

# BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

## 26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008



[www.arctic-caribou.com](http://www.arctic-caribou.com)



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Cover photo: Qamanirjuaq cows and calves. Photo by Doug McLarty of Rankin Inlet, Nunavut.

## Board Meetings Held 1982 to 2007

#1	August	1982	Saskatoon	SK	#33	September	1993	Prince Albert	SK
#2	January	1983	Edmonton	AB	#34	January	1994	Winnipeg	MB
#3	March	1983	Lutsel K'e	NT	#35	April	1994	Baker Lake	NU
#4	June	1983	Yellowknife	NT	#36	September	1994	Winnipeg	MB
#5	September	1983	Black Lake	SK	#37	January	1995	Prince Albert	SK
#6	January	1984	Winnipeg	MB	#38	April	1995	Black Lake	SK
#7	April	1984	Rankin Inlet	NU	#39	September	1995	Thompson	MB
#8	August	1984	Fort Smith	NT	#40	February	1996	Whale Cove	NU
#9	November	1984	Saskatoon	SK	#41	June	1996	Lutselk'e	NT
#10	April	1985	Baker Lake	NU	#42	November	1996	Winnipeg	MB
#11	August	1985	Whitehorse	YK	#43	June	1997	Wollaston	SK
#12	November	1985	Edmonton	AB	#44	November	1997	Thompson	MB
#13	April	1986	Thompson	MB	#45	May	1998	Tadoule Lake	MB
#14	August	1986	Arviat	NU	#46	November	1998	Fort Smith	NT
#15	April	1987	Saskatoon	SK	#47	May	1998	Arviat	NU
#16	August	1987	Winnipeg	MB	#48	November	1999	Winnipeg	MB
#17	November	1987	Fort Smith	NT	#49	May	2000	Churchill	MB
#18	April	1988	Winnipeg	MB	#50	November	2000	Winnipeg	MB
#19	August	1988	Stony Rapids	SK	#51	June	2001	Black Lake	SK
#20	November	1988	Winnipeg	MB	#52	November	2001	Yellowknife	NT
#21	April	1989	Baker Lake	NU	#53	May	2002	Baker Lake	NU
#22	August	1989	Lac Brochet	MB	#54	November	2002	Winnipeg	MB
#23	December	1989	Winnipeg	MB	#55	May	2003	Fond du Lac	SK
#24	April	1990	Fond du Lac	SK	#56	November	2003	Winnipeg	MB
#25	August	1990	Lutselk'e	NT	#57	May	2004	Fort Smith	NT
#26	December	1990	Winnipeg	MB	#58	November	2004	Winnipeg	MB
#27	March	1991	Yellowknife	NT	#59	May	2005	Rankin Inlet	NU
#28	August	1991	Prince Albert	SK	#60	November	2005	Winnipeg	MB
#29	December	1991	Fort Smith	NT	#61	May	2006	Prince Albert	SK
#30	April	1992	Arviat	NU	#62	November	2006	Winnipeg	MB
#31	December	1992	Uranium City	SK	#63	June	2007	Thompson	MB
#32	April	1993	Winnipeg	MB	#64	November	2007	Winnipeg	MB

## Glossary

<b>BQCMB:</b>	Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board
<b>CARMA:</b>	CircumArctic <i>Rangifer</i> Monitoring & Assessment network
<b>GN:</b>	Government of Nunavut
<b>GNWT:</b>	Government of the Northwest Territories
<b>HTO:</b>	Hunters and Trappers Organization
<b>INAC:</b>	Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
<b>MVEIRB:</b>	Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
<b>MVLWB:</b>	Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
<b>NIRB:</b>	Nunavut Impact Review Board
<b>NPC:</b>	Nunavut Planning Commission
<b>NWMB:</b>	Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
<b>NWT:</b>	Northwest Territories



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Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board  
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Stonewall MB R0C 2Z0

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Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  
House of Commons  
Parliament Buildings  
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

The Hon. Stan Struthers, Minister  
Manitoba Conservation  
Legislative Building, Room 330  
450 Broadway  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

The Hon. Michael Miltenberger, Minister  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
LA-2, P.O. Box 1320  
Legislative Assembly  
Yellowknife NT X1A 2L9

The Hon. Nancy Heppner, Minister  
Ministry of Environment  
Legislative Building, Room 361  
2405 Legislative Drive  
Regina SK S4S 0B3

The Hon. Olayuk Akesuk, Minister  
Department of Environment  
P.O. Box 1200  
Legislative Building  
Iqaluit NU X0A 0H0

As requested by the provisions of the *Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement*, I am pleased to submit our annual report for 2007-2008.

Another very busy year has come and gone for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board (BQCMB). As a stakeholder of standing, the Board facilitated planning and staffing between different partners of major caribou management initiatives, including calving ground population surveys of both the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds. The BQCMB's evolving role as a project initiator and fundraiser also helped to bring about the July 2007 satellite collaring of breeding cows on Beverly post-calving ground. Progress is slowly being made in piecing together incomplete data about the caribou – vital to effective management of the herds. Unfortunately, bad weather foiled the attempted population survey of the Beverly herd in 2007 and the census could not be completed. However, a decline in the Beverly population is suspected due to very low density rates of caribou observed during the survey attempt, a circumstance witnessed again by Northwest Territories (NWT) government staff while out in the field in June 2008. Population declines have already been documented in five other NWT caribou herds.

Population declines are a concern because caribou continue to be a central food source for many northerners. Caribou meat is affordable and nutritious. The very high value of caribou to northerners became crystal-clear earlier this year when an independent socio-economic evaluation of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds, conducted by InterGroup Consultants of Winnipeg, estimated the net value of the herds' combined yearly harvest of about 14,000 animals at more than \$20 million. Most of that – more than \$15 million – represents the domestic harvest.

Despite the undeniable importance of caribou to northerners, the volume of mineral tenure on the

sensitive calving and post-calving grounds, and migration routes, continues to mount. By April 2008, the federal government had issued 655 prospecting permits, mineral claims and mineral leases on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq calving grounds, up from 410 as of May 2007. And the lion's share of prospecting permits, mineral claims and mineral leases issued as of April 2008 – 447 – was on the calving ground of the embattled Beverly herd. The Beverly herd is already under pressure because its range and food sources are also used by the Bathurst, Ahlak and Qamanirjuaq herds (their ranges overlap with the Beverly range). Forest fires are diminishing the amount of lichen and other foraging materials, too.

The BQCMB is concerned about the cumulative impacts of land use activities on Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou. It believes that governments need to do more to protect caribou herds in the face of increasing levels of industrial activity across the caribou ranges.

The BQCMB believes there should be no mineral exploration or development on the traditional calving grounds of the caribou herds. As our Board frequently states, the BQCMB is not against mining. Instead, we seek to work with others to protect the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds and their ranges. Part of that includes lobbying to prevent disturbance to caribou from aircraft, noise and other human activities. Over the past year, several mining companies worked with our Board towards the united goal of obtaining current information about how the herds use their ranges. AREVA Resources Canada Inc. is aiding caribou research and monitoring, as well as BQCMB educational and communication initiatives, courtesy of its \$125,000 five-year funding agreement with our Board. Titan Uranium Inc., meanwhile, allowed a NWT government satellite collaring crew team striving to collar Beverly cows to base its July 2007 operations from Titan's field camp southeast of Sand Lake, Nunavut.

The BQCMB is cultivating working relationships with other mining companies, too. Many of these companies want to operate sustainably and co-operatively to preserve the environment and resources. But they are helpless if governments don't carry out *their* responsibility to protect the caribou. Section B-2 of the *Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement* states that "[s]upport shall be provided by the parties hereto to the Board in its efforts to achieve coordinated management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds by responding promptly to recommended measures." Yet the signatories to this Agreement – the governments of Canada, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, NWT and Nunavut – have still not implemented the BQCMB's recommendations to protect the herds and their habitats as outlined in the 2004 position paper, *Protecting Calving Grounds, Post-Calving Areas and Other Important Habitats for Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou*.

Chief among these is the recommendation to designate traditional calving grounds and post-calving areas as legally protected areas, a move that would stop human activities from harming these essential habitats, and prevent caribou and newborn calves from being disturbed while in these areas. This aligns with the top concern voiced by our Board's community representatives this past year: to protect caribou calving grounds from industrial development.

A pivotal responsibility of our Board is to provide help and support to caribou-range communities, hunters and trappers organizations (HTOs) and other groups that may not have the resources or expertise to speak out on caribou-related matters. Our Board, which celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year, has the experience, confidence and ability to provide such input. The majority of the BQCMB's resources this past year again went towards technical review in land use processes to help protect the herds and their habitats, with our Board commenting in detail on numerous land use applications submitted to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB), the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) and the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) that had impacts for caribou in sensitive habitats and/or during vulnerable periods such as calving. Communities have asked for BQCMB assistance in this area.

The Board's comments can be downloaded from the BQCMB's website at [www.arctic-caribou.com/reports\\_publications.html](http://www.arctic-caribou.com/reports_publications.html).

Other major BQCMB initiatives in 2007–2008 focused on involving youth in caribou management, which is crucial to the long-term well-being not only of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds, but to the existence of the BQCMB itself. Several students from Lac Brochet, Manitoba attended the Board's spring 2007 meeting, and the BQCMB's community caribou hunt program allowed students from Arviat, Nunavut and South Indian Lake, Manitoba to experience and learn from caribou hunts. The BQCMB's long-standing annual Caribou Management Board Scholarship Fund award also supports avid interest in caribou research among post-secondary students.

The migration route of the Qamanirjuaq herd followed traditional patterns over the past year. Caribou wandered close to a number of Kivalliq communities during the spring and fall. The animals were also in great abundance near northern Manitoba communities. Meanwhile, only small to mid-sized groups of Beverly caribou made their way into Saskatchewan over the past year. They stayed largely in NWT before returning to their calving ground in Nunavut and NWT.

The *Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement* stipulates that we provide a summary of caribou harvests by jurisdiction and community. In recent years, harvest data have been difficult to obtain. Governments ceased the collection of harvest data and relied instead on harvest estimates based on the observations and experience of departmental staff, or on information recorded by community harvest monitors.

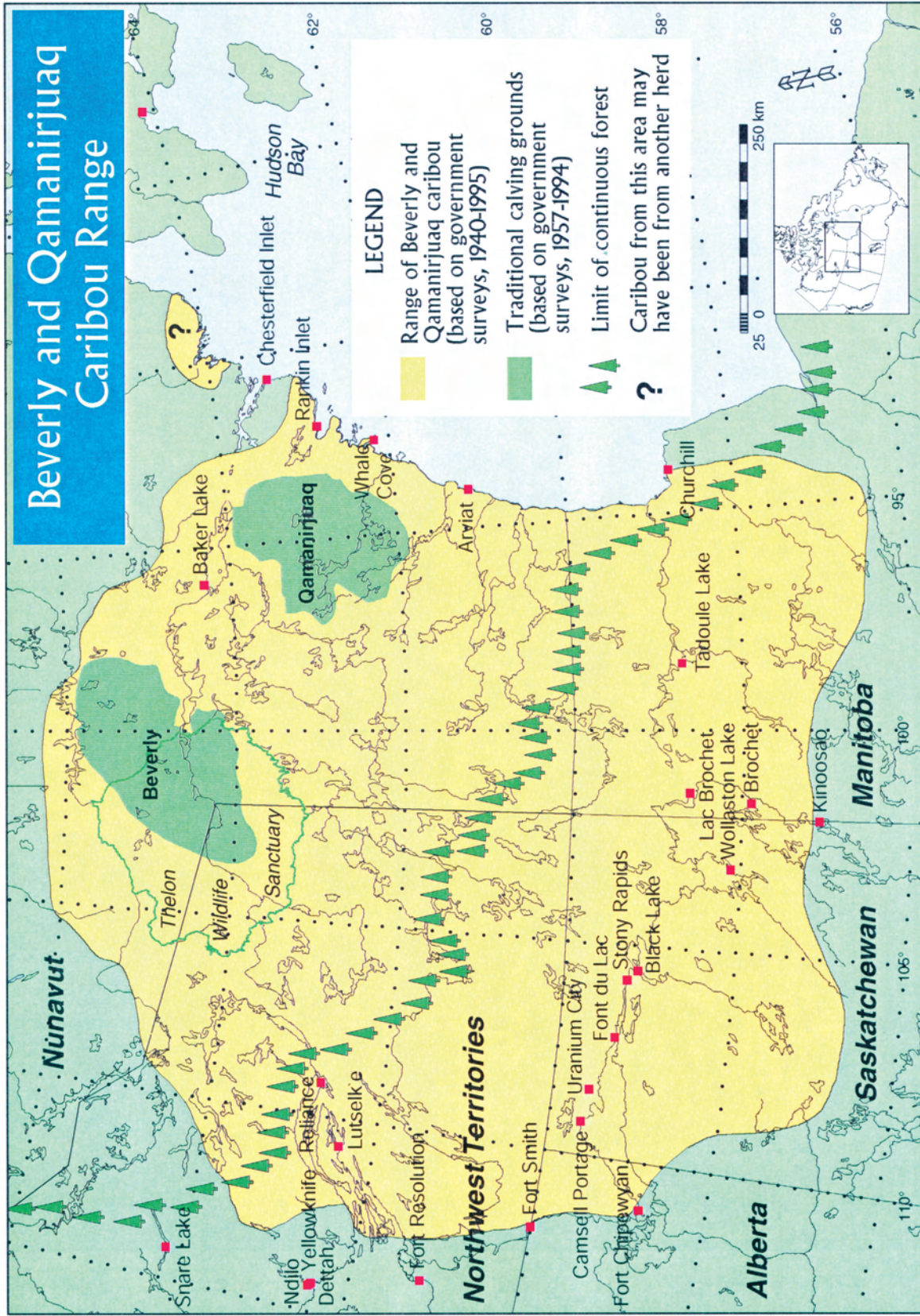
Since 2005, we have contacted government staff as well as HTOs around the caribou ranges to obtain approximate harvest estimates. In 2007–2008, the caribou harvest for the Beverly herd was estimated to be about 4,155 animals (compared to about 4,746 caribou in 2006–2007) and about 9,070 animals from the Qamanirjuaq herd (compared to about 9,024 caribou in 2006–2007). That brings the total estimated harvest for the two herds in 2007–2008 to 13,225. It must be stressed that these figures are primarily estimates only, particularly for local harvest levels.



Ross Thompson, Secretary-Treasurer  
for Jerome Denechezhe  
Chairman  
September 18, 2008

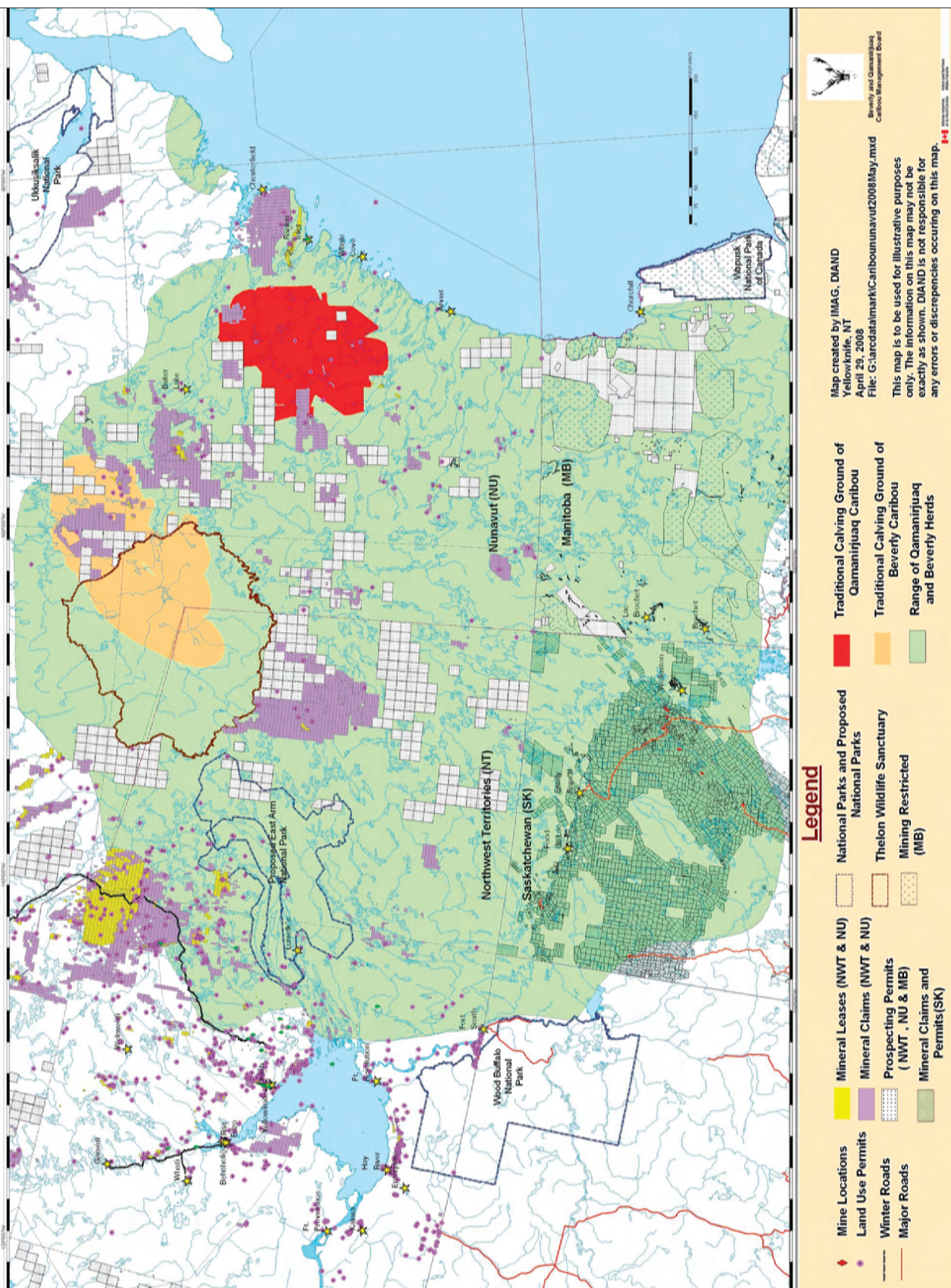


# Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Range





## Land Use Activities on Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Ranges



This map of land use activities on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou ranges is current to April 2008

## The Annual Caribou Cycle

Most caribou in the Beverly herd, and part of the Qamanirjuaq herd, winter in the subarctic forests of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and NWT. In spring, the cows and yearlings are the first to migrate north to calving grounds on the tundra in Nunavut (and, for part of the Beverly calving ground, in NWT), followed by non-pregnant cows and young bulls. Adult bulls follow up to a month later. After calving in early June, the caribou begin to form larger groups. By mid-July, aggregations of many thousands, including adult males, may be found on calm days. This behaviour is a response to mosquito harassment, and it also reduces predation by wolves, concentrating the caribou in a small area. Beginning at the end of July, a rapid migration back to the vicinity of the treeline occurs. Then in August, the caribou disperse in response to warble flies and nose bot flies. In some years, a migration back towards the calving grounds takes place. The timing of the fall migration from tundra to taiga varies from October to December. The rut occurs in late October, usually within the forest-tundra ecozone. Mature bulls separate from the cow-calf-young bull groups soon after the rut. By November, most of the Beverly herd is in the forest once again but travel can still be rapid until snow accumulation deepens to 50 centimetres or more in February and March.

The “traditional calving grounds” are the same general areas that have been used for calving over the years. However, specific areas used for calving in a given year, known as “annual calving areas,” vary from year to year. Caribou range used during other periods is less consistent and less predictable in space and time. The general area and specific habitats used by Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou are determined by a combination of many factors, including weather, snow melt, plant phenology, predator avoidance and traditional use of the range.

Mineral exploration and development activities continue to increase on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou ranges, and these can have an impact on areas used by the two herds.

# **The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board**

The Year in Review

2007–2008

## **Mission Statement**

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.

## **Annual Report**

The *Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement* (2002) requires the Board to submit an annual report 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 herds and their habitat;
- c) a summary of harvests by jurisdiction and community; and
- d) a financial statement for the operation of the Board.

The Board met twice during the year under review:

June 2007	Thompson, Manitoba
November 2007	Winnipeg, Manitoba

## **Board Officers**

Jerome Denechezhe	Chairman
Daryll Hedman	Vice-Chairman
Ross Thompson	Secretary-Treasurer

## **Board Contact Information**

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Web site: [www.arctic-caribou.com](http://www.arctic-caribou.com)  
BQCMB charitable registration number: 86620 7574 RR00

**Board Members****Date Appointed**Manitoba

Representing the communities of Northern Manitoba:

Jerome Denechezhe (Lac Brochet) 03.06.82

Albert Thorassie (Tadoule Lake) 22.08.91

Alternate is Adam Nalge (Lac Brochet).

Representing the Government of Manitoba:

Daryll Hedman (Thompson) 15.02.04

Saskatchewan

Representing the communities of Northern Saskatchewan:

Dennis Larocque (Camsell Portage) 07.11.06

George Tsannie (Wollaston Lake) 04.06.07

Alternates are Pierre Robillard (Black Lake), Joe Martin (Fond du Lac), Daniel Augier (Uranium City) and Billy Shott (Uranium City).

Representing the Government of Saskatchewan:

Tim Trottier (La Ronge) 04.06.95

Alternate is Shawn Burke (Regina).

Northwest Territories

Representing the Northwest Territory Métis Nation:

Earl Evans (Fort Smith) 27.11.03

Alternate is Arthur Beck (Hay River).

Representing the Dene Nation:

AugustENZOE (Lutselk'e) 11.01.99

Alternate is Joe Catholique (Lutselk'e).

Representing the Government of the Northwest Territories:

Deborah Johnson (Fort Smith) 15.03.02



## Nunavut

Representing the Kivalliq Wildlife Board:

Thomas Elytook (Baker Lake)

23.05.06

Laurent Angalik (Arviat)

23.05.06

Alternates are Simeonie Sammurtok (Chesterfield Inlet)  
and Peter Suwaksiork (Arviat).

Representing the Government of Nunavut:

Dan Shewchuk (Arviat)

02.05.02

## Canada

Representing the Government of Canada:

Carl McLean (Iqaluit)

22.11.06



The BQCMB of 2007–2008. (Seated, left to right): August Enzoe, Jerome Denechezhe, Laurent Angalik, Thomas Elytook. (Middle row, left to right): Deb Johnson, Daryl Hedman, Albert Thorassie, Dennis Larocque, Carl McLean, Dan Shewchuk and alternate Joe Martin. (Back row, left to right): Earl Evans, secretary-treasurer Ross Thompson, Tim Trottier and George Tsannie



# Summary of Board Activities, Recommendations and Responses

## Activities

During the year under review (April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008), the BQCMB conducted the following activities.

### Caribou Monitoring and Management

*As part of its expanding suite of responsibilities, the BQCMB brokered funds for surveys of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds, recommended additional collaring of Beverly cows and helped raise money for collaring, and continued to forge working relationships with mining companies in order to acquire much-needed data to benefit caribou management.*

- The BQCMB solicited funding from various parties to pay for a calving ground survey of the Beverly herd in June 2007, conducted by the Government of the NWT (GNWT). The herd's population had not been surveyed since 1994. Unfortunately, blizzards and gale-force winds prevented the photo plane from reaching the heights necessary to complete aerial photography of the calving ground. As a result, the GNWT was not able to estimate the herd's size. Systematic reconnaissance surveys of the Beverly, Qamanirjuaq and Ahiak herds were completed, however. These surveys are flown over caribou migration corridors in advance of calving ground surveys to see whether all cows have reached the calving grounds. They help determine the location of annual calving areas for each herd.

- The BQCMB helped to broker funding and logistical support for the deployment of 17 GPS satellite collars on breeding cows in the Beverly post-calving area in early July 2007. The collaring operation was conducted by the GNWT, led by South Slave regional biologist



**Brad Culling (above) of Diversified Environmental Services releases a cow during satellite collaring of 17 animals in the Beverly post-calving area in July 2007**

and BQCMB member Deb Johnson. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) paid for 15 new collars, and uranium exploration company Titan Uranium let the collaring crew base operations from its field camp southeast of Sand Lake, Nunavut. The BQCMB and conservation agencies such as WWF-Canada recommended to the GNWT that this work

be done. While collaring during the post-calving period stirred debate, the collaring effort was necessary because after 20 new collars were placed on what were hoped to be Beverly cows on the winter range in March 2006, it was later discovered when the cows headed to their traditional calving grounds that they were a mix of Beverly, Bathurst, Ahiak and Qamanirjuaq animals. Because these four herds have overlapping winter ranges, it is not possible to locate an area for collaring on the winter range where all caribou are likely to be from the Beverly herd.

- The Board also promoted planning between jurisdictions for a June 2008 calving ground population survey of the Qamanirjuaq herd – the first population survey of that herd since 1994 – and helped to broker funding

and logistical support for the undertaking. The first year's annual allotment from a five-year \$125,000 funding agreement with AREVA Resources Canada Inc. was used to fund the BQCMB's contribution to the 2007 attempted Beverly calving ground survey and recent satellite collaring work on the Beverly herd. Funds from the AREVA agreement will help to pay for monitoring of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou, information gathering and sharing, community relations initiatives and the development of best practices for activities and operations on the caribou ranges.

WWF-Canada contributed \$30,000 to help the BQCMB do community consultations, carry out caribou and habitat protection efforts, and conduct Board liaison work.

#### Board Initiatives

*BQCMB-led projects continue to promote the value of caribou through the Board's community caribou hunt program (which focuses on youth through support of youth-elder hunts), the annual Caribou Management Board Scholarship Fund, and an independent socio-economic evaluation that estimated the total annual net harvest from the two herds at more than \$20 million. The Board also continued to monitor and inform others of land use activities taking place across the caribou ranges, co-ordinating the preparation of maps and summary data.*

- The BQCMB contracted InterGroup Consultants of Winnipeg to conduct a socio-economic evaluation of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds in 2007. The report, finalized in early 2008 and available at [www.arctic-caribou.com](http://www.arctic-caribou.com), estimates that the total annual net value of the harvest from the two herds is more than \$20 million. Nunavut, by far, obtains the greatest economic value from the herds compared to the other caribou-range jurisdictions. Its annual share of the harvest accounts for almost \$12 million. Manitoba's share is about \$4 million, Saskatchewan's

portion is worth more than \$3 million and the value of NWT's harvest is less than \$1 million. The study examined domestic harvest and resident licenced hunting harvest, as well as outfitting and the commercial sale of meat. It also determined the cultural and social importance of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds to the people who rely on them. The InterGroup evaluation provides an up-to-date and accurate description of the value of the two herds' annual harvest.

- Caribou-range schools continued to utilize the BQCMB's community caribou hunt program,

Benefitting from BQCMB community caribou hunts:  
 Lac Brochet, Manitoba students Virginia Samuel and  
 Russell Hyslop with teacher Glenn Tsessaze  
 (below) of Petit Casimir Memorial School. Right: Arviat,  
 Nunavut student Amanda Kigusiutnar (centre) of John  
 Arnalukjuak High School, with guides



Billy Ukuuk



intended to give youth the chance to experience and learn from a caribou hunt. This includes learning from elders while out on the land. The hunts may also furnish the BQCMB with some general information about caribou body condition. The BQCMB makes funding available yearly for communities in each jurisdiction – Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Nunavut and NWT – for projects ideally targeting school-age youth.

During the last fiscal year, Father Megret High School in Wollaston Lake, Saskatchewan staged three successful caribou hunts in March 2007, bringing together students, teachers and elders. In June 2007, the BQCMB brought Lac Brochet, Manitoba students Virginia Samuel and Russell Hyslop of Petit Casimir Memorial School, along with teacher Glenn Tsesssaze, to the Board's Thompson, Manitoba meeting so that the students could recount their experiences with caribou hunting and the Board's community caribou hunt program. Petit Casimir students interviewed 19 hunters in April 2007 using a questionnaire designed by Board members. This was a follow-up to

the Board's previous community-based caribou monitoring project conducted in Baker Lake and Arviat, Nunavut. In September 2007, students from John Arnalukjuak High School in Arviat held a five-day caribou hunt. A group of 14 students, guides and elders harvested seven caribou during their hunt northwest of Arviat. They also caught some fish and filled out caribou health monitoring forms for the BQCMB. Meanwhile, 17 students from Oscar Blackburn School in South Indian Lake, Manitoba headed to nearby Big Sand Lake Lodge in March 2008 on a six-day outing that netted 10 caribou, 200 walleye and a moose. Field trainers, cooks, the trip co-ordinator and others joined the students.

- The BQCMB granted a \$1,500 Caribou Management Board Scholarship Fund award to Simon Fraser University student Tyler Kuhn, a Master of Science candidate in the biological sciences program. Kuhn's project was to analyze DNA from ancient subfossil caribou remains recovered from alpine ice patches in southwest Yukon, as well as DNA from present-day caribou in northern Canada. The DNA could reveal connections between past and present herds of woodland caribou, and perhaps aid the management of Yukon's small herds, which are battling habitat loss and



climate change. Of greater relevance to the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds is the ongoing work by Kuhn and others related to the larger questions of distribution and size of caribou populations in North America over the last 20,000 to 50,000 years.

- The BQCMB continued to co-ordinate the preparation of updated versions of a map (current to May 2007 and October 2007) showing mineral tenure and land use activities across the ranges of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds in Saskatchewan, NWT, Nunavut and Manitoba. The map, which charts activities permitted by governments, is created for the BQCMB by INAC's Yellowknife office. BQCMB members review current maps at each Board meeting to monitor changes in ongoing land use activities (number, type and extent) and interest in minerals across the caribou ranges. They do this in part to get a sense of the potential cumulative effects of these activities on caribou and caribou habitat. The updated

maps are also posted on the Board's website at [www.arctic-caribou.com](http://www.arctic-caribou.com).

- The Board also arranged for the production of updated versions of a map (current to May 2007 and October 2007) showing companies and individuals with mineral tenure – prospecting permits, mineral claims or mineral leases – on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq traditional calving grounds in Nunavut. The maps are created for the BQCMB by WWF-Canada's Toronto office. These updated maps were also posted on the Board's website at [www.arctic-caribou.com](http://www.arctic-caribou.com), along with summary tables prepared by the BQCMB containing information such as the type of mineral tenure, the year it was issued, the length of time it remains valid and the number of each type of mineral tenure that companies and individuals own. Of 623 prospecting permits, mineral claims and mineral leases on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq calving grounds as of October 2007, 440 were on the Beverly calving ground.



(Left to right): Tim Trottier, Thomas Elytook, Dennis Larocque, Earl Evans, Carl McLean and Florence Catholique examine maps created for the BQCMB that track land use activities on the caribou ranges

## Consultations and Presentations

*The urgent need to protect the herds and their habitats and to conduct regional cumulative effects assessment underscored BQCMB presentations to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB), the Dene Nation Caribou Workshop and the Uranium Workshop organized by the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) this past year. The BQCMB also held talks with the Baker Lake and Arviat HTOs, and attended the international CircumArctic Rangifer Monitoring & Assessment (CARMA) network's annual meeting.*

*Courtesy of NPC*

- In May 2007, the BQCMB met with the boards of the Baker Lake and Arviat HTOs to get feedback on BQCMB concerns about Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou, including feedback on protection recommendations made in the BQCMB's 2004 position paper, *Protecting Calving Grounds, Post-Calving Areas and Other Important Habitats for Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou*, as well as concerns about the



**The NPC's June 2007 Uranium Workshop in Baker Lake. In a presentation and briefing notes prepared for this workshop, the BQCMB stressed the potential cumulative impacts of uranium exploration and development on the herds**

potential cumulative effects of exploration and development on caribou. In response to the Baker Lake HTO's wish to hear about mining from a non-industry viewpoint, the BQCMB began efforts to have two knowledgeable individuals from Lutselk'e and northern Saskatchewan – areas experienced in dealing with the mining industry – speak to residents of Baker Lake. Arviat HTO board members indicated that assistance from the BQCMB would be valuable in raising caribou-related issues with their community.

- The BQCMB prepared a detailed PowerPoint presentation and briefing notes for the NPC's Uranium Workshop, held in Baker Lake in June 2007. The focus of the BQCMB presentation

was potential cumulative impacts of uranium exploration and development on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds. The Board provided recommendations for Nunavut communities and Nunavut Institutions of Public Government (NPC, NWMB, NIRB and the Nunavut Water Board) concerning the need for:

- application of the precautionary principle
- analysis and modelling of cumulative effects
- regional land use planning, and
- other actions to safeguard caribou herds over the long term.

This workshop, attended by more than 100 delegates from Nunavut Institutions of Public



Government, government, industry and elsewhere, fulfilled a one-time requirement of the *Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan* to examine the social, cultural, economic and environmental aspects of uranium exploration and development. Since the workshop was held at the same time as the BQCMB's spring meeting, the workshop facilitator presented the BQCMB presentation on the Board's behalf. The workshop report, which was provided to the BQCMB in April 2008 in English and Inuktitut, is available from the NPC.

- The BQCMB attended the fourth annual meeting of the CARMA network in Vancouver in November 2007. CARMA's multi-million dollar International Polar Year (IPY) project is exploring how regional human-*Rangifer* systems are responding to climate change. Major changes have been predicted for regional climates across the circumpolar north at a time when exploration and development of non-renewable resources like minerals, oil and gas are at an all-time high. As part of CARMA's project, 14 reference herds across the circumpolar north – including the Qamanirjuaq herd – are being intensively monitored for the next four years to assess how global changes affect large migratory herds. The BQCMB is aiding the CARMA project by:

- providing information about caribou, weather and human activities across the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou ranges based on the knowledge and observations of BQCMB community representatives
- assisting with a proposal for IPY funding and providing a letter of support for translation of a caribou monitoring training video into multiple languages (including Inuktitut and Chipewyan) and producing a caribou atlas to assist hunters and researchers with community-based caribou body condition monitoring work, and
- assisting with planning and promotion of the *Voices of the Caribou People* video project, which intends to work with several communities on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou ranges to document local observations and concerns about the rapidly changing North, and communicate community concerns and perspectives to other northern communities and the world.

- The BQCMB gave a detailed presentation – complete with several briefing notes and handouts in Inuktitut and English – on Board activities at a December 2007 meeting of the



**In November 2007, some BQCMB members described their observations of caribou, weather and human activities taking place around their communities.**

**The workshop provided information for an international CARMA project that is exploring how regional human-*Rangifer* systems are responding to climate change**

NWMB in Cambridge Bay. The presentation also outlined concerns about the lack of protection for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds and their habitats, the mostly mining-related concerns that BQCMB community representatives raised at the November 2007 BQCMB meeting, and the need for regional assessment of the cumulative impacts of exploration and development activities on caribou. The staff and members of the NWMB were an important audience to address. The new BQCMB-commissioned socio-economic evaluation of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds indicates that Nunavummiut rely heavily on these herds, with a harvest valued at almost \$12 million yearly. As well, the calving grounds of the two herds lie mainly in Nunavut (a portion of the Beverly calving ground lies in NWT).

- At the invitation of the Dene Nation, the BQCMB presented at its Caribou Workshop in Yellowknife in December 2007. This workshop was staged in part to follow up on the NWT Caribou Summit held in Inuvik in January 2007, where many of the same Dene leaders had urged immediate action to protect dwindling

caribou populations. At the Dene Nation's Caribou Workshop, the BQCMB outlined the lack of recent data on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds' populations, the growing number of land use activities across the caribou ranges, some mining-related concerns voiced by BQCMB community representatives, and the BQCMB's attempts to prompt government action to protect calving and post-calving areas and other important habitats. The presentation also described the BQCMB's concerns about the cumulative impacts of land use activities on Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou, and their belief that governments need to do more to protect caribou herds in the face of increasing levels of industrial activity across the caribou ranges. One result of this meeting was a five-part resolution calling for action toward reversing caribou declines in the NWT by various means, including protection of caribou calving grounds and development of a strategic plan for caribou management and preservation.

- All BQCMB submissions can be downloaded from [www.arctic-caribou.com/publications\\_reports.html](http://www.arctic-caribou.com/publications_reports.html).

### Analysis and Comments

*The BQCMB continued to submit detailed comments to regulatory agencies in Nunavut and the NWT on mineral exploration proposals heading through regulatory channels, focusing largely on land use applications for particularly sensitive areas of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq ranges. All submissions recommended regional cumulative effects assessment. The Board also commented on several caribou monitoring plans and a report on Caribou Protection Measures.*

- The BQCMB provided comprehensive comments to Nunavut and NWT regulatory agencies (the NIRB, MVLWB and MVEIRB) on land use applications for mineral exploration activities, focusing largely on land use applications for particularly sensitive areas of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq ranges such as

calving and post-calving areas, and migration routes. The BQCMB's concerns related to potential impacts (including cumulative impacts) of these proposed activities on caribou and important caribou habitats in the context of the documented declines in five NWT caribou herds, a lack of information about Beverly

Number of active prospecting permits, mineral claims and mineral leases on the calving grounds			
	Beverly calving ground	Qamanirjuaq calving ground	<b>TOTAL</b>
February 2006	116	229	<b>345</b>
May 2007	285	125	<b>410</b>
April 2008	447	208	<b>655</b>

and Ahik herds, and the uncertain but likely declining population of these herds. Included were the following:

- Forum Uranium Corporation's proposed exploration in the Schultz Lake area west of Baker Lake, during periods when the Beverly and other herds could be using the area, including during the post-calving and late summer periods.
  - Terrane Metals Corp.'s permit renewal for mineral exploration at Maze Lake, Nunavut on the Qamanirjuaq traditional calving ground, primary spring migration route and post-calving area, at times when caribou could be using those areas and may be particularly vulnerable to disturbance.
  - Four uranium exploration projects proposed by two companies on key Beverly caribou spring migration range in the Upper Thelon watershed region of NWT south of the Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary: Bayswater Uranium Corporation's proposed projects in the Crab Lake and El Lake areas, and Uravan Minerals Incorporated's South Boomerang Lake and North Boomerang Lake projects. After preliminary screening by MVLWB, the four projects were sent to MVEIRB for environmental assessment.
  - Bayswater Uranium Corporation's proposed North Thelon project, which would see uranium exploration activities being conducted on Beverly calving and post-calving areas in 2008.
  - Matrix Aviation's proposal to haul fuel and supplies from Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet, Nunavut to mineral exploration camps across the Beverly calving and post-calving areas and Qamanirjuaq migration range and post-calving area.
  - Cameco Corporation's proposed uranium exploration on its Turqavik and Aberdeen properties northwest of Baker Lake, which is an area used by caribou during vulnerable periods such as spring and fall migration, post-calving and late summer.
- The BQCMB worked closely with WWF-Canada and the community of Lutselk'e on the issue of land use designation and protection of the Upper Thelon watershed.



- The BQCMB submitted comments on Agnico-Eagle's *2006 Wildlife Monitoring Summary Report* for the Meadowbank Gold Project near Baker Lake. The property, purchased from Cumberland Resources by Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. in 2007, is expected to become an operating mine by January 2010.
- The BQCMB submitted comments to AREVA Resources Canada on its October 2007 *Wildlife Protection and Mitigation Measures* for AREVA's Kiggavik-Sissons Uranium Project near Baker Lake, which is in the advanced exploration phase toward what is likely to be Nunavut's first uranium mine.
- As requested by INAC, the BQCMB provided a detailed response to the March 2007 *Assessment of Caribou Protection Measures* report. The INAC-commissioned report scrutinized the effectiveness of INAC's 30-year-old Caribou Protection Measures. One of the BQCMB's main criticisms related to how the

Measures were evaluated because conclusions about the Measures' effectiveness from 1993 to 2005, based on satellite collaring location data, were drawn only for the Qamanirjuaq herd. The Beverly satellite collaring program began only in 2006 so a similar assessment could not be conducted. Yet it is the Beverly herd whose calving ground currently suffers the most pressure from land use activities and is in greatest need of effective protection.

- The BQCMB sent INAC Minister Chuck Strahl a letter supporting MVEIRB's recommendation to reject Ur-Energy Inc.'s proposed uranium exploration operation on key Beverly and Ahik caribou spring migration range at Screech Lake, NWT, south of the Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary. Minister Strahl later accepted the MVEIRB's recommendation.
- All BQCMB submissions can be downloaded from [www.arctic-caribou.com/publications\\_reports.html](http://www.arctic-caribou.com/publications_reports.html).

AREVA Resources Canada



The Kiggavik uranium project camp near Baker Lake. The level of mineral exploration and development in the North has grown dramatically, and accounts for most human activity taking place on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou ranges these days

## Communications

*A wide-ranging print, radio and cable TV ad campaign geared to northerners – supplemented by an information package to political decision-makers – dominated BQCMB communication efforts last year, with the Board's twice-yearly newsletter and website updates, interviews with media, letters to the editor and annual report rounding out the information being regularly disseminated to the public about critical caribou issues and BQCMB activities.*

- The BQCMB conducted a print, radio and cable television media campaign in the fall of 2007 to draw attention to the urgent need to protect the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds and their habitats in light of increasing human activities on the caribou ranges. This helped to alert northerners to the key messages in the BQCMB's 2004 position paper, *Protecting Calving Grounds, Post-Calving Areas and Other Important Habitats for Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou*, and its plain language equivalents, which have been distributed since spring 2005. Between October and December 2007, newspaper ads in Inuktitut and English appeared in *Kivalliq News*, *Nunatsiaq News*, and the Nunavut and NWT versions of *News/North* (the NWT edition carried only the English version of the ad). Radio ads in Dene and English were broadcast throughout Saskatchewan on Missinipi Broadcasting

Corporation stations, throughout most of Manitoba on NCI-FM, and throughout NWT on the Native Communications Society radio network. Inuktitut and English cable TV ads appeared on Arctic Co-op cablevision, running in Nunavut's Kivalliq Region. Community radio stations CKQN Radio in Baker Lake and Arviapaluk Radio FM 96.5 in Arviat agreed to read public service announcements (PSAs) on air. An economic development newsletter for the community of Arviat planned to run a print PSA in its January 2008 edition. Samples of the print ad (in Inuktitut and English) and radio ad (in Dene and English) can be found on the Board's website at [www.arctic-caribou.com/help.html](http://www.arctic-caribou.com/help.html).

- In tandem with this media campaign, information packages containing the Board's 2004 position paper, its plain language summaries and the

July 2007 issue of *Caribou News in Brief* were sent to 17 Members of Legislative Assemblies, Members of Parliament and Senators representing constituents of communities on the ranges of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds. In March 2008, Churchill MP Tina Keeper responded by sending the BQCMB a letter of support. Other letters received shortly after

[illegible]

**An Inuktitut/English newspaper ad, part of the BQCMB's fall 2007 media campaign focusing on the urgent need to protect the herds and their habitats**



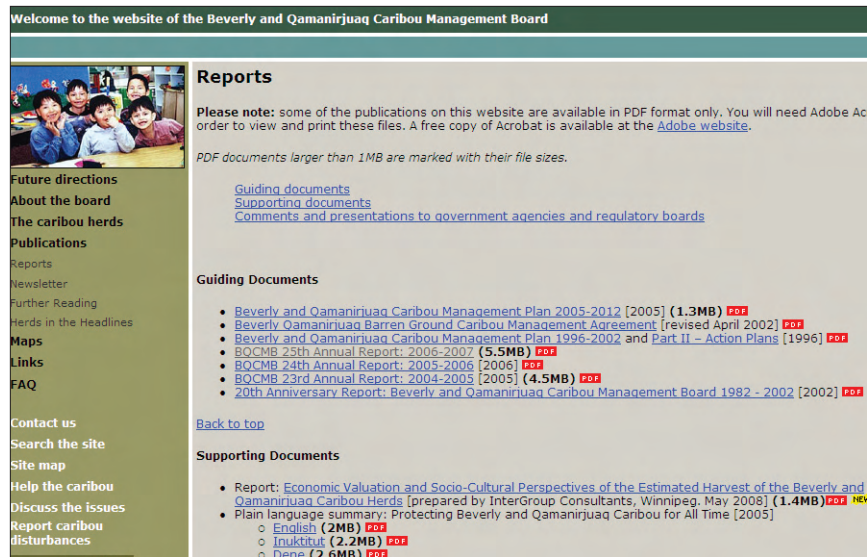
that included a letter of support from Manitoba Senator Mira Spivak, and a copy of a letter from Western Arctic MP Dennis Bevington, who wrote to INAC Minister Chuck Strahl to push for implementation of the BQCMB's recommendations to protect the herds and their habitats. Meanwhile, NWT MLA for Tu Nedhe Tom Beaulieu asked the BQCMB to draft a two-minute statement about the Board's work to be read aloud in the NWT Legislative Assembly in order to underscore the importance of protecting the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou.

- The BQCMB responded to requests for media interviews and wrote letters to various publications, such as *Wings* newsletter, published by the Northwest Territory Métis Nation. Resulting press coverage was carried by *Kivalliq News*, CBC Radio North, *First Nations Voices* magazine and *Opportunity North* magazine.

- The BQCMB issued a press release to northern media in advance of the Board's November 2007 meeting in Winnipeg, in which a special celebratory dinner commemorated the Board's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Manitoba Conservation Minister Stan Struthers was the event's guest speaker.

- The BQCMB published two issues of *Caribou News in Brief* with feature stories on:

- divided opinions over the possibility of



**The BQCMB's information-rich website now contains Board submissions made to regulatory agencies on land use applications, as well as a number of BQCMB PowerPoint presentations**

uranium mining in Nunavut's Kivalliq Region, and updates on uranium exploration and other land use activities across the caribou ranges

- the reconnaissance survey and attempted calving ground survey of the Beverly herd in June 2007, the latter of which revealed signs pointing to a population decline
- the July 2007 satellite collaring of Beverly cows on post-calving ground
- the concerns of BQCMB community representatives, dominated largely by mining issues raised at the BQCMB's November 2007 meeting
- INAC's decision to uphold the landmark recommendation by MVEIRB to reject a proposal by Ur-Energy Inc. to explore for uranium on the spring migration range of Beverly and Ahiak caribou near Screech Lake, NWT, and INAC's subsequent plans for a land and resource management plan for the

- Upper Thelon region
  - BQCMB-sponsored community caribou hunts that allow students to learn from a caribou hunt, and
  - the Board's ongoing efforts to see recommendations from its September 2004 position paper to protect the herds and their habitats implemented.
- The BQCMB issued two e-mail updates on the work of the BQCMB to roughly 350 recipients, and answered 15 e-mail queries.
- The BQCMB updated contact information for 167 mining companies with interests on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou ranges, plus mining associations, to ensure the mining community receives the BQCMB's e-mail updates.
- The BQCMB website was updated with new content following the publication of each issue of *Caribou News in Brief*, and also included the addition of:
  - 39 BQCMB files of written comments and presentations dating from 2006 made to regulatory agencies, government workshops and more on developments proposed for especially sensitive Beverly and Qamanirjuaq habitat such as calving and post-calving areas, and migration routes
  - updated maps of land use activities across the ranges of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds (current to May 2007 and October 2007), and
  - updated maps and supporting tables of companies and individuals with mineral tenure on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq traditional calving grounds (current to May 2007 and October 2007).
- The BQCMB produced and distributed 20 copies of its 51-page *25<sup>th</sup> Annual Report: 2006-2007*, and uploaded the report to the Board's website.
- A \$30,000 contribution received from INAC helped to recoup some costs resulting from communications projects and visits to caribou-range communities to share information about the importance of protecting the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou and their habitats. Some of the funds also went towards the BQCMB's community caribou hunt program, a review of the impacts of mineral exploration and development, and roads, on barren-ground caribou, and mitigation measures developed to reduce these impacts.

## Board recommendations and responses by governments, regulatory boards and caribou-range communities

1. Recommendations to MVEIRB regarding the Ur-Energy proposal for uranium exploration on key migration range of Beverly and Ahiak caribou at Screech Lake, NWT:
  - to reject the application because of potential cumulative effects of this and other similar projects on caribou and communities dependent on caribou, and
  - to encourage appropriate parties to conduct research on Beverly and Ahiak caribou, cumulative effects impact analysis for proposed developments across the ranges of Beverly and Ahiak caribou, regional land use planning that incorporates the value of caribou and caribou habitat, and a range-wide system of conservation planning to safeguard the caribou herds over the long-term.

In May 2007, MVEIRB submitted to the Minister of INAC its *Report of Environmental Assessment for the Ur-Energy proposal for uranium exploration at Screech Lake, NWT*, in which it recommended that the proposal be rejected because of potential adverse cumulative cultural impacts. The report also suggested that INAC develop an interim land use plan for the Upper Thelon basin, improve consultation with Aboriginal users of the area, and conduct a regional caribou cumulative effects study on the status and sustainability of the Beverly caribou herd.

2. Recommendation to INAC Minister Chuck Strahl to accept MVEIRB's May 2007 recommendation to reject the Ur-Energy proposal for uranium exploration at Screech Lake, NWT and to implement their suggestions regarding land use planning, improving consultation with Aboriginal users of the area, and regional assessment of cumulative effects of mineral exploration on barren-ground caribou.

In October 2007, Minister Strahl issued his decision stating that the responsible ministers agreed to adopt MVEIRB's recommendation and committed to work together to develop a land and resource management plan for the Thelon region. This is a commitment of the ministers of the federal departments of INAC and Environment Canada, and NWT's Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

In February 2008, the caribou committee of the NWT Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program held a workshop to initiate planning for cumulative effects assessment modeling for barren-ground caribou in the NWT. The committee is working with consultants on a demonstration project to produce a model of the cumulative effects of mines on Bathurst caribou summer range that incorporates traditional knowledge and identifies thresholds.

3. Recommendations relating to Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou and habitat protection to regulatory agencies NIRB, MVLWB and MVEIRB on various permit applications.
  - a. MVLWB agreed to the recommendation by the BQCMB (and others) and sent two Bayswater applications and two Uravan applications for uranium exploration on the Beverly spring migration range in the Upper Thelon, NWT to MVEIRB for environmental assessment.
  - b. MVEIRB incorporated many of the BQCMB's recommendations into their planning process for environmental assessment for the Bayswater and Uravan proposals for exploration in the Upper Thelon, NWT.
  - c. NIRB incorporated some BQCMB recommendations into their recommendations to INAC for permit conditions issued by that agency for numerous proposals for mineral exploration on Beverly and Qamanirjuaq calving grounds, post-calving areas and migration routes in Nunavut. It should be noted that INAC may or may not include these BQCMB recommendations as permit conditions.
4. Recommendations to governments to take action to protect Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou and important habitats, as outlined in the BQCMB's 2004 position paper, *Protecting Calving Grounds, Post-Calving Areas and Other Important Habitats for Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou*, and subsequently described in presentations at several meetings in the NWT and Nunavut.
  - A resolution was passed at the Dene Leadership meeting in December 2007 calling for the protection of caribou calving grounds.
  - Churchill MP Tina Keeper sent the BQCMB a letter of support for the recommendations made in the position paper in March 2008.
  - NWT MLA for Tu Nedhe Tom Beaulieu asked the BQCMB in April 2008 for a statement about the Board's work to be read aloud in the NWT Legislative Assembly.
  - Manitoba Senator Mira Spivak sent the BQCMB a letter of support for the recommendations made in the position paper in April 2008.
  - Western Arctic MP Dennis Bevington wrote to INAC Minister Chuck Strahl in April 2008 to push for implementation of the BQCMB's recommendations to protect the herds and their habitats, and copied the BQCMB on the letter.
5. Recommendations to INAC as part of an August 2007 BQCMB response to INAC's request for comments on the March 2007 INAC-commissioned report, *Assessment of Caribou Protection Measures*.



A few recommendations were acted upon, with the principal one being that INAC now applies Caribou Protection Measures to prospecting permits.

6. Recommendation to the Nunavut-Manitoba Road Route Selection Study team that their team's consulting biologist attend a BQCMB meeting in order to address Board members about caribou issues regarding the proposed all-weather road between northern Manitoba and the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut.

SNC-Lavalin Inc., the contractor in charge of the road route selection study, did not send its biologist to any BQCMB meetings.

# Review of the State of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Herds

## Nunavut

It was business as usual for the Qamanirjuaq caribou in the Kivalliq Region during 2007-2008, with both the numbers of animals observed and the migration routes followed favouring traditional patterns, noted Nunavut Department of Environment wildlife manager (Kivalliq Region) and BQCMB member **Dan Shewchuk**.

Caribou filtered throughout the region after making their usual end of March/beginning of April entrance via Manitoba and the western edge of Saskatchewan. They wandered close to Kivalliq communities during the spring, on the way to their calving ground for their regular June birthing period, and during the fall, as they headed back to their winter range. Most caribou departed from Nunavut around November.

This is normal – unlike the situation two years earlier, when Qamanirjuaq caribou could be seen in the tens of thousands at a time on their range and were within view of communities all winter long.

One place that regularly sees caribou from August until almost April is the inland community of Baker Lake, which stands at the crossroads of the Beverly, Qamanirjuaq, Ahiak and Lorillard herds' migration routes. BQCMB member **Thomas Elytook** of Baker Lake notes that while the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds head south of the treeline for the winter, caribou from the Ahiak and Lorillard herds stay near Baker Lake all winter long. Caribou can be so numerous that at times, airport workers have to

chase animals away from landing strips during the winter.

Over the years, Elytook has noticed that Qamanirjuaq caribou are always the fattest, followed by Lorillard animals. The Ahiak and Beverly caribou are thinner, and Elytook suspects it could be because animals from these inland herds are constantly running away from mosquitoes and black flies.

The Kivalliq region was blessed with pleasant summer and fall weather in 2007. Most harvesting is done in the fall when bulls are fattest, and hunters reported that the caribou were in good shape in 2007.

Freeze-up and the first snowfall occurred later than normal. Then the weather took a turn for the worse, unleashing a blizzard-packed winter. By that time, however, the majority of caribou had travelled south of the treeline again.

The main Qamanirjuaq caribou herd initiative that consumed the energies of the Government of Nunavut throughout 2007–2008 was the intensive planning of a June 2008 calving ground population survey being carried out with the Government of Manitoba and others. The herd had not been surveyed since 1994. This complex project anticipated drawing experts from Nunavut, Manitoba and the NWT for its survey team, and utilizing two fixed-wing airplanes, a helicopter and a photo plane. Costs for the \$322,000 survey were to be shouldered by the governments of Nunavut and Manitoba,

with INAC making a substantial contribution, too. The NWMB was also to provide some support.

A spring composition survey was conducted in May 2007, with results pointing to a slight drop in calf recruitment rates.

In March 2008, 20 new satellite collars were deployed on Qamanirjuaq cows. The collaring program, which has been in place since 1993, now has a total of 32 collared animals. The Department of Environment makes satellite collaring location data available to the BQCMB and caribou range jurisdictions. The department also hopes to release an updated

version of its 2006 *Journey of the Caribou* CD towards the end of 2008. The CD, available on the BQCMB's website at [www.arctic-caribou.com/journey](http://www.arctic-caribou.com/journey), tracked the history of satellite collaring on several caribou herds, including the movements of Qamanirjuaq cows from 1993 to 2006.

The new edition of the CD would also incorporate information from the department's multi-year vegetation mapping program. Shewchuk said that fieldwork involved in mapping caribou habitat as part of that project has been completed and data is currently being analyzed.

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## Manitoba

By waiting until June to embark on their 2007 spring migration, the Qamanirjuaq caribou spent only a few months out of province last year, returning for their usual late August arrival, said Manitoba Conservation regional wildlife manager and BQCMB vice-chairman **Daryll Hedman**.

The Qamanirjuaq animals also retraced their usual migratory routes throughout Manitoba in 2007–2008. They entered the province from the northeast end, moving southwest to the Lac Brochet area, then southeast toward South Indian Lake, and finally north toward Nunavut.

This past year was an excellent one for hunters in northern Manitoba. The Qamanirjuaq caribou were very plentiful, and almost all those harvested were reported to be in good condition. BQCMB member **Albert Thorassie** of Tadoule Lake said there were lots of caribou around his community, and once they arrived in November, they stayed for many months.

Caribou encountered much the same type of Manitoba weather as in past years. Winter was very cold, with temperatures plunging to –40 C for a five-week period in January and February 2008. Forest fires were in short supply on the caribou range during the summer of 2007 – another similarity to the previous year.

As part of its caribou management activities throughout 2007–2008, the Government of Manitoba patrolled the winter road leading to South Indian Lake, and patrolled all outfitting camps while they operated on the caribou range. Manitoba Conservation also erected a traffic sign featuring educational information about caribou, and Hedman spoke to residents of caribou-range communities about caribou management.

A major effort throughout 2007–2008 was planning a calving ground population survey with the Government of Nunavut and others.

## Northwest Territories

Satellite collaring location data showed that, in 2007, Beverly animals followed their regular west-to-east migratory trek through NWT and into Nunavut to reach their calving ground, reported BQCMB member **Deb Johnson**, the South Slave regional biologist for NWT's Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Spring made its usual May arrival in NWT in 2007 but was delayed further east, in Nunavut's Kivalliq Region. In fact, blizzards and gale force winds near Baker Lake effectively derailed the largest project dedicated to the Beverly herd in many years – an NWT-led calving ground population survey.

Throughout the winter, a number of Beverly caribou settled in around NWT's Nonacho Lake area. As a result, hunters from nearby Lutselk'e enjoyed good levels of success, and the caribou harvested were in good condition. BQCMB member **August Enzoe** of Lutselk'e said that for several months starting in March, there were a lot of caribou about 50 or 65 kilometres from the community that had come from the south and were travelling to their calving grounds.

Johnson said that residents from Fort Resolution also journeyed to the region to hunt. While Beverly caribou ventured further west into NWT this past year than they usually do, it wasn't far enough west to benefit Fort Smith hunters. Beverly animals were still a considerable distance from the community and were few in number.

BQCMB member **Earl Evans** of Fort Smith confirmed that there were no caribou nearby. However, while conducting a training course for Aurora College's natural resources technology

program, he did see almost 4,000 caribou southwest of Lutselk'e near Gagnon Lake toward the end of February. Interestingly, Evans did not spot a single sign of wolves during the three to four days he was in the area.

Evans also conducted caribou sampling work for NWT's Department of Environment and Natural Resources on Bathurst animals again this year. There were hardly any caribou around the winter road close to Yellowknife, making it necessary to travel to Indin Lake to harvest caribou for sampling. Pregnancy rates of Bathurst caribou were very high but Evans noted that the caribou were not as fat as Beverly animals.

There were few Beverly caribou near the NWT/Saskatchewan border this past year.

Temperatures on the caribou range during June and July 2007 were fairly hot. Despite the short summer, there was more fire activity than in 2006. Johnson noted that throughout the summer of 2007, 18 fires burned on the caribou range, razing almost 355,000 hectares. This compares to just 10 fires on the caribou range in 2006 that burned only 1,833.10 hectares overall.

The fall of 2007 was rainy from August through until early winter. Snowfall during the winter was average but temperatures were markedly colder than in recent years, with the months of February and March 2008 being consistently cold.

Field work on Beverly caribou intensified considerably throughout 2007–2008 in an effort by the GNWT to flesh out important data about the herd. Unfortunately, after months of planning



with various partners to stage the first calving ground population survey on the herd since 1994, the GNWT-led survey team was largely grounded by stormy weather in June 2007. The photo plane was unable to reach the heights necessary to complete aerial photography of the Beverly calving ground. During the occasional times team members were able to fly, though, very few caribou relative to past years were spotted. Sometimes not a single caribou per square kilometre was sighted (the norm is 30 to 40 caribou per square kilometre). Johnson, the survey team's leader, believed this was a sign that the Beverly population has declined.

The survey team was able to complete reconnaissance surveys of the Beverly, Ahiak and Qamanirjuaq calving grounds, however.

In July 2007, the Department of Environment

and Natural Resources also deployed 17 more collars on cows on Beverly post-calving ground. It was necessary to establish greater certainty of the cows' origins by doing work on the post-calving ground because after 20 new collars were deployed on what were believed to be Beverly cows in March 2006, the caribou later proved to be from four different herds: the Beverly, Bathurst, Ahiak and Qamanirjuaq. This was established after the collared animals returned to their traditional calving grounds during spring migration.

At the end of March 2008, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources also conducted a spring composition survey of Beverly and Ahiak animals. The work, which took place east of Great Slave Lake, determined that the herds have a recruitment rate of 48 calves per 100 cows.

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## Saskatchewan

The past year was not a stellar one for northern Saskatchewan hunters. Only small to mid-sized groups of Beverly caribou trekked south into the province, and by mid-winter, most known large concentrations of caribou had returned north of the border to NWT, reported **Tim Trottier**, BQCMB member and wildlife ecologist for the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment's Shield Region.

BQCMB alternate member **Pierre Robillard** first reported seeing caribou at the beginning of November 2007. Trottier said moderate numbers of caribou journeyed south into the area between Uranium City and Fond du Lac, and north of Black Lake. But by early to mid-December, caribou were retracing their steps and edging closer to the NWT border. In fact, **Deb Johnson**, the South Slave regional

biologist for NWT's Department of Environment and Natural Resources, said that hunters from Black Lake were harvesting bulls as far north as NWT's Selwyn and Kasba lakes.

BQCMB member **Dennis Larocque** of Camsell Portage said that in February 2008, there were small numbers of caribou about 80 to 100 kilometres from his community. But by March, the cows and calves had moved on. The few bulls that hung back had also vanished within a month's time.

In 2007, animals that were presumed to be Qamanirjuaq caribou stayed near Wollaston Lake until April before beginning their spring migration north. But unlike previous years, they didn't make their usual early winter return to the community. Nor were they readily found

along the Cochrane River near Wollaston. In fact, hunters travelled to the Lac Brochet area in Manitoba during late winter for caribou. This year, caribou were again seen in small numbers near the Rabbit Lake and McClean Lake uranium mill and mine sites west of Wollaston Lake.

The Athabasca region enjoyed moderate weather this past winter, with no signs of severe cold. Shallow early winter snow depths gradually accumulated from late January through to spring after a good freeze-up and little or no slush to contend with on the lakes by late winter.

Trottier said that caribou harvested this past year were reported as having fat reserves ranging from average to good.

In 2007, there were 58 fires on the portion of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq ranges in Saskatchewan, and they burned a total of 127,000 hectares, said GIS analyst **Alan Frank** of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment's Geomatics Services Branch.

During 2007-2008, the Government of Saskatchewan provided funding to the Government of NWT's attempted calving ground survey of the Beverly herd in June 2007. Saskatchewan also continued its routine contact with residents of caribou-range communities throughout the winter in order to monitor caribou.

**BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ  
CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Financial Statements

March 31, 2008



Box 1038, Westside Plaza  
Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0  
Telephone (204) 467-5566  
Fax (204) 467-9133

## AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board Members  
Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board

I have audited the balance sheet of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board as at March 31, 2008 and the statements of earnings and changes in net assets for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Board's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements, based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Board as at March 31, 2008 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'EPR', is positioned above the title 'CERTIFIED GENERAL ACCOUNTANT'.

CERTIFIED GENERAL ACCOUNTANT

Stonewall, Manitoba  
August 15, 2008

*An Independent Member Firm of EPR Canada Group Inc.*



# BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

## Balance Sheet

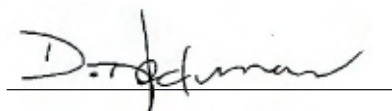
For the year ended March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	2008	2007
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 57,537	\$ 83,480
Accounts receivable	7,500	8,979
Prepaid expenses	1,500	1,500
Receivable from Scholarship Fund (note 2)	1,679	3,275
GST receivable	4,131	3,191
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 72,347	\$ 100,425

## Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 4,081	\$ 22,366
	4,081	22,366
Net assets		
Unrestricted net assets	68,266	78,059
	68,266	78,059
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 72,347	\$ 100,425

On behalf of the Board:



Darryl Hedman Co-Chair, BQCMB



Ross Thompson Secretary-Treasurer, BQCMB

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



# BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

## Statement of Earnings

For the year ended March 31, 2008

	Budget	2008	2007
Revenue:			
Core funding			
DIAND (schedule)	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Northwest Territories	15,000	15,000	15,000
Saskatchewan	15,000	15,000	15,000
Manitoba	15,000	15,000	15,000
Nunavut	15,000	15,000	15,000
	75,000	75,000	75,000
DIAND (schedule)	75,000	30,000	89,789
World Wildlife Fund	30,000	30,000	30,000
AREVA	10,000	25,000	-
Other revenue	10,000	7,560	26,812
	125,000	92,560	146,601
Add: deferred revenue, beginning of year		-	20,000
Less: deferred revenue, end of year		-	-
Total revenue	200,000	167,560	241,601
Expenditures:			
Administration			
Professional services	11,500	-	22,636
Meeting expense	3,000	5,345	2,019
Secretariat fees and travel	22,500	18,965	16,194
Audit and bank charges	4,200	3,210	2,870
Office expense	1,400	767	828
	42,600	28,287	44,547
Programs			
Public relations and education	20,550	15,443	21,891
Caribou habitat monitoring	67,000	43,318	-
Community projects	-	-	12,000
Research studies	9,700	6,700	5,300
Communication, community information and dialogue project (schedule)	30,000	39,735	-
Collaring project (schedule)	30,000	43,870	116,123
	157,250	149,066	155,314
Total expenditures	199,850	177,353	199,861
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures		\$ (9,793)	\$ 41,740

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



# BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended March 31, 2008

		2008	2007
Net assets, beginning of year	\$	78,059	\$ 36,319
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures		(9,793)	41,740
Net assets, end of year	\$	68,266	\$ 78,059

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



# BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2008

---

## 1. Significant accounting policies:

### (a) Nature of Business:

The Board was established in June 1982 and is a not-for-profit registered charity. It provides advice on the management of barren ground caribou and their habitat to aboriginal groups and federal and provincial governments. The Board is also involved in providing public education and information regarding these caribou, and monitoring caribou in relation to climate change.

### (b) Revenue Recognition:

The Board uses the accrual basis of accounting for revenue and expenditures and follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

### (c) Financial Instruments:

The Board's financial instruments consist of cash and accounts receivable. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Board is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximate their carrying value.

### (d) Use of Estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## 2. Receivable from Scholarship Fund:

The amount consists of the excess of payments made to scholarship recipients less interest deposited for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Scholarship Fund. The amount advanced from Scholarship Fund is non-interest bearing, unsecured and has no specified terms of repayment.





# BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2008

---

### 3. Statement of cash flows:

A statement of cash flows has not been provided since the sources and uses of cash are readily apparent from the information included in the financial statements.

# BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

## Schedule of Project Revenues and Expenditures

For the year ended March 31, 2008

	2008	2007
Revenue:		
DIAND	\$ 30,000	\$ 89,789
AREVA	25,000	-
World Wildlife Fund	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
Donations	\$ -	\$ 21,127
GST rebate	\$ 1,514	\$ 1,025
	86,514	141,941
Expenses:		
Transportation - helicopter	36,113	3,054
Equipment	-	74,537
Refurbishing	-	5,372
Holdback adjustment	7,757	-
Professional and administration fees	-	33,160
	43,870	116,123
Public relations and education	14,195	-
Community projects	10,000	-
Professional and administration fees	15,540	-
	39,735	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	\$ 2,909	\$ 25,818

# BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

Schedule of DIAND Core Funding  
Schedule of Revenue and Expenditures

For the year ended March 31, 2008

	Budget	2008	2007
Revenue:			
DIAND	\$ 20,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
		15,000	15,000
Expenditures:			
Administration	20,000	15,000	15,000
		15,000	15,000
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	\$	-	\$ -

**BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ  
CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Financial Statements

December 31, 2007





Box 1038, Westside Plaza  
Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0  
Telephone (204) 467-5566  
Fax (204) 467-9133

## AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Trustees  
Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Scholarship Fund

I have audited the balance sheet of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Scholarship Fund as at December 31, 2007 and the statements of earnings and retained earnings for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the fund's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements, based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the fund as at December 31, 2007 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

CERTIFIED GENERAL ACCOUNTANT

Stonewall, Manitoba  
July 31, 2008

*An Independent Member Firm of EPR Canada Group Inc.*

# BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

## Balance Sheet

Year ended December 31, 2007, with comparative figures for 2006

	2007	2006
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 3,124	\$ 2,839
Non-redeemable RBC GIC, 4.30%, due Dec. 31, 2007	-	10,000
	3,124	12,839
Non-redeemable RBC GIC, 2.85%, due Dec. 31, 2009	10,000	10,000
Redeemable RBC GIC, 3.40%, due Dec. 31, 2008	-	22,074
Redeemable RBC GIC, 3.20%, due Dec. 31, 2008	30,000	-
	43,124	44,913

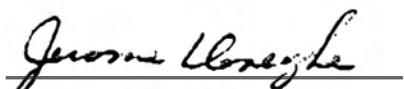

## Liabilities and Fund Balance

Payable to the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board	\$ 1,679	\$ 3,275
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## Fund Balance

Unrestricted, end of year	41,445	41,638
	41,445	41,638
	\$ 43,124	\$ 44,913

On behalf of the Board:

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



# BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Statement of Operations and Retained Earnings

Year ended December 31, 2007, with comparative figures for 2006

	2007	2006
Revenue:		
Interest earned	\$ 1,457	\$ 1,364
Expenses:		
Grants distributed	1,650	1,650
Excess of expenditures over revenue for the year	(193)	(286)
Fund balance, beginning of year	41,638	41,924
Fund balance, end of year	41,445	41,638

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



# BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2007

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## 1. Significant accounting policies:

### (a) Nature of Business:

The Fund is a not-for-profit registered charity. It provides financial assistance by way of scholarship awards to full-time students enrolled at recognized Canadian colleges or universities whose studies contribute to the understanding of barren ground caribou and their habitat.

### (b) Revenue Recognition:

The Fund follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Endowment contributions are recognized as direct increases in fund balances. Restricted investment income is recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

### (c) Investments:

Guaranteed investment certificates are recorded at cost.

## 2. Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities:

The Fund's financial instruments consist of cash and guaranteed investment certificates. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Fund is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximate their carrying value.

## 3. Statement of cash flow:

A statement of changes in financial position has not been presented as the sources and uses of cash are readily apparent from the information included in the financial statements.





## Harvest Estimates

In all cases, the traditional user and other aboriginal harvests by community (domestic use) are rough approximations only. Governments do not currently tabulate local harvest statistics. In some cases, harvest figures for resident licenced hunters (domestic use) and commercial use have been estimated as well.

### Qamanirjuaq Caribou Herd Harvest Estimates

2007–2008

Community	Population by Community	Traditional User and Other Aboriginal Domestic Use <sup>5</sup>	Resident Licenced Hunters Domestic Use	Commercial Use
Arviat <sup>1</sup>	2,060	3,500		
Baker Lake <sup>1,7</sup>	691	800		
Brochet <sup>1</sup>	306	300		
Chesterfield Inlet <sup>1,6</sup>	332	100		
Churchill <sup>1</sup>	923	40		
Lac Brochet <sup>1</sup>	604	850		
Rankin Inlet <sup>1</sup>	2,358	505		
South Indian Lake <sup>1</sup>	857	350		
Split Lake <sup>1</sup>	1,819	0		
Nelson House <sup>1</sup>	2,096	60		
Tadoule Lake <sup>1</sup>	330	370		
Whale Cove <sup>1</sup>	353	40		
Wollaston <sup>2</sup>	1,106	1,000		
Manitoba			400	300 (guiding non-residents)
Nunavut			300	35 (meat, local sales) 120 (guiding non-residents)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>13,835</b>	<b>7,915</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>455</b>
<b>TOTAL CARIBOU HARVEST</b>				<b>9,070</b>

1) Census Canada 2006.

2) Registered Indian Population on Reserve. INAC, December 2006.

3) Northern Settlement Office, June 2007.

4) Registered Indian Population on Reserve and Crown Land. INAC, June 2007.

# Beverly Caribou Herd Harvest Estimates

2007–2008

Community	Population by Community	Traditional User and Other Aboriginal Domestic Use <sup>5</sup>	Resident Licenced Hunters Domestic Use	Commercial Use
Baker Lake <sup>1,7</sup>	346	400		
Black Lake <sup>2</sup>	1,406	1,000		
Camsell Portage <sup>3</sup>	7	15		
Fond du Lac <sup>2</sup>	912	1,000		
Fort Resolution <sup>1</sup>	484	50		
Fort Smith <sup>1</sup>	2,364	150		0 (meat, local sales)
Lutselk'e <sup>1</sup>	318	900		60 (guiding non-residents)
Stony Rapids <sup>1</sup>	255	200		
Uranium City <sup>3</sup>	200	40		
Fort Chipewyan <sup>4, 8</sup>	222	30		
Saskatchewan		200	10	
Northwest Territories			0	
Nunavut			100	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6,514</b>	<b>3,985</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>TOTAL CARIBOU HARVEST</b>				<b>4,155</b>

- 5) Harvests estimated by the HTOs of Rankin Inlet, Arviat, Chesterfield and Whale Cove, and government staff of Nunavut's Department of Environment, the NWT's Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment and Manitoba Conservation. Due to circumstances beyond its control, the Baker Lake HTO was unable to provide updated harvest estimates for 2007-2008. The estimates that appear here for Baker Lake are from 2006-2007.
- 6) Of Chesterfield Inlet's estimated 100 caribou harvested, 50 were harvested by community hunters to provide caribou meat for elders and those less fortunate. The remaining 50 were harvested for individual purposes. (Rene Tautu, Chesterfield Inlet HTO, personal communication.)
- 7) The BQCMB apportions the Baker Lake caribou harvest as 40% Qamanirjuaq, 20% Beverly and 40% Wager Bay.
- 8) NWT Border B licence allows the harvest of 400 caribou for traditional use and other aboriginal domestic use. (Alberta.)

## **Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement**

THIS AGREEMENT made on the 1st day of April 2002 BETWEEN:

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

THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA, as represented by the Minister of Conservation  
(hereinafter referred to as “Manitoba”);  
and

THE GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN, as represented by the Minister of Environment and  
Resource Management (hereinafter referred to as “Saskatchewan”);  
and

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, as represented by the Minister of  
Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development (hereinafter referred to as “Northwest Territories”);  
and

THE GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT, as represented by the Minister of Sustainable Development  
(hereinafter referred to as “Nunavut”)

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

AND WHEREAS the continued well-being of these herds requires coordinated 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 Northwest Territories Act (1985), The Nunavut Act (1993);
  - (b) The Manitoba Wildlife Act - section 84;
  - (c) The Saskatchewan Wildlife Act - section 9;
  - (d) The Northwest Territories Wildlife Act - section 27;
  - (e) The Nunavut Act - section 73
- agree that:

#### **A. Definitions In this Agreement:**

1. “Beverly herd” means that herd of barren ground caribou which utilizes range in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut and regularly bears its young near Beverly Lake in Nunavut, and historically migrates into Saskatchewan, and Manitoba and the Northwest Territories.
2. “Qamanirjuaq herd” means that herd of barren ground caribou which utilizes range in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut and regularly bears its young near Qamanirjuaq Lake in Nunavut and historically migrates into Saskatchewan, and Manitoba and the Northwest Territories.
3. “TRADITIONAL USERS” means those persons recognized by communities on the caribou range as being persons who have traditionally and currently hunted caribou for subsistence.
4. “HABITAT” means the whole or any part of the biosphere upon which the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds depend, including all of the land, water and air that they inhabit, cross or utilize at any time.

#### **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 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 monitoring of the herds and 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 coordinated 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 coordinated management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds by responding promptly to recommended measures.

#### **C. Board Responsibilities**

Without restricting the generality of clause B 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 USERS for the conservation and management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds of barren ground caribou and their HABITAT in order to maintain the herds, as far as reasonably possible, at 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, Nunavut, 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 the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds which will include consideration of traditional knowledge, where available; and will take into account the maintenance of the natural balance of ecological systems; the protection of wildlife HABITAT; and the maintenance of vital, healthy wildlife populations capable of sustaining lawful harvesting needs.
- 2. To monitor the caribou HABITAT over the entire ranges of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds so as to facilitate the maintenance and protection of productive caribou HABITAT.
- 3. To conduct an information program and hold such public meetings as are necessary to report on and discuss with TRADITIONAL 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.
- 6. To consider any other matters respecting the management of barren ground caribou that are referred to the Board by the parties hereto or Board members. The Board may also consider any other matters respecting the management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds referred to the Board by any other person or organization.

#### **D. Membership of the Board**

1. Up to fifteen members shall be appointed to the Board as follows:
  - (a) The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Government of Canada; The Minister of Conservation, Government of Manitoba; the Minister of Environment and Resource Management, Government of Saskatchewan; the Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Government of the Northwest Territories; and the Minister of Sustainable Development, Government of Nunavut shall each appoint one senior official from their respective ministries for a total of five members.
  - (b) the Minister of Conservation, Government of Manitoba, shall appoint two residents from the communities of Northern Manitoba for a total of two members;
  - (c) the Minister of Environment and Resource Management, Government of Saskatchewan, shall appoint two residents from the communities of Northern Saskatchewan for a total of two members; and may appoint a third resident from the communities of Northern Saskatchewan;
  - (d) the Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Government of the Northwest Territories, shall:
    - (i) where recommended by the Dene Nation, appoint one resident from the communities in the South Slave Region of the Northwest Territories;
    - (ii) where recommended by the Métis Nation of the Northwest Territories, appoint one resident from the communities in the South Slave Region of the Northwest Territories; for a total of two members;
  - (e) the Minister of Sustainable Development, Government of Nunavut, shall, where recommended by the Kivalliq Wildlife Board, appoint two residents from the communities in the Kivalliq [Keewatin] region of Nunavut and may appoint a third resident



from the communities of the southern Kivalliq [Keewatin] region of Nunavut.

2. The members of the Board shall be appointed for a term of five 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) eight 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 to 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 herein before 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 equally amongst the parties to this Agreement in accordance with section F-2 below.
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 equally by all parties hereto.
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, maintain the operation of the Board between meetings, 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 other

informational and educational material; 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 F-1 above.
5. 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. 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.
2. The parties are committed to taking all actions under this Agreement in a way that respects any treaty rights or Aboriginal rights of Aboriginal peoples relating to the hunting of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq barren ground caribou.
3. This Agreement shall take effect on the 1st day of April, 2002, and shall terminate on the 31st day of March, 2012, unless sooner terminated, for any reason, by any of the parties hereto upon six month's notice in writing to the other parties.
4. In recognition of the importance of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds and their HABITAT, the withdrawal of any of the parties from this Agreement shall not preclude the remaining parties from continuing with the objectives and processes set out in this Agreement.
5. This Agreement may be amended at any time by an exchange of letters following unanimous approval by the parties hereto.
6. This Agreement supersedes the Beverly-Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement made between Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut on the 1st day of April, 1999.