



November 25, 2019

Dear Dawson District Renewable Resources Council and Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board,

RE: Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in invitation to meet and discuss the management strategy for the Fortymile Caribou Herd

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (TH) would like to thank you for your time on November 21, 2019 to meet with us to discuss critical components of the complex Fortymile Caribou Herd (FMCH) file. We appreciate your dedication, knowledge and input on this file and we recognize that a collaborative approach is the solution to working our way through some of the more complex details with respect to the management of the FMCH.

Our discussion clearly identified that the two governments are at an impasse with respect to key phases in the development of a licensed hunt for the FMCH. Yukon Government has notified TH of their intention to open a licensed hunt in January 2020, however their notification omitted any details pertaining to the regulations defining this hunt nor have they included plans surrounding the implementation of this hunt. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in has consistently communicated numerous concerns regarding the opening of a licensed hunt on the FMCH. Our concerns were last communicated after a review of the current iteration of the FMCH 'Harvest Management Plan' had been brought to TH Chief and Council for discussion. While TH is not opposed to a licensed hunt of the FMCH, some details in the HMP remain unacceptable to TH.

Most importantly, authority and co-management responsibilities for the management of fish and wildlife populations in the TH Traditional Territory are defined for both governments under Chapter 16, TH Final Agreement (THFA). TH takes issue with the unilateral approach along with the lack of communication concerning how YG intends to proceed with this licensed hunt. TH would like to emphasize the importance of all parties respecting the foundational principles of the co-management clauses, as found under Chapter 16, THFA. We also recognize the important role that the Dawson District Renewable Resources Council (DDRRC) and the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board (YFWMB) have in providing recommendations pertaining to the management of fish and wildlife in our traditional territory. To honour the THFA, we believe that a meeting to discuss the proposed details of this hunt and to outline an approach that is amenable to all parties is required immediately.

We recognize that as UFA Boards and Councils, you are primary instruments of renewable resource management in our traditional territory. We are requesting support from both DDRRC and the YFWMB to schedule a meeting between all parties and

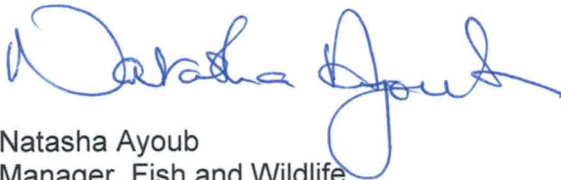
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extend an invitation to the Minister of Environment, Pauline Frost and Chief Roberta Joseph. We feel it would be prudent to meet with all parties to ensure that we agree to a common approach regarding harvest strategy for the FMCH. We also need to demonstrate to Alaska that we are taking measures to participate in the harvest while conveying the legal requirements on this side of the border are different from that of Alaska and that our process must ensure TH has its subsistence needs met, and the hunt is managed in a way that meets the needs of all parties.

We appreciate your consideration of our request so that we may have a fulsome discussion surrounding the details and implementation of a licensed hunt on the Fortymile Caribou Herd, as well as effective mechanisms for co-management of this important herd.

Sincerely,

**TR'ONDĚK HWĚCH'IN
FISH AND WILDLIFE BRANCH**



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Cc: Chief Roberta Joseph
Charles Pugh, Executive Director, TH
Fortymile Caribou – Harvest Management Committee