January 6, 2016

Dear [Redacted]

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act [Our file #ENV/060/2016]

On December 13, 2016 the Department of Environment and Climate Change received your request for access to the following records/information:

“All records of any medium or format which relate to the Wildlife Species Assessment conducted by COSEWIC, in connection with the George River Caribou Herd. Information to include, but shall not be limited to, any and all Species Status Reports available (ie. draft/final versions).”

Please be advised that the Deputy Minister of the Department of Environment and Conservation has reviewed this request and the Department has no responsive records.

The Wildlife Species Assessment of the George River Caribou herd that was to be conducted by COSEWIC between November 27 - December 2, 2016 has been deferred to April 2017. As a result, any information regarding this assessment, if available, would be in the custody and control of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). COSEWIC is an independent arms length national committee, not a committee of the provincial government. If you wish to submit an information request to COSEWIC please contact the Chair of COSEWIC, Dr. Eric Taylor at etaylor@zoology.ubc.ca or Lisa Twolan with the COSEWIC Secretariat at lisa.twolan@canada.ca.

Section 42 of the Act provides that you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the processing of your access request or you may appeal to the Supreme Court Trial Division. A request to the Commissioner must be made in writing within 15 business days of the date of this letter or within a longer period that may be allowed by the Commissioner.

The address and contact information of the Information and Privacy Commissioner is as follows:

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner
2 Canada Drive
P. O. Box 13004, Stn. A
St. John’s, NL
A1B 3V8
Telephone: (709) 729-6309
Toll-Free: 1-877-729-6309
In the event that you choose to appeal to the Trial Division, you must do so within 15 business days after you receive the decision of the public body, pursuant to section 52 of the Act.

Please be advised that this response will be published following a 72 hour period after it is sent electronically to you or five business days in the case where records are mailed to you. It is the goal to have the response posted to the Office of Public Engagement's website within one business day following the applicable period of time. Please note that requests for personal information will not be posted online.

If you have any further questions, I can be reached by telephone at (709) 729-1589 or by e-mail at nicolerowsell@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

NICOLE ROWSELL
Departmental ATIPP Coordinator