

BVCRB

Dear Members...

Thank you for your letter dated June 17, 2008, regarding future management direction of the Telkwa Caribou Herd. As I mentioned at the presentation in May 13, 2008, I am pleased with the results of the herd recovery to date. I plan to continue to monitor the herd for population size and recruitment in order to detect negative trends in time to address potential causes before the herd declines to critical levels. I do believe that the herd can be viable in the recovery area over the long term as long as the habitat and habitat effectiveness is maintained. Hopefully this will be facilitated through the timber harvest guidelines and access management.

If the management strategies currently in place are found to be inadequate, then amended management strategies will be recommended. Working with Ecosystem Section, Ministry of Environment, Smithers, we intend to use the telemetry data, a resource selection function model to identify exactly what type of winter range the caribou are using and cross reference that to known human use to determine if we need to make new management recommendations.

In the short term, I did not manage to secure funding to continue regular monitoring. I am hoping to secure enough funding to do an October rut survey (for population as well as summer calf survival data) and a March survey (for over winter survival data)

I hope this has answered your question and thank you for listening to my presentation.

Yours truly,

George Schultze
Wildlife Technician
Environmental Stewardship Division

pc: Rick Keim, Ecosystem Biologist, Environmental Stewardship Division
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