



### **Caribou Patrols:**

The program was established to contribute to recovery efforts for Woodland Caribou in the region.

The objectives of this project are to:

- Reduce the potential of vehicle collisions with woodland caribou on area roadways, by winter patrols and caribou harassment actions;
- Enhance awareness of caribou management;
- Collect data on wildlife sightings, and;
- Collect data on physical barriers constructed to deter highway vehicles.

### **Caribou Management:**

Woodland caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*) are classified as threatened in Alberta. The outcome of the patrol project will contribute to the overall caribou recovery plan by reducing mortality of caribou and collection of human use data to assist in successful implementation of broader landscape recovery strategies.

### **Patrol persons: Q & A**

#### ***What authority do the patrol persons have?***

The patrol person has no more authority than a member of the public. They are employed to collect information for resource managers, educate users of the roads (public and industrial) and reduce the potential of collisions with wildlife only.

#### ***What type of information are the patrol persons collecting?***

As part of their duties, the patrolpersons will be collecting information on wildlife sightings and on effectiveness of existing barriers to vehicle traffic, public and industrial use.

#### ***How does the patrol person project contribute to caribou recovery?***

While vehicular collisions are not a major cause of caribou mortality, collisions do occur on roadways in the region. Modeled after a "Caribou Cowboy" project that successfully ran for several years along highway 40 south of Grande Cache, the patrol persons would target areas where caribou are known to cross roadways. Patrol signs have been installed on many of the major roadways leading into the caribou zone. The patrol persons will provide information to the public and use actions to persuade caribou to leave the roadways. Educational kits are available upon request for specific user groups.

#### ***Who do the patrol person work for?***

The patrol persons are employed by the Aseniwuche Environmental Corporation (AEC) under contract to Aseniwuche Winewak Nation of Canada with funding provided by Foothills Landscape Management Forum, and the Alberta and federal governments.

#### ***How long does the project last?***

Given the success of last year's pilot project, the funding partners agreed to extend patrols for a second season. Patrols will begin November 18, 2013 and run through to March 16, 2014. Patrols may be extended at any time.

To report a caribou sighting, go to: [www.facebook.com/CaribouPatrol](http://www.facebook.com/CaribouPatrol)

For additional information about the Caribou Patrol project contact:

**Jaymie Kugler, AWN: (780) 827-5510**

**Wayne Thorp, FLMF: (780) 625-1732**



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