



PHOTO: ROB GAU



# NORTHWEST TERRITORIES BARREN-GROUND CARIBOU

**WE NEED YOUR INPUT ON THE DRAFT RECOVERY STRATEGY FOR BARREN-GROUND CARIBOU!**

**Barren-ground caribou are **Threatened** in the NWT**

**Threatened** means that they could be gone from the NWT within our children's lifetimes if nothing is done.

- **What are the high priority actions you feel should be taken to recover barren-ground caribou?**
- **Do you have any suggestions to improve the draft recovery strategy?**



## **BARREN-GROUND CARIBOU\*: A **THREATENED** SPECIES**

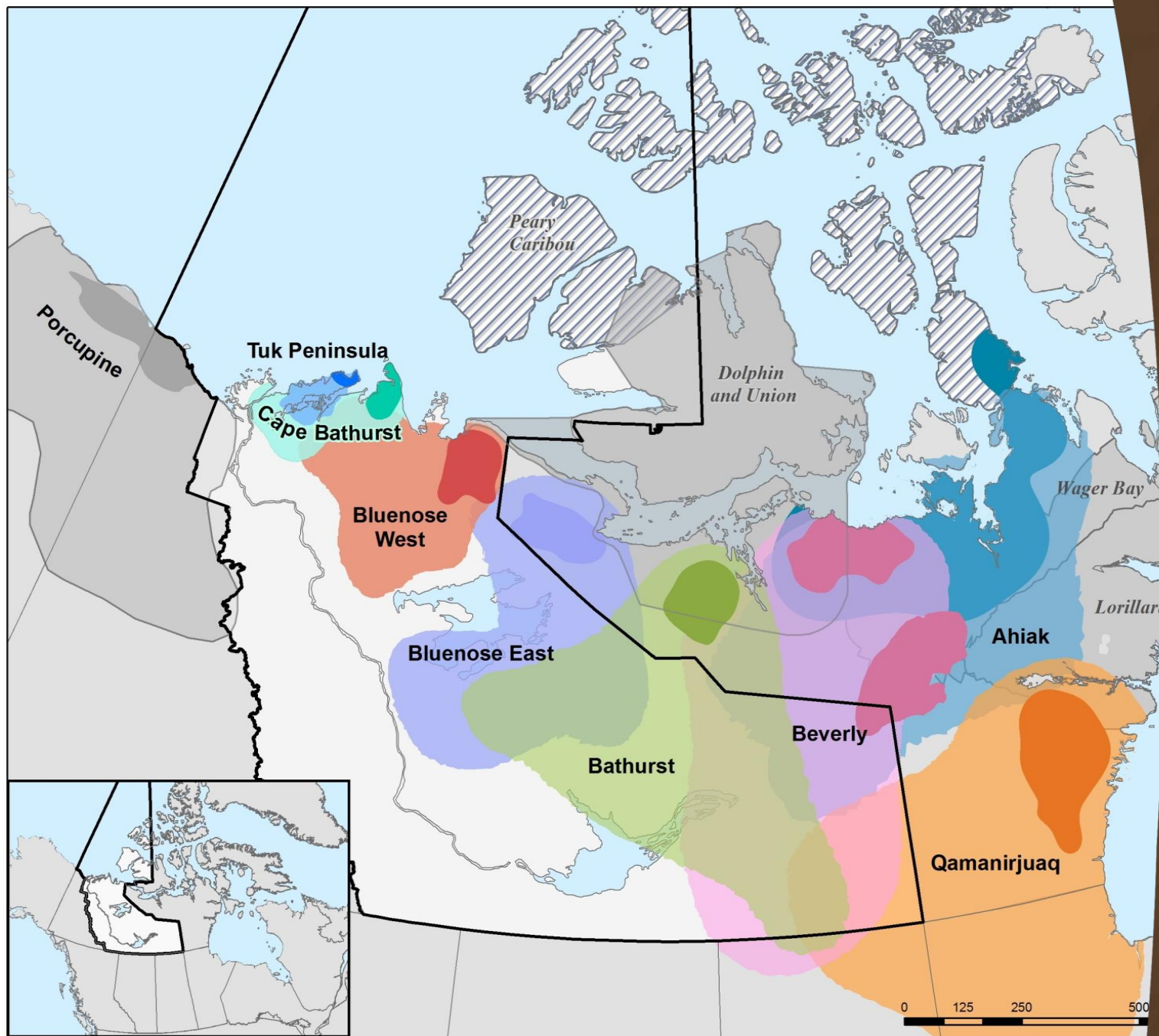
About 500,000 barren-ground caribou currently reside partially or entirely in the NWT. However, this represents a decline of more than 85% for most herds over the last 25 years.

Barren-ground caribou in the NWT face multiple threats from climate change, predation, industrial development, and forest fires. The cumulative effects from these threats are considered unprecedented.

### **WHY DO WE NEED A RECOVERY STRATEGY?**

- Recovery strategies are required for **Threatened** species under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*. As barren-ground caribou were designated as **Threatened** in July 2018, this recovery strategy needs to be completed by July 2020.
- The recovery strategy will provide guidance to NWT wildlife managers on the conservation and recovery of barren-ground caribou in the long-term.
- More specific recovery actions will be contained in herd-specific management plans (either already complete or under development).
- Automatic prohibitions or protections (e.g. harvesting restrictions) are NOT a part of the recovery strategy.
- Management of barren-ground caribou in the NWT is a shared responsibility. Decisions will continue to be made by consensus among governments and wildlife co-management boards.

\*Includes Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula, Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West, Bluenose-East, Bathurst, Beverly, Ahik, and Qamanirjuaq herds. Does not include the Porcupine herd, which is considered Not at Risk in the NWT.



## WHAT'S IN THE DRAFT RECOVERY STRATEGY?

**Vision:** Conserve barren-ground caribou and ensure that barren-ground caribou remain a cultural and ecological keystone species.

## WHAT KINDS OF ACTIONS ARE BEING CONSIDERED?

- Collaborative decision-making and information sharing.
- Support the development and implementation of herd-specific management plans.
- Identify and promote conservation of key habitats (calving grounds, post-calving ranges, and important water crossings).
- Promote scientific and traditional/community monitoring and research.
- Develop range-level approaches for management of cumulative impacts.
- Implement predator monitoring and management.
- Enhance harvest reporting.
- Develop and implement public education programs.

You can access the draft recovery strategy and additional information at [www.nwt-species-at-risk.ca](http://www.nwt-species-at-risk.ca)

Contact your local NWT renewable resources board OR the NWT Species at Risk Secretariat for more information at [sara@gov.nt.ca](mailto:sara@gov.nt.ca) or toll-free at 1 (855) 783-4301.