

Public Governments

Watching the Caribou: What We Can Do

- Monitor commercial land uses on the caribou ranges and assess cumulative effects of human activities on caribou.
- Research and develop mitigation measures and best practices to reduce disturbance effects of their activities on caribou.
- Monitor land use activities and, where necessary, apply effective penalties for non-compliance with permit conditions.
- Oppose, restrict, or deny proposed projects that will have significant negative impacts on caribou that cannot be fully mitigated.
- Support caribou research and monitoring programs related to climate change impacts, disease and parasites, predator management programs and contaminants.
- Involve Indigenous communities in monitoring, research, and if applicable, management decisions about conservation of barren- ground caribou and their habitat.
- Invite and engage with Indigenous Knowledge-holders to discuss their knowledge on caribou and caribou habitat.
- Promote, support and/or participate in community-based monitoring programs including Guardians programs and other monitoring /research that studies what affects caribou health, productivity, and abundance.
- Support and fund community initiatives and educational programs directed at reducing effects of human activities on caribou.
- Support and/or participate in community harvest monitoring programs, including harvest for meat sales.
- Research and develop a position on whether incentives for harvest of predators or other predator management options should be considered for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds.
- Encourage plans for forest management that includes maintaining high-quality barren-ground caribou winter range.
- Include wildfire reduction as a priority for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in climate strategies.
- Inform and learn about territorial/provincial wildlife and barren- ground caribou harvest regulations.
- Plan and conduct population surveys according to the schedule outlined in this Plan.
- Provide local, traditional, and scientific knowledge about caribou and environmental and human-cause factors that affect caribou directly to the vulnerability assessment.
- Implement BQCMB vulnerability assessment recommendations and encourage others to do the same.
- Provide, distribute, and follow educational materials that educate people about vulnerability of the herds, how to avoid disturbance to caribou and their habitat, and ways to prevent the spread of disease.

Respecting the Caribou: What We Can Do

- Inform about territorial/provincial wildlife and barren-ground caribou harvest regulations and ensure field offices are fully staffed with trained conservation officers.
- Support efforts to address issues related to harvest for meat sales.
- Inform communities and hunters about the status of the herds, respectful hunting, the need to use caribou wisely, and potential impacts of selling caribou on future harvest.
- Develop communication materials to use in educating youth, local hunters, and others about the need for respectful hunting.
- Share respectful hunting information on social media and with peers.
- Develop Indigenous-led caribou stewardship plans and/or support them.
- Fund youth and Elder programs to assist communities in educating their young people about respectful harvest.
- Make recommendations about harvest limits, if required, based on the BQCMB vulnerability ratings for the caribou herds and giving highest priority to the needs of Indigenous people who depend on them.
- Implement a “bulls only” harvest for resident and non-resident licensed hunters.

Respecting the Land: What We Can Do

- Endorse, support, and participate in programs that monitor, and research caribou habitat use and seasonal range use, incl. Guardians programs.
- Conduct, fund and/or participate in research about caribou habitat and seasonal range use, factors that can have negative effects and cumulative effects on caribou habitat, and actions that can be taken to reduce those effects.
- Promote protection of calving grounds, post-calving ranges, spring migration range, important water crossings and key forested winter ranges through land use planning, protected areas, and environmental assessment, and wildfire suppression.
- Not propose and/or oppose developments proposed on calving grounds, post-calving ranges, spring migration range, and important water crossings.
- Work with industry and governments to develop mitigation methods and best practices to reduce the negative effects of human activities on caribou habitat and recommend these actions to regulatory agencies, project proponents, communities, and others.
- Monitor commercial land uses on the caribou ranges, including mining and mineral exploration, tourism, and flights by air charter companies and apply penalties for non-compliance re: permit conditions (where mandated).
- Provide communications materials to educate people about the need for habitat protection and the importance of not disturbing sensitive habitats.
- Assess land use activities proposed on the caribou ranges for their potential effects and cumulative effects on key caribou habitats.
- Not approve proposed projects that will contribute to cumulative effects on key caribou habitats.
- Collaborate on initiatives and educational programs directed at reducing effects of human activities on caribou habitats.
- Encourage Canada and the provincial/territorial governments to uphold international climate change agreements, such as the Paris Agreement commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% below 2005 levels by 2030.

- Encourage provinces and territories to implement climate change strategies.

Community Connections: What We Can Do

- Provide support to BQCMB members before, during and after Board meetings so they can share information with their communities.
- Post BQCMB information in public buildings and schools.
- Invite and/or support Elders, and Indigenous Knowledge Holders, BQCMB members and others to present at schools, youth groups and/or community meetings and share BQCMB information.
- Support hunters taking youth and inexperienced hunters hunting and provide training on respectful hunting.
- Support and/or continue to fund youth and elder attendance at each BQCMB meeting.
- Fund, promote, and/or apply for On-The-Land camp funding to educate youth about traditional knowledge.
- Encourage non-Indigenous hunters and outfitters to visit local Band offices or Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTO) to ensure they follow local hunting protocols.
- Continue to provide scholarships for students doing research to learn about barren-ground caribou and their habitat.
- Incorporate Indigenous Knowledge (IK) into caribou management plans, strategic plans, wildlife monitoring and management plans, operational and mitigation planning, and others as appropriate.
- Provide adequate, long-term funding to the BQCMB to ensure caribou range communities receive enough support to participate in caribou conservation.
- Use proper protocols for using Indigenous Knowledge and recognize intellectual property rights.
- Meet with range communities, leadership, and wildlife organizations (such as HTO boards) to exchange information.