

**AGREEMENT  
FOR THE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY OF THE  
WOODLAND CARIBOU IN ALBERTA**

This Agreement for the conservation and recovery of the southern mountain and boreal caribou (“Agreement”) is made in duplicate as of \_\_\_\_ **(Date)** \_\_\_\_, pursuant to Section 11 of the SPECIES AT RISK ACT (CANADA) and Sections 10 and 11 of the GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION ACT (ALBERTA).

**BETWEEN**

**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF CANADA,**  
as represented by the Minister of the Environment  
who is responsible for the Department of the Environment  
(“Canada” or “Environment and Climate Change Canada” “ECCC”)

And

**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF  
ALBERTA,**  
as represented by the Minister of Environment and Parks (“Alberta” “AB”)

(hereinafter the “Parties”)

## **PREAMBLE**

WHEREAS the Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*; southern mountain caribou and boreal caribou) have been listed as threatened under the *Species at Risk Act* (Canada) and as threatened under the *Wildlife Act* (Alberta) RSA 2000, c W-10;

AND WHEREAS Alberta and Canada recognize their respective and shared accountability to conserve and recover all Woodland Caribou populations in Alberta;

AND WHEREAS Alberta and Canada wish to cooperate in the identification of conservation and recovery measures and recognize their shared responsibility of delivering conservation and recovery measures to support protection and recovery of Woodland Caribou;

AND WHEREAS Alberta has legislative responsibility for, among other things, wildlife management, including species at risk, and decisions respecting natural resources and provincial Crown and private lands, in the province of Alberta and has the responsibility to lead on conservation and recovery measures for Woodland Caribou in the province;

AND WHEREAS Canada has legislative responsibility for wildlife species located on federal lands, and wildlife species listed on Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act*, which includes provisions to address recovery, as well as the protection of listed wildlife species including the individuals, their residences and critical habitat on non-federal land in certain circumstances;

AND WHEREAS conservation measures for the Jasper/Banff local population unit and the portion of the A La Peche local population unit that occurs within Jasper National Park are described in the multi-species action plans for Banff and Jasper national parks, and critical habitat located within Banff, Jasper and Wood Buffalo national parks is protected under subsection 58(1) of the *Species at Risk Act*;

AND WHEREAS this Agreement does not pertain to federal lands;

AND WHEREAS the Parties recognize a role for Indigenous peoples in the conservation of wildlife in Alberta including the conservation and recovery of Woodland Caribou;

AND WHEREAS the Parties recognize that Indigenous peoples' perspectives will be relevant to inform implementation of this Agreement including with respect to their constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights;

AND WHEREAS the Parties recognize that the protection of the habitat of species at risk is key to their conservation and recovery;

AND WHEREAS the Parties recognize the value of species conservation and recovery;

AND WHEREAS section 11 of the *Species at Risk Act* provides the competent ministers with the authority to enter into conservation agreements with any other government in Canada, organization or person to benefit a species at risk or enhance its survival in the wild, such agreements must provide for the taking of conservation measures and any other measures consistent with the purposes of the *Species at Risk Act*,

AND WHEREAS sections 10 and 11 of the *Government Organization Act*, RSA 2000, c G-10 provides that Alberta may enter into an intergovernmental agreement.

AND WHEREAS the Parties recognize that Woodland Caribou conservation and recovery will require long-term resourcing and commitment on behalf of both Parties to be successful;

AND WHEREAS the Parties are both signatories to the *Accord for the Protection of Species at Risk* (1996);

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Parties commit to the following:

## **1 DEFINITIONS**

“Indigenous peoples” includes “Aboriginal peoples of Canada” within the meaning of section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982.

“Range plans” refer to plans, consistent with Canada’s range plan guidance, that provide information on historical monitoring and science on a specific Woodland Caribou population or group of populations, as well as actions required to conserve and recover Woodland Caribou populations within a particular geographic area, including how range-specific land and/or resource activities will be managed over space and time to protect and recover Woodland Caribou habitat.

“Recovery Strategies” means the federal Amended Recovery Strategy for the Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*), Boreal Population, in Canada (2019) and the federal Recovery Strategy for the Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*) Southern Mountain Population in Canada (2014).

“Woodland Caribou” means the southern mountain and boreal populations of Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*) in Alberta.

## **2 GOAL AND PURPOSE**

The overarching goal of this Agreement is to articulate the actions the Parties will take over the next five years to support the conservation and recovery of local Woodland Caribou populations to self-sustaining status in the long term, in line with the population and distribution objectives and critical habitat outcomes outlined in the federal Recovery Strategies and aligned with A Woodland Caribou Policy for Alberta.

The purpose of this Agreement is to set out effective conservation and recovery measures that will be taken by the Parties to support conservation and recovery of Woodland Caribou local populations in Alberta. These measures include: landscape planning; habitat conservation and management; mortality and population management; and population and habitat monitoring.

### **3 PRINCIPLES**

- 3.1 The following principles will guide interpretation and implementation of this Agreement.
- 3.2 Collaboration
  - 3.2.1 The Parties will work together to develop a common understanding of measures needed to achieve Woodland Caribou conservation and recovery and will cooperate in the delivery of these conservation and recovery measures in a manner that minimizes duplication, is efficient, and respects jurisdictional roles and responsibilities.
  - 3.2.2 Recognizing their respective jurisdiction, the Parties will consider and agree upon, to the extent possible, opportunities to collaborate on the development and effective implementation of conservation and recovery measures with Indigenous peoples and stakeholders, including the development of any conservation agreement with a third party under section 11 of the *Species at Risk Act*.
  - 3.2.3 The Parties intend to collaborate with the Parks Canada Agency and the Department of National Defence, and other federal land managers as required, on planning and implementation of conservation and recovery measures for local Woodland Caribou populations that are located wholly or in part on federal lands in Alberta. This could include the development of additional agreements under section 11 of the *Species at Risk Act*, for Woodland Caribou conservation and recovery.
- 3.3 Results focus
  - 3.3.1 The Parties will implement effective conservation and recovery measures to achieve positive trends in all Woodland Caribou local populations and to maintain naturally self-sustaining local populations, recognizing the

need for and contribution of both habitat and non-habitat measures in achieving these results.

3.4 Use of best available information

3.4.1 The Parties will make use of the best available knowledge, including traditional land use knowledge, and scientific information.

3.5 Adaptive management

3.5.1 The Parties recognize that monitoring the effects of actions and adjusting approaches as necessary will be critical to success.

3.6 Transparency

3.6.1 Subject to Section 10 of this Agreement, the Parties will make information related to progress on implementation of conservation and recovery measures covered by this Agreement publicly available.

#### **4 INTERPRETATION**

4.1 The preamble hereof and any Appendices hereto form an integral part of this Agreement.

4.2 This Agreement does not create any new legal powers or duties on the part of the Parties nor does it alter the powers and duties established by the *Species at Risk Act*, the *Wildlife Act* or any other federal legislation or legislation in Alberta.

4.3 Neither Party relinquishes or acquires any jurisdiction, right, power, privilege, prerogative or immunity by virtue of this Agreement.

4.4 Where access to property under the administration and control of third parties is necessary to carry out conservation measures, the Parties recognize the need for access to be obtained through agreements with, or approvals from the owners, occupiers or custodians of those properties. However, the Parties acknowledge that despite their efforts to obtain access from third parties for the purposes of carrying out conservation measures, obtaining access from third parties may not be possible and delivery of conservation measures may be delayed or prevented.

4.5 For greater certainty, nothing in this Agreement should be interpreted as limiting the right of any person to engage in activities referred to in section 83 of the *Species at Risk Act*, subject to any applicable conditions prescribed in that section.

## **5 COLLABORATE AND COOPERATE ON RECOVERY STRATEGIES, ACTION PLANS, AND RANGE PLANS**

- 5.1 The Parties will cooperate in the development, amendment and implementation of recovery strategies, action plans, management plans, range plans and similar documents related to the recovery of Woodland Caribou. This cooperation will include:
- 5.1.1 Keeping the other Party informed of the timing of the preparation of recovery strategies, action plans, range plans, and other recovery, planning and implementation documents related to the recovery of Woodland Caribou;
  - 5.1.2 Seeking to cooperate on timing of document preparation to coordinate processes and seek efficiencies;
  - 5.1.3 Sharing information for the preparation of plans; and
  - 5.1.4 When planning and implementing conservation measures for Caribou, continue to look for associated benefits and to minimize any potential adverse impacts to other species and to take those into consideration.

## **6 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ENGAGEMENT**

- 6.1 The Parties commit to engage with Indigenous peoples for the conservation and recovery of Woodland Caribou; each Party in accordance with its established policies and practices.
- 6.2 With respect to this Agreement, the Parties will:
- 6.2.1 Engage Indigenous peoples to share information on progress and future measures related to implementation; and
  - 6.2.2 Consider opportunities for collaboration with Indigenous peoples on implementation of conservation and recovery measures.
- 6.3 The Parties commit to consider relevant knowledge that Indigenous peoples share with the Parties, in Woodland Caribou assessment, protection, conservation and recovery efforts.

## **7 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

- 7.1 The Parties commit to engaging with stakeholders for the conservation and recovery of Woodland Caribou.
- 7.2 With respect to this Agreement, the Parties will:

- 7.2.1 Engage stakeholders to share information on progress and future measures related to implementation; and
- 7.2.2 Consider opportunities for collaboration with stakeholders on implementation of conservation and recovery measures.

## **8 CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY MEASURES FOR WOODLAND CARIBOU**

### 8.1 The Parties acknowledge that:

- 8.1.1 Maintaining critical habitat in all of Alberta's Woodland Caribou ranges is the immediate priority;
- 8.1.2 Recovery will require a landscape-level approach over many years, and adaptive management will be required to ensure that conservation measures undertaken through this agreement are monitored and, as necessary, improved and adapted to incorporate new information or changed circumstances;
- 8.1.3 Determining the appropriate mix of conservation measures is a multifaceted and complex undertaking that requires individual and collective analysis of biological, jurisdictional, social, economic, natural resource related tenures, and the rights and interests of First Nations and Métis communities;
- 8.1.4 Achieving the goal and purpose of this agreement will require measures that integrate Woodland Caribou conservation and recovery requirements into land use and resource management decisions;
- 8.1.5 Caribou conservation and recovery will require measures, both immediately and over the long term, to protect, conserve and restore habitat, and increase Woodland Caribou recruitment and survival; and
- 8.1.6 Some improvements in protection of Woodland Caribou and their critical habitat can be addressed through changes in current decision-making processes, while others may require legislative or regulatory change.

### 8.2 The Parties commit to achieve naturally self-sustaining local Woodland Caribou populations in Alberta, consistent with the population and distribution objectives set out in the Recovery Strategies. The Parties acknowledge the following targets will guide the application and evaluation of conservation and recovery measures over the short, medium, and long term;

- 8.2.1 Short term (five years): the target is to deliver management actions to maintain or achieve stable or positive growth for Little Smoky, A La

Peche, Redrock/Prairie Creek, Cold Lake, East Side of the Athabasca River, Narraway, Yates, and Richardson Woodland Caribou local populations.

8.2.2 Medium term (10 years or sooner): the target is to deliver management actions to achieve stable or positive local population growth for the remainder of the Woodland Caribou local populations.

8.2.3 Long term (50 years or more): the target is to achieve naturally self-sustaining status for all Woodland Caribou local populations in Alberta.

8.3 The Parties commit to investing in, developing and implementing conservation and recovery measures which contribute to achievement, over time, of the Woodland Caribou critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies. The Parties acknowledge the following targets will guide the application and evaluation of conservation and recovery measures over the immediate, short, medium and long term.

8.3.1 Immediate term (four years or sooner) the target is to:

8.3.1.1 Finalize and implement strategic resource development plans for current and future activities for all Woodland Caribou ranges consistent with Woodland Caribou critical habitat outcomes;

8.3.1.2 Initiate Woodland Caribou critical habitat restoration in the Little Smoky, A La Peche, Bitscho, Yates, Chingchaga, Cold Lake, Narraway and Redrock/Prairie Creek Woodland Caribou local population ranges; and

8.3.1.3 Complete and implement range planning for all Woodland Caribou local populations, including Redrock/Prairie Creek, Narraway, Cold Lake, and Bistcho in 2020-21; Chinchaga, East Side of the Athabasca, Little Smoky, A La Peche, Nipisi, and Slave in 2021-22; and Yates, Caribou Mountains, Red Earth, Richardson, West Side of the Athabasca in 2022-23.

8.3.2 Short to medium term (5 to 20 years) the target is to deliver management actions that demonstrate progress to increasing critical habitat in all of Alberta's Woodland Caribou local population ranges.

8.3.3 Long term (50 years or more) the target is to conserve and develop adequate critical habitat, including undisturbed habitat and biophysical attributes, to enable the full recovery of naturally self-sustaining status for all Woodland Caribou local populations in Alberta.



8.4 To achieve the above commitments the Parties will implement the conservation and recovery measures described in the Tables listed below (see Appendix B):

8.4.1 Table A – Landscape planning;

8.4.2 Table B – Habitat conservation and management;

8.4.3 Table C – Mortality and population management;

8.4.4 Table D – Population and habitat monitoring.

## **9 GOVERNANCE**

9.1 The Representatives of the Parties (as referred to in section 16.1 of this Agreement) will establish a committee composed of delegates referred to in Sections 16.2 and 16.3. This committee will:

9.2 Provide overall direction with respect to the implementation of this Agreement;

9.3 Ensure strategic alignment between delivery of provisions outlined in this Agreement and the Recovery Strategies; and

9.4 Ensure that communication, cooperation and collaboration between the Parties are clear, timely and effective.

## **10 INFORMATION SHARING AND RESEARCH**

10.1 The Parties agree, subject to applicable data sharing agreements, or legislative provisions that would prevent them from doing so, to provide the other Party access at no charge to available data and information relevant to the implementation of this Agreement. This includes:

10.1.1 Information on the status, conservation, and recovery of Woodland Caribou local populations and their habitats.

10.1.2 Communication, at least annually of changes in local population size or trend or habitat condition.

10.1.3 Immediate communication on the implications of stochastic events as they occur.

10.2 Some data and information may require confidentiality, or may have been obtained with an understanding of confidentiality, for reasons including but not limited to ensuring safe and effective implementation of conservation and recovery measures. Data and information so identified by a Party, or a collaborator in programs and activities related to this Agreement, will be held

confidential by the Parties to the extent permitted by their respective legislation and related policies, procedures, and agreements.

10.3 Each Party may identify research or monitoring needs to increase knowledge that will enhance Woodland Caribou conservation, management or recovery in Alberta.

10.4 The Parties will collaborate to evaluate internally and externally generated research or monitoring proposals to ensure they contribute meaningfully to Woodland Caribou conservation, management and recovery.

## **11 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND SUPPORT**

11.1 Recognizing the significant financial investments required to support Woodland Caribou conservation and recovery, the Parties will work together on an annual basis to identify needs, priorities and funding opportunities to implement conservation and recovery measures to achieve the recovery outcomes identified in this Agreement.

11.2 The Parties recognize that implementation of this Agreement is subject to their respective appropriations, priorities and budgetary constraints.

## **12 MONITORING AND REPORTING**

12.1 Representatives of the Parties or their delegates (identified in section 16) agree to convene at least annually to develop and/or review work plans and financial investments for the coming year, and review and document the progress of conservation and recovery measures (set out in Appendix B) and commitments under this Agreement in an annual report. In this review, the Representatives will examine the conservation and recovery measures, including progress on implementation, and the proposed conservation and recovery measures for the next year.

12.2 The annual report will be prepared by committee referred to in section 9.1 and presented to the Representatives referred to in section 16.1.

12.3 A comprehensive report, summarizing the status of conservation and recovery measures over multiple years, will be prepared in years when Canada is preparing the report referred to in section 46 of the *Species at Risk Act*.

12.4 The annual and comprehensive reports will be used to inform reporting requirements under sections 46 and 63 and paragraph 126(c) of the *Species at Risk Act*.

12.5 These reports will address:

- 12.5.1 Progress towards achieving commitments made by the Parties under this Agreement;
  - 12.5.2 Steps taken to protect and recover critical habitat of Woodland Caribou that is not yet protected;
  - 12.5.3 Progress towards achieving agreed upon annual actions;
  - 12.5.4 Population and habitat monitoring results;
  - 12.5.5 The effectiveness of conservation and recovery measures outlined in Appendix B of this Agreement in relation to provisions listed in the Recovery Strategies; and
  - 12.5.6 Unforeseen circumstances or stochastic events that might impact conservation and recovery measures.
- 12.6 Based on the review outlined in section 12.1, the Parties will evaluate the conservation and recovery measures listed in this Agreement, and propose any additional commitments which may be required to increase the likelihood of achieving the conservation and recovery of Woodland Caribou in Alberta.
- 12.7 The comprehensive report will be used to inform discussions on renewal of this Agreement.

### **13 AGREEMENT DURATION, TERMINATION AND RENEWAL**

- 13.1 This Agreement takes effect on the date of the last signature affixed to this Agreement (“Effective Date”). It will remain in force for a term of five years, unless terminated earlier by one of the Parties or the Parties agree to terminate it.
- 13.2 Either Party may terminate this Agreement for any reason, 90 days after consulting with and providing written notice to the other Party.
- 13.3 The Parties may renew this Agreement or any part of it, and its term may be extended with the written consent of the Parties prior to the expiration of this Agreement.

### **14 AMENDMENT**

- 14.1 This Agreement may be amended from time to time with the written consent of the Parties.
- 14.2 In particular, Appendix B to this Agreement may be amended in writing from time to time, as required, and automatically incorporated to this Agreement, as amended, by the written consent of the Parties.

14.3 In case of amendments to either or both of the Recovery Strategies, the Parties will consider whether amendments to this Agreement are warranted.

## **15 DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

15.1 In the event of a dispute between the Parties arising out of this Agreement, the Parties will use the following procedure to resolve the dispute:

15.1.1 The committee referred to in section 9.1 will be the first point of resolution for disputes arising from Woodland Caribou activities and programming contemplated in this Agreement; and

15.1.2 Disputes which cannot be resolved by the committee referred to in section 9.1 will be referred to the Representatives identified pursuant to section 16.1 of this Agreement for final resolution.

## **16 DESIGNATION FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS AGREEMENT**

16.1 For the purposes of this Agreement, the Representatives of the Parties are:

16.1.1 Alberta – the Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy and Planning Division; Environment and Parks

16.1.2 Canada – the Associate Assistant Deputy Minister of the Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada

16.2 The administration and day-to-day implementation of this Agreement will be carried out on behalf of Canada by delegates of the Associate Assistant Deputy Minister of the Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada.

16.3 The administration and day-to-day implementation of this Agreement will be carried out on behalf of Alberta by delegates of the Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment and Parks.

16.4 Where this Agreement requires notice be provided or received, or consent be given, the Representative of each Party identified in section 16.1 may provide or receive notice or give the consent required.

## **17 COUNTERPARTS**

17.1 This Agreement may be signed in several counterparts and each counterpart shall constitute an original document; these counterparts taken together shall constitute one and the same Agreement. The parties agree that executed counterparts may be transmitted electronically and that such counterparts shall be treated as originally executed instruments. Each Party undertakes to

provide the others with a copy of the original Agreement bearing actual original signatures within a reasonable period of time following execution of this Agreement.

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## 18 SIGNATURES

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Parties have executed this Agreement.

On behalf of Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, as represented by the Associate Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Wildlife Service.

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Niall O'Dea  
Associate Assistant Deputy Minister  
Canadian Wildlife Service  
Environment and Climate Change Canada

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

On behalf of Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province Alberta, as represented by the Assistant Deputy Minister of Policy and Planning, Alberta Environment and Parks.

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Ronda Goulden  
Assistant Deputy Minister of Policy and Planning Division  
Environment and Parks

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

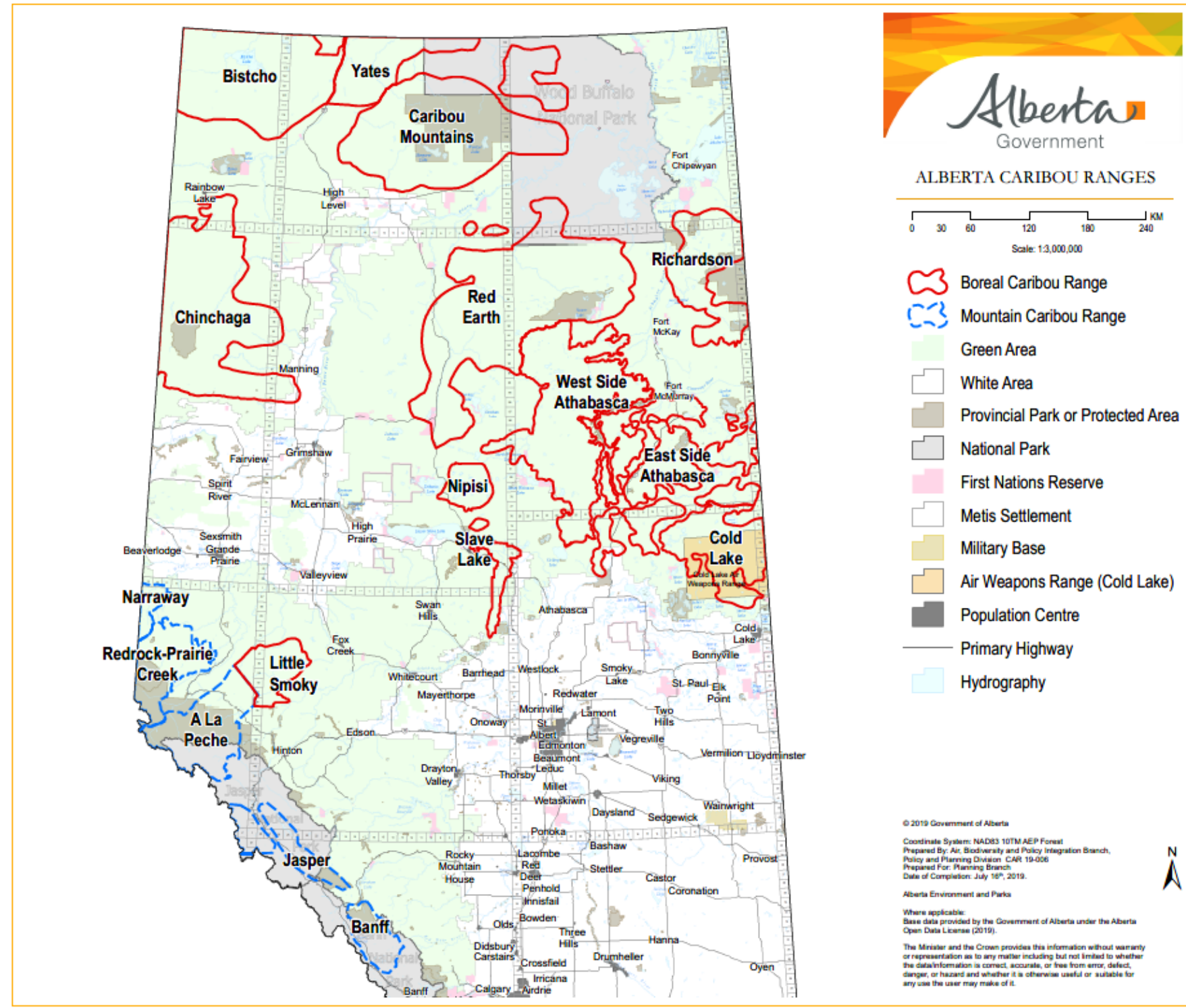
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Intergovernmental Relations, Executive Council

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

Appendix A – Map identifying Location of Woodland Caribou Local Populations.





**Appendix B – Woodland Caribou Recovery Measures Tables**

**TABLE A – LANDSCAPE PLANNING**

Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective Over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
<b>A.1 Range Planning</b>	Critical habitat and caribou population recovery	A.1.1 Complete range-specific plans that over time will achieve Woodland Caribou critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies and consistent with ECCC's Range Plan Guidance for Woodland Caribou, Boreal Population (2016)	Alberta	Redrock/Prairie Creek, Narraway, Cold Lake, Bistcho	<p>Indigenous and multi-stakeholder sub-regional task forces will be established to recommend community-based solutions to range-specific details that achieve critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies.</p> <p>Complete and implement forest harvest sequencing.</p> <p>Advance energy footprint management planning</p> <p>Initiate revisions to forest company Forest Management Plans to incorporate harvest sequencing and annual allowable harvest volumes that support caribou recovery.</p> <p>Regional access management planning initiated.</p>	<p>Finalize industrial access management plans to guide energy footprint development, for incorporation in the range plans.</p> <p>Develop recreational access management plans, for incorporation in the range plans.</p> <p>Finalize and implement range plans for identified ranges.</p>	Forest Management Plans will be approved and implemented.	Forest Management Plans will be approved and implemented.	



Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective Over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
					Ongoing range planning				
		A.1.2 Complete range-specific plans that over time will achieve Woodland Caribou critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies and consistent with ECCC's Range Plan Guidance for Woodland Caribou, Boreal Population (2016)	Alberta	Chinchaga, East Side of the Athabasca, Little Smoky, A La Peche, Nipisi, Slave Lake	<p>Indigenous and multi-stakeholder sub-regional task forces will be established to recommend community-based solutions to range-specific details that achieve critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies.</p> <p>Provide capacity funding to enhance Indigenous peoples involvement in range plan development and explore opportunities for involvement in implementation.</p>	<p>Finalize industrial access management plans to guide energy footprint development, for incorporation in the range plans.</p> <p>Develop recreational access management plans, for incorporation in the range plan.</p> <p>Complete and implement forest harvest sequencing, including annual allowable harvest volumes that support caribou recovery.</p> <p>Work to revise Forest Management Plans.</p>	<p>Complete and implement forest harvest sequencing, including annual allowable harvest volumes that support caribou recovery, and finalize and implement range plans for the remaining caribou ranges.</p> <p>Work to revise Forest Management Plans.</p> <p>Finalize and implement range plans for identified ranges.</p>	<p>Forest Management Plans for identified ranges will be approved and implemented.</p>	<p>Forest Management Plans for identified ranges will be approved and implemented.</p>
		A.1.3 Complete range-specific plans that over time will achieve Woodland Caribou critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies and consistent with ECCC's Range Plan Guidance for Woodland Caribou, Boreal Population (2016)	Alberta	Yates, Caribou Mountains, Red Earth, Richardson, West Side of the Athabasca		<p>Indigenous and multi-stakeholder sub-regional task forces will be established to recommend community-based solutions to range-specific details that achieve critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies.</p>	<p>Finalize industrial access management plans to guide energy footprint development, for incorporation in the range plans.</p> <p>Develop recreational access management plans, for incorporation in the range plan.</p>	<p>Complete and implement forest harvest sequencing, including annual allowable harvest volumes that support caribou recovery, and finalize and implement range plans for the remaining caribou ranges.</p>	<p>Forest Management Plans for remaining ranges will be approved and implemented.</p>

Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective Over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
							Complete and implement forest harvest sequencing, including annual allowable harvest volumes that support caribou recovery.  Work to revise Forest Management Plans.	Work to revise Forest Management Plans.  Finalize and implement range plans for identified ranges.	
<b>A.2 Cross-jurisdictional coordination</b>	Critical habitat and caribou population recovery	A.2.1 Develop and implement complimentary conservation measures with neighbouring federal, territorial and provincial jurisdictions for shared Woodland Caribou populations	Environment and Climate Change Canada and Alberta	Transboundary ranges	Formalize process and initiate engagement with neighbouring jurisdictions .	Develop and implement plans for shared woodland caribou populations.	Develop and implement plans for shared woodland caribou populations.		
<b>A.3 Legal Authority for Range Plans</b>	Critical habitat and caribou population recovery	A.3.1 Establish caribou range plans under provincial legislation	Alberta				Enable range plans under provincial legislation.  Range plans are published in the Alberta Gazette.	Range plans are published in the Alberta Gazette.	
<b>A.4 Range Boundary Updates</b>	Critical habitat and caribou population recovery  Enable effective range plans	A.4.1 Adjust select Woodland Caribou range boundaries to reflect current scientific information including requirements for caribou conservation and recovery	Alberta (lead) Environment and Climate Change Canada	Caribou Mountains, Yates, Richardson and Red Earth	Finalize adjusted range boundaries and incorporate in provincial land use planning and approval processes.	Updated range boundaries are available for incorporation into future Recovery Strategy amendments.			
<b>A.5 Accommodate the probable effects of climate</b>	Critical habitat and caribou population recovery	A.5.1 Identify possible effects and outcomes of climate change on Alberta's boreal	Alberta	All	Identify possible effects and outcomes of climate change on Alberta's	Update and incorporate climate change effects	Update and incorporate climate change effects	Update and incorporate climate change effects	Update and incorporate climate change effects within Alberta range plans.

Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective Over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
change in Alberta's range plan	Enable effective range plans	conditions and incorporate climate change effects within Alberta range plans.			boreal conditions and propose how they may be reflected within range plans.	within Alberta range plans.	within Alberta range plans.	within Alberta range plans.	

**TABLE B – HABITAT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT**

Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
<b>B.1 Restoration</b>	Critical habitat and caribou population recovery  Increase critical habitat	B.1.1 Restore linear footprint to contribute to achievement of Woodland Caribou critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on provincial land	Set up Indigenous and multi-stakeholder Restoration Steering Committee to support habitat restoration program implementation.  Establish funding mechanisms to enable partnership with industry and federal government.  Selected activities include: seed collection in Little Smoky and A La Peche; initiate up to 200 km of seismic line in Little Smoky; aerial photo interpretation and ground truthing of existing linear feature footprint in Chinchaga, Bistcho, Yates, Redrock/Prairie	Develop 5 year program plan and annual workplan that includes identification of engagement activities with trappers and Indigenous peoples.  Restoration of legacy footprint in Little Smoky, A La Peche, Redrock/Prairie Creek, Narraway and Cold Lake ranges.  Expand provincial restoration program. Includes seed collections, growing seedlings and site treatments in priority areas.  Establish a process for tracking restoration work and a procedure for	Expansion of restoration program in Little Smoky, A La Peche, Redrock/Prairie Creek, Narraway and Cold Lake ranges, and other ranges, under advisement of the Steering Committee.  Continue scaling up of provincial restoration program. Includes seed collections, growing seedlings and site treatments in priority areas.	Continue scaling up of provincial restoration program. Includes seed collections, growing seedlings and site treatments in priority areas.	Continue scaling up of provincial restoration program. Includes seed collections, growing seedlings and site treatments in priority areas.

Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
					Creek and Narraway ranges.  Continuation of legacy footprint restoration program in Cold Lake range.	addressing proposals for development on restored areas.  Alberta's Provincial Restoration and Establishment Framework for Legacy Seismic Lines in Alberta published.			
		B.1.2 Indigenous peoples involvement to identify desired access routes  B.1.3 Capacity funding will help to support this work	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on provincial land	Work with interested Indigenous peoples to identify desired access routes.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
<b>B.2 Forest Harvest Management</b>	Critical habitat and caribou population recovery  Reduce impacts to critical habitat (i.e., disturbance and biophysical habitat) and to caribou population trend and distribution	B.2.1 Complete range-specific plans that over time will achieve Woodland Caribou critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on provincial land	Complete and implement forest harvest sequencing, including annual allowable harvest volumes that support caribou recovery, and other associated actions as listed above.	Complete and implement forest harvest sequencing, including annual allowable harvest volumes that support caribou recovery, and other associated actions as listed above.	Complete and implement forest harvest sequencing, including annual allowable harvest volumes that support caribou recovery, and other associated actions as listed above.	Complete and implement forest harvest sequencing, including annual allowable harvest volumes that support caribou recovery, and other associated actions as listed above.	
		B.2.2 Phase out pine surge, and implement reduced conifer harvest levels in caribou ranges (in accordance with approved Forest Management Plans and forest harvest sequences)	Alberta	Little Smoky, A La Peche, Chinchaga, Slave Lake, Nipisi, Redrock Prairie Creek, Narraway	Progressively reduce the pine surge	Progressively reduce the pine surge.  Pine surge reduction in Chinchaga completed by May 2020.	Progressively reduce the pine surge.  Reduced conifer harvest level in specific FMUs in Nipisi and Slave Lake in place by May 2021.	Pine surge in Little Smoky and A La Peche caribou ranges to be eliminated starting May 2022.	Work towards pine surge reduction in Slave Lake range by 2024.

Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
		B.2.3 Implement staged harvest reduction together with revised harvest sequences				Reduced conifer harvest level in Redrock/Prairie Creek and Narraway.			
		B.2.4 Develop and revise Forest Management Plans (FMPs) to incorporate new caribou-related spatial harvest sequence and associated considerations	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on provincial land			Forest Management Plans will be approved and implemented.	Forest Management Plans will be approved and implemented.	Forest Management Plans will be approved and implemented.
<b>B.3 Wildfire Management Planning</b>	Reduction of wildfire risk to caribou values in accordance with Wildfire Management priorities	B.3.1 Incorporation of caribou range values (e.g., critical habitat, caribou population occurrence, rearing facilities) in Wildfire Management Plans	Alberta	Little Smoky, A La Peche, RedRock/Prairie Creek, Narraway	Values are to be identified within each caribou range and provided to Wildfire Management for Forest Area Wildfire Management Planning.	Strategies for addressing wildfire risk are identified in each caribou range. Update Wildfire Management Plans, if required, and progressively implement for existing plans and as plans are developed.	Strategies for addressing wildfire risk are identified in each caribou range. Update Wildfire Management Plans, if required, and progressively implement for existing plans and as plans are developed.	Progressive implementation.	Review strategies and implementation; develop and implement adjustments as needed.
		B.3.2 Incorporation of caribou range values (e.g., critical habitat, caribou population occurrence, rearing facilities) in Wildfire Management Plans	Alberta	All remaining ranges in whole or in part on provincial land	Values are to be identified within each caribou range and provided to Wildfire Management for Forest Area Wildfire Management Planning.	Values are to be identified within each caribou range and provided to Wildfire Management for Forest Area Wildfire Management Planning.	Strategies for addressing wildfire risk are identified in each caribou range. Update Wildfire Management Plans, if required, and progressively implement for existing plans and as plans are developed.	Strategies for addressing wildfire risk are identified in each caribou range. Update Wildfire Management Plans, if required, and progressively implement for existing plans and as plans are developed.	Progressive implementation.
<b>B.4 Energy Development Management</b>	Critical habitat and caribou population recovery	B.4.1 Explore development agreements	Alberta	West central ranges (Little Smoky, A La	Alberta will pursue and implement development	Alberta will pursue and implement development	Alberta will pursue and implement development	Alberta will pursue and implement development	Alberta will pursue and implement development

Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
	<p>Net reduction in disturbance to critical habitat from energy development footprint.</p> <p>Reduce impacts to critical habitat (i.e., disturbance and biophysical habitat) and to caribou population trend and distribution</p>			Peche, Redrock/Prairie Creek, Narraway)	<p>agreements or other actions with energy companies to reduce footprint of future developments.</p> <p>Regional Access Management Planning initiated.</p>	<p>agreements or other actions with energy companies to reduce footprint of future developments.</p> <p>Finalize and implement regional access management plans for the Little Smoky and A La Peche ranges, and for the Cold Lake range.</p> <p>Initiate regional access management plans for RedRock/Prairie Creek, Narraway and Nipisi.</p>	<p>agreements or other actions with energy companies to reduce footprint of future developments.</p> <p>Finalize and implement regional access management plans for RedRock/Prairie Creek, Narraway and Nipisi.</p>	<p>agreements or other actions with energy companies to reduce footprint of future developments.</p>	<p>agreements or other actions with energy companies to reduce footprint of future developments.</p>
<b>B.5 Land Use Management</b>	<p>Critical habitat and caribou population recovery</p> <p>Minimize destruction and disturbance of critical habitat</p>	B.5.1 Evaluate and revise existing project approval conditions for energy, forestry and other land uses, and develop new conditions to reduce impacts to caribou critical habitat, individual caribou and caribou populations, including cumulative effects	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on provincial land	<p>Make permanent the referral of all non-standard energy industry applications by the Alberta Energy Regulator to Alberta Environment and Parks - Wildlife Management staff for review and comment.</p> <p>Review and update the Master Schedule of Standards and Conditions related to caribou ranges.</p>	Assess and implement use of reservations and notations to assist in achieving caribou critical habitat outcomes as listed in the Recovery Strategies.			
	Maintain connectivity within and between	B.5.2 Consider potential management actions for identified	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on	Assess important areas for opportunities and	Document and implement any	Document and implement any	Document and implement any	

Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
	habitat patches and local population ranges to support Woodland Caribou recovery.	important areas that occur outside range boundaries		provincial land	needs related to management actions.	management actions.	management actions.	management actions.	



**TABLE C – MORTALITY AND POPULATION MANAGEMENT**

Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
<b>C.1 Predator Management</b>	Reduce mortality of caribou due to predation	C.1.1 Wolf population management	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on provincial land	Maintain current predator management programming.  Assess need for predator management in additional caribou ranges and identify the need to coordinate with neighbouring jurisdictions.  Ongoing coordination of predator management program delivery with British Columbia (i.e., Red Rock/Prairie Creek, Narraway and Chinchaga).	Ongoing predator management programming.  Implement predator management actions as agreed upon during cross-jurisdictional discussions (see next action objective).	Ongoing predator management programming.  Implement predator management actions as agreed upon during cross-jurisdictional discussions (see next action objective).	Ongoing predator management programming.  Implement predator management actions as agreed upon during cross-jurisdictional discussions (see next action objective).	Ongoing predator management programming.  Implement predator management actions as agreed upon during cross-jurisdictional discussions (see next action objective).  Five year reporting on range-specific predator management activities.
		C.1.2 Convene neighbouring federal, provincial and territorial jurisdictions on predator management.	Environment and Climate Change Canada	Transboundary ranges	Convene relevant neighbouring federal, provincial and territorial jurisdictions to identify the need for and collaborate on predator management actions for Jasper, A La Peche, Cold Lake and East Side of the Athabasca River caribou populations.	Convene relevant neighbouring federal, provincial and territorial jurisdictions to identify the need for and collaborate on predator management actions for additional local populations based on needs assessment (see previous row), as necessary.			



Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
		C.1.3 Evaluate effectiveness of Alberta Trappers Association-led pilot program to increase wolf harvest by Registered Fur Management Area (RFMA) holders	Alberta	Little Smoky A La Peche, Cold Lake East Side of the Athabasca River	Assess pilot program including participation levels by RFMA holders and effectiveness.	Continued delivery of pilot program, and enhancement related to training of RFMA holders and Indigenous trappers.			
<b>C.2 Captive Rearing</b>	Reduce mortality of caribou due to predation	C.2.1 Establish rearing facility in Little Smoky range and commence 5-year pilot program	Alberta	Little Smoky	Completion of project scoping.	Plan finalization, construction. Preparation for caribou transfer and operations.	Caribou transfer to established facility.	Ongoing operations.	Ongoing operations.
		C.2.2 Explore opportunities for collaboration with Indigenous peoples	Alberta	Little Smoky	Begin engagement.	Continue engagement.			
<b>C.3 Harvest Management</b>	Reduce human-caused caribou mortality	C.3.1 Assess the need for establishing a conservation closure to prohibit killing of caribou	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on provincial land	Assess need for conservation closure.  Identify communities that harvest caribou.	Initiate consultation with identified communities and non-community based stakeholders, including current woodland caribou harvest and desired future woodland caribou harvest.	Establish conservation closure as required.		
<b>C.4 Alternative Prey Management</b>	Reduce mortality of caribou population due to predation	C.4.1 Vegetation management to reduce alternative prey forage	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on provincial land	Complete and deliver range-specific plans that over time will achieve woodland caribou critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies.	Complete and deliver range-specific plans that over time will achieve woodland caribou critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies.	Complete and deliver range-specific plans that over time will achieve woodland caribou critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies.	Complete and deliver range-specific plans that over time will achieve woodland caribou critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies.	Complete and deliver range-specific plans that over time will achieve woodland caribou critical habitat outcomes set out in the Recovery Strategies.
		C.4.2 Increased harvest opportunities for alternative prey species	Alberta	Caribou ranges receiving predator management actions	Assess alternative prey abundance, and harvest levels by Indigenous peoples with constitutionally	Assess alternative prey abundance, and harvest levels by Indigenous peoples with constitutionally	Assess alternative prey abundance, and harvest levels by Indigenous peoples with constitutionally	Assess alternative prey abundance, and harvest levels by Indigenous peoples with constitutionally	Assess alternative prey abundance, and harvest levels by Indigenous peoples with constitutionally recognized harvesting

Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
					recognized harvesting rights. Enhance licenced harvesting opportunities where needed to avoid alternative prey population increases.	recognized harvesting rights. Enhance licenced harvesting opportunities where needed to avoid alternative prey population increases.	recognized harvesting rights. Enhance licenced harvesting opportunities where needed to avoid alternative prey population increases.	recognized harvesting rights. Enhance licenced harvesting opportunities where needed to avoid alternative prey population increases.	rights. Enhance licenced harvesting opportunities where needed to avoid alternative prey population increases.

**TABLE D – POPULATION AND HABITAT MONITORING**

Management Tool	Contribution to Population and Distribution Objectives	Action Objective over Term of Agreement	Accountable Agency	Ranges	Deliverables				
					2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
<b>D.1 Monitoring</b>	Monitor annual population growth and distribution	D.1.1 Assess caribou population status	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on provincial land	Implement annual program and prepare a report.	Implement annual program and prepare a report	Implement annual program and prepare a report.	Implement annual program and prepare a report.	Implement annual program and prepare a report.
	Estimate range-specific population size	D.1.2 Estimate total population size	Alberta	One or two ranges per year to establish baseline conditions	Field work, analyses and reporting.	Field work, analyses and reporting.	Field work, analyses and reporting.	Field work, analyses and reporting.	Field work, analyses and reporting.
	Habitat disturbance by human and natural sources	D.1.3 Develop a monitoring and reporting framework for habitat disturbance and recovery, including areas where habitat restoration has been initiated	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on provincial land	Assess trends in habitat disturbance and recovery, biophysical habitat, and spatial arrangement of habitat.	Annual report.	Annual report.	Annual report.	Prepare 5 year report.
	Critical habitat and caribou population recovery	D.1.4 Effectively deliver Woodland Caribou conservation and recovery measures	Alberta	All ranges in whole or in part on provincial land	Evaluate and coordinate areas where additional knowledge will help inform effective conservation and recovery measures (e.g., silvacultural prescriptions).	Evaluate and coordinate areas where additional knowledge will help inform effective conservation and recovery measures (e.g., silvacultural prescriptions).	Evaluate and coordinate areas where additional knowledge will help inform effective conservation and recovery measures (e.g., silvacultural prescriptions).	Evaluate and coordinate areas where additional knowledge will help inform effective conservation and recovery measures (e.g., silvacultural prescriptions).	Evaluate and coordinate areas where additional knowledge will help inform effective conservation and recovery measures (e.g., silvacultural prescriptions).
	Delineation of critical habitat	D.1.5 Delineation of range categories within each local population unit for southern mountain caribou ranges	Environment and Climate Change Canada	A La Peche Narraway Redrock-Prairie Creek	Environment and Climate Change Canada to provide geospatial information of range categories within each local population unit.				