

Topic	Party Making the Request	Question	Déljñę	Tulít'a	Colville Lake
A. Observations of Caribou and Climate Change in General	SRRB	<p>A1. Has your community observed changes in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weather systems and patterns? - Freeze up and/or thaw dates? - Permafrost? - Watercourses and sediment? - Ice build up on snow? - Wind speeds and/or direction? - Rain in winter events? - Other changes to weather and climate? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Want to do more monitoring, need more funding. Pay harvesters and trappers to make climate change observations, then can answer SRRB better. - Want climate change monitoring program. - Freezing rain more, which makes it harder for ɔ́kwę to find food - Layers of ice on snow more - Worried about caribou - More common now to have rain in winter - Wind is faster now, which impacts the snow and food that the ɔ́kwę must find in winter - Seeing more snow - Water temperatures are changing - Fish nets need to be checked more often because the flesh gets mushy faster, often can happen overnight in warmer water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Less rain in summer, - Dry - No mice, no birds flying around, not sure about when geese fly, - Bugs are changing too - Still lots of ravens - When we go out on ice, seeing weather changes. Lots of places we can't go to anymore because of the difference in the ice - When on the lakes, it's so dry. - More slides on the river. - Used to - Difference in bugs? No more flies (we don't know what type). No bugs. Last year hardly no mosquitoes. - It's getting warmer and warmer. - Mackenzie River used to be solid thick. Now it's more crystal and easier to break. - We saw lots of moose in the mountains this year, about 7-8 each day. Seeing more moose on river. Are the fires pushing them into the mountains? - Bear Rock starting to see landslides. - Starting to see magpies. Starting to see sparrows but all the crows are starting to attack them. Are the fires causing the crows to attack them? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many of the questions being asked in the Information Request are about things that we should not talk about. It is not that we don't have observations to share, as we are land users, and we listen carefully to the observations of our community members. We all pay very careful attention to what is happening to wildlife, to fires, and the weather because it directly affects us, but we don't wish to speculate about why this is happening. Those are all things that we must live with. - Dehlá Got'íne are prepared to talk about issues we can control. We can control how we behave on the land, and how our communities can be better prepared for the changes that are beyond our control. But we are going to uphold our ʔeʔa, and share our knowledge in accordance with what our ʔeʔa permits. - Dehlá Got'íne also note that we have significant disagreements with the GNWT about the roles and responsibilities of the Renewable

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Permafrost is coming up faster, permafrost is draining. When it melts it does not sit on the land, it drains away. - Water level on Great Bear Lake is low, but the flow on the Bear River is the same. - There is a one month difference in lake freeze up time. The lake freezes up one month later and the lake thaws one month earlier now. - The weather is warmer now - ᐱᐱᐱᐱ near Colville Lake usually come over to us but do not think they will with the warmer weather. - Need to be more careful out on the ice now – the ice freezes just at the top. - Until the lake fully freezes, the trappers have to go out just on the land and cannot cross the lake. - Less rain in summer - Sky changing colour, the colour of the sky is different in winter. - Water level has been dropping for 3-4 years. 		<p>Resource Councils. The GNWT is appealing a court decision upholding those responsibilities. We are concerned that until those questions are resolved, proper discussions about the roles and responsibilities of the Treaty partners cannot occur. The view of the GNWT appears to be that we are only there to be told what to do by their Minister. We do not agree with that approach. We want to properly implement the Treaty, and to see the RRCs play the role that the Treaty says they should have. We believe that these issues should also be discussed in this Listening Session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consequences of not following ts'iduweh ᐱᐱᐱᐱ (ancient laws) are now visible. The wildfires, floods and other disasters that occurred in 2022 and 2023 are warning signs that we must all take notice of. We believe that trying to control what happens with climate, with caribou, or with fire is foolish. - We must try to understand our proper role. We need to find the right balance between what we can do as human beings, and what we cannot do. Our ᐱᐱᐱᐱ says that we have responsibilities to ensure that our people are safe, that our people take
	SRRB	A2. What has your community noticed about how these changes affect caribou?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not harvesting many ᐱᐱᐱᐱ because we are respecting our Caribou for All Time Conservation Plan - We do not see ᐱᐱᐱᐱ anymore, but do see ᐱᐱᐱᐱ from time to time - We see lots of moose - Would like others who are observing to report changes to ᐱᐱᐱᐱ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Migration changed due to activity, including outfitters (there are now 7 outfitters) - Chopper activity (versus horses) really affects young caribou 	

	SRRB	A3. In what ways is how you harvest caribou been affected by these changes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Because we are not harvesting as much, can't comment on how changes in the weather would impact how we would harvest. 	[No response.]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - only what they need, and that our people respect all of our relationships. - Our ?e?á also says that we should not talk about things over which we have no control. We have previously tried to explain these rules in relation to caribou. Our Elders are concerned that some of what we are now seeing on the land is a consequence of people engaging in discussions about things that should not be discussed. - The same rules apply to weather, climate and fire. Humans cannot control these things. We may influence them, but they will be what they are. We can not tell them how to behave.
	SRRB	A4. How has the quality of the caribou affected by these changes, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heard stories of others seeing bug - Would like others, and especially the GNWT, to share info about bugs or ticks or other illnesses impacting ?ekwe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expecting change after 2023 fire season- will likely get worse - Not enough rain, not enough water for things to grow properly. Animals eat plants that are also medicine and good for us. We will lose that. - Years ago, tried harvesting muskox 	
	SRRB	A5. What, if any, new dangers or safety concerns are showing up on the land with the changes observed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ice is taking longer to form and can be thinner - This makes it riskier to go out on the ice and we need to be careful to check thickness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Landslides - Sandbars - Hard to know where going - Water levels - Can't go to lots of places anymore because of the differences - A few years ago, you could hear the ice break. Ice is different. - Can't get fish because [of] water levels...can't get jet boats up river 	
	SRRB	<p>A6. What does your community look for to know if it is safe to go on the land or if there is any danger due to these changes?</p> <p>A7. Do the above dangers or concerns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We look at thickness to see if safe - Our time to be able to cross water is shorter each year, which limits where and how long it takes to get to places 	[No response]	

		affect how your community accesses land and water?			
		A8. What stories does your community have about climate change from the ancestors, grandfathers, or other knowledge holders?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We were taught that it starts to get warmer in winter because bear that is hibernating rolls over in middle of winter; when he rolls over, it starts to get warmer - A long time ago an Elder said a big change is coming; it will be summer the whole year or winter the whole year year - Our grandparents have told us that we should watch for change and once it starts happening it will continue to get worse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Were told people would get sick - Used to stick together when no phones or technology - Hard to communicate w/ youth 	
		A9. How is the weather and climate change described in your indigenous language?	[See attached appendices]	[No response]	
B. Observations of Wildfire and Caribou		B1. How does your community view/value wildfire?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildfires should be put out right away, before they get into ground - We need to work together, we want to see more cooperation on putting out fires - Water bombers should not use chemicals near GBL – only water. - Chemicals may contaminate the lake and we cannot take that risk - Worried about impact of ash; want to study how ash impacts streams, fish and wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to fight fires - Go back to Initial Attack - Have people help - Don't let land burn - Don't let fires get big 	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concern about aircraft downdraft making things worse - Some feel that we shouldn't use aircraft to fight fires if people can fight from ground 		
	B	<p>B2. What changes in wildfires has your community observed over time?</p> <p>i. When did your community first notice these changes?</p> <p>ii. Where on the land have the wildfire changes been seen?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food that furbearing animals rely on gets burned and this greatly impacts them - All animals, even mice, struggle to find food in the winter after a wildfire 	[No response.]	
	SRRB	<p>B3. What changes has your community observed in smoke and any lingering affects? In humans? In caribou?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Déljñę is not impacted so much by smoke - Winds usually come from East and North; if it shifts we will be greatly impacted - We can usually see the smoke but it does not smell too bad and most are ok breathing - We know that smoke impacts ɾəkwę and moose and where they go 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some caribou not as fat - Not moving as much as before - Blood on fat - This summer, someone brought in mountain meat and it had lots of fat and was clean 	
	SRRB	<p>B4 What stories does your community have about wildfires and burning from the ancestors, your grandfathers or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A long time ago, before climate change, there was a lot of permafrost, which helped put fires out. - We don't hear about big fires happening in Déljñę in the past. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fire training changing - It takes too much time to get trained on new technology (five years) - We need to protect what we have right now 	

		grandmothers, or other knowledge holders?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the past, rain helped to stop fires because it would make the water levels go up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is good to understand Dene laws, things given up in land claim - Stewart Lake has new channels, shallow water - How can we tackle climate change - Seeing landslides on trails - Some places flooded while others nothing - Can feel climate change - Water is getting lower - Used to fight fires on our own 	
	SRRB	B5. Does your community distinguish between good and bad wildfires? If so, what are the characteristics of each?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ɔohda say that it is always good to fight a fire and put it out right away - Need to protect the land, wildlife, and cabins from wildfires - Want to see GNWT and Parks Canada put fire fighting equipment out on the land to protect cabins - We want to promote community protecting our lands - We want to see fires put out early before they grow out of control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fire part of nature but climate change not. - CL started their own crew, don't wait for government - We want to look after [our] own crew - Attack fires right away - Need more and improved equipment in community - In the 70s and 80s, didn't wait for ENR - ENR policy to leave if not values, burned cabins this year 	
	SRRB	B6. How are different types of fires described in your indigenous language?	[see appendix]	[No response]	
	SRRB	B7 What changes in wind and how wind affect wildfires have your community observed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are not a lot of fires around Déljñe, so cannot coment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Winds changing – lasting longer, come out of nowhere, - Warm weather is creating new, different winds - Big winds, move fast 	

				- Fire behaviour changing with winds, looking like it's attacking the community	
	SRRB	B8 What effects of wildfires on caribou or caribou habitat has you community observed?	- There are not a lot of fires, but have observed it takes a long time for vegetation to grow back and it may not grow back the same	- Outfitters say caribou aren't moving, some say shifting movements - More bears now, starting to see more bears in mountains	
	SRRB	B9 Where on the land and/or water have these changes been noticed?	- See above	[No response]	
		B10 How long does it take for caribou food and habitat to return after burning?	- We think it can take a long time, but we do not have a lot of fires around Déljñę.	- Scientists may have misunderstood, see caribou eating in burned areas - Lichen recovers faster from muskox eating it than fire destroying it.	
		B11 What can be done to protect caribou and caribou habitat from wildfires?	- Put out fire right away - Want funding to support longer harvesting trips to put more eyes on land to spot fires, get youth involved - As set out in our Caribou Conservation Plan, we are encouraging harvesting of other species like łue and other furbearing animals. If we could get funding for large camps to encourage harvesting of other species it could help caribou recover	[No response]	

SRRB to Sahtú Youth					
	SRRB	1 How can the SRRB better support youth participation in climate change action?	<p>[Answers from eleven youth living in Déljñę]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Giving youth a voice; - Educating the youth about how climate change happens - Doing educational awareness on climate change and behavioural change campaigns; - Helping youth participate in local events; - Making it fun, but also where youth can learn; - Letting the youth have a voice to talk and have opinions; - Letting the youth help with the land; - Working with students who may not understand the work of the SRRB to help teach them; and - Paying youth a good amount of money to participate in processes. 	[No response]	[No response]
	SRRB	2. How does climate change affect opportunities for intergenerational knowledge transfer on the land and water?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate change will affect Great Bear Lake and wildlife that surrounds it and so younger generations will not be able to experience on the land activities. - With unpredictable rainfall patterns, shrinking ice sheets, rising sea levels, floods and droughts the land and waters are changing which will impact how we can get out on the land and the knowledge will change. - Climate change can impact our knowledge of the land and water. What we know now about the land and water, may no longer be true with climate change. 	[No response]	[No response]

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate change affects us by changing the weather. It could be hot one day and another day could be cold and windy. - Climate change could change water levels and cause floods that would impact us using lands and waters. - The weather is changing and getting warmer or colder and when it does, we will have a hard time to get opportunities on the land. - With climate change, some animals may die off and we will no longer be able to harvest them. - When it is cold the lake freezes. Climate change may impact the lake freezing which will change how we use the land and water. - Climate change may cause wildlife to leave the area and we will no longer see them. - Climate change is impacting our knowledge already. 		
	SRRB	3. Is climate change anxiety/eco-anxiety common amongst youth in the Sahtú?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children do not see it as a problem yet but many teens realize it and anxiety about climate change is common among youth in Délı̨ę. Youth know it will affect Sahtú sooner or later. - In a poll of a class at ʔehtseo Ayha School, 58% were very or extremely worried about climate change and 84% were at least moderately worried about climate change. - There are some youth that do not feel anxious about climate change. 	[No response]	[No response]

	SRRB	4. What kind of educational opportunities (camps, classrooms, workshops, other) would you find useful to understand climate change? Wildfires?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camps and workshops to learn about climate change and wildfires. - Presentations are boring, so hands on experiences that can be fun are more engaging. -would like workshops on weather and climate change so that youth can learn about climate change and how it happens. - In the classroom, teachers can teach about wildfires in detail, but with camps can visually teach the youth about wildfires. - Youth also asked that a forum be created where youth can talk about all social justice issues and explore personal values through critical thinking together. 	[No response]	[No response]
	SRRB	5. What opportunities do you have to voice your concerns about climate change?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many of the youth in Déliᑎᑎ who responded to these questions told us that they do not have any opportunities to voice their concerns about climate. - One youth said that answering these questions was their first chance to voice their concerns about climate change. - Some youth said that concerns can be raised with Elders. - It was also suggested that these concerns about climate change could be raised during Dene cultural activities. 	[No response]	[No response]
	SRRB	6. What opportunities would you like to have to voice your concerns about climate change?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Youth asked that youth be invited to meetings about climate change so that youth can represent their concerns. -The youth also want workshops, activities and meetings hosted where people will actually listen to the youth. 	[No response]	[No response]

			-Youth want to talk to Elders about these issues too.		
		A7 What opportunities would you like to have to contribute to the fight against climate change?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Study what causes climate change and try to stop it. - Make our voices heard by people in power. - Fundraise to help youth participate in climate change fight. - Reduce or eliminate fuels from our homes by swapping the furnace for a heatpump. - Work together with others who are also worried about climate change. 	[No response]	[No response]
SRRB to all interested Parties					
	SRRB to all parties	Do you have questions for other parties?	<p>Questions for the GNWT - ECC Please answer each of the following questions: Section A, questions 1, 4 & 5 and Section B, questions 2, 3, 7, 8 &9</p> <p>For each of the above questions, we want to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What has the GNWT measured and observed? - Please share any data you have collected relevant to these questions and explain your methodology used to collect that data. - What is the GNWT doing to monitor[...] for climate change and the impacts of climate change in the Sahtú? - What is the GNWT doing to monitor for and fight wildfires in the Déljñę District? 	<p>For the GNWT - ECC: How does the fire-retardant impact the animals? The water? How long for the trees to grow back?</p>	[No response]
	SRRB to all parties	What effects does government forestry	[No response]	[No response]	[No response]

		management have on wildfires?			
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