

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
5<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL, 34<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

**RECOMMENDATION TO  
COUNCIL NO. 10-34**

**TABLED ON MARCH 9, 1967**

Recommendation to Council 10-34

Tabled on March 9, 1967



February 16, 1967.  
Confidential - Not  
for release before  
tabling during the  
34th Session of  
Council.

**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL NO. 10  
(First Session, 1967)**

**OPEN SEASONS FOR MOOSE AND CARIBOU  
IN THE HAY RIVER AREA**

DISPOSITION

Tabled	To Committee	Accepted as Read	Accepted as Amended	Deferred (to Session)	Rejected	Noted not Considered

OPEN SEASONS FOR MOOSE AND CARIBOU  
IN THE HAY RIVER AREA

During the 33rd Session of Council of the Northwest Territories, Mr. Porritt tabled the following petition from the hunters and residents of Hay River:

"We the undersigned, residents chiefly of Hay River, would be pleased if some consideration could be given at the forthcoming Territorial Council Meeting to the opening of a winter moose season and a season on woodland caribou applying to one or more of the game areas in this vicinity."

Moose

The moose situation in the areas in question could be assessed as follows: Resident moose hunting in Game Management Zones 6 and 10 prior to 1964 was limited to a two-week period. An assessment of this restricted season revealed that an extremely low number of moose were annually taken and that the moose population was gradually increasing, especially in the less accessible areas.

In order to permit a more meaningful kill, the season in the two zones was extended in 1965 to run from September 15 to October 31 next following. The annual take, although considerably increasing is still far below the allowable kill according to the latest moose data collected during beaver surveys, field observations and trappers reports, which indicate that the moose density in Zones No. 6 and 10 is one of the highest in the whole of the Northwest Territories. Kill statistics, on the other hand, reveal that these areas are grossly underharvested. Consequently, an extension of the present open season for moose in the before-mentioned Game Management Zones is not only possible but highly desirable for management purposes.

Caribou

Although woodland caribou have frequently been sighted in the two Game Management Zones, the Game Management Service is presently not prepared to make a realistic recommendation as to an adequate Utilization Program of this species.

Recommendations

The Commissioner therefore recommends:

1. That the moose season in Game Management Zones 6 and 10 be extended from September 15 to December 31 next following.
2. That the season for woodland caribou remain closed until such a time when detailed research and inventory data become available on which to base a meaningful harvest.