January 5, 2016

Dear [Name] (s.40(1))

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (‘Act’) [Our file #ENV/047/2015]

On December 3, 2015 the Department of Environment and Conservation received your request for access to the following records/information:

“Any and all information with respect to a 2009 reduction in Commercial Caribou Licenses in Labrador. Information to include, but shall not be limited to, all background information/rationale upon which the decision was made, along with copies of any and all correspondences and/or notices communicated to the Commercial Operators advising them of the reduction in licenses.”

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Deputy Minister of the Department of Environment and Conservation to grant access in part to the requested information. Portions of the attached documents have been severed as they are non-responsive or in accordance with the following exceptions to disclosure as specified in the Act:

29(1)(a): The head of a public body may refuse to disclose to an applicant information that would reveal advice, proposals, recommendations, analyses or policy options developed by or for a public body or minister.

40(1): The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant where the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party’s personal privacy.

As required by subsection 8(2) of the Act, we have severed information that is exempted from disclosure and have provided you with as much information as possible. In accordance with your request, the appropriate copies of records have been enclosed.

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  
Facsimile: (709) 729-6500

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) 729-7183 or by e-mail at courtneyblundon@gov.nl.ca

Sincerely,

COURTNEY BLUNDON  
Departmental ATIPP Coordinator
To: John Blake
From: Derek LeBourdon
Fax: 1-709-637-2699
Pages: 02

Date: 2009.01.07

Re: Commercial Caribou Harvest Licence 2009

Comments:

Attached is a request from Almgd Dr. [Last Name] in a 2009 CCHL.

I will forward harvest #5 for 2008 once I have compiled.

Derek
TO: Mr. Derek Leboubon for Mr. John Blake (Director)

I am requesting my 2009 allocation of 500 commercial harvest caribou licences to Drovers Labrador Outfitters Ltd.

Best Regards

[Name Redacted]

Alonzo Drover
FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

DATE: January 8, 2009

NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover): 5

TO: Derek LeBoubon, Dept. of Natural Resources

FAX NUMBER: 896-3747

FROM: John Blake, Director of Wildlife

COMMENTS:

RE: COMMERCIAL CARIBOU HARVESTING LICENCE 2009 – ALONZO DROVER

Original will be forwarded by mail.

WILDLIFE DIVISION
P. O. Box 2007, Corner Brook, NL, A2H 7S1, Telephone (709) 637-2007, Facsimile (709) 637-2033
COMMERCIAL CARIBOU HARVESTING LICENCE
2009 LICENCE NUMBER 2

Alonzo Drover
P. O. Box 121
Labrador City, NL A2V 2K3

1. Hunting must be conducted during Open Seasons and in Open Areas, as prescribed by the Minister of Environment and Conservation.

2. Section 47-51 of the Wild Life Regulations (Consolidated Newfoundland Regulation 1156/96) must be adhered to.

3. Hunting must be conducted in a manner to avoid interference with resident and non-resident hunters.

4. Hunting must be conducted at distances greater than 1 kilometre from any highway or access road. Also, there should be no harvest of caribou along the Trans-Labrador Highway, or the Esker and Schefferville Roads area of Western Labrador.

5. Harvesting must be conducted under the terms of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement, in the areas covered by this Agreement. Specifically, if hunting is to occur within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA) the Director of Renewable Resources, Nunatsiavut Government should be notified of the approximate location. A map of LISA is attached for reference. The holder of this Licence should follow any additional requirements for hunting in LISA that may be required by the Nunatsiavut Government.

6. (a) Names of persons harvesting or transporting caribou on this Licence must be submitted, in writing, to the Labrador Regional Office of the Department of Natural Resources, prior to hunting, for review, approval and registration.
(b) Best efforts must be made to maximize employment of Innu and Inuit hunters. Particularly any hunt that occurs within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA), beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement should be designated as hunters.

(c) Each person harvesting caribou on this Licence must have a copy of the Licence on his/her possession at all times while harvesting caribou. Also, designated hunters should be provided with the copies of enclosed map showing the boundaries of LISA.

(d) Hunting must be conducted in teams of not more than two (2) persons, and each team must conduct hunting activities at distances greater than one (1) kilometre apart.

(e) Harvest of caribou must not exceed 10 animals per registered hunter, per day.

7. Caribou which are harvested must be relocated to a holding area to be identified in consultation with regional staff of the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

8. Biological information on harvested animals must be collected and supplied to the biological staff, Department of Environment and Conservation, located in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, as per attached instructions and procedures outlined in Schedule "A".

9. Not more than 500 caribou may be harvested.

10. Tags will be released upon submission of official receipt of payment in the amount of $35.00 per 2 sets of tags, plus applicable HST.

11. Tags are required to be used with this Licence, and must be affixed to harvested caribou before the animals are removed from the site of kill. These tags are available from the Labrador Regional Office of the Department of Natural Resources.
12. Upon expiration of this Licence, a full report of the 2009 harvesting operations must be submitted to the Department of Environment and Conservation. This report must include details on the location of the harvest, number of animals harvested, animals struck, wounded and lost, and distribution of animals harvested by sex and approximate age, and information respecting extent of utilization of meat and skins and methods for disposal of remains. All unused tags must be returned to the Labrador Regional Compliance Manager, Department of Natural Resources, and requests for refunds must be submitted no later than 30 days of the expiration of this Licence, before any new Licence is issued.

13. The hunt must be conducted respectfully; animals must be fully utilized, and remains must be disposed of in a manner consistent with Innu and Inuit cultures and traditions. Parts of harvested animals which are not utilized for commercial or research and management purposes must be made available to Innu people, as requested by the Innu Nation and/or to Inuit people particularly in areas within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA).

14. Any additional harvesting modifications and restrictions required by regional officials of the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environment and Conservation, must be complied with.

15. Failure to comply with the Terms and Conditions of this Licence, as outlined above and contained in Schedule "A", may result in the cancellation of this Licence.

This Licence is issued under Section 46 of the Wild Life Regulations (Consolidated Newfoundland Regulations 1156/96).

This Licence expires on December 31, 2009.

DATE

JOHN BLAKE,
Director
Schedule "A"

Biological Sample Procedure and Instructions
as required under
Section 8 of the 2009 Commercial Caribou Licence

1. The collection of biological samples and data is a direct requirement of your Commercial Caribou Licence.

2. Prior to the commencement of hunting activities on this Licence, the Department of Natural Resources, Regional Compliance Manager, at the Happy Valley-Goose Bay office, must be provided advance start-up notice. This notice will allow opportunity for the approval of, and certification of, hunters for the collection of biological samples and requested data.

3. Only those hunters who have been approved and have demonstrated their understanding and ability to collect biological samples and data for the Department will be permitted to participate in the harvest of caribou under this Licence.

4. Pre-numbered sample and data collection materials will be supplied by the biological staff of the Wildlife Division at Goose Bay, Labrador. Samples and data collected shall be preserved and provided to the biologists at the earliest possible convenience.

5. Individual hunters that have been certified and approved by the Regional Compliance Manager, will be issued, in series, with valid Commercial Caribou Licence tags.

6. Hunters found to be in contradiction of the terms of this Licence and these agreements may be prohibited from further participation on this Licence.
46. (1) The minister may, upon application by a person, company or corporation, issue to that person, company or corporation a commercial caribou harvesting licence for the hunting, taking, processing, storing, shipping and selling of caribou and caribou by-products.

(2) A commercial caribou harvesting licence shall expire on December 31 in each year.

(3) Applications for commercial caribou harvesting licence renewal shall be reviewed annually, after evaluation of the health of the herd.

229/88 s12

47. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall maintain records of

(a) the number of caribou taken;

(b) the weight of the caribou meat;

(c) the name and address of the person, wholesale or retail business, purchasing caribou;

(d) the date of the sale of caribou meat to a person, wholesale or retail business; and

(e) the weight of caribou meat sold to a person, wholesale or retail business.

229/88 s12

48. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall produce the records when requested to do so by a wild life officer.

229/88 s12

49. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall affix and lock a tag between the tendon and the bone and around the bone of each quarter of caribou meat before it is shipped from the processing facility.

229/88 s12

50. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall package caribou meat sold in less than quarter lots in packages labelled or marked for future identification.

229/88 s12

51. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall not sell caribou meat to a wholesale or retail business that is not in possession of a wholesale caribou meat licence, a retail caribou meat licence or a wild meat service licence.

229/88 s12
January 13, 2009

Mr. John Blake  
Director of Wildlife  
Department of Environment and Conservation  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
St. John’s, NL  
A1B 4J6

RE: 2009 Commercial Caribou Hunt for Uncle Sam’s Butch Shop

Dear Mr. Blake,

Please consider this letter as a written request for the continuation of the commercial caribou hunt licenser for 2009.

This hunt and subsequent harvest has been a successful and viable business for Uncle Sam’s Butch Shop. In addition to offering employment opportunities it has been able to bring caribou products to the residents of Labrador and the Island portion of our Province.

Should further information concerning this harvest be required I would be happy to meet with your department's representatives. I can be reached at 709-896-3736 (w); [redacted]; or [redacted].

Ronny Bootcock  
Owner/Operator  
Uncle Sam’s Butcher Shop  
P. O. Box 989, Station B  
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL  
A0P 1E0
Wayne B. in light of our concern regarding the status of the GCH, I would like your view on the commercial licences being awarded for the 2009 season.

John, 

As per my email, here is Brad betto's request for a 2009 CCHL licence.

Derek
April 29, 2009

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Department of Natural Resources
c/o Mr. Derek LeBouwen
P.O. Box 3014, Stn B
Happy Valley Goose Bay, NL
A0P 1E0

Subject: Renewal of Commercial Caribou Harvesting License

Dear Mr. LeBouwen:

In 2008, the Northern Light Inn was granted a Commercial Caribou Harvesting License Number 3 in Labrador. It was a very successful harvest, which contributed greatly to customer demand within our region. In effect, we would like to hereby request that this License be renewed for the 2009 fall season.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at anytime. I look forward to hearing back from you in the near future. Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

[Signature]

Alka Leto, Manager
June 9, 2009

Director of Wildlife Division
Environment & Conservation
Mr. John Blake
P.O. Box 2007
Corner Brook, NL
A2H 7S1

Subject: Renewal of Commercial Caribou Harvesting License

Dear Mr. Blake:

In 2008, the Northern Light Inn was granted a Commercial Caribou Harvesting License Number 3, in Labrador. It was a very successful harvest, which contributed greatly to customer demands within our restaurant. In effect, we would like to hereby request that this License be renewed for the 2009 fall season.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at anytime. I look forward to hearing back from you in the near future. Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

Brad Letto, Manager
Blake, John

From: Blake, John
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2009 9:26 AM
To: 'Brad Letto'
Cc: Leboubon, Derek; Barney, Wayne
Subject: RE: CCHL 2008 return

Mr. Letto. I refer to your letter of April 29 to Mr. Leboubon concerning your request to renew the Commercial Caribou Harvesting Licence for 2009. Please be advised that we must defer issuing this licence until at least December pending the collection of additional information on the status and health of the George River Caribou Herd, an initiative involving manner partners including the Province of Quebec. I encourage you to please contact me in early December regarding an update.

Sincerely,

John Blake
Director
NL Wildlife Division

---

From: Leboubon, Derek
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2009 5:11 PM
To: 'Brad Letto'
Subject: CCHL 2008 return

There is no update, as I didn't hear back from you.

You are required to submit a Letter of Application to Mr. John Blake, Director of Wildlife Division, in Corner Brook.

Address:

Mr. John Blake
Director of Wildlife Division
Environment & Conservation
P.O. Box 2007
Corner Brook, NL
A2H 7S1

You can reference your 2008 numbers, if you like and ask for a CCH Licence for 2009 with an allowable harvest of 50 caribou.

Your Letter of Application will be reviewed by the Wildlife Division and you will be notified.

I will send out the necessary information to Central Cashiers Office for a refund for your unused 2008 CCHL Tags.

Derek

---

From: Brad Letto [mailto:]
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2009 4:17 PM
To: Leboubon, Derek
Subject: CCHL 2008 return
Hi Derek

I received your email requesting the 2008 CCHL return, sorry for the delay. The harvest started on Dec. 5, 2008 and ended on Dec. 15, 2008 in the Orma South area. 12 Caribou where harvest tag numbers 1001 to 1010 & 1019,1020. I send the unused tags in the mail addressed to you on June 9, 2009. is there any up date on the request for a new CCHL for 2009. If you have any questions or need more information about the harvest please contact me by e-mail or call 709-931-2332. I promise a faster response, thanks again for your time in this matter.

Brad Letto
Northern Light Inn
P.O. Box 92
Lanse Au Clair, NL
tel. 709-931-2332
fax. 709-931-2708

Windows Live helps you keep up with all your friends, in one place.
Blake, John

From: Blake, John  
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2009 2:42 PM  
To: Firth, Ross  
Subject: FW: CCHL 2009

f.y.

From: Blake, John  
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2009 2:42 PM  
To: 'Brad Letto'  
Cc: Barney, Wayne  
Subject: RE: CCHL 2009

Mr. Letto,

All applications will be treated the same. This December date may be adjustable depending on updated information and the movement of George River animals. This is in line with existing regulations (section 46(3) of CNLR 1156/86) that stipulate "applications for commercial caribou harvesting licence renewal shall be reviewed annually, after evaluation of the health of the herd".

All the best,

John

From: Brad Letto  
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2009 9:25 AM  
To: Blake, John  
Cc: Barney, Wayne  
Subject: RE: CCHL 2009

Mr. Blake

Thank you for the up date on the 2009 Commercial Caribou Harvesting Licence. Do you mean all 2009 CCHL have been defer issuing until December or just the one I am requesting?

Brad Letto
Northern Light Inn
P.O. Box 92
Lanse Au Clair, NL
tel. 709-931-2332
fax. 709-931-2708

Subject: RE: CCHL 2008 return  
Date: Thu, 11 Jun 2009 09:26:18 -0230  
From: johnblake@gov.nl.ca  
To: derekleboubon@gov.nl.ca; waynebarney@gov.nl.ca
Mr. Letto. I refer to your letter of April 29 to Mr. Leboubon concerning your request to renew the Commercial Caribou Harvesting Licence for 2009. Please be advised that we must defer issuing this licence until at least December pending the collection of additional information on the status and health of the George River Caribou Herd, an initiative involving manner partners including the Province of Quebec. I encourage you to please contact me in early December regarding an update.

Sincerely,

John Blake
Director
NL Wildlife Division

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Mr. John Blake
Director of Wildlife Division
Environment & Conservation
P.O. Box 2007
Corner Brook, NL
A2H 7S1

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Your Letter of Application will be reviewed by the Wildlife Division and you will be notified.

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Derek

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Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2009 4:17 PM
To: Leboubon, Derek
Subject: CCHL 2008 return

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I send the unused tags in the mail addressed to you on June 9, 2009. is there any up date on the request for a new CCHL for 2009.
If you have any questions or need more information about the harvest please contact me by e-mail or call 709-931-2332. I promise a faster response, thanks again for your time in this matter.

6/15/2009
Blake, John

From: Blake, John
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2009 2:52 PM
To: Barney, Wayne
Cc: Chubbs, Tony; Dyke, Casidhe
Subject: RE: Commercial Caribou Licences
Attachments: FW: Comercial Hunting

Thanks Wayne. I understand your position. The issue may be played out in a non biological context however, and ultimately I want to have the Minister make this decision, and not me (given it is the Minister who has the legal authority to issue the licences)... and so while I tend to agree with you I will still require some level of a briefing note with options and a "preferred" option. Its her call then.

On a related matter I've attached an email received today which will require a response. Please ask Casidhe to prepare one for my review.

John

From: Barney, Wayne
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2009 2:39 PM
To: Blake, John
Cc: Chubbs, Tony; Dyke, Casidhe
Subject: RE: Commercial Caribou Licences

[Redacted]

my thoughts and they apply equally well to other aspects of GRC licensing regimes and are not restricted to commercial operators.

My suggestion is the approach taken in the game plans which is to identify to the minister that we do have significant concerns, we are planning a census and maintaining the classifications and until we are in a position to propose alternate management strategies we implement the status quo. We can do our part to lessen these impacts by deciding when and if we will post location data but for the most part this will be self regulating as it relates to total harvest unless the herd decides to winter in an area that increases their vulnerability.

From: Blake, John
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2009 2:01 PM
To: Chubbs, Tony; Barney, Wayne; Leboubon, Derek J
Cc: Firth, Ross
Subject: Commercial Caribou Licences

Tony. As you may know we've not issued any 2010 commercial caribou licences as of yet. The attached emails to Mr. Letto refer. Existing licences expire December 31st. Your opinions are requested regarding commercial harvesting for 2010. Your assessment should be informed by your recent work with Quebec and the results of the fall classifications. I also refer you to section 46(3) of the Wild Life Regulations - http://assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/regulations/rc961156.htm#46
Please consult with Wayne and Derek to inform your assessment. Any recommendation should be accompanied by the appropriate rationale. Any decision relating to 2010 commercial caribou harvesting will ultimately be the Ministers, and the options will be required to be laid out in this year’s game management plan.

John
Hi John,

Through field observations, aerial surveys, collar relocations and the 2009 fall classification work I can offer the following observations and recommendations. We have to take note though, that during winter, the GRCH animals tend to segregate with mature males being distributed further south and separate from females with calves and that collars may not be equitably distributed throughout wintering groups. Also, rough estimates during aerial collaring and ground classification work are very subjective and site specific.

1. Since the winter of 2006 or earlier there has apparently been smaller than expected group sizes of wintering GRCH animals observed in Labrador. There also appears to be a higher concentration of satellite collars in these smaller groups. I observed two concentrations of GRCH animals in the Goose River area (Closed to hunting) in April 2006 which contained 10-12 Satellite Collared GR animals mixed with Red Wine collared caribou. I recall estimating the two groups to contain some 2,000 and 3,000 caribou each. At this time in 2006, these 2 groups contained approximately 20% of the collared sample of some 50 Satellite collars on the GRCH.

2. In the 2008-09 hunting season, caribou groups were again small and the hunt difficult due to the lack of large numbers of GRCH. In Labrador, hunters were responsible for killing 7 satellite collars of which 2 were female and 5 were male. Of 28 male caribou collared by Quebec since 2008, 5 of 28 males or 18% of the collared population was killed by Labrador hunters. Hunters of at least 3 harvested collared caribou, targeted the group based on website publicized satellite location maps. This is a high kill rate of males and supports the more southern distribution and segregation of males from females.

3. During their March 2009 Collaring effort, Quebec Biologists were surprised at the high concentration of existing satellite collars dispersed in relatively small groups of caribou. Vincent Brodeur estimated that they may have seen as few as 80,000 caribou in the major wintering area for the GRCH in 2009, North of Smallwood Reservoir and North of Shipikan and Harp Lakes.

4. During the November Fall 2009 GRCH classification with Vincent Brodeur, I would estimate that in visiting 10 of the major concentrations of satellite collared caribou, we observed some 50,000 caribou. The largest group seen perhaps comprised 5,000 animals. Of the some 2,000 animals classified, I only observed half a dozen males that would be considered to be prime mature breeding males (trophy males). This appears to be low for the population. These are my observations, as the data for the classification has not been compiled yet.

5. Commercial Harvesters tend to target adult male caribou as they can obtain the most meat per animal and thus it may be more profitable.

6. From my observations, the commercial harvest has declined over the last couple of years because of the low
numbers of caribou, more remote access and lower likelihood of harvest success.

7. The GRCH declined by nearly 50% from 1993 to 2001 and likely declined further thereafter.

If we can examine the number of caribou licences allocated over the past 5 years or so (500 for Drover, 500 Battcock, 60 Letto = 1050 Total) and compare that with the number of licences that were actually used, this would give us an idea of the actual harvest pressure, Derek would have these correct figures. harvested. This would exercise some management control without causing undue distress to commercial harvesters. We must use what data we have available on which to base our decisions. Although the biological considerations of the impact of commercial harvest may seem minimal, in the most favourable circumstances, their impact could be major if a large group of GRC winters in an easily accessible area. The reception from the general public and other hunters to the allocations of a thousand commercial licences to 3 operators will be difficult to justify biologically, socially and of course politically.

I think that the harvest of the GRCH will largely be determined by the density-dependent nature of the population. As the herd stabilizes or reaches its lower number (it may have already reached this number), it will again constrict its range and become more inaccessible to hunters, lowering harvest rates. This we have already observed in the past number of years. It is only when a larger group winters in an area that is accessible, will there be a threat to further depress the population through over harvest. The remoteness of the wintering area occupied by the GRCH from January through April will largely determine which, if any management strategies will be effective.

Tony

Tony Chubbs
Senior Wildlife Biologist (Labrador)
Wildlife Division
298 Centralia Road
P.O. Box 3014, Station B
Happy Valley-Goose Bay
Labrador, NL A0P 1E0
Ph: (709) 896-0145
Fax: (709) 896-0188
E-mail: tonychubbs@gov.nl.ca

From: Blake, John  
Sent: Tue 11/10/2009 2:01 PM  
To: Chubbs, Tony; Barney, Wayne; Leboubon, Derek J  
Cc: Firth, Ross  
Subject: Commercial Caribou Licences  

Tony. As you may know we've not issued any 2010 commercial caribou licences as of yet. The attached emails to Mr. Letto refer. Existing licences expire December 31st. Your opinions are requested regarding commercial harvesting for 2010. Your assessment should be informed by your recent work with Quebec and the results of the fall classifications. I also refer you to section 46(3) of the Wild Life Regulations - http://assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/regulations/rc561196.html#46

11/12/2009
Please consult with Wayne and Derek to inform your assessment. Any recommendation should be accompanied by the appropriate rationale. Any decision relating to 2010 commercial caribou harvesting will ultimately be the Ministers, and the options will be required to be laid out in this year's game management plan.

John
Blake, John

From: Blake, John  
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2009 5:24 AM  
To: Leboubon, Derek J  
Cc: Chubbs, Tony  
Subject: Re: CCHL

Refer to the email of yesterday (201 pm) which I cc'ed you asking Tony to prepare a position and consult with you and Wayne. I need to brief our minister on the health of the herd before she decides on the issuance of CCH licences. Your input is welcome.

John

Sent Via BlackBerry

----- Original Message ------
From: Leboubon, Derek J  
To: Blake, John  
Sent: Tue Nov 10 23:21:32 2009  
Subject: RE: CCHL

Will there be an opportunity for input?

----- Original Message ------
From: Blake, John  
Sent: Tue 11/10/2009 8:11 PM  
To: Leboubon, Derek J  
Subject: Re: CCHL

Still under review.

Sent Via BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----  
From: Leboubon, Derek J  
To: Blake, John  
Sent: Tue Nov 10 19:16:36 2009  
Subject: FW: CCHL

Hi John

Has there been any movement on the Northern Light Inn CCH License for this year?

Derek

----- Original Message -----  
From: Brad Letto [mailto: ]  
Sent: Tue 11/10/2009 1:54 PM  
To: Leboubon, Derek J  
Subject: CCHL

Hi Derek

Just wondering about our renewal for a commercial caribou harvesting licence, have there been any updates?
Brad Letto
Northern Light Inn
709-931-2332

Windows Live: Keep your friends up to date with what you do online.
http://go.microsoft.com/?linkid=9691815
Dear Mr Blake,

Please find attached a letter outlining a request for a commercial caribou harvesting license (number 3), as discussed through previous emails.

I have not heard back regarding the status of issuing licenses for this season, and so I am forwarding the attached letter in anticipation of the time when these licenses become available.

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

Kindest regards,

Brad Letto
Northern Light Inn

---

Get a great deal on Windows 7 and see how it works the way you want. Check out the offers on Windows 7now.
November 24, 2009

Mr John Blake  
Director of Wildlife Division  
Environment and Conservation  
PO Box 2007  
Corner Brook, NL  
A2H 7S1

Subject: Renewal of Commercial Caribou Harvesting License

Dear Mr Blake:

In 2008, the Northern Light Inn was granted a Commercial Caribou Harvesting License Number 3, in Labrador, for 50 caribou. It was a very successful harvest, which contributed greatly to customer demands within our restaurant. Earlier this year, I had made a request for a 2009 license, at which time a response was deferred to this fall. To date, I haven’t heard back regarding the status of issuing licenses for this season. In effect, I would like to hereby request a renewal of the commercial license for our establishment (number 3), in preparation for next summer’s tourism season.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at anytime. I look forward to hearing back from you in the near future. Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

Kindest regards,

Brad Letto, manager
Blake, John

From: Firth, Ross
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2009 4:23 PM
To: Saunders, Yetta
Cc: Blake, John
Subject: George River Caribou - Commercial Harvest
Attachments: commercial caribou harvesting options Dec 1, 2009.doc

Cathy

Would you please print the attachment for Bill's consideration and discussion.

Ross

Ross Firth
Assistant Deputy Minister - Natural Heritage

Department of Environment and Conservation
P.O. Box 2007
117 Riverside Drive
Corner Brook, NL
A2H 7S1

Ph. (709) 637-2199
Fax (709) 637-2180

12/7/2009
Title: Commercial caribou harvesting licences

Decision/Direction Required:

Whether changes should be made to the commercial caribou harvest, prior to a survey planned for July, 2010, in order to mitigate a potential further decline of the George River Caribou herd.

Background and Current Status:

- The George River Caribou Herd (GRCH) increased significantly from an estimated size of 5,000 in the mid 1950's to 775,000 by 1993.
- Since then the population has declined to an estimated 385,000 animals in 2001. This was the last time a census was completed.
- In October 2009, fall classifications and body condition indices completed by joint Wildlife Division / Quebec Ministry of Natural Resources and Fauna (MNRF) staff suggest a continuing decline in the GRCH population. The classification was one of the largest ever conducted on that herd and is representative of the entire population.
- Results indicate concern over the large male cohort, with just over 4% of the population being classed as large stags. Commercial harvesters tend to target adult male caribou as they can obtain the most meat per animal.
- Management strategies pursuant to caribou harvest for the GRCH have remained very liberal in comparison to other northern migratory caribou management plans as well as those of insular Newfoundland. This includes over the counter license sales, transfer of licenses, multiple animals per license and commercial harvesting licenses.
- In addition, aboriginal interest by the Quebec and Labrador Innu, Inuit and Métis communities collectively contribute to the overall harvesting effort exerted on the herd in both Québec and Labrador.
- There are also inter-provincial complications as similar harvesting strategies and aboriginal interests exist within the province of Quebec.
- Specific harvest data is unavailable and, as a result, determining the effect of hunting is problematic. Aboriginal groups have not imposed limits on their membership nor have they implemented harvest monitoring and reporting strategies. Quebec has similar problems in defining harvest levels.
- A consultation plan is being drafted by the Wildlife Division to engage local stakeholders and governing bodies in discussions regarding the development of a new management plan and harvest strategy for this herd. The draft document has been distributed to LAA, IGA, NR, and discussed with LAA and IGA.
- The Government of Quebec has commenced their consultation planning process for future management of the herd and a stakeholder engagement workshop has been organized for January 2010, that includes the Newfoundland and Labrador Wildlife Division. The Division plans to present its current management strategy during these consultations, as well as its approach to management planning.
• The current priority of harvest for the provincial allocation of licences is as follows:
  Priority 1) Aboriginal basic need requirements
  Priority 2) Resident harvest
  Priority 3) Outfitter harvest via non-resident activities
  Priority 4) Commercial harvesting

• A population survey for the herd is planned for July, 2010. Significant preparatory effort has been completed, including the purchase and deployment of fuel caches for the census, deployment of satellite collars and collection of data from the October, 2009 classification.

• The survey will be conducted cooperatively by the provinces of Quebec (lead agency) and Newfoundland and Labrador in partnership with the Torngat Mountains Plants and Animal Co-Management Board, Nunatsiavut Government and the Institute for Environmental Monitoring and Research.

• Results of the survey should be known by fall of 2010. The results of the census will inform the province if the GRCH herd has increased or decreased since 2001 and by how much. The population estimate along with fall productivity and adult survival rates will tell us how much of the herd we could harvest without causing it to decline.

• Options to reduce the harvest of caribou must be considered for all areas of harvest in the coming months. These may include the reduction in allowable take, removal of the licence transfer system, closing outfitting for caribou, reducing bag limits, shortening seasons and, in an extreme case, closure of all hunting. These options will be explored but not considered until the result of the survey is available. However, given current commercial licences expire December 31, 2009 focus could initially be made on the commercial caribou hunt.

Commercial Licences
• Section 46 of the Wild Life Regulations states;
  o The minister may, upon application by a person, company or corporation, issue to that person, company or corporation a commercial caribou harvesting licence for the hunting, taking, processing, storing, shipping and selling of caribou and caribou by-products. All commercial caribou harvesting licence shall expire on December 31 in each year, and applications for commercial caribou harvesting licence renewal shall be reviewed annually, after evaluation of the health of the herd.

• There are currently three commercial caribou harvesting licences issued. Each commercial operator must purchase licences similar to resident, and each licence entitles the harvest of two caribou. Alonzo Drover and Uncle Sam’s Butcher Shop are both licenced to harvest up to 500 caribou (250 licences) each, and Northern Light Inn is licenced to harvest up to 50 caribou (25 licences). The meat is sold commercially from local outlets. It is unknown at this point if meat is exported or how many people this commercial activity employs.

• Actual harvest under these licences in 2008 was substantially less than allotted. Herd accessibility in recent years has been difficult due to the location of the herd, and this has made the harvest economically less feasible than previous years. In 2008, a total of 198 caribou were harvested under all three commercial licences. Harvest return information from years previous is incomplete.
Management Options:

Option 1 (preferred): Reduction of commercial caribou harvest allocations by 60% to 100 licences (200 caribou) respectively for Alonzo Drover and Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop and 10 licences (20 caribou) for Northern Lights Inn.

Pros
- This would exercise some management control without causing undue distress to commercial harvesters. This is a total of 420 caribou. This represents a 60% decrease from current allocation. 60% is the figure often cited when expressing the decline in circumpolar caribou populations. It would also be recommended that the option to cancel the hunt at any time during the 2010 season be stipulated.
- This option would acknowledge available data that suggests a precipitous decline while allowing time to engage in a consultative process with stakeholders regarding other management options for implementation in the 2010/11 hunt. Although the biological considerations of the impact of commercial harvest may seem minimal, in the most favorable circumstances, their impact could be major if a large group of GRC winters in an easily accessible area.
- The reception from the general public and other hunters to the allocation of 1050 caribou to 3 commercial interests will be difficult to justify biologically, socially and politically.

Cons
- Three commercial operators will be economically impacted.

Option 2:
- Although evidence supports a population decline below 385,000 animals, the scale of the decline will not be known until the population count is completed in 2010. Until the consultation process has been implemented and sufficient
Required Action:

- A decision on management action related to commercial caribou harvesting licences should be taken prior to the July, 2010 population survey of the George River Caribou Herd. The Director of Wildlife has delegated authority to issue harvesting licences on behalf of the Minister. Direction is required to confirm a preferred option.
- This issue has been discussed with LAA, DNR and one commercial licence holder.

Drafted By: John Blake/Tony Chubbs
Reviewed By: Ross Firth
Ministerial Approval:

December 1, 2009
Blake, John

From: Blake, John
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2009 10:17 AM
To: Dyke, Casidhe; Callahan, Chris
Cc: Doucet, Christine
Attachments: George River Caribou - Commercial Harvest

Please include within the Game Plan under administration the issue "Commercial Caribou Harvesting Licences". The attached BN can be inserted. The meeting with the Minister is scheduled for next Friday. I will have comments to you by Monday on the draft from this week. Tks.
Blake, John

From: Blake, John
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2009 11:09 AM
To: Firth, Ross
Subject: RE: Commercial Caribou Harvest BN

Yes, Ron Bowles the ADM in Goose.

---

From: Firth, Ross
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2009 10:58 AM
To: Blake, John
Subject: Commercial Caribou Harvest BN

John

Have we spoken with anyone at LAA regarding our recommendations contained within the commercial caribou harvest license BN?

Ross

---

Ross Firth
Assistant Deputy Minister - Natural Heritage

Department of Environment and Conservation
P.O. Box 2007
117 Riverside Drive
Corner Brook, NL
A2H 7S1

Ph. (709) 637-2199
Fax (709) 637-2180
Thank you Minister. I'll get a note together on the season extension by tomorrow.

John

-----Original Message-----
From: Johnson, Charlene
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2009 3:41 PM
To: Blake, John; Parrott, William
Subject: Hi John, I approve #7 60 percent decrease in commercial cariboe licenses and...[redacted]

Department of Environment and Conservation Government of Newfoundland and Labrador P.O.Box 6700 St.John's, NL Canada A1B 4J6

Sent Via BlackBerry

Done - Newt
Dec 23/09.
The following summarizes the proposed recommendations outlined in the 2010/11 Game Management Plan. Issues not referenced as changes are considered status quo and are understood to be approved for implementation.

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. A return of the season dates for all southern caribou management zones in Labrador back to a TBD management strategy. Verbally approved Dec 18, 2009.

7. A 60% decrease to the current allocation of commercial caribou licences in Labrador. TBD - Minister requested time to consider.

8. 

9. 

10. 

11. 

12. 

13. 

14. 

15. 

16. 

17. 
Blake, John

From: Blake, John
Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2010 12:11 PM
To: Firth, Ross
Subject: Fw: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Can I assume we have approval for a 60 percent reduction as verbally approved by the Minister?

Sent Via BlackBerry

From: Brad Letto [mailto:bradletto@nl.gov.ca]
To: Blake, John
Sent: Thu Jan 07 11:56:06 2010
Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Hi Mr. Blake

Happy New Year, have there been any decision on the Commercial Caribou Licences?

Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License
Date: Fri, 4 Dec 2009 10:08:57 -0330
From: johnblake@gov.nl.ca
To: [Redacted]
CC: derekleboubon@gov.nl.ca; waynebarney@gov.nl.ca

Hi Brad. Sorry for the delay in responding. The issue of Commercial Caribou Licences remains under review. I hope to have it resolved in the next couple of weeks. Please check back prior to Christmas. Thanks.

John

From: Brad Letto
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 12:13 PM
To: Blake, John
Cc: Leboubon, Derek J; Barney, Wayne
Subject: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Dear Mr Blake,

Please find attached a letter outlining a request for a commercial caribou harvesting license (number 3), as discussed through previous emails.

I have not heard back regarding the status of issuing licenses for this season, and so I am forwarding the attached letter in anticipation of the time when these licenses become available.

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

Kindest regards,
Brad Letto
Northern Light Inn

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From: Brad Letto [mailto:bradletto@gov.nl.ca]
Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2010 11:56 AM
To: Blake, John
Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Hi Mr. Blake

Happy New Year, have there been any decision on the Commercial Caribou Licences?

Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License
Date: Fri, 4 Dec 2009 10:08:57 -0330
From: johnblake@gov.nl.ca
To: 
CC: derekleboubon@gov.nl.ca; waynebarney@gov.nl.ca

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John

From: Brad Letto [mailto:bradletto@gov.nl.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 12:23 PM
To: Blake, John
Cc: Leboubon, Derek J; Barney, Wayne
Subject: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Dear Mr Blake,

Please find attached a letter outlining a request for a commercial caribou harvesting license (number 3), as discussed through previous emails.

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Kindest regards,
Brad Letto
Northern Light Inn

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Blake, John

From: Chubbs, Tony
Sent: Sunday, January 10, 2010 9:22 PM
To: Blake, John
Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Will do.

Tony

Tony Chubbs
Senior Wildlife Biologist (Labrador)
Wildlife Division
298 Centralia Road
P.O. Box 3014, Station B
Happy Valley-Goose Bay
Labrador, NL A0P 1E0
Ph: (709) 896-0145
Fax: (709) 896-0188
E-mail: tonychubbs@gov.nl.ca

From: Blake, John
Sent: Sun 1/10/2010 3:14 PM
To: Chubbs, Tony
Cc: Barney, Wayne
Subject: FW: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Could you please contact the remaining two commercial licence holders and advise accordingly. Their plan to proceed should also be requested.

John

From: Blake, John
Sent: Sunday, January 10, 2010 3:12 PM
To: 'Brad Letto'
Cc: Leboubon, Derek J; Chubbs, Tony
Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Hi Brad. You also. My apologies for not getting back to you sooner. Yes, the Minister has decided on the CCH Licences for 2010. The licences will continue to be issued only to those who held them in the past, but with a 60% reduction for 2010 over previous allocations. While I am out of town and don’t have ready access to your file I believe your previous allocation was 50 licences. Applying this reduction we can issue your 2010 Commercial Licence to permit you 20 licences (40 caribou). Please let me know if you wish us to prepare this licence. Thank you for your patience.

John Blake

1/11/2010
Blake, John

From: Brad Letto
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2010 10:33 PM
To: Blake, John
Cc: Leboubon, Derek J; Chubbs, Tony
Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Good day Mr Blake,

Thank you for your response. I would very much appreciate if the licences could be processed. Please let me know if there is any further information you need in order to do so.

Thanks again for your time and assistance with this. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Kindest regards,
Brad

Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License
Date: Sun, 10 Jan 2010 15:12:17 -0330
From: johnblake@gov.nl.ca
To: derekleboubon@gov.nl.ca; TonyChubbs@gov.nl.ca
CC: derekleboubon@gov.nl.ca; TonyChubbs@gov.nl.ca

Hi Brad. You also. My apologies for not getting back to you sooner. Yes, the Minister has decided on the CCH Licences for 2010. The licences will continue to be issued only to those who held them in the past, but with a 60% reduction for 2010 over previous allocations. While I am out of town and don't have ready access to your file I believe your previous allocation was 50 licences. Applying this reduction we can issue your 2010 Commercial Licence to permit you 20 licences (40 caribou). Please let me know if you wish us to prepare this licence. Thank you for your patience.

John Blake

From: Brad Letto [mailto:]
Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2010 11:56 AM
To: Blake, John
Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Hi Mr. Blake

Happy New Year, have there been any decision on the Commercial Caribou Licences?
Hi Brad. Sorry for the delay in responding. The issue of Commercial Caribou Licences remains under review. I hope to have it resolved in the next couple of weeks. Please check back prior to Christmas. Thanks.

John

From: Brad Letto [mailto:blad@northernlightinn.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 12:23 PM
To: Blake, John
Cc: Leboubon, Derek; Barney, Wayne
Subject: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Dear Mr Blake,

Please find attached a letter outlining a request for a commercial caribou harvesting license (number 3), as discussed through previous emails.

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Brad Letto
Northern Light Inn

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Kennedy, Barb

From: Blake, John
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 2:07 PM
To: Kennedy, Barb
Subject: FW: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Please prepare the licence...please note the amended numbers.

From: Brad Letto [mailto:s.40.1]
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2010 10:33 PM
To: Blake, John
Cc: Leboubon, Derek ; Chubbs, Tony
Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License

Good day Mr Blake,

Thank you for your response. I would very much appreciate if the licences could be processed. Please let me know if there is any further information you need in order to do so.

Thanks again for your time and assistance with this. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Kindest regards,
Brad

Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License
Date: Sun, 10 Jan 2010 15:12:17 -0330
From: johnblake@gov.nl.ca
To: s.40.1
Cc: derekleboubon@gov.nl.ca; TonyChubbs@gov.nl.ca

Hi Brad. You also. My apologies for not getting back to you sooner. Yes, the Minister has decided on the CCH Licences for 2010. The licences will continue to be issued only to those who held them in the past, but with a 60% reduction for 2010 over previous allocations. While I am out of town and don't have ready access to your file I believe your previous allocation was 50 licences. Applying this reduction we can issue your 2010 Commercial Licence to permit you 20 licences (40 caribou). Please let me know if you wish us to prepare this licence. Thank you for your patience.

John Blake

From: Brad Letto [mailto:s.40.1]
Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2010 11:56 AM
To: Blake, John
Subject: RE: Request for Commercial Caribou License

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John

From: Brad Letto [mailto:brad.letto@gov.nl.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 12:23 PM
To: Blake, John
Cc: Leboubon, Derek J; Barney, Wayne
Subject: Request for Commercial Caribou License

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Kindest regards,
Brad Letto
Northern Light Inn

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From: Chubbs, Tony  
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2010 2:07 PM  
To: Blake, John  
Subject: RE: CCH

That's 200 licences each. So:

Total CCH quota for 2010:
- Baitcook 200 licences, 400 animals
- Drover 200 licences, 400 animals
- Letto 20 licences, 40 animals
Total 420 licences, 840 animals, a 60% reduction from 1050

Correct?

Tony Chubbs  
Senior Wildlife Biologist (Labrador)  
Wildlife Division  
298 Centralia Road  
P.O. Box 3014, Station B  
Happy Valley-Goose Bay  
Labrador, NL A0P 1E0  
Ph: (709) 896-0145  
Fax: (709) 896-0188  
E-mail: tonychubbs@gov.nl.ca

---

From: Blake, John  
Sent: Fri 1/15/2010 12:58 PM  
To: Chubbs, Tony  
Subject: Re: CCH

We need to discuss ur math

Sent Via BlackBerry

---

From: Chubbs, Tony  
To: Blake, John; Barney, Wayne  
Sent: Fri Jan 15 12:46:35 2010  
Subject: CCH

John, I've called both Randy and Alonzo and informed them of the 60% cut in Commercial Licences, leaving them with 200 licences (400 caribou) for this calendar year.

Randy indicated that he killed about 100 at Sabby Lake around Christmas time and slung them to L6 with Helicopter. He used Helicopter to get himself and his hunters in as well. He said he had about 40 caribou before that so a kill of 140 for last fall. He does not like the cut, but will have to live with it. He indicated that he has talked to Peter Penashue to form some sort of partnership to get a allocation that way. Perhaps he sees this as a way to potentially use Innu to get his quota in the closed zone. Who knows, but watch for this.

Alonzo said that he never used any commercial licences last year and only hunted on personal licences. He doesn't plan on getting any allocation this year as there are no caribou in the area and each year he's seeing
fewer and fewer. [REDACTED] so probably doesn't have the time as well. So, he's not to upset about it. Probably getting too costly to hunt the caribou and thus no profit.

Tony

Tony Chubbs  
Senior Wildlife Biologist (Labrador)  
Wildlife Division  
298 Centralia Road  
P.O. Box 3014, Station B  
Happy Valley-Goose Bay  
Labrador, NL A0P 1E0  
Ph: (709) 896-0145  
Fax: (709) 896-0188  
E-mail: tonychubbs@gov.nl.ca
COMMERCIAL CARIBOU HARVEST
2010 LICENCE NUMBER

Northern Light Inn
P. O. Box 92
L'Anse au Clair, NL A0K 3K0

1. Hunting must be conducted during Open Seasons and in Open Areas, as prescribed by the Minister of Environment and Conservation.

2. Section 47-51 of the Wild Life Regulations (Consolidated Newfoundland Regulation 1156/96) must be adhered to.

3. Hunting must be conducted in a manner to avoid interference with resident and non-resident hunters.

4. Hunting must be conducted at distances greater than 1 kilometre from any highway or access road. Also, there should be no harvest of caribou along the Trans-Labrador Highway, or the Esker and Schefferville Roads area of Western Labrador.

5. Harvesting must be conducted under the terms of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement, in the areas covered by this Agreement. Specifically, if hunting is to occur within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA) the Director of Renewable Resources, Nunatsiavut Government should be notified of the approximate location. A map of LISA is attached for reference. The holder of this Licence should follow any additional requirements for hunting in LISA that may be required by the Nunatsiavut Government.

6. (a) Names of persons harvesting or transporting caribou on this Licence must be submitted, in writing, to the Labrador Regional Office of the Department of Natural Resources, prior to hunting, for review, approval and registration.
(b) Best efforts must be made to maximize employment of Innu and Inuit hunters. Particularly any hunt that occurs within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA), beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement should be designated as hunters.

(c) Each person harvesting caribou on this Licence must have a copy of the Licence on his/her possession at all times while harvesting caribou. Also, designated hunters should be provided with the copies of enclosed map showing the boundaries of LISA.

(d) Hunting must be conducted in teams of not more than two (2) persons, and each team must conduct hunting activities at distances greater than one (1) kilometre apart.

(e) Harvest of caribou must not exceed 10 animals per registered hunter, per day.

7. Caribou which are harvested must be relocated to a holding area to be identified in consultation with regional staff of the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

8. Biological information on harvested animals must be collected and supplied to the biological staff, Department of Environment and Conservation, located in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, as per attached instructions and procedures outlined in Schedule "A".

9. Not more than 20 caribou may be harvested.

10. Tags will be released upon submission of official receipt of payment in the amount of $35.00 per 2 sets of tags, plus applicable HST.

11. Tags are required to be used with this Licence, and must be affixed to harvested caribou before the animals are removed from the site of kill. These tags are available from the Labrador Regional Office of the Department of Natural Resources.
12. Upon expiration of this Licence, a full report of the 2010 harvesting operations must be submitted to the Department of Environment and Conservation. This report must include details on the location of the harvest, number of animals harvested, animals struck, wounded and lost, and distribution of animals harvested by sex and approximate age, and information respecting extent of utilization of meat and skins and methods for disposal of remains. All unused tags must be returned to the Labrador Regional Compliance Manager, Department of Natural Resources, and requests for refunds must be submitted no later than 30 days of the expiration of this Licence, before any new Licence is issued.

13. The hunt must be conducted respectfully; animals must be fully utilized, and remains must be disposed of in a manner consistent with Innu and Inuit cultures and traditions. Parts of harvested animals which are not utilized for commercial or research and management purposes must be made available to Innu people, as requested by the Innu Nation and/or to Inuit people particularly in areas within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA).

14. Any additional harvesting modifications and restrictions required by regional officials of the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environment and Conservation, must be complied with.

15. Failure to comply with the Terms and Conditions of this Licence, as outlined above and contained in Schedule "A", may result in the cancellation of this Licence.

This Licence is issued under Section 46 of the Wild Life Regulations (Consolidated Newfoundland Regulations 1156/96).

This Licence expires on December 31, 2010.

[Signature]

DATE

[Signature]

JOHN BLAKE,
Director

Wildlife Division
P.O. Box 2007, Corner Brook, Newfoundland, Canada, A2H 7S1. Telephone (709) 637-2007, Facsimile (709) 637-2033
Schedule "A"

Biological Sample Procedure and Instructions
as required under
Section 8 of the 2010 Commercial Caribou Licence

1. The collection of biological samples and data is a direct requirement of your Commercial Caribou Licence.

2. Prior to the commencement of hunting activities on this Licence, the Department of Natural Resources, Regional Compliance Manager, at the Happy Valley-Goose Bay office, must be provided advance start-up notice. This notice will allow opportunity for the approval of, and certification of, hunters for the collection of biological samples and requested data.

3. Only those hunters who have been approved and have demonstrated their understanding and ability to collect biological samples and data for the Department will be permitted to participate in the harvest of caribou under this Licence.

4. Pre-numbered sample and data collection materials will be supplied by the biological staff of the Wildlife Division at Goose Bay, Labrador. Samples and data collected shall be preserved and provided to the biologists at the earliest possible convenience.

5. Individual hunters that have been certified and approved by the Regional Compliance Manager, will be issued, in series, with valid Commercial Caribou Licence tags.

6. Hunters found to be in contradiction of the terms of this Licence and these agreements may be prohibited from further participation on this Licence.
46. (1) The minister may, upon application by a person, company or corporation, issue to that person, company or corporation a commercial caribou harvesting licence for the hunting, taking, processing, storing, shipping and selling of caribou and caribou by-products.

(2) A commercial caribou harvesting licence shall expire on December 31 in each year.

(3) Applications for commercial caribou harvesting licence renewal shall be reviewed annually, after evaluation of the health of the herd.

47. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall maintain records of

(a) the number of caribou taken;

(b) the weight of the caribou meat;

(c) the name and address of the person, wholesale or retail business, purchasing caribou;

(d) the date of the sale of caribou meat to a person, wholesale or retail business; and

(e) the weight of caribou meat sold to a person, wholesale or retail business.

48. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall produce the records when requested to do so by a wildlife officer.

49. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall affix and lock a tag between the tendon and the bone and around the bone of each quarter of caribou meat before it is shipped from the processing facility.

50. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall package caribou meat sold in less than quarter lots in packages labelled or marked for future identification.

51. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall not sell caribou meat to a wholesale or retail business that is not in possession of a wholesale caribou meat licence, a retail caribou meat licence or a wild meat service licence.
From: Blake, John  
Sent: Monday, January 18, 2010 8:53 AM  
To: Kennedy, Barb  
Subject: FW: CCH

---

From: Leboubon, Derek J  
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2010 5:48 PM  
To: Blake, John; Chubbs, Tony  
Subject: RE: CCH

John,

**2009 - For each of the Harvesters:**

Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop (Randy Battcock) – 1 CCH License (500 caribou per year)  
Alonzo Drover – 1 CCH License (500 caribou per year)  
Northern Light Inn (Brad Letto) – 1 License (50 caribou per year)

Tags are purchased for the same cost as a Labrador Resident Caribou License - $ 35.00 + HST (13%) / lot of 2 sets of tags

**2010 – For each of the Harvesters:**

Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop (Randy Battcock) – 1 CCH License (200 caribou per year)  
Alonzo Drover – 1 CCH License (200 caribou per year)  
Northern Light Inn (Brad Letto) – 1 License (20 caribou per year)

Tags will be purchased for the same cost as a Labrador Resident Caribou License - $ 35.00 + HST (13%) / lot of 2 sets of tags

The Lot system was put in place by me because it was easier to explain to Central Cash for the payments from Harvesters.

Any other questions just give me a call.

Derek

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From: Blake, John  
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2010 1:46 PM  
To: Chubbs, Tony  
Cc: Leboubon, Derek J  
Subject: RE: CCH

For last year the licence allowed 500 caribou (250 licences) for drover and battcock...so a 60% reduction leaves 200 caribou (100 licences) and for letto, he had 50 caribou last licence (25 licences) and a 60% reduction leaves him 20 caribou (10 licences). Am I wrong?
January 18th, 2010

Minister Charlene Johnson
Dept of Environment and Conservation
4th Floor, West Block
Confederation Bldg
Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Re: Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop
Happy Valley Goose Bay, NL

Dear Minister Johnson:

Please consider this letter as a request for the 2010 allotment of caribou tags for the 2010 hunting season. This hunting season, as with the last season, we are requesting the full allocation of five hundred (500) caribou tags.

We anticipate using all of this allocation and expect to service all the aboriginal groups within Labrador. We expect, as well, to meet some of the demand for caribou and caribou by-products by all residents of Labrador.

Should there be any questions on the above request I can be reached by calling 709 897 [redacted] or at Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop by calling 709 896 3736.

Regards,

Randy Battcock
Owner/Operator
Blake, John

From: Blake, John
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 3:47 PM
To: Chubbs, Tony
Subject: FW: 2010 Commercial Caribou Harvesting Licence

Tony –

John has asked if you could please respond on his behalf.

Thank you
Barb

From: Leboubon, Derek J
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2010 2:47 PM
To: Chubbs, Tony; Kennedy, Barb
Cc: Blake, John
Subject: RE: 2010 Commercial Caribou Harvesting Licence

The collection of data/samples is mentioned in the Schedule A of the License.

You are to provide CC Harvesters with Sample collection materials and instructions for the collection of Samples.

Are there any samples needed besides Jaw Bones and Sex of animal?

Please provide me with a note detailing what samples etc you require and I will make sure all CC Harvesters are aware.

Derek

From: Chubbs, Tony
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2010 1:54 PM
To: Kennedy, Barb; Leboubon, Derek J
Cc: Blake, John
Subject: RE: 2010 Commercial Caribou Harvesting Licence

Thanks,

Derek, has Randy submitted a full report of his 2009 harvests? I haven't seen it. This should be a requirement prior to issuing this new licence in order to maintain a record of his harvest.

Also, I would like to have made a requirement of the 2010 licences that all lower jawbones be submitted and identified by sex using the jaw tag provided. Battock provided this to us in 2006 season which is our only recent sex and age ratio estimates of harvest. This new information for the 2010 season would be very useful for adjustments of the 2010 population estimate.

Thanks,
Tony
Tony Chubbs

1/25/2010
From: Kennedy, Barb  
Sent: Thu 1/21/2010 2:07 PM  
To: Lebouhon, Derek J  
Cc: Chubbs, Tony  
Subject: 2010 Commercial Caribou Harvesting Licence

-----Original Message-----
Derek -

Attached, please find copy of 2010 Commercial Caribou Harvesting Licence for Uncle Sam’s Butcher Shop. The original has been forwarded to Randy Batcock by mail.

Should you require any further information, please contact this office.

Barb Kennedy  
Clerk IV
August 23rd, 2010

Mr. John Blake
Director
Dept of Environment & Conservation
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Dear Mr. Blake,

Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop currently holds 100 caribou tags. These 100 tags are the balance remaining from the original purchase of 500 tags for 2010. Due to environmental circumstances such as caribou migration routes and Labrador weather conditions we were unable to reach our goal of 500 caribou in the 2009-2010 hunt. Our hope is to use up the remaining (100 tags) as soon as possible.

It has come to our attention that allowances were given to both Quebec Outfitters as well as some located in Labrador to carry out and use tags previously purchased and/or booked as part of their operations. Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop is asking for the same privilege. It is imperative to our operations.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the above-mentioned number or my calling my cell at 709 897 [REDACTED]

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Kennedy Shearock
Owner/Operator
Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop
Blake, John

From: Blake, John
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 2:36 PM
To: Firth, Ross
Cc: Barney, Wayne


Ross,

Attached is a request from Randy Badcock to access a remaining 100 caribou under authority of his 2010 commercial caribou licence. I have drafted a response for consideration to go under the Minister's signature. I have also attached his 2010 licence and conditions.

I can put this response under my signature if preferred.

Pls advise.

John
Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop  
P.O. Box 989 Stn B  
13 Hillcrest  
Happy Valley Goose Bay NL  
A0P 1E0  
709 896 3736(p)  
709 896 5328(f)  

August 23rd, 2010  

Mr. John Blake  
Director  
Dept of Environment & Conservation  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  

Dear Mr. Blake;  

Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop currently holds 100 caribou tags. These 100 tags are the balance remaining from the original purchase of 500 tags for 2010. Due to environmental circumstances such as caribou migration routes and Labrador weather conditions we were unable to reach our goal of 500 caribou in the 2009-2010 hunt. Our hope is to use up the remaining (100 tags) as soon as possible.  

It has come to our attention that allowances were given to both Quebec Outfitters as well as some located in Labrador to carry out and use tags previously purchased and/or booked as part of their operations. Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop is asking for the same privilege. It is imperative to our operations.  

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the above mentioned number or my calling my cell at 709 897  

Regards,  

[Redacted]  
Owner/Operator  
Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop
COMMERCIAL CARIBOU HARVESTING LICENCE
2010 LICENCE NUMBER 1

Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop
P. O. Box 989, Station "B"
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL A0P 1E0

1. Hunting must be conducted during Open Seasons and in Open Areas, as prescribed by the Minister of Environment and Conservation.

2. Section 47-51 of the Wild Life Regulations (Consolidated Newfoundland Regulation 1156/96) must be adhered to.

3. Hunting must be conducted in a manner to avoid interference with resident and non-resident hunters.

4. Hunting must be conducted at distances greater than 1 kilometre from any highway or access road. Also, there should be no harvest of caribou along the Trans-Labrador Highway, or the Esker and Schefferville Roads area of Western Labrador.

5. Harvesting must be conducted under the terms of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement, in the areas covered by this Agreement. Specifically, if hunting is to occur within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA) the Director of Renewable Resources, Nunatsiavut Government should be notified of the approximate location. A map of LISA is attached for reference. The holder of this Licence should follow any additional requirements for hunting in LISA that may be required by the Nunatsiavut Government.

6. (a) Names of persons harvesting or transporting caribou on this Licence must be submitted, in writing, to the Labrador Regional Office of the Department of Natural Resources, prior to hunting, for review, approval and registration.
(b) Best efforts must be made to maximize employment of Innu and Inuit hunters. Particularly any hunt that occurs within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA), beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement should be designated as hunters.

(c) Each person harvesting caribou on this Licence must have a copy of the Licence on his/her possession at all times while harvesting caribou. Also, designated hunters should be provided with the copies of enclosed map showing the boundaries of LISA.

(d) Hunting must be conducted in teams of not more than two (2) persons, and each team must conduct hunting activities at distances greater than one (1) kilometre apart.

(e) Harvest of caribou must not exceed 10 animals per registered hunter, per day.

7. Caribou which are harvested must be relocated to a holding area to be identified in consultation with regional staff of the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

8. Biological information on harvested animals must be collected and supplied to the biological staff, Department of Environment and Conservation, located in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, as per attached instructions and procedures outlined in Schedule "A".

9. Not more than 200 caribou may be harvested.

10. Tags will be released upon submission of official receipt of payment in the amount of $35.00 per 2 sets of tags, plus applicable HST.

11. Tags are required to be used with this Licence, and must be affixed to harvested caribou before the animals are removed from the site of kill. These tags are available from the Labrador Regional Office of the Department of Natural Resources.

Wildlife Division
P.O. Box 2007, Corner Brook, Newfoundland, Canada, A2H 7S1, Telephone (709) 837-2667, Facsimile (709) 837-2033
12. Upon expiration of this Licence, a full report of the 2010 harvesting operations must be submitted to the Department of Environment and Conservation. This report must include details on the location of the harvest, number of animals harvested, animals struck, wounded and lost, and distribution of animals harvested by sex and approximate age, and information respecting extent of utilization of meat and skins and methods for disposal of remains. All unused tags must be returned to the Labrador Regional Compliance Manager, Department of Natural Resources, and requests for refunds must be submitted no later than 30 days of the expiration of this Licence, before any new Licence is issued.

13. The hunt must be conducted respectfully; animals must be fully utilized, and remains must be disposed of in a manner consistent with Innu and Inuit cultures and traditions. Parts of harvested animals which are not utilized for commercial or research and management purposes must be made available to Innu people, as requested by the Innu Nation and/or to Inuit people particularly in areas within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA).

14. Any additional harvesting modifications and restrictions required by regional officials of the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environment and Conservation, must be complied with.

15. Failure to comply with the Terms and Conditions of this Licence, as outlined above and contained in Schedule “A”, may result in the cancellation of this Licence.

This Licence is issued under Section 46 of the Wild Life Regulations (Consolidated Newfoundland Regulations 1156/96).

This Licence expires on December 31, 2010.

1-21-10

DATE

JOHN BLAKE,
Director
Schedule "A"

Biological Sample Procedure and Instructions
as required under
Section 8 of the 2010 Commercial Caribou Licence

1. The collection of biological samples and data is a direct requirement of your Commercial Caribou Licence.

2. Prior to the commencement of hunting activities on this Licence, the Department of Natural Resources, Regional Compliance Manager, at the Happy Valley-Goose Bay office, must be provided advance start-up notice. This notice will allow opportunity for the approval of, and certification of, hunters for the collection of biological samples and requested data.

3. Only those hunters who have been approved and have demonstrated their understanding and ability to collect biological samples and data for the Department will be permitted to participate in the harvest of caribou under this Licence.

4. Pre-numbered sample and data collection materials will be supplied by the biological staff of the Wildlife Division at Goose Bay, Labrador. Samples and data collected shall be preserved and provided to the biologists at the earliest possible convenience.

5. Individual hunters that have been certified and approved by the Regional Compliance Manager, will be issued, in series, with valid Commercial Caribou Licence tags.

6. Hunters found to be in contradiction of the terms of this Licence and these agreements may be prohibited from further participation on this Licence.
46. (1) The minister may, upon application by a person, company or corporation, issue to that person, company or corporation a commercial caribou harvesting licence for the hunting, taking, processing, storing, shipping and selling of caribou and caribou by-products.

(2) A commercial caribou harvesting licence shall expire on December 31 in each year.

(3) Applications for commercial caribou harvesting licence renewal shall be reviewed annually, after evaluation of the health of the herd.

229/88 s12

47. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall maintain records of

(a) the number of caribou taken;

(b) the weight of the caribou meat;

(c) the name and address of the person, wholesale or retail business, purchasing caribou;

(d) the date of the sale of caribou meat to a person, wholesale or retail business; and

(e) the weight of caribou meat sold to a person, wholesale or retail business.

229/88 s12

48. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall produce the records when requested to do so by a wildlife officer.

229/88 s12

49. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall affix and lock a tag between the tendon and the bone and around the bone of each quarter of caribou meat before it is shipped from the processing facility.

229/88 s12

50. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall package caribou meat sold in less than quarter lots in packages labelled or marked for future identification.

229/88 s12

51. The holder of a commercial caribou harvesting licence shall not sell caribou meat to a wholesale or retail business that is not in possession of a wholesale caribou meat licence, a retail caribou meat licence or a wild meat service licence.

229/88 s12
Blake, John

From: Firth, Ross
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 3:54 PM
To: Parrott, William
Cc: Blake, John
Subject: Labrador Caribou Harvest
Importance: High
Sensitivity: Confidential

Bill

A fax was received today from Randy Battcock, the owner of Uncle Sam’s Butcher Shop, in HVGB. The letter was addressed to John Blake and requested approval for the commercial harvest of Mr. Battcock’s remaining caribou allocation of 100 animals (letter attached). You’ll recall that the commercial caribou harvest license is based on the calendar year and Mr. Battcock’s current license expires December 31, 2010. Mr. Battcock’s 2010 allocation was for 100 licenses or 200 caribou. Mr. Battcock states in his letter that, thus far, he has harvested half of this allocation.

I have also attached a draft copy of a letter in response to Mr. Battcock under the Minister’s signature. The letter prohibits further commercial harvest of caribou under Mr. Battcock’s current harvest allocation pending the review of our current harvest management approach for 2010/11. You’ll note in Mr. Battcock’s letter to John, reference to the province permitting outfitter harvest of caribou in the period beginning August 11, 2010. Similarly, Mr. Battcock is seeking permission to harvest in the absence of the official opening of the season.

Wildlife Division is proposing that Mr. Battcock’s request be denied on the basis that to permit this harvest would run contrary to the recommended position of the Division as articulated recently. Further, a refusal to permit harvest at this time should not necessarily be considered a permanent cancellation of the remaining commercial licenses as the letter states that this position is dependent on government review of its current management approaches.

I’d be grateful if you would review the attached documents and provide comment on the recommended approach. The letter can also be sent to Mr. Battcock under John’s signature.

You should also be aware that the Division continues to receive enquiries from outfitters to release non-resident licenses based on confirmed hunts in September. The Division is considering these requests on a week by week basis and will continue to process them until such time as new direction is provided. Currently, a total of 97 licenses have been issued for non-resident hunts.

Ross

Ross Firth
Assistant Deputy Minister - Natural Heritage
Department of Environment and Conservation
P.O. Box 2007
117 Riverside Drive

9/2/2010
COMMERCIAL CARIBOU HARVESTING LICENCE
2009 LICENCE NUMBER 1

Uncle Sam’s Butcher Shop
P. O. Box 989, Station “B”
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL A0P 1E0

1. Hunting must be conducted during Open Seasons and in Open Areas, as prescribed by the Minister of Environment and Conservation.

2. Section 47-51 of the Wild Life Regulations (Consolidated Newfoundland Regulation 1156/96) must be adhered to.

3. Hunting must be conducted in a manner to avoid interference with resident and non-resident hunters.

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10. Tags will be released upon submission of official receipt of payment in the amount of $35.00 per 2 sets of tags, plus applicable HST.

11. Tags are required to be used with this Licence, and must be affixed to harvested caribou before the animals are removed from the site of kill. These tags are available from the Labrador Regional Office of the Department of Natural Resources.
12. Upon expiration of this Licence, a full report of the 2009 harvesting operations must be submitted to the Department of Environment and Conservation. This report must include details on the location of the harvest, number of animals harvested, animals struck, wounded and lost, and distribution of animals harvested by sex and approximate age, and information respecting extent of utilization of meat and skins and methods for disposal of remains. All unused tags must be returned to the Labrador Regional Compliance Manager, Department of Natural Resources, and requests for refunds must be submitted no later than 30 days of the expiration of this Licence, before any new Licence is issued.

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14. Any additional harvesting modifications and restrictions required by regional officials of the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environment and Conservation, must be complied with.

15. Failure to comply with the Terms and Conditions of this Licence, as outlined above and contained in Schedule "A", may result in the cancellation of this Licence.

This Licence is issued under Section 46 of the Wildlife Regulations (Consolidated Newfoundland Regulations 1156/96).

This Licence expires on December 31, 2009.

DATE

JOHN BLAKE,
Director
Schedule “A”

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as required under
Section 8 of the 2009 Commercial Caribou Licence

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3. Only those hunters who have been approved and have demonstrated their understanding and ability to collect biological samples and data for the Department will be permitted to participate in the harvest of caribou under this Licence.

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(3) Applications for commercial caribou harvesting licence renewal shall be reviewed annually, after evaluation of the health of the herd.

229/88 s12

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229/88 s12

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229/88 s12

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229/88 s12

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229/88 s12
Mr. Randy Batcock  
P.O. Box 989 Stn B  
13 Hillerest  
Happy Valley-Goose Bay  
A0P 1E0

Dear Mr. Batcock:

I am writing in response to your letter dated August 23, 2010 to Mr. John Blake, Director of Wildlife, concerning your commercial caribou harvesting licence. Please allow me to clarify your licence allocation for 2010. You state in your letter that your original quota for 2010 was for 500 caribou. As your 2010 Commercial Caribou Harvesting Licence clearly states, your total quota for 2010 was, in fact, 200 caribou; a reduction of 300 caribou compared to 2009.

Government announced this 60% quota reduction applicable to all commercial licence holders prior to the 2010 season as a conservation measure in the face of mounting evidence to suggest a significant population decline was occurring with the George River caribou herd. I have been advised that you purchased your 200 tags on January 22, 2010 and that you harvested 100 thus leaving you 100 tags remaining.

Recent further evidence corroborates government's concern for this herd, and we are reviewing our current harvest management approach for the 2010/11 season. This includes the disposition of any unused portion of the 2010 commercial caribou harvesting licence. Section 14 of your 2010 licence stipulates that additional harvesting restrictions can be applied. Therefore, until such a time as this review is complete, we are unable to permit the use of any remaining tags.

A decision relating to harvest management in 2010/11 will be forthcoming in the coming weeks. Until then I trust you will accept and agree that conservation must take priority.

Sincerely,

CHARLENE JOHNSON
Minister