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REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA
Thursday, May 3, 2018

<u>PAGE NO.</u>	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
2-3	Fraser Basin Council – Invitation Nechako Watershed Roundtable Local Government Update and Scoping Discussion	Direction/Receive
4-34	Provincial Caribou Recovery Program - Discussion Paper	Receive

NEW BUSINESS

SPECIAL IN-CAMERA MEETING MOTION

In accordance with Section 90 of the *Community Charter*, it is the opinion of the Board of Directors that matters pertaining to Section 90 (1)(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for the purpose (Home Occupation at Gala Bay Road) may be closed to the public therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

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Board
- Direction / Receive

Cheryl Anderson

Subject: FW: Invitation Nechako Watershed Roundtable Local Government Update and Scoping Discussion

From: Kim Menounos <kmenounos@fraserbasin.bc.ca>
Sent: April 30, 2018 4:58 PM
To: Melany Deweerdt <Melany.Deweerdt@rdbn.bc.ca>
Subject: Invitation Nechako Watershed Roundtable Local Government Update and Scoping Discussion

Dear Melany deWeerd, CAO,

On behalf of the Nechako Watershed Roundtable (NWR) Co-Chairs and Core Committee, we would like to invite you (and/or a delegate of your choice) to attend the upcoming ***Nechako Watershed Roundtable Local Government Update and Scoping Discussion*** on ***May 9th from 4:30pm to 5:15pm*** at the North Central Local Government Association AGM (Viewing Room at the Northern Rockies Regional Recreation Centre - second floor) in Fort Nelson, BC.

Registration: Please register [here](#)

The primary goal of the meeting is to provide an update on the NWR's current status and seek your guidance on the potential future developments of the Roundtable.

Agenda

Nechako Watershed Roundtable Local Government Update and Scoping Discussion

Date: May 9th from 4:30pm to 5:15pm

Location: Viewing Room at the Northern Rockies Regional Recreation Centre (Second Floor), Fort Nelson, BC

1. Welcome and Introductions (NWR Chair)
2. What is the NWR? (NWR Chair & Secretariat)
3. NWR Current Funding Discussion (NWR Chair & Secretariat)
What is the NWR Multi Year Transitional Budget - Purpose, Revenue (Committed and Required) and Costs?
4. NWR Future Senarios Discussion (NWR Chair & Secretariat)
What are the potential future roles and purposes of the NWR?
What funding (amounts and sources) will be required to achieve them?
5. Next steps (NWR Chair)
6. Closing Remarks (NWR Chair)
7. Adjournment (NWR Chair)

To Register please click [here](#).

Please let us know if you have any questions or topics you would like added to the agenda (email to: trobert@fraserbasin.bc.ca).

Sincerely,

Danielle Paterson, Kim Menounos and Terry Robert (cell 250-552-2389)
NWR Secretariat

--
Kim Menounos

PGAIR Manager | NWR Coordinator

Assistant Regional Manager, Upper Fraser Office | Fraser Basin Council

Tel: [250-612-0252](tel:250-612-0252)

Email: kmenounos@fraserbasin.bc.ca

[FBC Web](#) | [PGAIR Web](#) | [PGAIR Facebook](#)

The Upper Fraser Office is located on the traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh

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Board-Receive

</caribou/instructions/&title=&summary=&source=>)

Instructions: How to Comment

The discussion paper for the Provincial Caribou Recovery Program has been posted online for your review and comment.

The table of contents is listed on the sidebar of the website and on the Provincial Caribou Recovery Program page (</caribou/draft-program-framework/>).

You can comment on each paragraph by selecting the comment icon, accepting the Terms of Use and submitting your comment. Each comment will be reviewed against the Moderation Policy before being made public. Please review the Terms of Use (</caribou/terms-of-use/>) and Moderation Policy (</caribou/moderation-policy/>) prior to commenting.

The next section and previous section are indicated on the bottom of each page to easily guide you through the discussion paper.

Engagement Counter

Since April 20, 2018

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https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-a-made-in-bc/&title=&summary=&source=)

3. A New Approach: Made in BC

April 4, 2018

The Province has committed to a new long-term, comprehensive, science-based approach to protect and preserve caribou populations – the Caribou Recovery Program. The Province has put aside \$50 million over five years to get this program established.



Two ministries will jointly lead delivery of the program: the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ECCS) and the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD). But, success depends on the participation of many other provincial agencies and the federal government.



There will be significant changes in regulations, leadership, program design and measurement, data management and accessibility. We will deepen the science to better understand this species and our affect on the herds and their habitats.



There will be closer relationships with First Nations that reflect the government's commitment to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We will pursue partnerships with affected sectors, communities, partners and federal agencies.



The mission of the program is to transform caribou management through a comprehensive, collaborative and accountable provincial program.



3.1 Program Objectives → (<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-1-program-objectives/>)



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https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-1-tives/&title=&summary=&source=)

3.1 Program Objectives

April 4, 2018

A range of broad goals will guide the Caribou Recovery Program over the next five years.

The goals include:

- Reverse the decline and achieve stable, increasing populations of identified woodland caribou herds
- Provide certainty to affected natural resource users
- Advance collaboration and reconciliation with Indigenous communities
- Actively collaborate with partners in caribou recovery
- Increase public confidence via accountable, effective program delivery/management

These goals will direct how we build our plans and make decisions, how we consult with Indigenous communities, resource sectors, environmental groups and the general public, and how we take action on the ground.

The program objectives are to:

- Increase the number of caribou
- Maintain and recruit functional caribou habitat
- Protect high-value caribou habitat in key areas
- Provide predictable zonation for resource users
- Provide predictable thresholds for resource
- Support Indigenous communities in caribou recovery
- Encourage Indigenous communities to participate in caribou recovery actions
- Ensure caribou recovery planning efforts reflect Indigenous values interests and perspectives
- Develop partnerships that will contribute to caribou recovery
- Engage partners and indigenous communities in the development of the Caribou Recovery Program Plan
- Communicate program objectives and results
- Develop and improve business processes to transform deliver of caribou recovery

- Prepare recovery plans for all herds that are supported by stakeholders

← [3. A New Approach: Made in BC \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-a-new-approach-made-in-bc/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-a-new-approach-made-in-bc/)

[3.2 Program Principles → \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-2-program-principles/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-2-program-principles/)

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3.2 Program Principles

April 4, 2018

Along with our broad goals, we will follow a set of principles to guide our actions as we adopt changes in organization and processes for the new Caribou Recovery Program. The principles will help us be consistent in our work, and to be good stewards of the caribou populations.

Program principles identified to date include:

- Incorporate interests and values of Indigenous communities in decisions and activities
- Make decisions based on the best available science, in a collaborative way
- Employ consistent, provincial-level program management and logic
- Ensure transparency in the decision process and open access to all data
- Recognize the unique characteristics of each herd and their habitats
- Focus on the long-term sustainability of caribou populations
- Aim for continuous improvement and change
- Value scientific research and an expanding the knowledge base
- Actively engage with all interested parties
- Commit to live within our means with unbiased use of public funds and resources

← [3.1 Program Objectives \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-1-program-objectives/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-1-program-objectives/)

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3.3 Program Challenges

April 4, 2018

We recognize there will be challenges in reaching our Caribou Recovery Program goals. Some include:



- Recovering all B.C.'s caribou herds may not be feasible, without unlimited funding and control over land use. We will need to prioritize our decisions for all 54 herds.
- The public and industry will not be supportive of all our decisions. Our challenge is to collaborate with groups and bring them on board as stewardship partners.
- New, comprehensive herd plans for caribou recovery will likely modify existing Cabinet-approved caribou implementation plans.
- There may be differences between federal and provincial government goals for effective conservation and recovery of caribou. We are currently working to bridge those gaps.



← [3.2 Program Principles \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-2-program-principles/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-2-program-principles/)

[3.4 Strategic Shifts](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-4-strategic-shifts/) → (https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-4-strategic-shifts/)

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3.4 Strategic Shifts

April 4, 2018

In order to create plans for all the caribou in B.C., and to align our work with the federal *Species at Risk Act* objectives, the new Caribou Recovery Program will mean significant changes in how the Province will approach this work. 

We expect to make significant changes in how the Province will apply laws and regulation, support, plan, carry out, monitor and record this work. We will strengthen relationships with First Nations, sectors groups, partners and the public, and other jurisdictions. We will better communicate to the partners and public how and why we make our decisions, and will share our findings and the outcome of our actions. 

Generally, the new recovery program will be more disciplined and integrated in its scope, so that our approach remains consistent, transparent and reliable over time. 

← [3.3 Program Challenges \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-3-program-challenges/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-3-program-challenges/)

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4. Management & Decision Making

April 4, 2018

The province will adopt a program-wide management system that will include a series of consistent steps to keep decision-making at all levels flexible and fair. The governance and team planners will use a systematic decision-making process that will help guide their choices in all aspects of caribou recovery strategies.  3

This “structured decision making” will be used at the provincial and the detailed herd planning levels for each of the 54 herds. The upgraded management process will track how planning decisions actually work in the field, the outcomes, and their effectiveness. For example, B.C. plans to pilot this structure decision making process for herds found within the Central Mountain Group of Southern Mountain Caribou. The results will be used to adjust or refine decisions in the next round or cycle of planning.  1

← [3.4 Strategic Shifts \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-4-strategic-shifts/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/3-4-strategic-shifts/)
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4.1 Land Use Plans and Models

April 4, 2018

Land use decisions affect caribou habitat and populations, and caribou recovery actions also impact land use decisions. Wildlife managers will consider the impacts of caribou recovery actions for the caribou, First Nations, resource and other affected groups.



We will use land use models that will clearly show affected parties why decisions were made, and to assess results after actions are taken. The models will also be used to show how proposed plans might work. The models will be designed so that they can be easily understood by members of the public.



← [4. Management & Decision Making](#)

(<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-management-decision-making/>)

[4.2 Herd Plans](#) → (<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-2-herd-plans/>)

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4.2 Herd Plans

April 4, 2018

One of our most important guiding principles is to use consistent, fact-based approaches with all caribou herds in the province. We will adopt a new format of 'herd plans' that will:



- Provide a consistent approach to managing all herds in C.
- Recognize the unique circumstances of each herd
- Build from current (legacy) caribou management plans
- Consider First Nations' and stakeholder interests and ideas
- Be included in larger regional plans



Herd plans will describe the status of each herd, and the threats faced by that herd. The plans will take note of previous actions, and actions that are planned. As we implement the herd plans, we will carefully monitor how well the caribou respond, and modify our actions as needed. Herd plans will help us document our decisions and discuss issues with First Nations and with stakeholders

← [4.1 Land Use Plans and Models \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-1-land-use-plans-and-models/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-1-land-use-plans-and-models/)

[4.3 Information Management → \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-3-information-management/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-3-information-management/)

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4.3 Information Management

April 4, 2018

A well-planned and organized system to manage information is key to the success of the new Caribou Recovery Plan. Good information management is important because the reasons behind decisions on caribou management plans are multiple and complex, and can involve several government and public groups. 

The Caribou Recovery Program will develop a central storehouse of field reports, traditional knowledge and other vital details that are used to make decisions. It will include past and current information. Caribou recovery information will be available to government scientists and managers, to the wider scientific community, industry, non-government organizations and the public. 

As the database grows, caribou program information will be made available to the public online, to foster public awareness, citizen science and involvement. 

← [4.2 Herd Plans \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-2-herd-plans/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-2-herd-plans/)

[4.4 Monitoring and Inventory → \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-4-monitoring-and-inventory/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-4-monitoring-and-inventory/)

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d-inventory/&title=&summary=&source=)

4.4 Monitoring and Inventory

April 4, 2018

We will develop a standard monitoring and inventory process to keep the Caribou Recovery Plan database current. Monitoring will track caribou herds to assess the impacts of our management actions. It will also record other changes, such as predator numbers or climate change effects, which could significantly impact our planning choices. Monitoring will also record impacts on other wildlife, and on human user groups. 

← [4.3 Information Management \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-3-information-management/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-3-information-management/)

[4.5 Performance Management \(Or Measuring our Efforts\) → \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-5-performance-management-or-measuring-our-efforts/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-5-performance-management-or-measuring-our-efforts/)

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management-or-measuring-our-
summary=&source=)

4.5 Performance Management (Or Measuring our Efforts)

April 4, 2018

One important to have centralized program information is to measure and evaluate the program performance. Initially, performance management will build consistency across program work and link actions to our common objectives for caribou recovery. We will identify metrics (things to measure) and apply them to track our progress toward program objectives.



Over time, managers will be able to assess the benefit of the program work and, where warranted, adapt their actions to improve results. Assessing how well we do our work will also enable the Province to transparently demonstrate to the public the effectiveness of our work in caribou recovery.



← [4.4 Monitoring and Inventory \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-4-monitoring-and-inventory/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-4-monitoring-and-inventory/)

[4.6 Reporting → \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-6-reporting/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-6-reporting/)

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4.6 Reporting

April 4, 2018

The first caribou recovery report will be published in Spring 2018 with annual reports published every year after that. Program details and results will be available to the public at the Caribou Recovery Program website. 

← [4.5 Performance Management \(Or Measuring our Efforts\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-5-performance-management-or-measuring-our-efforts/)

(<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/04/4-5-performance-management-or-measuring-our-efforts/>)

[5.1 Forest Practices Regulations](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/05/5-1-forest-practices-regulations/) → (<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/05/5-1-forest-practices-regulations/>)

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5.1 Forest Practices Regulations

April 5, 2018

Regulations that guide land use activities provide the most effective ways to protect caribou areas and help recovery. In most of British Columbia, the forestry sector has the most significant current and potential impacts on caribou habitat. 


We will work with this sector to bring in more caribou-friendly approaches. We will produce a *Best Practice Guide: Forestry in Caribou Country*, to show forest sector members how they can harvest in a hypothetical caribou habitat in ways that reduce or erase impacts on caribou. 

Current legislation that regulates forest practices with respect to impacts on caribou and caribou habitat are: 

- The *Land Act* and its Land Use Objectives 
- The *Forest and Range Practices Act* and its Government Actions Regulation

However, conflicting goals between caribou recovery and timber production limit the effectiveness of these laws to protect caribou. The Province can ease conflicts by reviewing its forestry regulations, and make recommendations that will help support caribou recovery and forestry.

We recognize any new or amended forestry policy must: 


- address the economic costs of new harvesting and access, 
- ensure the appraisal system provides licensees incentives for a greater emphasis on habitat restoration, and
- include guidance on how much timber can be harvested and still reach caribou recovery targets. Updated forestry rules can be put into action through herd plans, compliance, legislation and education.

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5.2 Habitat Restoration


April 5, 2018


Caribou need large areas of undisturbed land in which to roam freely. Mining, forestry, oil and gas, renewable energy and road building activities have all impacted caribou habitats in the Province. Fortunately, restoration work can improve disturbed habitats and erase some negative impacts of these activities. Restoring habitats will also help the Province meet federal caribou recovery disturbance thresholds set by the federal *Species at Risk Act*. 


Two methods of habitat restoration hold the most promise in the province: functional and ecological restoration. 

Functional restoration is aimed at reducing the use of linear features; roads, trails, rights-of-way, and seismic lines. Wolves, other large predators and people can move along these access routes more quickly than through dense bush, and easily travel to caribou habitats that were once difficult to reach. 

The intent of functional restoration is to reduce caribou mortality in the short term, and to reduce the need for ongoing predator control. Any functional restoration would depend on collaboration with industry, the public and First Nations communities. 

Restoration will include replanting routes that are no longer in use, placing slash, trees and other debris across trails, disrupting sightlines, and putting up fences. These actions will also restrict human access. 

Ecological restoration refers to the regeneration of a disturbed ecosystem to its pre-disturbed state. Tree replanting, enhanced site work, controlling herbaceous species such as willow, and fertilization help speed up the ecological restoration of disturbed habitat. 


We will explore partnerships with groups inside and outside of government to carry out this work. 


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ion-legislation/&title=&summary=&source=)


5.3 Habitat Protection Legislation

April 5, 2018

British Columbia's past strategy to protect caribou and other species has been to regulate land-use activities to reduce negative impacts. Canada's Caribou Recovery Strategy under the *Species at Risk Act* expects that critical caribou habitat in B.C. be "effectively protected." In general, this means all human activities must be controlled so that there is a high degree of certainty that caribou and caribou habitat will not be disturbed. 

The Province has nearly 20 pieces of legislation that could affect land use, but these have a limited degree of effectiveness because they were not created with caribou protection in mind. 

Another challenge is that important areas of caribou habitat in B.C. have few or no regulations in place to mitigate the impacts from industrial activity. 

Complete protection of caribou habitat would require new habitat protection rules under existing legislation, or a new legal conservation designation that would govern the full range of land-based activities in any given habitat. The endangered species legislation under development will help to address many of the needs of caribou. 

← [5.2 Habitat Restoration \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/05/5-2-habitat-restoration/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/05/5-2-habitat-restoration/)


[5.4 Recreation Management \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/05/5-4-recreation-management/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/05/5-4-recreation-management/)

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5.4 Recreation Management


April 5, 2018

Controlled and limited access to sensitive habitats in the backcountry is the most effective way to reduce disturbance from recreational activities. Public and stakeholder education is vital to raise awareness, to boost a stewardship culture, and encourage desired behaviour in recreational user groups.  6

Controlling access to caribou areas 1


While backcountry recreational activity has less impact on habitats than resource development uses, it could disturb or displace caribou from their preferred habitat.

To date, the Province has focused on restricting snowmobile and heli-ski operations in specific areas. We will continue to review regions where removing recreational access will decrease human and predator access, and reduce the disturbances to caribou habitat. We will use existing laws and policies to reduce access to sensitive areas, especially in situations where roads are not managed under tenures or other permits.  6

Working with the Conservation Officer Service, we will build a motor vehicle compliance strategy that will be applied across the province.  2

Education 1

Educating the public on the potential impacts of their activities on caribou herds and their habitats is essential, especially as more and more people want to visit the backcountry.

We will work with groups like the B.C. Snowmobile Federation, HeliCat Canada, guide outfitters, local recreational clubs, land tenure holders and others to help get the word out to their clients and members.  3

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5.5 Parks and Protected Areas

April 5, 2018

A significant portion of caribou habitat in B.C. is in provincial parks and protected areas.



Different rules and applications for park and Crown lands means caribou management regulations in those two jurisdictions may be quite different in how well they protect caribou and their habitats. The challenge for the Province is to align this mix of agencies, regulations and economic interests in order to allow the Caribou Recovery Program to thrive throughout the province.



BC Parks will take a more active and leading role in making strategic decisions relating to caribou management in their jurisdictions.



← [5.4 Recreation Management \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/05/5-4-recreation-management/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/05/5-4-recreation-management/)

[6.1 Caribou Health and Science → \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-1-caribou-health-and-science/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-1-caribou-health-and-science/)

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6.1 Caribou Health and Science

April 6, 2018


Science and Research


A substantial catalogue of scientific research on caribou management has been amassed over the span of decades, both in British Columbia and elsewhere in Canada. B.C. continues to invest significant resources in projects in many areas of caribou science. Our science and research program will bring forward existing research, and invest in new science to inform caribou recovery and management and support all other components of the caribou recovery program.

We plan to develop a Strategic Science Plan to support caribou recovery, and envision establishing a Provincial Caribou Science Committee made up of biologists from across the province. The committee will work with regional staff to set objectives for caribou science and research. 

Health

Population size and good habitat are factors important in caribou recovery. We also need to better understand caribou health to help preserve and protect the species.

Improved wildlife health monitoring will strengthen our future herd management decisions. The B.C. Wildlife Health Program will develop standardized sample collection methods from live and dead animals to provide reliable data. 

A new formal caribou health research program that is under development will directly support and complement ongoing caribou management and conservation work. The research will help us understand the impacts of various stressors on caribou health, and shed light on how health and genetics can affect the strength of caribou herds. 



24

Finally, our vision is to create a Centre of Excellence for caribou health and genetic/genomic research, and lead the development of innovative methods of capturing general and specific measures of caribou health.

← [5.5 Parks and Protected Areas \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/05/5-5-parks-and-protected-areas/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/05/5-5-parks-and-protected-areas/)

[6.2 Predator Control](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-2-predator-control/) → (https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-2-predator-control/)

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6.2 Predator Control


April 6, 2018


Predator management is likely the most controversial action we take in caribou recovery.  5

Wolves are the caribou's principal predator in British Columbia, and high wolf numbers are associated with declining caribou populations.  5

Managing wolf populations and other caribou recovery actions is challenging. Both animals are part of a complex ecological and now human-influenced relationship. Wolf packs are dependent on their prey (moose, caribou, deer). Prey populations are affected by forest practices and other human activities that affect their habitat. When resource development and recreation open up new roads, wolves use them for easy access to wintering caribou herds.  1

Decisions on predator control must be approached with care, and with abundant and clear information to the public on how they were made. It is important to note that wolf control is never carried out in isolation as a single solution.  0

As the Caribou Recovery Program planning continues, we will record approaches and policies currently used in B.C. and outside the province. B.C. is currently in year four of a five-year pilot project focusing on wolf removal around the South Selkirks and South Peace herds. Building on this knowledge, we can draft new provincial policy with a focus on multi-region predator plans, clear decision-making steps, and transparent communications.  3

Most importantly, we will develop science-based measures and criteria that will be the same as the Caribou Recovery Program's new decision-making and herd planning models.  3

← [6.1 Caribou Health and Science \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-1-caribou-health-and-science/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-1-caribou-health-and-science/)

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6.3 Penning

April 6, 2018

British Columbia currently has several active maternity penning projects: one near Revelstoke, one near Creston, and another in the Northeast at Klinse-Za; each are operated through partnerships and receive funding from a variety of sources.

Maternity penning has both advocates and critics who bring different viewpoints on the overall benefits to caribou recovery that come from this activity.

On the positive side, maternity pens generally increase caribou numbers immediately, and are less controversial than wolf control. They provide opportunities for partnership and collaboration with First Nations.

However, maternity pens are costly and labour intensive. Effectiveness is governed by habitat availability and the herd size.

Alternatively, Alberta is working on an innovative penning approach, which is also under consideration for a pilot project in B.C. The large fenced "exclosure" concept involves the construction of very large fenced areas (up to 100 km²) where caribou can exist on a semi-permanent basis, protected from predators.

Since much has yet to be learned about the impacts and consequences of this type of penning, the first steps will involve research into best practices, costs, and benefits in order to refine performance indicators for expected outcomes.

← [6.2 Predator Control \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-2-predator-control/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-2-predator-control/)

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6.4 Supplemental Feeding

April 6, 2018

Caribou herds may leave their preferred habitat because of predation, access roads or other human activities. In a new habitat, they may have fewer or less nutritious food, which could reduce their survival, pregnancy and juvenile growth rates.



Ongoing research projects suggest that large-scale supplemental feeding could offset the lack of good food in the wild, and may be a practical way to promote population growth. There are two experimental supplemental feeding programs in the province: the Kennedy Siding herd low elevation winter range, and the Telkwa herd high elevation winter range.



← [6.3 Penning \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-3-penning/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-3-penning/)

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management/&title=&summary=&source=)

6.5 Primary Prey Management

April 6, 2018

Logging and forest fires have reduced some of the woodland caribou's preferred old forest habitats. The open meadows and young forest or early seral landscapes newly abundant with grass and shrubs attract moose, elk and deer. In turn, these primary prey species attract wolves, bears and cougars, which often choose caribou as secondary prey. 

Reducing these other prey species in and around caribou habitat may help reduce the presence of predators, and protect caribou herds. This idea is being tested in pilot projects to reduce moose numbers in the Parsnip and Revelstoke areas. Findings from these ongoing projects will influence decisions for matrix (multiple species) habitat, and could lead to a standard approach in similar habitats. 

← [6.4 Supplemental Feeding \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-4-supplemental-feeding/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-4-supplemental-feeding/)

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7. Engaging the Community

April 6, 2018

The Caribou Recovery Program plan may impact many communities and sectors. Keeping the public and our partners informed will be important to the success of the program.



Working with communities must happen on many levels, be collaborative, and ongoing. We will:



- Communicate plans and progress to the public
- Pursue the public's ideas and concerns and consider them in our decisions
- Develop partnerships in caribou herds plans
- Educate wilderness users and all B.C. citizens and raise awareness



← [6.5 Primary Prey Management \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-5-primary-prey-management/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/6-5-primary-prey-management/)

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7.1 First Nations Engagement and Collaboration


April 6, 2018

Our B.C. Government is committed to fully adopting and implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. This has important implications for the provincial Caribou Recovery Program. 

British Columbia will work with First Nations and with other ministries to advance reconciliation through the caribou program. We will involve First Nations communities across B.C. to ensure their interests are represented at all levels of decision-making, from early policy development to on-the-ground actions. 

We will start with relationships already in place, such as Government-to-Government Agreements, and regional initiatives. Existing protocols will guide any partnerships and policies we expect will form as we expand projects on the ground, or as new situations arise. 

We intend to work in close partnership with First Nations, and will follow these principles: 

- Support Aboriginal and Treaty rights and title 
- Develop collaborative methods for planning recovery
- Create partnership opportunities in our recovery plans

← [7. Engaging the Community \(https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/7-engaging-the-community/\)](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/7-engaging-the-community/)

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7.2 Adjacent Jurisdictions and Other Governments

April 6, 2018

The Province will continue its long-standing and valued collaboration on caribou recovery and research with adjacent jurisdictions (Alberta, Yukon, Idaho, Montana), and the federal government.

We will work with our provincial and federal counterparts to co-ordinate our work to try to meet the *Species At Risk Act* goals.

We will continue to seek and formalize valuable collaborations with these jurisdictions, to share our science and solutions and resources.

We intend to become a national leader on caribou recovery solutions, science and research.

← [7.1 First Nations Engagement and Collaboration](#)

(<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/7-1-first-nations-engagement-and-collaboration/>)

[7.3 Stakeholder Relationships and Partnerships](#) →

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7.3 Stakeholder Relationships and Partnerships

April 6, 2018

B.C. has a long history of formal and informal relationships with a range of stakeholders to work on caribou conservation. The Caribou Recovery Program will develop a more formal, consistent way to keep our conversations and partnerships going with these groups, but also retain the flexibility to deal with their unique concerns.

We will explore the creation of a B.C.-wide stakeholder organization. They may be invited to comment on reports, help with funding programs, or help us engage with communities and industry members.

Partnerships

We also recognize the Caribou Recovery Program depends a great deal on strong partnerships, with a host of participants: First Nations, environmental NGOs, recreation and resource sectors, communities and governments. We rely on partners to deliver some or all of the caribou recovery actions. All of our work will be more successful in a spirit of open collaboration, and with a robust partnership program.

← [7.2 Adjacent Jurisdictions and Other Governments](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/7-2-adjacent-jurisdictions-and-other-governments/)

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[7.4 Communication and Outreach to the Public](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/7-4-communication-and-outreach-to-the-public/) →

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7.4 Communication and Outreach to the Public

April 6, 2018

We will provide more information to the public and other interested parties about our work. In addition, we will help the public share their feedback with us.



As we refine our communications plans, we will ask our stakeholder groups what kinds of information they need, and their preferred method of communication. We will expand our list of interested parties. We will refine or update our information and engagement tools, including:



- A web-based library of scientific, research, monitoring and progress reports, and other data
- Interactive mapping capability
- Outreach materials (portable signs, brochures, contact cards)
- Participation in public events (community events, conferences, trade shows)
- Annual program progress report
- Caribou recovery team hosted regular update calls for Indigenous groups, communities, environmental groups, industry, and other stakeholders
- Annual program progress report



← [7.3 Stakeholder Relationships and Partnerships](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/2018/04/06/7-3-stakeholder-relationships-and-partnerships/)

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7.5 Compliance and Enforcement

April 6, 2018

Updated goals for caribou recovery will require fresh ways to motivate people to comply with regulations. Generally, compliance is preferable to enforcement. Education and conversations with land users, stakeholders and the public encourage compliance. Enforcement will be required at times. 

We will work on a natural resource sector-wide caribou compliance and enforcement strategy, building on existing roles and policies, with plans for enforcement and monitoring in specific areas. Recreational use, poaching, access control, forestry and mining will require much interaction for enforcement staff. We will develop an overall compliance and enforcement strategy that focuses on caribou and habitat. 

← [7.4 Communication and Outreach to the Public](#)

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