



At a glance: North Slave Region Operations Report 2018-2019

The 2018-2019 North Slave Region Operations Report shares information on collaborative actions taken by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) and the Tłıchǫ Government over the past year to support barren-ground caribou recovery in the North Slave Region.

Satellite collaring of barren-ground caribou

Satellite collars are an important tool for the conservation of barren-ground caribou.

They allow us to:

- monitor caribou migration
- conduct population surveys
- understand how caribou use the land
- manage harvests

To respect caribou, all collaring is done as safely and humanely as possible.

Satellite collars help determine where to put the **Mobile Core Bathurst Caribou Management Zone**. ENR monitors harvesting activity in this caribou no-hunting zone using 24-hour check stations along the winter road.

Caribou satellite collaring in 2019

Tłıchǫ Government and ENR have agreed to maintain



March to April 2019:

66 collars were placed
(Bathurst, Bluenose-East and Beverly caribou)

47 collars for the
Bathurst herd

11 collars for the
Bluenose-East herd

8 collars for the
Beverly herd

Enhanced North Slave Wolf Harvest Incentive Program

In 2018/19, ENR established a new Wolf Harvest Incentive Area to encourage the harvest of wolves where the Bathurst and Bluenose-East caribou spend the winter.

Under the new program, an Indigenous wolf harvester could earn up to \$1,650 per wolf.

59 wolves were harvested in the new incentive area and 7 wolves were harvested outside the area.

Incentives (\$) distributed

ENR distributed
\$50,400
in incentives to

31
hunters under
the enhanced program

including

20
Indigenous hunters
or guides

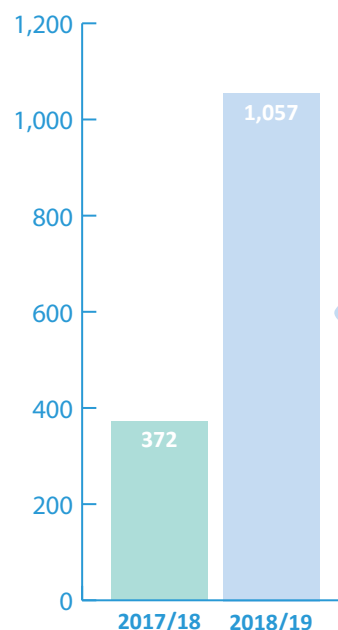
16 Indigenous
hunters

4 Indigenous guides
working with hunters

5 Tłıchǫ
hunters

Wolves harvested in new area

Wolf tags sold



59
Wolves harvested in the new
Wolf Harvest Incentive Area

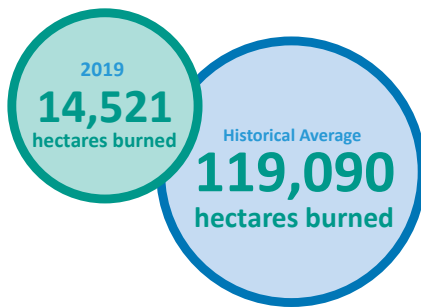
7
wolves harvested
outside the new area

95% of the 38 wolves
harvested from
the incentive area
with food in their
stomach had eaten
barren-ground caribou.

North Slave wildfire season

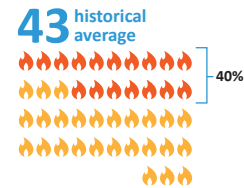
ENR staff and Tłıchǫ leaders identified key caribou habitat for protection when fighting wildfire. ENR also partnered with the Tłıchǫ Learning and Development Centre to establish a fire crew in Wekweètì to help fight wildfires near key caribou habitat.

Due to the presence of communities and cabins, North Slave crews fought more fires in the region than usual in 2019. Most resources were dedicated to fighting four fires near Behchokò, Wekweètì and Watta Lake.



2019 wildfire season

61 wildfires in the North Slave Region



Fought by ENR

Monitored by ENR

8% human-caused

What's next?

Barren-ground caribou: ENR will work with the Tłıchǫ Government to monitor satellite collar data through 2019/20 and submit a management proposal to the Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board to maintain 70 collars per herd (Bathurst and Bluenose-East).

Wolf harvest incentives: ENR will hold wolf pelt and harvesting workshops in North Slave communities and decide whether to expand the incentive program. There will be no cost for wolf tags for all hunters for the 2019/20 harvest season.

Wildfire: ENR will continue to work with Indigenous governments and organizations and regulatory boards to identify key caribou habitat and to support training for the Wekweètì fire crew.

How else can we work together to support barren-ground caribou recovery?

Let us know!

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