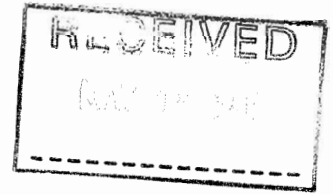




Office of the Minister
Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

April 30, 2007



Joe Tetlich, Chair
Porcupine Caribou Management Board
Box 31723
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 6L3

Dear Mr. Tetlich:

Re: Regulation Proposals

I received the following two recommendations from the Porcupine Caribou Management Board (PCMB) in your correspondence of April 12, 2006:

1. the mandatory use of blaze orange vests for all hunters along the Dempster Highway; and
2. a second one-week closure to allow the leaders to cross the Dempster Highway undisturbed in both the northern and southern portions of their range.

In my response to those recommendations (May 12, 2006), I indicated that Environment Yukon would need to Consult with the affected First Nations and the Inuvialuit prior to reaching a final decision. This was necessary because the proposed regulations could potentially affect subsistence rights to harvest Porcupine Caribou. Environment Yukon has now completed the Consultation.

It is my decision not to proceed with the regulations at this time based on the following considerations.

- First, I received mixed support for both regulation proposals from the affected First Nations and the Inuvialuit.
- Second, it is my hope that alternate solutions, or a broader support for the two PCMB regulations, will come out of the Harvest Management Strategy.

While the PCMB proposed regulations are not proceeding at this time, Environment Yukon will reassess these regulations in the context of the conservation and public safety interests identified through the Harvest Management Strategy.

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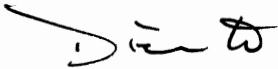


Mr. Joe Tetlich
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Environment Yukon is committed to the cooperative development of a Harvest Management Strategy with all users, and it is my desire to address conservation and public safety issues through this process. However, should the process fall short of addressing the conservation and public safety concerns, I am prepared to implement measures on both an emergency basis should they arise (for example the Hart River Caribou closure) or longer term measures to address both conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and public safety of all harvesters within the Dempster Highway corridor.

For clarity, hunters will continue to be encouraged to use orange vests and the existing one week closure will remain in effect. I would like to thank the PCMB for their patience and their persistence in trying to find a socially acceptable and biologically defensible solution to the Dempster Regulations.

Yours truly,



Dennis Fentie
Minister of Environment

- c. First Nation of Na-cho Nyak Dün
Gwich'in Tribal Council
Inuvialuit Game Council
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in
Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation