



## MELIADINE TERRESTRIAL BASELINE SYNTHESIS REPORT - DRAFT

Table 5-5: Barren-ground Caribou Aerial Survey Observations, 1998 to 2000, 2008, and 2009

Period	Month	Year									
		1998		1999		2000		2008		2009	
		Date	# Caribou Observed	Date	# Caribou Observed	Date	# Caribou Observed	Date	# Caribou Observed	Date	# Caribou Observed
Spring migration/calving	March	-		20	0	28	3926	-		-	
	April	-		12	0	-		-		-	
	May	20	19	-		-		-		19	4
	June	19	15	12	3	-		12/13	36	-	
								17	81		
Post-calving through fall migration and rut	July	17	4	23	162	-		21/22	5920	-	
	August	-		-		-		-		-	
	September	6	0	4	11	-		-		-	
	October	24	0	-		-		-		-	
Early winter	November	-		-		16	73	-		-	

Note: "-" indicates no survey was conducted

Table 5-6: Number of Caribou Groups Observed and Mean Group Size, 1998 to 2000, 2008, and 2009

Year		ring n/Calving		g through Fall on and Rut	Early Winter		
	Number of Groups	Mean Group Size ±SE	Number of Groups	Mean Group Size ±SE	Number of Groups	Mean Group Size ±SE	
1998	8	4.3 ± 1.7	1	4.0 ± 0.0	-	-	
1999	1	$3.0 \pm 0.0$	6	28.8 ± 26.6	-	-	
2000	113	34.7 ± 3.8	-	-	8	9.1 ± 2.8	
2008	36	$3.3 \pm 0.5$	21	281.9 ± 133.5	-	-	
2009	1	$4.0 \pm 0.0$	-	-	-	-	
Overall	159	25.7 ± 2.9	28	217.8 ± 101.9	8	9.1 ± 2.8	

Note: "-" indicates surveys not conducted; "±" indicates plus or minus; SE = standard error

Barren-ground caribou observations were used to extrapolate an estimate of the total number of caribou in the study area during each survey. The estimated value was based on the proportion of the study area surveyed (i.e., 25% for surveys between 1998 and 2000, and 15% for surveys in 2008 and 2009). As mentioned, barrenground caribou could be abundant in the study area during the post-calving migration, with large groups recorded in 2008 and many smaller groups recorded during a spring migration/calving survey in 2000 (Table 5-7). Based on these estimates, barren-ground caribou presence in the study area appears to be quite variable among years. Recorded peaks likely were migration pulses where large numbers of animals quickly move through the study area.

