

**THIS DOCUMENT IS THE TEXT OF THE CBFA JOINT POSITION ON THE PROPOSED BOREAL CARIBOU NATIONAL RECOVERY STRATEGY. THIS VERSION WAS AFFIRMED BY THE CAUCUSES (CHRIS HENSCHER, CONSERVATION CAUCUS LEAD, AND ANDREW DE VRIES FOR THE FPAC CAUCUS) JAN 5, 2012, SPECIFICALLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF BRIEFING THE FEDERAL MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT (HON. PETER KENT) ON JAN 11, 2012. THE POINTS BELOW WERE LEFT BEHIND, AS A PART OF THE PPT DECK USED FOR THE BRIEFING. THESE POINTS WERE SUBSEQUENTLY AFFIRMED BY THE STEERING COMMITTEE ON FEB 13, 2012.**

CBFA Perspective on the National Recovery Strategy for Boreal Woodland Caribou –

- **The CBFA welcomes the recovery strategy.**
- **The CBFA parties are leaders in caribou action planning.**
- **Here are our shared recommendations for the proposed National Recovery Strategy:**
  1. We believe that maintaining or achieving self-sustaining status should be the 0-50 year population and distribution objective to guide recovery efforts for all three population-types.
  2. A key step in CBFA action planning will be the development of socio-economic inputs that consider cost-effective implementation, along with solutions that are socially acceptable and that are sensitive to forest sector prosperity and operational viability.
  3. We believe that adequate habitat conservation measures are required for all ranges, and that additional management measures are also required to achieve recovery in some circumstances, particularly in highly disturbed ranges. In cases where additional measures are required, they must be accompanied by adequate habitat conservation including protection and restoration measures.
  4. Disturbance thresholds are a critical component of effective action plans. We support the inclusion of a disturbance threshold in the recovery strategy and are committed to develop joint recommendations for range-level action plans employing range-level disturbance thresholds. In applying the disturbance threshold approach at the action planning stage, the biological significance of different types of disturbances must be considered as well as their spatial configuration on the landscape.
  5. We do not yet have agreement amongst ourselves on the appropriate level of risk to assume in employing the disturbance thresholds approach but we are confident that we can develop joint recommendations for action plans that are effective for caribou and ensure a prosperous forest sector.

Joint position on the proposed National Recovery Strategy (FEB 13, 2012)

6. We believe a key to recovery of Boreal woodland caribou is a nationally coordinated approach to active adaptive management and effectiveness monitoring. We will play a significant leadership role in delivering this. We pledge to collaborate in the development and implementation of this program.
7. We believe the government can provide further science assistance and, in particular, we call on the government to amend the Schedule of Studies to identify:
  - a. practical advice on how habitat recovery can be assessed;
  - b. guidance on appropriate habitat restoration measures;
  - c. guidance on appropriate configuration of anthropogenic disturbances; and,
  - d. guidance on exploring a variety of management strategy configurations across the diversity and number of local populations.