

10 Years of Continued Progress

ADMINISTRATIVE HEAD OFFICE

25 Ikajuktauvik Road, PO Box 70 Nain, NL, Canada AOP 1L0 Tel: 709.922.2942 Fax: 709.922.2931

nain_reception@nunatsiavut.com

NEWS RELEASE

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Ban on harvesting George River caribou must be enforced, says President

Nunatsiavut President Johannes Lampe says not enough efforts are being made to protect the George River caribou herd from further decline.

"We are deeply concerned that we are hearing that there is increased harvesting and more people are ignoring the moratorium, putting additional strain on this valuable resource," he says.

Latest estimates have the George River herd at less than 9,000 animals, and there are concerns the population could become wiped out in less than five years. The population was estimated at over 800,000 in the 1990s.

"All steps must be taken to ensure the George River caribou herd is able to recover," says the President. "As Labrador Inuit, we must be committed to ensuring the future sustainability of this herd, or we run the risk of losing another important part of our culture and way of life."

The President is calling on all Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement to respect the moratorium on harvesting George River caribou.

"As stewards of the land and our environment, we have an obligation, as Inuit, to protect and conserve the caribou herd," says President Lampe. "At the same time, we have to ensure that future generations are able to harvest this resource, and that they continue to maintain the necessary skills to do so."

Media Contact:

Bert Pomeroy Director of Communications (709) 896-8582

