



FOR RELEASE
January 23, 2012

Regulation changes will help protect sheep and caribou populations

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon has amended hunting rules under the *Wildlife Regulations* to better protect Dall sheep in the Kusawa area and several caribou herds, Environment Minister Currie Dixon announced today.

"These four amendments to hunting rules reflect not only the views of the public, hunters and Renewable Resources Councils but also the best available scientific and local knowledge," Dixon said. "The government is committed to the sustainable harvest of Yukon wildlife."

The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board recommended the following regulation changes following a public review in fall 2010. The board received almost 100 submissions, with general support for the changes.

- A limited permit hunt is to be established that will affect licenced hunters planning to harvest Dall sheep in several game management subzones (GMS) in the Kusawa area. The new rules will affect GMS 7-14, 7-16 and 7-19, which had open seasons until now.
- Consistent with woodland caribou management throughout Yukon, only bulls can now be harvested from the Bonnet Plume, Tay and Redstone caribou herds in northeast Yukon, with the season ending October 31. The bag limit in GMS 2-45, 2-64, 2-65, and 2-70 to 2-93 will be changed to one bull. As well, the extended hunt (November 1 to January 31) for bulls in these subzones will be removed.
- GMS 5-06, 5-07 and 5-51 will be added to the Chisana caribou herd's range. These three subzones, along with the remainder of the herd's range, will be closed to hunting in 2012-13.

As well, the government updated the *Wildlife Regulations* to clarify how harvested wildlife can be transported on the Old Alaska Highway between the Alaska Highway and Silver City.

"The government remains committed to working with the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board and respecting its mandate under the Umbrella Final Agreement," Dixon added. "This is another example of the excellent work done by the wildlife management board on behalf of all Yukoners."

The new rules will be captured in the *2012-13 Hunting Regulations Summary*, the *Permit Hunt Authorization Data Sheet 2012*, and on the Environment Yukon website.

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