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Objet:

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Consultations Caribous

Dépôt de mémoire - Projets pilotes pour la population de caribous forestiers de Charlevoix et la population de caribous montagnards de la Gaspésie

Importance: Haute

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**Attention!** Ce courriel provient d'une source externe.

Sir/Madam: I have read the proposed pilot projects to protect and recover the Charlevoix and Gaspésie caribou populations. It is essential that the very small number of captive individuals be maintained until habitats are fully restored. That was a good decision that has been used elsewhere in Canada. It is unfortunate that previous conservation efforts came too late or were insufficient such that these few individuals had to be captured as an emergency management measure.

I find the pilot projects somewhat insufficient. All known habitats should be completely protected and restored and there should be 0% disturbance tolerated and zero habitat destruction by forestry, mining or energy development. Quebec is a huge province – there are plenty of resources elsewhere that do not threaten caribou populations, populations that really should be

designated as highly endangered, not threatened nor vulnerable. Immediate action is required. The time to study the problem is over. Please implement all necessary actions to protect these populations, protect old growth forests and stop habitat disturbance and destruction. The proposed actions are on the right course but do not go far enough. As a biologist, I know that if the habitat is protected and relatively ecologically intact with respect to prey food resources and predator populations, and destructive and disturbing human activities are eliminated, a species at risk can recover and prosper. Unfortunately, for these caribou populations this will take years. When human greed for resources is involved, species lose out. Protect and recover these two populations if it is not too late.

