

October 17, 2024

George River Caribou Herd remains vulnerable

The Nunatsiavut Government, along with the governments of Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec, collaborated in an aerial census of the George River Caribou Herd in July 2024.

This year's census results show the population still remains at a vulnerable low with an abundance estimate of 8,600 caribou. The population declined by 99 per cent from its historical high, and remains at one per cent of its highest level.

The adult population has grown an average of seven per cent per year from 2018 to 2024. Calves now make up 26 per cent of the population, and calf recruitment levels are the highest they have been in 60 years.

While this is positive news, the George River Caribou Herd is still at a historically low level. Hunting of the herd is prohibited under provincial regulations and compliance with this ban is necessary.

Any questions regarding the 2024 census can be sent to Jason Dicker, Wildlife Manager, at jason.dicker@nunatisavut.com or by calling (709) 922-2942 ext. 249.