

NWT Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program

WEK'ÈEZHÌ REGION 2017 SUMMARY



To watch and understand the land so it can be used respectfully forever.

2017 NWT CIMP-FUNDED PROJECTS IN THE WEK'ÈEZHÌ SETTLEMENT AREA

NWT CIMP projects in the Wek'èezhì region address key regional cumulative impact questions of regulators, governments and communities.

Last year, NWT CIMP provided **\$395,000** to support **14 projects in the Wek'èezhì region**, 10 of which overlapped with other regions. Approximately **40% (\$146,000)** of this funding was provided directly to regional and community organizations. This year, three projects will be supported directly in the region in addition to seven multi-region projects.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Multi-scale assessment of forest-tundra dynamics on the range of the Bathurst caribou range

CIMP187 – NEW, YEAR 1 OF 3

LEAD

Ryan Danby, Queen's University
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PURPOSE

To map and analyze changes in ecosystem productivity and seasonal changes on the range of the Bathurst caribou herd and to identify linkages between these changes and herd distribution and habitat use.

WHY?

To provide information that can be used to predict the continued impacts of climate change on caribou habitat and allow for better predictions of future herd dynamics.

The Northwest Territories Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program (NWT CIMP) provides important environmental information about cumulative impacts and environmental trends to decision-makers and communities. Cumulative impact monitoring is a requirement of settled land claim agreements in the NWT, and the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

Government of
Northwest Territories



When do caribou return? Impacts of wildfires on t̥dz̥i

CIMP169 – YEAR 3 OF 3

LEAD

Jody Pellissey, Wek’èezhìi Renewable Resources Board
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PURPOSE

To document T̥ch̥q knowledge on the relationship between range use (preferred landscape and habitat), forest fires and t̥dz̥i (Boreal caribou).

WHY?

To provide long-term information based on traditional monitoring of the state of t̥dz̥i and their habitat that can be used by resource managers and others.

T̥ch̥q Ekwo Nàowo:
Boots on the ground caribou monitoring program

CIMP94 – YEAR 9 OF 10

LEAD

Petter Jacobsen, T̥ch̥q Government
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PURPOSE

To monitor current conditions of (1) the Bathurst caribou herd, (2) its habitat, and (3) cumulative impacts on the herd from natural and human activities, using an approach that includes traditional indigenous hunting practices.

WHY?

To provide an intimate understanding of the ecological relationships of the Arctic tundra by watching caribou closely, living and walking over the same landscape. Results can be used for better management of the herd.

Satellite monitoring for assessing resource development
impact on Bathurst caribou: (SMART)

CIMP141 – YEAR 6 OF 6

LEAD

Wenjun Chen, Natural Resources Canada
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PURPOSE

To measure the distance from which dust (and other particulate emissions), noise and visual disturbance can be detected from the Ekati Diamond Mine, to better understand changes in Bathurst caribou behaviour.

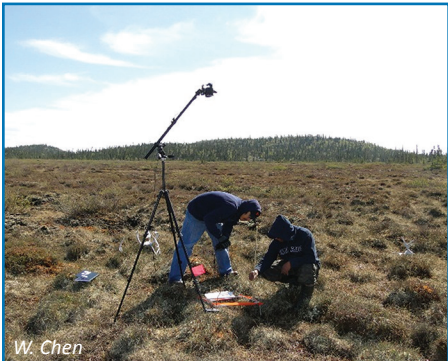
WHY?

To gather important measurements on the ‘zone of influence’ that can be used to track impacts to caribou of changed behaviour to avoid industrial development. Project results can be used to predict herd population trends and to make better decisions for management of caribou and their habitat.

Cumulative impacts are changes in the environment caused by human activities and natural processes that accumulate over space and time. It is important to understand both the environmental impacts of individual developments and the cumulative impacts of many developments in a region.



Interview in Wek’weeti with Jimmy Kodzin and Rita Wettrade.



Roy Judas (right) and Brian Kodzin (left) of Wek’weeti conducting community-based vegetation monitoring.

CONTACT INFORMATION

NWT CIMP is guided by a Steering Committee of Aboriginal, territorial and federal government representatives.

WEK’ÈEZHÌI REGION REPRESENTATIVE

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FOR MORE PROJECT RESULTS, VISIT

nwtcimp.ca or search for the CIMP project number at
nwtDiscoveryportal.enr.gov.ca

FOR GENERAL PROGRAM INQUIRIES, CONTACT

(867) 767-9233 or nwtcimp@gov.nt.ca