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FOR RELEASE April 29, 2010

#10-072

## Harvest Management Plan for Porcupine caribou herd signed in Whitehorse

WHITEHORSE – Most parties responsible for managing the Porcupine caribou herd in the Yukon and Northwest Territories have agreed to adopt a Harvest Management Plan to conserve the herd, including a management framework that varies harvesting practices with the size of the herd population.

The Harvest Management Plan was negotiated earlier this year to help stabilize, if not increase, the herd's population level. The plan was formally signed today in Whitehorse by: Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Chief Eddie Taylor, Gwich'in Tribal Council president Richard Nerysoo, the Inuvialuit Game Council chair Frank Pokiak and the Government of Yukon Premier Dennis Fentie.

Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation Chief Joe Linklater and Na-Cho Nyäk Dun Chief Simon Mervyn signed the Harvest Management Plan earlier. Decisions by the Government of the Northwest Territories and Government of Canada are pending.

Attached is a summary of the harvest management actions agreed to by the parties. The full text of the Harvest Management Plan will be released once all parties have signed, at which point work will begin on an implementation plan.

The parties would like to acknowledge the role of the Porcupine Caribou Management Board in developing earlier drafts of a Harvest Management Plan.

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Porcupine Caribou Harvest Management Plan Summary of Management Actions

PCH population	Licenced Hunters	Subsistence Hunters
>115,000 animals	Up to two animals  Mandatory bulls only  All hunters required to report	No harvest limit  Cows & bulls  All hunters required to report  ①
YELLOW ZONE	1 animal  Mandatory bulls	No harvest limit Voluntary bulls
80,000 – 115,000 animals **CURRENT LEVEL**	only  All hunters required to report	only ②  All hunters required to report ①
ORANGE ZONE	Harvest limit through permit 3	Harvest limit through
45,000 – 80,000 animals	Mandatory bulls only	subsistence allocation ③
	All hunters required to report ①	Mandatory bulls only
		All hunters required to report ①
RED ZONE	No harvesting	Extremely limited harvesting ④
Up to 45,000 animals		All hunters required to report

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