

A SHARED COMMITMENT: PROTECTING THE PORCUPINE CARIBOU HERD

For thirty years, Canada and the U.S. have worked together to conserve the Porcupine Caribou and its habitat. The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is critical to our continued success and as such, Canada opposes opening the Arctic Refuge and specifically the Coastal Plain to resource development.

UNIQUE AND IRREPLACEABLE

There are roughly 200,000 Porcupine Caribou ranging across Alaska, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories. In 1987, the U.S. and Canada signed an agreement to jointly protect this “great natural resource.” The agreement commits our countries to conserving the herd and habitat of the Porcupine Caribou, including cooperating to avoid risks of irreversible damage or long-term adverse effects. It requires us to consult each other on any activities, including oil and gas development, that may potentially impact the caribou or their habitat.

Porcupine Caribou rely on the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to give birth to around 40,000 calves each year. Disruptions from resource development would create risks for calf survival, and harm the only healthy herd in North America.

THE CARIBOU PEOPLE

The Gwich'in Nation spans both sides of the border across the Porcupine Caribou migratory route. They rely heavily on the herd for their culture and livelihood. Porcupine Caribou also provide the Gwich'in with their main source of food. Conserving the caribou and safeguarding their habitat is vital to the preservation of Indigenous history and way of life.



CANADA'S COMMITMENT TO CONSERVATION

Through agreements with the Yukon Territory and Indigenous peoples, Canada is protecting the Porcupine Caribou Herd and its range across nearly 8,000 square miles along the Alaskan border—including the resource-rich Old Crow Flats. However, caribou do not respect national boundaries and hard choices are required to conserve the herd and respect Indigenous peoples on both sides of the border.

**JOIN CANADA IN CONSERVING THE PORCUPINE CARIBOU HERD ACROSS ITS RANGE.
OPPOSE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT IN THE ARCTIC REFUGE.**

