

Bluenose East (Sahti Ekwò)

Determinations

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Harvest of Sahti Ekwò						
WRRB Determination #1-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	The Board determines a total allowable harvest of 193, bulls only, for all users of the Sahti ekwò herd within Wek'èezhii is to be implemented by the Tłı̨çq̃ Government and Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) for the 2019/20 and 2020/21 harvest seasons.	ACCEPT	Tłı̨çq̃ Government and GNWT accept this determination for Wek'èezhii and thank the Board for its strong focus on conservation and the need to limit harvest of this rapidly declining herd. ENR will amend regulations as needed to implement this determination in Wek'èezhii and in the associated caribou management zones as soon as practicable.	Tłı̨çq̃ Government and GNWT	2019-2020/2020-2021	Completed

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Sahti Ekwò Harvest Allocation						
WRRB Determination #2-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	The proportional allocation of the total allowable harvest of the Sahti ekwò herd for the 2019/20 and 2020/21 harvest seasons shall be as follows: Tłı̨çq̃ Citizens: 39.29% (76 animals) Members of an Indigenous people who traditionally harvest Sahti ekwò (includes Nunavut): 60.71% (117 animals) TG should determine distribution of the allocation with Tłı̨çq̃ communities, and GNWT should determine distribution of the allocation to members of an Indigenous people who traditionally harvest Sahti ekwò in consultation with those groups.	ACCEPT	Tłı̨çq̃ Government and GNWT accept this determination for Wek'èezhii. Consistent with s. 12.9 of the Tłı̨çq̃ Agreement, Tłı̨çq̃ Government will address the allocation of Sahti Ekwò caribou among the Tłı̨çq̃ communities. As recommended by WRRB, GNWT will allocate the remaining harvest among other Indigenous user groups of the Sahti Ekwò herd.	Tłı̨çq̃ Government and GNWT	2019-2020/2020-2021	Completed

Recommendations

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Sahti Ekwò Harvest Monitoring						
WRRB Recommendation #1-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	<p>To ensure that the total allowable harvest is being adhered to, and to utilize the expertise of harvesters, TG is to revise their approach to Sahti ekwò harvest monitoring for the 2019/20, and 2020/21 harvest seasons to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data collected from harvesters which, at minimum, should include the number and location of ækwò harvested, sex, health, and body condition of the animals, and distance travelled by the harvesters; Harvest data should be provided weekly by TG to the WRRB, and the annual harvest and monitoring summary reports prepared by GNWT and TG should be made public by June 30 of each year; and Where necessary because of concentrations of ækwò near a community, up to four community monitors should be hired to be able to collect, and report on harvest data weekly. 	<p>VARY - Recommendation #1-2019 (Sahti Ekwò): Sahti Ekwò Harvest Monitoring: To ensure that the total allowable harvest is being adhered to, and to utilize the expertise of harvesters, TG is to revise their approach to Sahti ekwò harvest monitoring for the 2019/20, and 2020/21 harvest seasons to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data collected from harvesters which, should include the number and location of ækwò harvested, sex, health, and body condition of the animals, and distance travelled by the harvesters; Harvest data should be provided monthly by TG to the WRRB, and the annual harvest and monitoring summary reports prepared by GNWT and TG should be made public by June 30 of each year; and Where necessary because of concentrations of ækwò near a community, up to four community monitors should be hired to be able to collect, and report on harvest data weekly monthly. 	<p>Tiçq Government agrees that it can collect data and revise its approach to Sahti Ekwò monitoring. Tiçq Government has carefully considered what resources it has to implement the WRRB recommendation for a weekly reporting and has concluded that in order to ensure that it can comply with the recommendation, chooses to continue to provide monthly reports. The WRRB recommends that data collected from harvesters, at a minimum, should include the number and location of ækwò harvested, sex, health, and body condition of the animals, and distance travelled by the harvesters. Tiçq Government will strive to provide this information but Tiçq Government cannot control what information harvesters might share after a harvest and as such cannot guarantee the proposed minimum requirements for data content.</p>	Tiçq Government	2019-2020/2020-2021	Ongoing

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Enhanced North Slave Diga Harvest Incentive Program						
WRRB Recommendation #2-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	To understand the success of the pilot year of the Enhanced North Slave Diga Harvest Incentive Program, GNWT is to provide the location and number of diga harvested, as part of the Program, to the WRRB by July 26, 2019.	ACCEPT	The GNWT is currently finalizing a report on the winter 2018-2019 Enhanced North Slave Diga Harvest Incentive Program. A preliminary draft of the report was shared with the WRRB on July 15, 2019. A similar report will be produced annually by the GNWT.	GNWT	15-Jul-19	Completed
WRRB Recommendation #3-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	To determine the future use of the Enhanced North Slave Diga Harvest Incentive Program in managing Sahti ekwò and other ækwò herds, GNWT and TG are to develop a framework to evaluate the effectiveness of this Program in achieving ækwò conservation goals, for review and approval by the WRRB, by September 30, 2019.	VARY - Tìçq Government and GNWT vary 'Recommendation #3-2019' to say the following: Recommendation #3-2019 (Sahti Ekwò): Enhanced North Slave Diga Harvest Incentive Program: To determine the future use of the Enhanced North Slave Diga Harvest Incentive Program in managing Sahti ekwò and other ækwò herds, GNWT and TG are to develop a framework to evaluate the effectiveness of this Program in achieving ækwò conservation goals, for review and approval by the WRRB, by January 10, 2020.	Tìçq Government and the GNWT suggest that development of a framework to assess effectiveness of the Enhanced North Slave Diga Harvest Incentive Program be done as part of a larger diga management proposal under development, which can inform the adaptive management framework considered in Recommendation #9-2019. In order to comply with the Recommendation and given the other tasks to be accomplished in a short period, Tìçq Government and the GNWT suggest that the proposal and framework in Recommendation #3-2019 would not be completed by September 30, 2019, and would vary the completion date to January 10, 2020. The GNWT also notes that a number of approaches to wolf reduction are under consideration in the larger diga management proposal. The enhanced incentives program would form a part of this proposal and it is the larger program's effectiveness that should be assessed using wolf-focused and caribou-focused indicators.	Tìçq Government and the GNWT	10-Jan-20	Not Completed

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Nōgha (wolverines)						
WRRB Recommendation #4-2019 (Sahti Ekwō)	To determine the current population trends and distribution of the Sahti ekwō predator, GNWT and TG are to monitor nō gha populations in Wek'èezhii, beginning April 1, 2020. Monitoring information should be shared with the WRRB as available.	VARY - Tìçh q Government and the GNWT vary 'Recommendation #4-2019' to say the following: Recommendation #4-2019 (Sahti Ekwō): Nōgha (wolverines): To determine the current population trends and distribution of the Sahti ekwōpredator, GNWT is to undertake a review of existing monitoring of wolverine abundance and distribution in the NWT and, where available, from relevant regions of Nunavut by April 1, 2020. This will be used to consider potential future monitoring of wolverines. Any existing monitoring information will be shared with the WRRB.	Tìçh q Government supports the principle behind collecting monitoring information concerning Nōgha. Tìçh q Government does not have the resources to undertake a wolverine monitoring study, and at this time chooses to implement the other priorities set in the 2019 Recommendations as well as completing the previous recommendations of WRRB. Tìçh q Government suggests that time be spent on the development of a collaborative framework between the GNWT and WRRB to advance this recommendation. The GNWT notes that scientific evidence to date does not identify wolverines as a major predator of barren-ground caribou. Wolverines are primarily scavengers and current evidence suggests that their abundance on the Bathurst herd's range has declined as the herd has declined. The standard method of monitoring wolverine abundance and distribution has been DNA Mark-Recapture Sampling; the GNWT has conducted monitoring in the Daring Lake area and the diamond mines have had similar programs in their areas. ENR can provide a summary of relevant wolverine monitoring in the NWT to date, including results from Nunavut if available, as a basis for consideration of future monitoring.	Tìçh q Government and the GNWT	1-Apr-20	Not Completed

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Predators on the Calving Grounds						
WRRB Recommendation #5-2019 (Sahti Ekwō)	To increase the birth rate of Sahti ekwō, GNWT and TG are to work cooperatively with the Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut to protect the calving grounds of Sahti ekwō from diga, sahcho, det'qcho, and nō gha. Starting in 2020, calving ground protection could take the form of monitors on the perimeter and should begin one week prior to calving.	VARY - Tìçh q Government and the GNWT vary 'Recommendation #5-2019' to say the following: Recommendation #5-2019 (Sahti Ekwō): Predators on the Calving Grounds: To increase early survival of newborn calves and adults of the Sahti ekwō, GNWT and TG should continue to engage the Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut to explore methods that may be used to reduce predation on the calving grounds of Sahti ekwōfrom diga, sahcho, det'qcho, and nōgha. Calving ground protection could take the form of monitors on the perimeter and should begin one week prior to calving.	Tìçh q Government and the GNWT note that the calving grounds of the Sahti Ekwo are found in Nunavut which is outside of Tìçh q lands and Mqwhì Gogha Dè Njittèè and outside of GNWT's jurisdiction. Tìçh q Government agrees with the goals of 'Recommendation #5-2019' and will welcome the opportunity to engage with Nunavut on these issues. Tìçh q Government would be supportive of any plan in Nunavut to protect the calving grounds by the use of monitors on the perimeter one week prior to calving. This support is predicated on agreement from Nunavut. Notwithstanding this support TG cannot assure a 2020 implementation date. Any wildlife management actions in Nunavut would need to follow appropriate processes in that territory and work through organizations there, including the Government of Nunavut (GN), the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB), and regional and local organizations. The GNWT will continue to collaborate with the GN.	Tìçh q Government and the GNWT	No date identified	Ongoing

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High Priority Habitat Identification						
WRRB Recommendation #6-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	To work towards protecting Sahti ekwò habitat, TG should work with communities to identify high priority habitat for protection. High priority habitat should include habitat used by Sahti ekwò at low population densities. Once identified, the high priority habitat should be shared with the WRRB.	ACCEPT	Work is being done presently by Tłı̨çq̓ Government staff related to Tataa and water crossings. Tłı̨çq̓ Government brought elders together in Yellowknife to discuss high priority habitats for caribou, based on current fire history (maps); Tłı̨çq̓ Government will share information with GNWT to prioritize key winter habitat for fire suppression and will submit this information to the WRRB by December 1, 2019.	Tłı̨çq̓ Government	1-Dec-20	Ongoing

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Legal Protections						
WRRB Recommendation #7-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	Following identification of high priority habitat for Sahti ekwò, and to ensure this habitat remains intact, legally enforceable habitat protection measures should be implemented by GNWT under the Wildlife Act or Species at Risk Act (NWT). In the interim, Mobile Caribou Conservation Measures should be implemented by GNWT and TG by September 2020.	VARY - The GNWT varies 'Recommendation #7-2019' to say the following: Recommendation #7-2019 (Sahti Ekwò): Legal Protections: Following identification of high priority habitat for Sahti Ekwò, and to ensure this habitat remains intact, legally enforceable habitat protection measures should be explored by GNWT under the Wildlife Act or Species at Risk Act (NWT). In addition, GNWT will explore a pilot project to test Mobile Caribou Conservation Measures.	While the new Wildlife Act and the Species at Risk Act include the potential for creation of conservation areas for wildlife, these provisions are largely untested. Given that caribou use of the landscape is dynamic, flexibility will be required in considering the use and applicability of habitat conservation tools. Mobile Caribou Conservation Measures are included in the Bathurst Caribou Range Plan as an approach to limiting disturbance that is flexible and can be applied where the caribou are during a portion of the year. However, as noted in the Range Plan, this approach is largely untested and a pilot project would be the appropriate next step. Given the extent of development on the Bathurst herd's range compared to the very limited development on the Sahti Ekwò range and that Mobile Caribou Conservation Measures are a recommendation of the Bathurst Caribou Range Plan, a pilot project would most likely be planned for the Bathurst range. However, the outcomes and learning gained from such a pilot project would inform barren-ground caribou management across the NWT.	GNWT	No date identified	Not Completed

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Alternative Wildlife Species						
WRRB Recommendation #8 (Sahti Ekwǫ)	To help people thrive within dē, including having food security, and in light of a limited harvest on Sahti ekwǫ, the WRRB recommends that TG and GNWT encourage Tłı̨chǫ citizens to harvest alternative country foods, starting in September 2019.	ACCEPT	Tłı̨chǫ Government will report to the WRRB, starting in September 2019, what efforts Tłı̨chǫ Government made to encourage Tłı̨chǫ citizens to harvest alternative country foods, but notes that it cannot guarantee the outcomes of the encouragement. This recommendation may also be addressed through implementation of 'Recommendation #1-2019', where monitors could ask for, and provide information on what alternative country foods are used by Tłı̨chǫ citizens. The GNWT will continue to support the Tłı̨chǫ Government through funding that is provided for alternative sources of country food including, but not limited to, moose hunting, Beverly caribou hunting, fish nets, etc. This recommendation will also be addressed in part through the implementation of ENR's Sustainable Livelihoods Action Plan in collaboration with many partners. This Action Plan outlines actions related to country food research, development of harvesting mentorship and training programs, opportunities for youth, and community food systems planning, all of which can include focus on alternative foods. The GNWT would be happy to meet with Tłı̨chǫ Government and the WRRB by the end of 2019 to discuss development and implementation of programs for Tłı̨chǫ citizens under this Action Plan.	Tłı̨chǫ Government and the GNWT	Beginning September 2019	Not Completed

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Adaptive Management Framework						
WRRB Recommendation #9-2019 (Sahti Ekwǫ)	WRRB, TG and GNWT to collaborate to develop a herd-specific adaptive management framework with the thresholds linked to specific management actions by January 2020.	VARY - Recommendation #9-2019 (Sahti Ekwǫ): Adaptive Management Framework: WRRB, TG and GNWT to collaborate to develop a herd-specific adaptive management framework with the thresholds linked to specific management actions by January 2020, with the WRRB taking a lead role. The framework will take into consideration existing management plans and decisions and recommendations from boards and governments.	Tłı̨chǫ Government and the GNWT are highly supportive of the establishment of an adaptive co-management framework and the potential for increased direct collaboration between the Tłı̨chǫ Government, the GNWT and the WRRB that such an undertaking requires. The GNWT notes that there has been in effect a cycle of adaptive management on a three year interval. This has now been reduced to two years with the latest joint management proposal, where new information has been used to re-visit management and monitoring of this herd. The GNWT also notes that the management plan Taking Care of Caribou includes the Sahti Ekwǫ herd and that the Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management (ACCWM) meets annually to assess the status of three caribou herds and updates action plans for each herd. This plan and the annual meetings also can be considered a form of adaptive management. Given this context, Tłı̨chǫ Government and the GNWT suggest that the two governments and the WRRB collaboratively develop an adaptive management framework for the Sahti Ekwǫ herd, and that the WRRB take a lead role in developing this adaptive co-management process. This could include development of a meeting schedule and work plan by October 30, 2019.	Tłı̨chǫ Government and the GNWT	January 2020	Ongoing

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Population Surveys						
WRRB Recommendation #10-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	To ensure timely adaptive management, GNWT should conduct population surveys for sahti ekwò every two years. The next population survey should thus take place June 2020.	ACCEPT	Tiçò Government and the GNWT thank the WRRB for supporting the proposal to move to conducting population surveys every two years.	GNWT	Jun-20	Ongoing

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Pregnancy Monitoring						
WRRB Recommendation #11-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	To better understand the health of the Sahti ekwò herd, GNWT and TG should implement Sahti ekwò pregnancy monitoring through fecal pellet collection in the winter months, starting January 2020. Methodology for this program should include community-based sampling.	VARY - Tiçò Government and the GNWT vary 'Recommendation #11-2019' to say the following: Recommendation #11-2019 (Sahti Ekwò): Pregnancy Monitoring: To better understand the health of the Sahti ekwò herd, GNWT and TG should continue to explore Sahti ekwò pregnancy monitoring through fecal pellet collection in the winter months, starting in March 2020 during a late-winter composition survey by helicopter. Methodology for this program may include community-based sampling.	Tiçò Government believes that fecal pellet collection may be possible through community-based collection but cannot guarantee that harvesters will implement such a program. Caribou fecal pellet collection is something harvesters usually do not do. Tiçò Government notes that because the caribou harvest is a bull only harvest, community based fecal pellet sampling will be a project in and of itself. Tiçò Government will continue to rely on the GNWT Sahti Ekwò pregnancy monitoring through fecal pellet collection that is done in conjunction with helicopter-based late winter composition surveys. If, in the future, the Ekwò Nàxoède K'è (Boots on the Ground) program is expanded to the Sahti Ekwò herd, a specific community-based caribou fecal pellet sampling program may be undertaken as part of winter field activities. The GNWT will continue to collect fecal samples during late-winter caribou composition surveys of the Sahti Ekwò herd, beginning in March 2020, with an emphasis on obtaining a sufficient number of samples and adequate spatial coverage. If in future Tiçò Government is able to collect fecal samples through community-based methods, those could be used to augment samples obtained during late-winter surveys by helicopter.	Tiçò Government and the GNWT	Beginning March 2020	Not Completed

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Reconnaissance Surveys						
WRRB Recommendation #12-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	In an effort to leave the ðekwò alone, and only cause disturbance that is necessary, GNWT should cease the annual reconnaissance survey for Sahti ekwò .	ACCEPT	Tiçò Government and the GNWT believe that the recommendation should refer to calving ground reconnaissance surveys - see the WRRB narrative comments at p. 61 of the WRRB Reasons for Decision. Tiçò Government and the GNWT note that the rationale for discontinuing the calving ground reconnaissance surveys is not about caribou disturbance, but rather that the usefulness of the data is debatable.	GNWT	No date required	Completed

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Collars						
WRRB Recommendation #13-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	To have a better understanding of herd distribution, movements, and switching, GNWT should increase the number of collars on the sahti ekwò herd from 50 to 70. Additional analysis gathered from the collars should be provided to the WRRB from GNWT annually including but not limited to: 1) Dispersal at calving in relation to historic data; 2) Timing of calving in relation to historic data; 3) Calf:cow ratios; and, 4) Rates of herd switching and rutting locations.	VARY - Recommendation #13-2019 (Sahti Ekwò): Collars: To have a better understanding of herd distribution, movements, and switching, GNWT should increase the number of collars on the Sahti ekwò herd from 50 to 70 (50 cows and 20 bulls). ENR Reports that include analyses based on collar data will be provided to the WRRB when completed.	Caribou collar data are used for many applications by the GNWT and by other organizations for research or for applied management. For example, mines use collar data to be aware of times when caribou may be in their vicinity and mitigations may be needed. For the Bathurst herd, the Ekwò Nàxoède K'è program uses daily collar locations to plan their field operations in July and August. The GNWT notes the following, however: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The June 2018 survey report on the Sahti Ekwò herd from Boulanger et al. (2019) includes an updated assessment of the herd's demographics to 2018. It includes, for example, an assessment of calving ground fidelity of Bluenose-East collared cows and rates of switching with the two neighbouring herds, an assessment of the likely peak of calving in the herd based on movement rates of collared cows, a summary of recent calf-cow ratios in the herd, a summary on collar-based and model-based cow survival estimates, and a spatial analysis of recent consecutive June locations on the calving grounds (i.e. how far one year's collared cow locations were from the following year's). The GNWT will continue to provide these detailed assessments in years of calving ground photo surveys. • If the WRRB would like to undertake additional analyses of collar data, the GNWT can make the data available through a data-sharing agreement. • Any other completed reports from the GNWT that make use of Sahti Ekwò collar data can be made available to the WRRB. One example is a brief field report that is usually developed by the GNWT when winter collar deployments on caribou have been completed. Summaries of caribou composition surveys in June, October and March/April include maps showing collar distribution during the surveys, and these can also be made available to WRRB. Boulanger, J., J. Adamczewski, J. Nishi, D. Cluff, J. Williams, H. Sayine-Crawford, and L. M. LeClerc. 2019. Estimates of breeding females & adult herd size and analyses of demographics for the Bluenose-East herd of barren-ground caribou: 2018 calving ground photographic survey. Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada. Manuscript Report 278.	GNWT	Starting 2019	Ongoing

WRRB Recommendation #14-2019
(Sahti Ekwǫ)

Relative to the views of elders and to clarify what analyses require a larger sample size, TG and GNWT should present a detailed rationale for the collar increase to the WRRB. This will be completed using the collars on an annual basis as part of adaptive management

VARY - TG and ENR vary 'Recommendation #14-2019' to say the following:
Recommendation #14-2019 (Sahti Ekwǫ):
Collars: Relative to the views of elders and to clarify what analyses require a larger sample size, TG and GNWT should present a detailed rationale for the collar increase to the WRRB.

The GNWT provided the WRRB with a detailed rationale for an increase in numbers of satellite collars on the Bathurst herd (Adamczewski and Boulanger, 2016). The rationale provided in the report is also applicable to the Sahti Ekwǫ herd. This report recommended an increase to 65 collars on the Bathurst herd, taking into consideration a number of key uses of satellite collars and recommended numbers of collars for those applications. In 2015 the Tłı̨çǫ Government approved an increase in Bathurst collar numbers to 30 cows and 20 bulls (50 total), and in 2019 the joint management proposals for the Bathurst and Sahti Ekwǫ herds from Tłı̨çǫ Government and the GNWT included an increase to 70 collars (50 cows and 20 bulls) on each of the two herds. The 70 collars (50 and 20) were in part based on the assessment in Adamczewski and Boulanger (2016) and also recognized the importance of continuing to monitor the bulls in these herds. The GNWT suggests that an annual assessment of collar numbers needed for management applications is not needed, however the GNWT can provide annual summaries of the numbers of collars on the two herds, and periodic re-assessment of the adequacy of collar numbers can be considered under an adaptive management framework ('Recommendation #9-2019').
Adamczewski, J., and J. Boulanger. 2016. Technical rationale to increase the number of satellite collars on the Bathurst caribou herd. Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada. Manuscript Report 254.

Tłı̨çǫ Government and the
GNWT

2019 Ongoing

Item	Action/Activity	Response	Reasons for Response	Lead Responsibility	Timing Guidelines	Status
Climate Change						
WRRB Recommendation #15-2019 (Sahti Ekwò)	To collect on-the-ground climate change observations, TG's Ekwò Nàxoède K'è program should be expanded to the post-calving and summer ranges of Sahti ekwò by October 1, 2019. Results of the monitoring program should be designed to feed into an adaptive management framework.	VARY - Tlìçq Government varies 'Recommendation #15-2019' to a start date of Summer, 2020.	Tlìçq Government thanks the WRRB for its recognition of the Tlìçq Government's Ekwò Nàxoède K'è (Boots on the Ground) program. Tlìçq Government works in a deeply consultative way in the development of a program like the Ekwò Nàxoède K'è program. Tlìçq Government has considered the time, logistical issues, resources and training involved in implementing an Ekwò Nàxoède K'è program into the post-calving and summer ranges of Sahti Ekwò, and has concluded it is not feasible to implement this year. Initial preparations for undertaking an Ekwò Nàxoède K'è program on Sahti Ekwò post-calving and summer ranges are underway with a target date of Summer, 2020. Tlìçq Government notes that field implementation is subject to logistic challenges, favorable weather along with boat and ground access to Sahti Ekwò. Part of the success in the Bathurst initiative is that ground access to the caribou herd by the field team is enabled by boat travel along the length of Contwoyto Lake, which is located in the heart of the Bathurst caribou post-calving and summer ranges. In addition to engaging elders who know the Sahti Ekwò range, a useful task would be to conduct an assessment of Sahti Ekwò collar movements (post-calving and summer/fall) to understand what lakes may be suitable for placing field crews to observe caribou. Tlìçq Government will engage with the WRRB about the possibility of the WRRB's ability to provide some of its biologist staff resources to assist in the expansion the Ekwò Nàxoède K'è program on the post-calving and summer ranges of Sahti Ekwò.	Tlìçq Government	Beginning summer 2020	Not Completed

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Tłı̨çų Research & Monitoring Program						
WRRB Recommendation #16-2019 (Sahti Ekwų)	To ensure that both ąekwų and ąekwų habitat monitoring and realistic harvesting numbers are recorded in a culturally appropriate manner, the Tłı̨çų Research and Monitoring Program should be implemented by TG, starting in September 2019 (See Appendix I).	VARY - Tłı̨çų ų Government varies 'Recommendation #16-2019' to say the following: Recommendation #16-2019 (Sahti Ekwų): Tłı̨çų ų Research & Monitoring Program: To ensure that both ąekwų and ąekwų habitat monitoring and realistic harvesting numbers are recorded in a culturally appropriate manner, Tłı̨çų ų Government will revisit the original 2007 report by A. Legat titled "Tłı̨çų ų Research and Monitoring Program" for the purpose of determining whether aspects of it not already implemented might be useful.	The "Tłı̨çų Research & Monitoring Program" was considered by Tłı̨çų Government between 2010 and 2012 and this resulted in the creation of the Tłı̨çų Research and Training Institute (TRTI) or Dedats'eetsaa. Dedats'eetsaa refers to a large culturally significant rock on Tłı̨çų Lands where people had traditionally used to cache and retrieve materials/supplies while traveling to and from the barrens. The name was adopted for the TRTI because it signified a way of storing, retrieving and later using the Tłı̨çų knowledge. Dedats'eetsaa (Tlı̨çų Research and Training Institute) is the result of the consideration of the "Tłı̨çų Research & Monitoring Program". Ms. Legat's work provided a foundation to the current program (TRTI), and in the time since the creation of Dedats'eetsaa, it has evolved. Therefore, Tłı̨çų Government is of the view that it is not necessary to conduct a full assessment of the "Tłı̨çų Research and Monitoring Program", because it has already largely taken place. https://research.tlı̨çų.ca/ Under the direction of the Chiefs Executive Council of the Tłı̨çų Government, the mandate of the Dedats'eetsaa: Tłı̨çų Research and Training Institute (TRTI) is to advance the study of Tłı̨çų lands, language, culture and way of life. This will be done through the promotion of research, and its use for training, education and monitoring Government commitments and responsibilities, with a Tłı̨çų cultural framework. Tłı̨çų Government will revisit the original report "Tłı̨çų Research and Monitoring Program" for the purpose of determining whether aspects of it not already implemented might be useful.	Tłı̨çų Government	No date identified	Not Completed