

Managing Expectations: A Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board Example

CARMA – 7

November 30 – December 2, 2010

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Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board

- Co-management board established by the Tłıchǫ Agreement
- Institution of public government
- Responsible for the management of wildlife and wildlife habitat (forests, plants and protected areas) in the Wek'èezhìi Area



WRRB Considerations



- Inter-relatedness of wildlife, land and people
- Conservation and precautionary principle
- Use of best information available

Bathurst Caribou

- Decline from 472,000 caribou in 1986 to 32,000 caribou in 2009 likely a result of increased cow mortality and reduced calf survival



Recommendations

- Establish a harvest target of 300 Bathurst caribou per year for 2010 to 2013
- Selective harvest of bulls to achieve an 85:15 ratio of bulls harvested to cows
- Commercial, outfitted and resident harvest set to zero



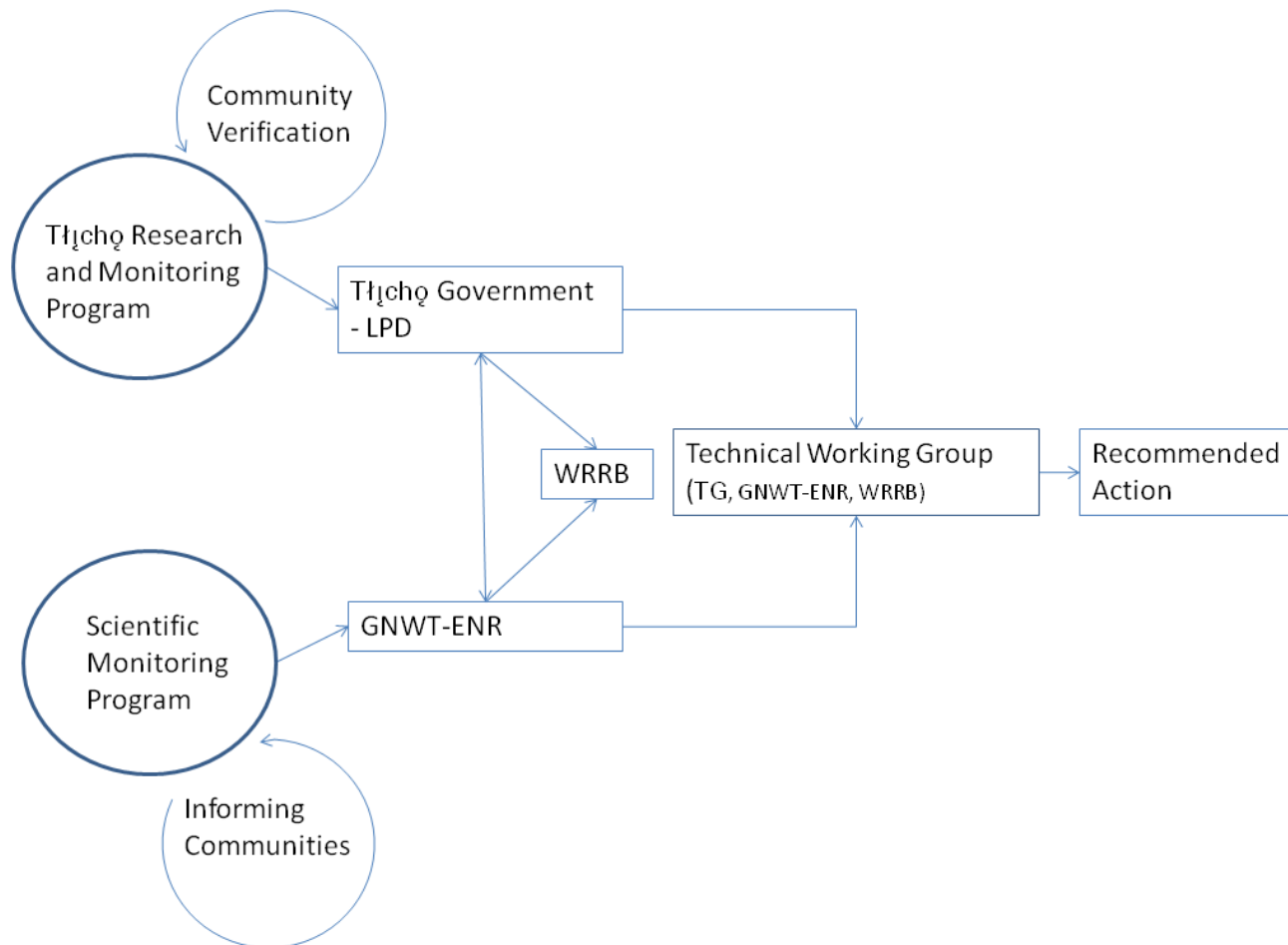
Recommendations

- Implement detailed scientific and Tłıchǫ knowledge monitoring actions

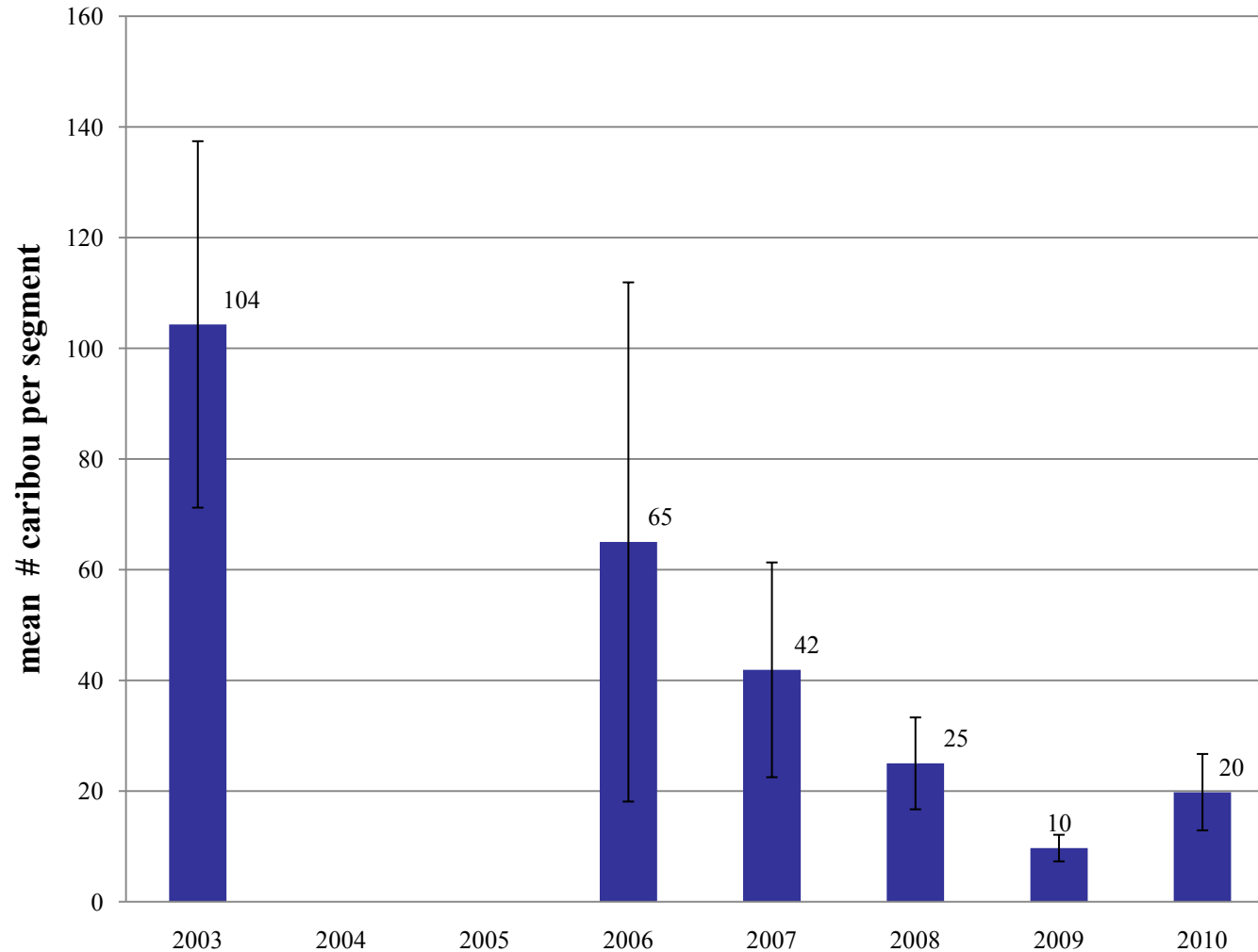


- Implement the *Special Project, Using Tłıchǫ Knowledge to Monitor Barren Ground Caribou Program*

Recommendations



Bathurst Calving Ground Reconnaissance Survey



Stakeholders Expectations



- Increase or remove harvest ‘target’
- Increase allowable harvest of cows or remove entirely
- Reinstate resident, sport and commercial harvests
- Decreased support for comprehensive scientific and TK monitoring programs

Managing Expectations

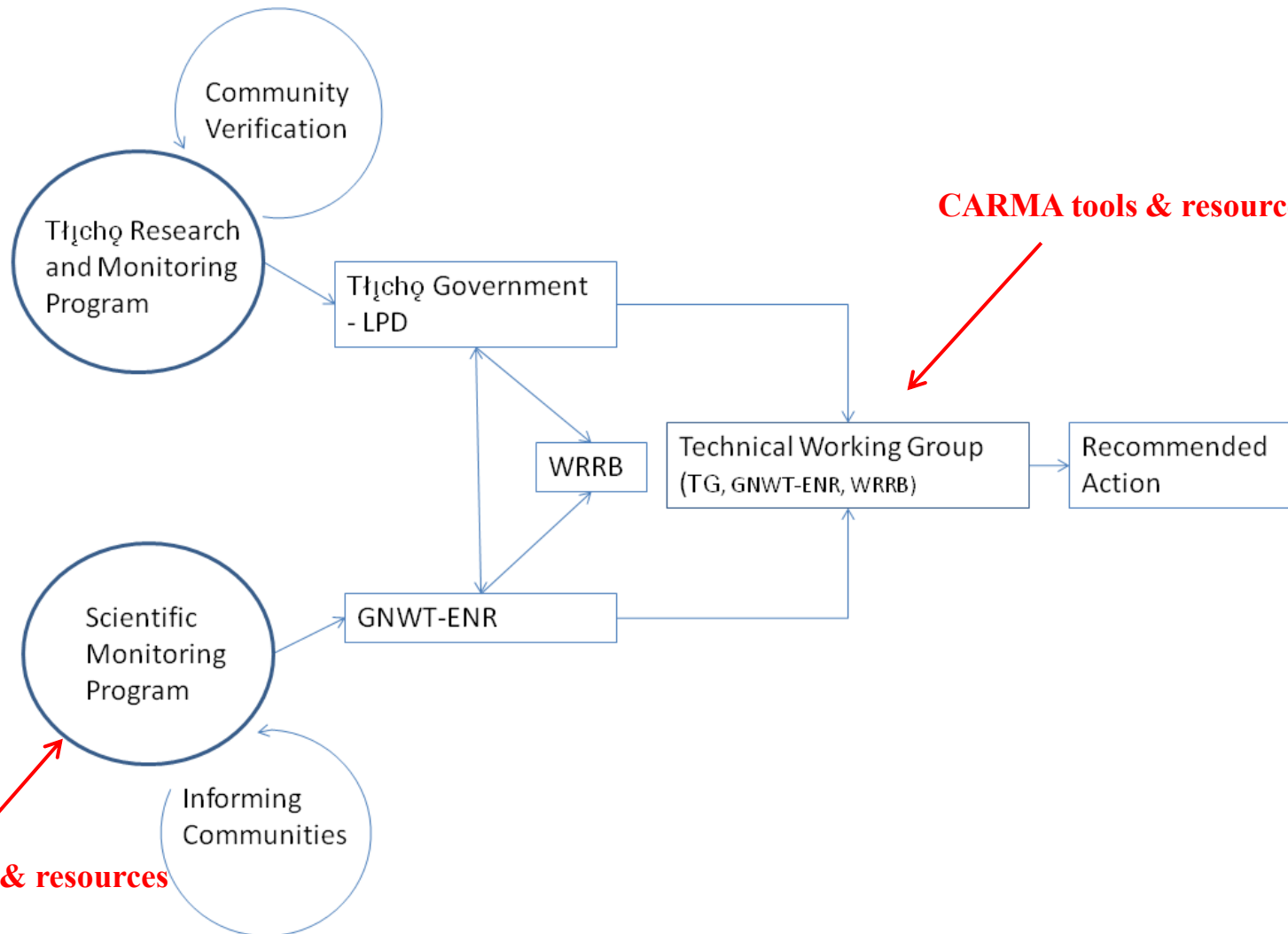


Are there other indicators from the scientific and TK monitoring programs that are suggesting a herd recovery?

Using CARMA Resources & Tools

- Provide standards for scientific monitoring
- Seasonal climate data & cumulative effects models
- CARMA database
- Education & training materials





Wish List



- Provide a ‘Dummies Guide’ to interpreting monitoring information
- History of management actions for all caribou herds
- Risk analysis tool for weighing harvest against herd recovery

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