

Harvesting Wildlife on Private Lands

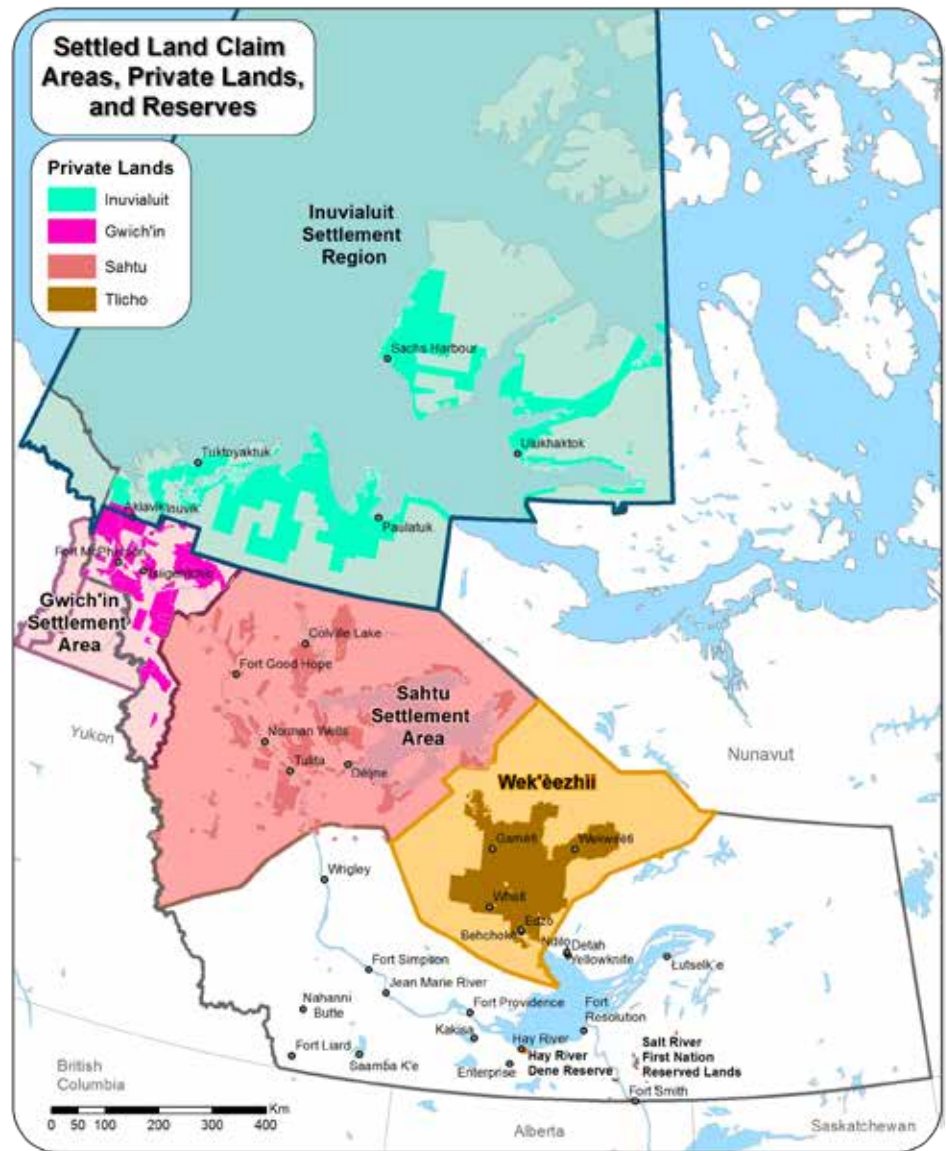
Information for Indigenous governments, Indigenous harvesters, local harvesting committees, general hunting licence holders and resident hunters

It is against the law to harvest wildlife on private lands in a land claim area without permission. People who harvest on private lands without permission can be charged under the *Wildlife Act*.

Permissions

All harvesters must ask permission before entering private lands to harvest wildlife unless they have rights in the area. Also, some land claim agreements provide for exclusive rights to certain species—such as hares in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region—or require permission to harvest certain species on their lands—such as specific permission to trap wolves in a Tłı̨chǫ community.

Harvesters are ultimately responsible for knowing where they are on the land, following the law, and meeting the terms and conditions specific to land claims in the area a non-beneficiary wishes to hunt. Your regional or local Environment and Climate Change (ECC) office can provide additional information.

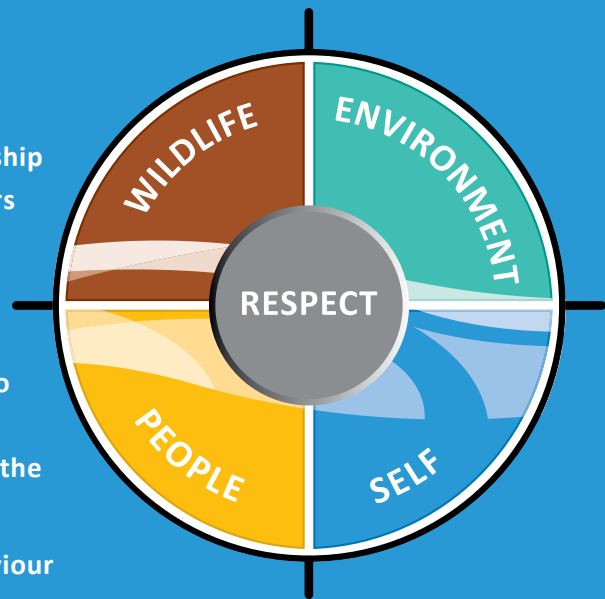


Respect

Asking permission to harvest wildlife on private lands shows respect and helps develop a relationship between harvesters and land owners. Land owners will know who is harvesting in their area and can identify areas to be avoided. These may include culturally sensitive areas.

Entering private lands without permission can also be a safety issue, especially if traps are set in an area. Remember, it is your responsibility to know the boundaries of land claim areas and private lands.

Always practice safe, respectful and ethical behaviour when harvesting wildlife.

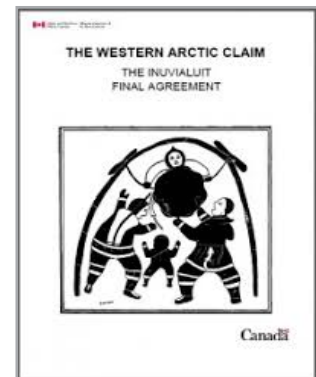


Requesting Permission to Harvest on Private Lands

INUVIALUIT FINAL AGREEMENT

An overlap access agreement between Gwich'in Tribal Council, Inuvialuit Game Council and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation allows eligible Gwich'in beneficiaries to access the "Aklavik 1400 Lands" within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

A request to harvest wildlife on all other private lands in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region must be submitted to the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC). There is no fee for permission to access Inuvialuit lands to harvest wildlife.

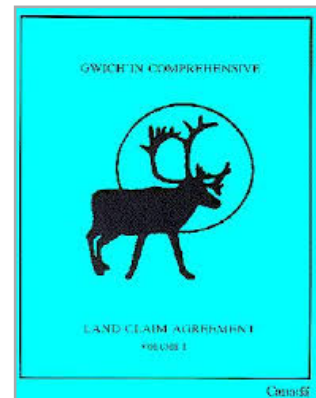


GWICH'IN COMPREHENSIVE LAND CLAIM AGREEMENT

Eligible Inuvialuit beneficiaries have access to defined parcels of land within the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

All other harvesters must submit a request to the local Renewable Resources Council (RRC) to harvest wildlife on Gwich'in private lands outside of the overlap agreement.

The local RRC has up to 60 days to approve or deny requests to harvest on Gwich'in private lands. Terms and conditions for harvesting can be included with approval to harvest on private lands. There is no fee for permission to access Gwich'in private lands to harvest wildlife.



SAHTÚ DENE AND MÉTIS COMPREHENSIVE LAND CLAIM AGREEMENT

All harvesters must submit a request to the local RRC to harvest wildlife on Sahtú private lands. The RRC has up to 60 days to approve or deny your request to harvest on Sahtú private lands.

Terms and conditions can be included with approval to harvest on private lands when your request is approved. There is no fee for permission to access Sahtu private land to harvest wildlife.

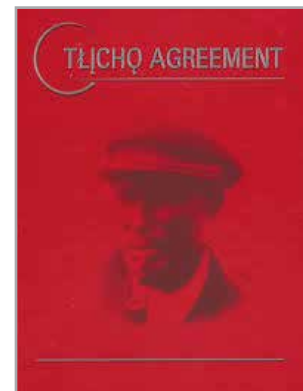


TŁIČHŦ AGREEMENT

A formal request to the Tłı̨chŦ Government or local community government to harvest wildlife on Tłı̨chŦ lands is not required unless harvesting is done for commercial purposes.

However, asking permission to harvest on Tłı̨chŦ lands is encouraged because it shows respect for the Tłı̨chŦ tradition.

The Tłı̨chŦ retain the ability under the *Tłı̨chŦ Agreement* to enable laws in the future, which could restrict wildlife harvesting access on Tłı̨chŦ lands.



HAY RIVER RESERVE AND SALT RIVER RESERVE

Provisions and by-laws made under Section 81 of the *Indian Act* apply to the Hay River and the Salt River Reserves in the NWT. All people should contact the applicable land owners, band councils or administrative offices before harvesting in these reserve areas.



OTHER TRADITIONAL USE AREAS IN THE NWT

Harvesting is a respectful and traditional activity. Please be mindful of traditional use areas when you are harvesting. There are many local harvesting committees, local band councils and Métis councils throughout the NWT and each may have their own traditional protocols for other people who are hunting in their traditional use area.



PORCUPINE CARIBOU MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

The Porcupine caribou herd is managed through the *Agreement Between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America on the Conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd* and is guided by the Porcupine Caribou Management Board in Canada, established under the *Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement (PCMA)*.

The PCMA identifies parties with harvesting rights to the Porcupine caribou herd in Canada. In the NWT, this includes the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Inuvialuit Game Council. In the Yukon, this includes the Vuntut Gwitchin, Na-cho Nyak Dün, and the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.

In the NWT, the parties to the PCMA can harvest from the herd at any time, subject to management considerations in the Harvest Management Plan. However, the parties have recognized that permission to access private settled lands in the NWT is a tradition that shows respect.

Aboriginal rights holders, not represented by a party to the PCMA, may harvest from the herd using a General Hunting Licence, which is subject to terms and conditions in the *Big Game Hunting Regulations* for the applicable Wildlife Management Area (I/BC/05 or G/BC/01). Permission to access private settled lands in the NWT is still required.



For more information

For information on the harvesting wildlife in the Northwest Territories, visit the ECC website at www.ecc.gov.nt.ca, a local harvesting committee, local band council and Métis council, Aboriginal government, or your local or regional ECC office.

Fort Simpson	867-695-7450
Fort Smith	867-872-6400
Inuvik	867-678-8091 ext. 53661
Norman Wells	867-587-3500
Yellowknife	867-767-9238 ext. 53247