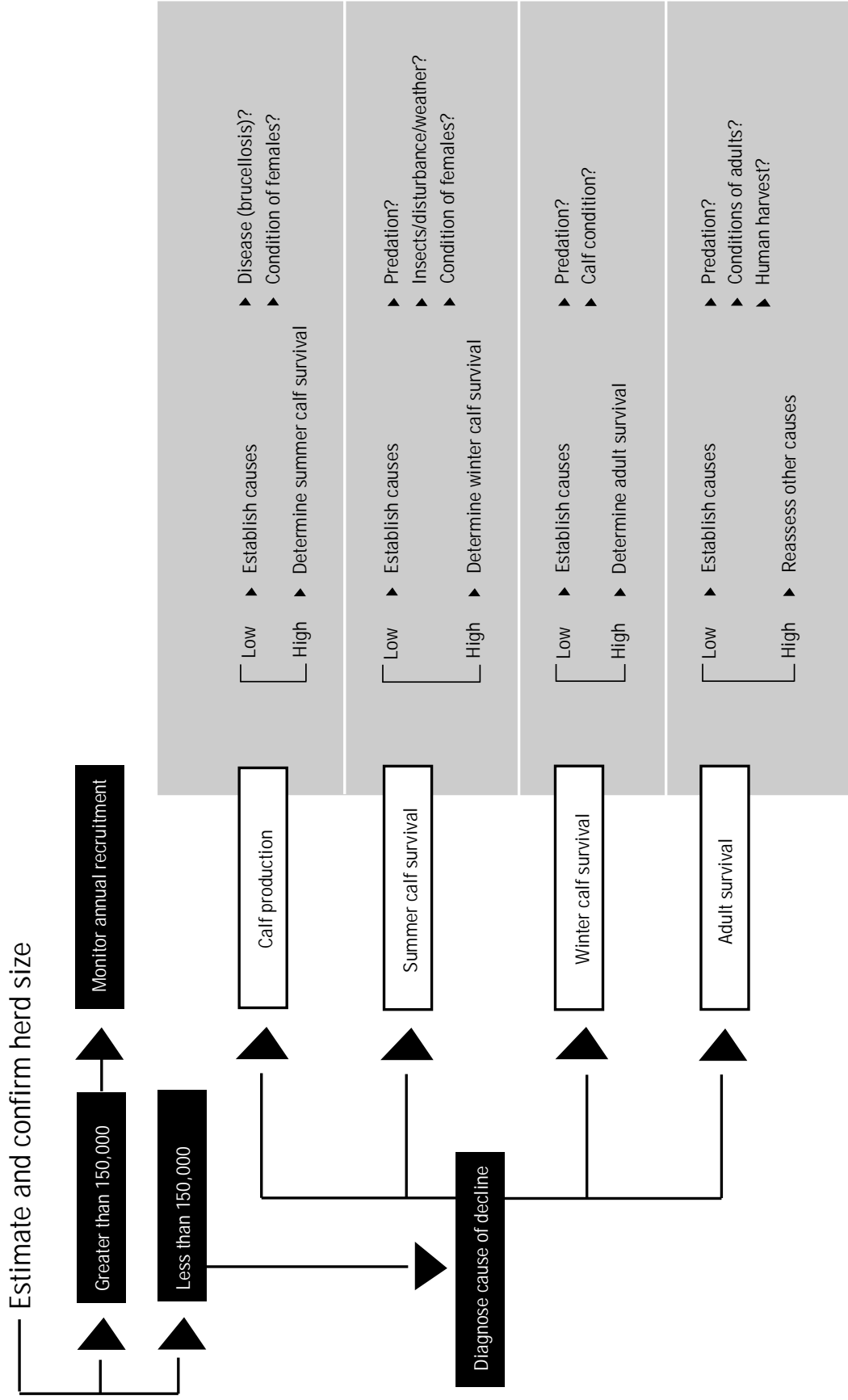
The Board has drawn up a list of ongoing information requirements. Answers will help users and managers to make appropriate decisions to sustain harvest of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou:

- 1 Population size
- 2 Recruitment (annual calf survival)
- 3 Patterns of movements and distribution
- 4 Reliable and accurate hunter kill information
- 5 Measures indicating herd health, such as pregnancy rates, calf mortality, and physical condition of breeding females
- 6 Effect of environmental conditions. For example, snow, forage, insects, disease, predation and contaminants on caribou condition, distribution, and survival
- 7 Impact on herd distribution and mortality from human activity.

Continual population-monitoring is essential in order to effectively manage the two herds.

Additional information needs will be identified by the Board as it addresses research and communication actions in response to specific situations.

Figure 2 Investigation required to establish and evaluate herd size



Action Plans

Action plans are an important part of the management plan because they list essential tasks that the Board recommends for improved caribou management. Statements of various problems and ways to correct them have been developed over several years through:

- discussion among Board members
- traditional knowledge of caribou users
- scientific studies, and
- opinions and recommendations from public gatherings of users.

The action plans do two things. First, they support and emphasize programs and projects that have proven to be of value in better caribou management and are now underway. Second, and more importantly, they recommend what needs to be done to achieve the goals of the management plan.

Action plans provide cost estimates and assign responsibilities for conducting programs and projects. They cover four main categories:

- 1 Information, Education and Communications
- 2 Supply of Caribou
- 3 Use of Caribou
- 4 Caribou Habitat Protection

As the name suggests, action plans are dynamic and subject to modification to reflect changing circumstances. They are published separately and updated periodically.

Beverly-Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT made on the 4th day of June A.D. 1992 BETWEEN:

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, as represented by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Minister of the Environment, (hereinafter referred to as "Canada");

and
THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA, as represented by the Minister of Natural Resources, (hereinafter referred to as "Manitoba");

and
THE GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN, as represented by the Minister of Northern Saskatchewan, (hereinafter referred to as "Saskatchewan");

and
THE COMMISSIONER OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES (hereinafter referred to as the "Commissioner").

WHEREAS the Qamanirjuaq herd and Beverly herd of barren ground caribou historically migrate across provincial and territorial boundaries;

AND WHEREAS the continued well-being and restoration of these herds and their habitat requires co-ordinated management, goodwill and co-operation amongst the above governments and the traditional users of these caribou;

AND WHEREAS the parties hereto recognize that, as well as the value of the caribou to all Canadians generally, a special relationship exists between traditional users and the caribou;

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH that the parties hereto under the authority of:

- (a) The Canada Wildlife Act - sections 5, 6 and 9;
- (b) The Northwest Territories Wildlife Ordinance - section 27;
- (c) The Manitoba Wildlife Act - section 84;
- (d) The Saskatchewan Wildlife Act - sections 10, 63(b) and 63(f), and The Saskatchewan Federal-Provincial Agreements Act - sections 3, 4 and 5 agree that:

A. Definitions In this Agreement

1. "Qamanirjuaq herd" means that herd of barren ground caribou which regularly bears its young near Qamanirjuaq Lake in Keewatin, Northwest Territories and historically moves southward into Manitoba and Saskatchewan for the winter;
2. "Beverly herd" means that herd of barren ground caribou which regularly bears its young near Beverly Lake in Keewatin, Northwest Territories and historically moves southward into Saskatchewan and Manitoba for the winter;
3. "Traditional Users" means those persons recognized by the local population on the caribou range as being persons who have traditionally and/or currently hunted caribou for subsistence.

B. The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board

1. A joint management board shall be established to be known as the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, hereinafter referred to as the "Board", having the following objectives:
 - (a) to co-ordinate management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds in the interest of traditional users and their descendants, who are or may be residents on the range of the caribou, while recognizing the interest of all Canadians in the survival of this resource.
 - (b) to establish a process of shared responsibility for the development of management programs between the parties hereto and the traditional users of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds.
 - (c) to establish communications amongst traditional users, between traditional users and the parties hereto, and amongst the parties hereto in order to ensure co-ordinated caribou conservation and caribou habitat protection for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds.

(d) to discharge the collective responsibilities for the conservation and management of caribou and caribou habitat within the spirit of this Agreement.

2. Support shall be provided by the parties hereto to the Board in its efforts to achieve co-ordinated management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds by responding promptly to recommended measures.

C. Board Responsibilities

Without restricting the generality of clause of this Agreement, the parties agree that the Board shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. To develop and make recommendations to the appropriate governments and to the groups of traditional caribou users for the conservation and management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds of barren ground caribou and their habitat in order to restore the herds, as far as reasonably possible, to a size and quality which will sustain the requirements of traditional users. Such recommendations may include, but are not necessarily limited to:
 - (a) limitations on the annual harvest of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds and the allocation of that harvest amongst the Northwest Territories and the provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba;
 - (b) criteria for regulating the methods of harvest;
 - (c) methods of traditional user participation to assist in the management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds;
 - (d) caribou research proposals;
 - (e) recommended standardized data collection and presentation;
 - (f) a herd management plan for each of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds which may include consideration of predator management.

2. To monitor the caribou habitat over the entire ranges of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds so as to facilitate the maintenance of productive caribou habitat.
3. To conduct an information program and hold such public meetings as are necessary to report on and discuss with users its responsibilities, findings and progress.
4. To assess and report on the operation of its herd management plan to appropriate governments and traditional user groups.
5. To submit to the parties hereto annual reports which shall include:
 - (a) a summary of Board activities, recommendations and responses by governments and traditional users;
 - (b) a review of the state of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds and their habitat;
 - (c) a summary of harvests by jurisdiction and community;
 - (d) a financial statement for the operation of the Board; such reports to be arranged by the parties hereto to be translated into the languages of the traditional users.
6. To consider any other matters respecting the management of barren ground caribou that are referred to the Board by the parties hereto.

D. Membership of the Board

1. Thirteen members shall be appointed to the Board as follows:
 - (a) the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Government of Canada; the Minister of the Environment, Government of Canada; the Minister of Northern Saskatchewan, Government of Saskatchewan; the Minister of Natural Resources, Government of Manitoba; and the Minister of Renewable Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories shall each appoint one senior official from their respective ministries for a total of five members.
 - (b) the Minister of Renewable Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories shall:
 - (i) where recommended by the Keewatin Wildlife Federation, appoint two residents from the communities in the southern Keewatin region of the Northwest Territories;
 - (ii) where recommended by the Dene Nation, appoint one resident from the communities in the South Slave Region of the Northwest Territories;
 - (iii) where recommended by the Métis Association of the Northwest Territories, appoint one resident from the communities in the South Slave Region of the Northwest Territories; for a total of four members.
 - (c) the Minister of Northern Saskatchewan, Government of Saskatchewan, shall appoint two residents from the communities of Northern Saskatchewan for a total of two members;
 - (d) the Minister of Natural Resources, Government of Manitoba, shall appoint two residents from the communities of Northern Manitoba for a total of two members.
2. The members of the Board shall be appointed for a term of three years, subject to the right of the parties to terminate the appointment of their respective appointees at any time and reappoint Board members in accordance with the above.

E. Board Rules and Procedure

1. The Board shall establish in writing from time to time rules and procedures for its functioning, provided however that:
 - (a) the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be elected from amongst the members of the Board by secret ballot;
 - (b) the election and replacement of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman shall be by simple majority;
 - (c) thirty days notice of meeting shall be given by mail, telephone or telegram, as appropriate;
 - (d) seven members shall constitute a quorum;
 - (e) decisions of the Board shall be by consensus wherever possible, and shall always require a majority voting in favour, with each member having one vote;
 - (f) no voting by a proxy shall be allowed;
 - (g) the Board shall hold formal meetings twice yearly or more often as necessary at the call of the Chairman;
 - (h) the Board shall keep summary minutes and records of all its meetings and circulate them amongst its members;


- (i) the Board may establish or dissolve standing committees as it deems necessary to carry out its functions, and set the terms of reference for such standing committees, and
- (j) the Board members unable to be present at Board meetings shall receive notice of Board recommendations thirty (30) days in advance of submission to any minister for action, except where there is consent of all Board members in which case recommendation so the Minister(s) can be made forthwith.

F. Finances

1. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and to funds being appropriated by the legislative authority in respect of each party on an annual basis, the parties hereto shall annually provide funds necessary to ensure the Board functioning in a manner hereinbefore stated provided, however, that all costs for the Board shall not exceed \$75,000.00 annually and that all such annual costs shall be shared amongst the parties to this Agreement in such proportion as hereinafter provided in section 2.
2. Prior to the administrative costs for the Board being eligible to be shared by the parties hereto, the Board shall be required to submit to each party an annual estimate of the financial administrative costs, not exceeding \$75,000.00 in each year, and each party shall in writing within thirty days of receipt thereof, indicate its approval or disapproval for such budget and provide reasons therefore. In the event that a majority of the parties hereto approve the annual budget for the administrative costs, the budget shall be shared by all parties hereto in the following proportions in accordance with the following:
 - (a) two-fifths by Canada; and
 - (b) one-fifth by each of the remaining parties.
3. Administrative costs to be shared amongst the parties hereto shall include expenditures related to:
 - (a) a secretariat to provide for and follow up on meetings, record and distribute minutes, provide members with informational support, and undertake such other organizational arrangements as the Board may require;
 - (b) the production of an annual report and its distribution;
 - (c) a modest independent research review capability;
 - (d) the production of a newsletter; and
 - (e) such other costs as the parties may agree upon.
4. Each party shall be responsible for funding the expenses for salaries or honoraria and other incidental travel expenses, including transportation, meals, accommodation related to Board members appointed or confirmed by that party. The provisions for said expenses shall be in addition to the annual administrative costs provided in section 1 herein above.
5. On the anniversary date of this Agreement, the Board shall annually account for all monies received and disbursed and said records shall be available to any of the parties for inspection upon thirty days written notice to the Chairman.

G. General

1. The parties hereto shall jointly and severally indemnify and save harmless the Board and the individual members thereof, against any and all liability, loss, damage, cost, or expenses, which the Board, or its individual members jointly or severally incur, suffer, or are required to pay as a consequence of any contractual obligation undertaken in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
2. All reports, summaries or other documentation prepared or otherwise completed under the terms of this Agreement shall become the joint property of all parties hereto and any and all income derived therefrom shall be jointly shared amongst the parties in proportion to expenditures incurred by each party in generating such income.
3. This Agreement shall take effect on the 4th day of June, A.D. 1992, and shall terminate on the 3rd day of June, A.D. 2002, unless sooner terminated by any party upon six months' notice in writing to the other parties.
4. This Agreement may be amended at any time by an exchange of letters following unanimous approval by the parties hereto.



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