

PLEASE:

- do not fly below 1,000 feet;
- obey Transport Canada regulations;
- find out where outfitter camps are located and avoid them during hunting season;
- avoid barren-ground caribou calving grounds during calving season;
- do not take-off or land in a calving area during calving season;
- do not chase or harass wildlife by flying too close; and
- respect our wildlife – keep to a safe altitude.

Remember, flying close enough to an animal so that it runs away is too close!



Flying Low? Think Again...

If aerial survey or exploration work is planned at any time, but especially during outfitting or calving seasons, please contact the regional ENR office for information before flying.

Mackenzie Mountains and Mackenzie Valley

Sahtu Region (867) 587-3500
Dehcho Region (867) 695-7433
South Slave Region (867) 872-6400

Tundra

Inuvik Region (867) 678-6650
North Slave Region (867) 873-7184
South Slave Region (867) 872-6400

Visit the Department of Environment and Natural Resources website at www.enr.gov.nt.ca





Photo Credit: S. Vuill, ENR



Photo Credit: A. Olsav, ENR



Photo Credit: R. Decker, ENR

Flying Low? Think Again...

A variety of wildlife, quality guides and outfitters, spectacular scenery and solitude that only a location away from human habitation can offer...

The Northwest Territories (NWT) is a popular destination for big game hunters and eco-tourists alike. But the experience can easily be ruined by low-flying aircraft that disturb wildlife.

Increased exploration and development throughout the NWT means increased air traffic. Increased interest in wildlife viewing and tourism also means increased air traffic. If you are a fixed wing or rotary pilot, please respect our wildlife and keep to an elevation that does not disturb them.

Wildlife are Protected Under NWT Law

Section 52 of the NWT *Wildlife Act* protects wildlife by making it illegal to disturb or harass game and can result in a penalty of up to \$100,000 and/or one year in jail. Flying close enough to an animal so that it runs away is too close!

Please keep your aircraft at a safe elevation so animals are not disturbed.

In the Mackenzie Mountains

Big game hunters pay sizable fees for the chance to take home a trophy animal from the Mackenzie Mountains. Much of the hunting in this area is done on foot or on horseback and it is a time consuming process. Sound is amplified by the mountains and low flyovers can frighten an animal into flight, causing hours, or even days, of stalking to be wasted.

Wildlife that are affected by low level flyovers in the Mackenzie Mountains include Dall's sheep, mountain goat, mountain caribou and moose.

During the mid-July to end of September hunting season, please be cautious and avoid outfitter areas.

In the Mackenzie Valley

Boreal caribou are a threatened species found throughout the boreal forest. Unlike barren-ground caribou, during the May calving period boreal caribou can go into hiding to have their calves. Low flying is especially harmful, stressing the female, which can cause separation from calves and lead to calf death. If low-level flights are going to be conducted in April or May, please contact the regional ENR office for information.

On the Tundra

During calving season

Caribou are a valuable resource to the people of the NWT. From the end of May to the end of June, female barren-ground caribou come together at herd-specific locations on the tundra to give birth to their calves. Low flyovers, take-offs and landings in these areas are especially harmful as they can stress the females, which can cause separation from calves and increased calf mortality.

Avoid barren-ground caribou calving grounds from mid-May to early July. This is especially important during times of low barren-ground caribou numbers. Please contact the regional ENR office in your area for more information.

Wildlife Viewing and Filming

View wildlife from a safe distance to minimize disturbing and stressing the animal. If the animal changes its behaviour, you are too close. Limit your time in the area and avoid surprising (e.g. sneaking up on) wildlife.

For commercial activities (i.e., expeditions, safaris, or cruises) involving big game or birds of prey viewing, including filming, a permit is required.

Other Wildlife

Grizzly bears, pelicans, whooping cranes, polar bears, muskoxen, black bears, eagles and other wildlife are also disturbed by low flying aircraft. Please respect our wildlife and keep to a safe altitude.