Dear Mr. Tetluchi:

Thank you for your letter of February 24, 2014 outlining the Porcupine Caribou Management Board’s (PCMB) recommendations following the February 2014 Annual Harvest Meeting.

Based on the information provided, I support the Board’s recommendation that the Porcupine Caribou herd status falls within the green colour zone and that the harvest management actions outlined for this zone will be implemented. I am pleased to see the progress the Parties have made in providing harvest monitoring information and recognize that further effort is needed in this regard to assist with timelier reporting. I encourage the Parties to build on their efforts and continue to make improvements in the future.

Also of note, the issue of establishing Native User Agreements has been raised again and I am encouraged that the Parties are supportive of undertaking these discussions in the near future. Establishing harvest allocation will be critical to the ongoing conservation of this herd should populations decline in the future.

With respect to the Summary Table of Implementation Tasks and Actions, the information contained therein appears to be accurate. In terms of Environment Canada’s support, Environment Canada will continue to serve as the Canadian co-chair for the Porcupine Caribou Technical Committee and will coordinate development of the Annual Summary Report for this upcoming year.

Environment Canada continues to be committed to implementing the Harvest Management Plan and Implementation Plan with ongoing participation of Whitehorse staff on the PCMB and Porcupine Caribou Technical Committee.
I would like to commend the board for its hard work and continued efforts to implement the Harvest Management Plan.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Sue Milburn-Hopwood
Director General
Canadian Wildlife Service

cc: Christopher Morton, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
    Diane Wilson, Superintendent Western Arctic Field Unit, Parks Canada Agency
    Anne Morin, Superintendent, Yukon Field Unit, PCA
    Sherri Young, Manager Northern Conservation, CWS