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Sahtú Renewable Resources Board PO Box 134 Tulít'a, NT X0E 0K0

May-3-16

RE: Final Submission for the Public Hearing on Management of Bluenose East ?ekwé (Barren-Ground Caribou)

To the Sahtú Renewable Resources Board:

Representatives from the Tulít'a Renewable Resources Council attended the Dél₁ne Caribou Gathering in January 2015 with people from all around the Sahtú. Dél₁ne was concerned about the numbers of Bluenose East caribou decreasing, and Dél₁ne wanted to do something. So they made a plan.

The Déline plan is not unreasonable. It is all using traditional knowledge, which is really valuable. When you read the Déline plan, you see their elders talking about how they have always had caribou because of the way they have managed their herds.

We support Déline and their numbers. One hundred and fifty caribou is not a lot for their community. We have other options in Tulít'a. Why would we want to take food away from Déline? They are caribou people. We don't particularly hunt over there, except when the caribou come close, and then there are enough to start hunting again, by us as well as by Déline. So we have to trust them. When there are only so many caribou, a lot would stay down at the other end where we would never go.

Traditionally we have told Dél₁ne when we harvest in their district. We don't know where their people are hunting, or where the caribou are, so we have to talk to them. We can work with them and plan our hunting together. We can communicate with the Dél₁ne Renewable Resources Council and with Dél₁ne. We have a lot of relations over in Dél₁ne.

The Déline plan calls for meetings to do things like plan the harvest or review the harvest numbers. The Déline plan also calls for a ceremonial harvest and for seasonal trips. We would like to be included in these meetings and trips whenever possible.

We support how Déline uses CHAP funding and other funding to support their caribou harvest, their alternative harvest, and their awards and incentives programs. We would like to do the same thing for harvesters in Tulit'a, with support from ENR and other sources.

Regarding monitoring, we recognize the way that ENR has been doing monitoring so far and we recognize the information they get from it. We support ENR continuing to come up with better ways to monitor that have less of an impact on the caribou, and we support Déline in developing their own plan for monitoring. This is what we would want for ourselves in our own management plan. We don't have a plan yet, but we have issues like the muskox and the mountain caribou that we want to address.

The Tulít'a Renewable Resources Council agrees with Chief Frank Andrew of the Tulít'a Dene Band that Tulít'a cannot be forgotten. We will work with Dél_lne and we look forward to developing our own management plan.

Sincerely,

Rocky Norwegian

President