



Joint News Release: The Governments of the Northwest Territories and Canada Collaborate to Support Conservation Policy-Making Through Joint Funding Initiative

Yellowknife (July 24, 2023) – In partnership with Polar Knowledge Canada (POLAR), the Northwest Territories Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program (NWT CIMP) is allocating \$2.2 million in 2023-2024 to support 31 new or ongoing monitoring and research projects. POLAR is allocating \$650,000 towards the *Collaborative Barren-ground Caribou Initiative (CBGCI)*, implemented by NWT CIMP. This Initiative will result in a better understanding of the drivers of population trends of barren-ground caribou, by helping to fund seven projects.

Of the 31 projects funded, seven are focused on Traditional Knowledge, 23 are science-focused, and one combines Traditional Knowledge and science. All of these projects address key cumulative impact monitoring priorities for caribou, water and/or fish. Project results will provide valuable knowledge for resource managers, governments, and communities to inform decision-making.

Funding recipients include Indigenous governments, Indigenous organizations, universities, and territorial and federal government departments. Successful NWT CIMP recipients receive approximately \$60,000 per year for three years. CBGCI projects receive approximately \$100,000 per year for three years to complete this research.

Quotes

“These monitoring and research projects will help contribute to our understanding of environmental changes impacting caribou, water, and fish in the Northwest Territories. I’m proud to see Polar Knowledge Canada partner with the NWT Cumulative Monitoring Impact Program to support our ongoing efforts to gather the best available information from all types of knowledge types to help inform sound decision-making.”

- **Shane Thompson**, *Minister of Environment and Climate Change*

“Working together with the Government of the Northwest Territories, researchers, knowledge-keepers and rights-holders, we can advance collective knowledge that will support northern communities as they make decisions to build a future in which they are healthy and thriving. Collaboration is key to building a sustainable world.

- **Hon. Dan Vandal**, *Minister of Northern Affairs, Minister Responsible for PrairiesCan and CanNor*

“Congratulations to the recipients of the funding for barren-ground caribou research and monitoring in the Northwest Territories. This project and our work with partners will lead to management strategies to improve caribou health –and that’s good for the health of the ecosystem and our communities.”

- **Jennifer C. Hubbard**, *President & Chief Executive offices of Polar Knowledge Canada*



Quick Facts

- \$2.2 million in funding will be distributed to 31 projects.
- 16 projects are starting this year, six are mid-term, and nine are in their final year.
- Recommendations on project funding were made by a Steering Committee made up of representatives from Indigenous, federal and territorial governments and co-management boards.
- Polar Knowledge Canada is a Government of Canada agency responsible for strengthening Canadian leadership in polar science and technology. It is headquartered at the Canadian High Arctic Research Station, which it operates, in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut.
- The list of 2023-24 projects and intended outcomes is available upon request.

Related Links

- For more information on the Northwest Territories Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program please visit: www.nwtcimp.ca
- For more information on project results, please visit: <https://nwtdiscoveryportal.enr.gov.nt.ca/geoportal/catalog/main/home.page>
- For more information on Polar Knowledge Canada, please visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/polar-knowledge/behindthescenes.html>

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