Hunter Satisfaction: A Survey of Yukon Licensed Moose and Caribou Hunters, March 2013

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Acknowledgements

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Key Findings

We interviewed 810 licensed Yukon hunters who held at least one moose or caribou seal in the 2012 hunting season. Our objective was to measure their satisfaction with their hunting experience that year. Participation rate was very high; 95% of hunters contacted agreed to be interviewed.

• Most hunters said they were satisfied or very satisfied with:
  o mandatory harvest reporting (83% of hunters were satisfied);
  o the permit hunt process (72%);
  o the Hunter Education Program (87%);
  o the annual regulations summary (76%), and
  o the quality of customer service provided by Environment Yukon (96%).

• Almost two-thirds of hunters who purchased a moose seal actually went hunting. Most active moose hunters (80%) were satisfied with their moose hunting experience in 2012. Although success during the hunt was an important factor, most hunters said that simply getting out on the land was the most satisfactory aspect of their hunt in 2012. About 24% of moose seal holders actually harvested a moose in 2012. Non-Whitehorse hunters were more likely to be successful.

• About one-quarter of hunters who purchased at least one caribou seal actually went hunting. Most active caribou hunters (77%) were satisfied with their caribou hunting experience in 2012. Similar to moose hunters, a successful harvest was the second most satisfactory aspect for caribou hunters, after simply getting out on the land. About 20% of caribou seal holders harvested at least one caribou in 2012. Of these caribou, 87% were woodland caribou and 13% were barren-ground. Again, non-Whitehorse hunters were more likely to be successful.

• Just over half of all hunters interviewed said they would use an online system to purchase hunting licences and seals if that service were provided. Whitehorse-based hunters were more likely to use such a system.

• Over three-quarters of hunters said they would use an online system to report their harvest if that service were provided. Again, Whitehorse-based hunters were more likely to use such a system.
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Background

This was the first hunter satisfaction survey conducted by Environment Yukon. We routinely ask hunters to submit data about their harvests and we periodically send out surveys asking how much effort hunters put into hunting, but we have never asked how they feel about their hunts and hunt management. The objective of this survey was to measure the level of satisfaction of Yukon licensed moose and caribou hunters regarding their hunting experience in 2012. While the survey focused on satisfaction with moose and caribou hunts, we took the opportunity to ask hunters about several other programs and services offered by Environment Yukon.

Methods

For the 2012-13 licensing year, there were 3,270 Yukon licensed hunters who purchased at least one moose or caribou seal. We excluded 659 moose and caribou hunters who were also identified to be contacted for the Sheep and Goat Hunter Effort survey. We then randomly chose 1,976 (or approximately 75%) of the remaining hunters to participate in the Satisfaction survey.

Survey questions (Appendix 1) were developed with input from the Yukon Bureau of Statistics, species and regional biologists, and communications staff in Environment Yukon.

The Bureau of Statistics conducted telephone interviews with survey respondents between March 5 and 31, 2013. The Bureau of Statistics completed the data collection and data entry and Environment Yukon completed the analysis and reporting.

For satisfaction questions, hunters were asked to rate their level of satisfaction on a scale of 1 to 5 (where 1 meant 'very dissatisfied' and 5 meant 'very satisfied') for several programs or services delivered by Environment Yukon. If a hunter rated his or her satisfaction as a 4 or 5, we considered the hunter to be satisfied.

Data were summarized and charts were produced using Microsoft Excel. Comments and suggestions were paraphrased, summarized, and described in the text. All comments received are presented in relevant appendices, as cited in the text.

The participation rate for this survey was very high; 95% of hunters contacted agreed to participate. A total of 810 hunters or about 25% of all Yukon licensed hunters who purchased at least one moose or caribou seal for the 2012-13 season were interviewed for this survey.
Results and Discussion

Respondent Profile

Some basic demographic information was collected from the hunters, including their gender, age category, place of residence, and years of hunting experience. Two thirds of the hunters lived in Whitehorse. There were no differences in responses between Whitehorse and non-Whitehorse hunters except where noted.

About 3% of the hunters purchased only a caribou seal or seals, 44% purchased only a moose seal, and almost 53% purchased both moose and caribou seal(s).

This focus on moose is not surprising since moose is generally considered the preferred food species and licensed hunting opportunities for caribou are more limited than for moose (Appendix 2).

Male hunters outnumbered female hunters by almost 5 to 1 (688 males versus 121 females). Most hunters, male or female, were between 46 and 64 years of age.

Hunters in this survey had hunted in Yukon from zero to 70 years (Figure 1). Five of the hunters (0.6%) stated they had not hunted in Yukon at all, despite having purchased at least 1 moose or caribou seal in 2012-13. Almost half of the hunters had hunted in Yukon for 15 years or less.

Figure 1. Number of years spent hunting in Yukon.
**General Satisfaction Questions**

**Mandatory harvest reporting**

Most hunters (83%) were satisfied with mandatory harvest reporting. Thirty-one comments were received (see Appendix 3). The most common comment was regarding the lack of complete information (14 comments). Some suggested improvements for the system for Yukon licensed hunters included a reminder for hunters to report, a longer time frame to report, and making reported harvest numbers more available to hunters.

**Permit hunt process**

Most hunters (72%) were satisfied with the permit hunt process. This question received the most comments from hunters (95 comments; see Appendix 4). The most common concern (32 comments) was related to the perceived fairness of the permit draws. Some suggested improvements included adjustments to the timing of the draw (presumably to allow more time to apply), instituting a refundable application fee, and having more publicity before and during the draw.

**Hunter Education Program**

Most hunters (87%) were satisfied with the Hunter Education Program. There were few comments or suggestions (17), and they were wide-ranging (see Appendix 5).

One respondent commented that the course was too general, while others thought it was too long. Specific suggestions for improvement included a hands-on component on meat handling, and a focus on young or new hunters.

**Clarity of hunting rules as explained in the annual hunting regulations summary**

Most hunters (76%) were satisfied with the clarity of the hunting rules. This question received the second highest number of comments and suggestions (80 comments; see Appendix 6). The most common comment topic was generally that the summary booklet or the regulations themselves are confusing (34 comments), followed by the maps in the booklet (19 comments) and hunting zone boundaries (13 comments). Specific sections identified for improvement were the furbearer, caribou, and bison sections. Some specific suggestions for improvements included providing digital files of the zones to upload to GPS units, including a ballistics chart, installing signs to mark the boundaries of subzones and other important boundaries such as First Nation Settlement Land, and generally improving the maps (e.g. bigger to provide more detail).

**Quality of customer service provided by Environment Yukon**

Most hunters (96%) were satisfied with the quality of customer service provided.
There were few comments on this question (9 comments; see Appendix 7). The most common theme related to enforcement activities.

**Moose Questions**

*Did you go hunting for moose in 2012?*

Two hunters refused to answer this question. Of those who answered, just over 65% of all hunters who held a moose tag actually went hunting for moose. This includes 8 of 26 hunters who had purchased only a caribou tag.

*Overall satisfaction with your moose hunting experience in 2012*

Of those hunters who went moose hunting in 2012, most were satisfied with their overall moose hunting experience, with about 80% of hunters scoring their satisfaction level at 4 or 5.

*Most and least satisfactory aspects of your 2012 moose hunt*

About half of the 459 hunters who answered this question replied that they simply enjoy getting out on the land. About 14% of the hunters said that the most enjoyable part of the trip was actually getting a moose (Table 1). About 8% of hunters replied that they enjoyed the opportunity to get out with family or friends (or in some cases, without family, especially kids).

Over one quarter of moose hunters said the aspect that they were least satisfied with was the fact that they didn’t get a moose, followed by weather conditions. Fewer than 7% of hunters said they saw too few animals during their hunt. There were a variety of other comments (see Appendices 8 and 9).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOST satisfactory aspect</th>
<th>LEAST satisfactory aspect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enjoy being out on the land (53%)</td>
<td>Unsuccessful hunt (39%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Successful hunt (14%)</td>
<td>Weather (14%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family companionship (9%)</td>
<td>Too few animals (9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everything (5%)</td>
<td>Travel considerations (6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunity to hunt (5%)</td>
<td>Hunting rules (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (14%)</td>
<td>Too many people (4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Too little time (4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enforcement encounters (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Equipment issues (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other (17%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Were you successful in killing a moose in 2012?

Of the 517 hunters who went hunting and who answered this question, about 24% actually harvested a moose in 2012. A slightly higher proportion of moose seal holders outside of Whitehorse were successful than Whitehorse hunters (28% versus 24% respectively, Figure 2). The hunter who went moose hunting but had only a caribou seal did not harvest a moose.

![Figure 2. Proportion of moose seal holders who harvested a moose](image)

As also indicated in the previous question, hunters who were successful in getting a moose indicated a higher level of satisfaction with their hunt than did unsuccessful hunters (Figure 3).

![Figure 3. Satisfaction level of moose hunters, by harvest success](image)
**Caribou Questions**

*Did you go hunting for caribou in 2012?*

Two hunters refused to answer this question. Of those hunters who purchased at least one caribou tag and answered this question, about 25% went hunting caribou in 2012. For this question, there was a difference between Whitehorse and non-Whitehorse hunters. For those hunters holding a caribou seal only, half of non-Whitehorse hunters actually went hunting caribou whereas less than a quarter of Whitehorse hunters actually went hunting (Figure 4).

![Figure 4](image)

*Figure 4.* Proportion of hunters who purchased caribou seal(s) and went caribou hunting

*Overall satisfaction with your caribou hunting experience in 2012*

For the 112 hunters who purchased at least one caribou seal and who answered this question, over three-quarters were satisfied with their caribou hunting experience in 2012. Similar to the moose hunting satisfaction question, there was one hunter who said he/she went caribou hunting but had purchased only a moose tag.
Most and least satisfactory aspects of your 2012 caribou hunt

As with moose hunters, caribou hunters stated that just simply being out on the land was the most satisfactory aspect of their 2012 caribou hunt (Table 2).

Again as with moose hunters, the most common specific aspect that hunters were least satisfied about was an unsuccessful hunt, followed by weather. There were a variety of other comments (see Appendices 10 and 11).

Were you successful in killing a caribou in 2012? If yes, was it barren ground or woodland?

Of the 113 hunters who answered this question, about 20% were successful in harvesting at least one caribou. Of these, 87% of the successful hunters reported taking a woodland caribou and the remaining hunters harvested a barren-ground caribou.

The barren-ground Porcupine Caribou Herd was not very accessible to hunters in 2012, which probably means that the proportion of woodland caribou in the harvest was high compared to other years when Porcupine Caribou are more available. Success rates for caribou-only hunters from Whitehorse and the communities were about the same (25%); however for hunters who held both moose and caribou tags, non-Whitehorse hunters (28%) were more successful than Whitehorse hunters (15%) at harvesting a caribou (Figure 5).

Interest in Online Technology

Purchasing licence and seals online

Overall, about 56% of the hunters said they would use an online service to purchase their licence and seals if it were provided. A higher proportion of hunters in Whitehorse (62%) than in other communities (45%) said they would use this technology.

Table 2. Common Most and Least satisfactory aspects of your 2012 caribou hunt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOST satisfactory aspect</th>
<th>LEAST satisfactory aspect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Just being out on the land (48 %)</td>
<td>Unsuccessful hunt (34 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Successful hunt (10 %)</td>
<td>Weather (16 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everything (8 %)</td>
<td>Travel considerations (11 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunity to hunt (7 %)</td>
<td>Too few animals (5 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family companionship (6 %)</td>
<td>Hunting rules (3 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (21 %)</td>
<td>Too many people (3 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Equipment issues (2 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Too little time (2 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other (24 %)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hunter Satisfaction Survey, March 2013
**Reporting harvest online**

Overall, 78% of hunters said they would report their harvest online if that service were provided. Again, more Whitehorse hunters (83%) than hunters in other communities (69%) said they would use this technology.

![Bar chart](chart5.png)

**Figure 5.** Proportion of caribou seal holders who harvested at least one caribou

Similar to moose hunters, caribou hunters who did not harvest a caribou were more likely to be unsatisfied with their overall hunt (Figure 6).

![Bar chart](chart6.png)

**Figure 6.** Satisfaction level of caribou hunters, by harvest success
Appendix 1. Questions asked during the interviews

Tag type: moose, caribou or both

SECTION A: GENERAL QUESTIONS

• On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'very dissatisfied' and 5 means 'very satisfied': How satisfied are you with mandatory harvest reporting?

• Please tell us why you are dissatisfied and what changes, if any, would you suggest to improve mandatory harvest reporting?

• On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'very dissatisfied' and 5 means 'very satisfied': How satisfied are you with the permit hunt process?

• Please tell us why you are dissatisfied and what changes, if any, would you suggest to improve the permit hunt process?

• On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'very dissatisfied' and 5 means 'very satisfied': How satisfied are you with the hunter education program?

• Please tell us why you are dissatisfied and what changes, if any, would you suggest to improve the hunter education program?

• On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'very dissatisfied' and 5 means 'very satisfied': How satisfied are you with how clearly the hunting rules are explained in the annual hunting regulations summary?

• Please tell us why you are dissatisfied and what changes, if any, would you suggest to improve the explanation of the hunting rules in the annual regulations summary?

• On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'very dissatisfied' and 5 means 'very satisfied': How satisfied are you with the quality of customer service provided by Environment Yukon?

• Please tell us why you are dissatisfied and what changes, if any, would you suggest to improve the quality of customer service?

SECTION B: MOOSE QUESTIONS

• Did you go hunting for MOOSE in 2012?

• On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'very dissatisfied' and 5 means 'very satisfied': How satisfied were you with your overall MOOSE hunting experience in 2012?

• What part of your MOOSE hunting experience were you MOST satisfied with?
• What part of your MOOSE hunting experience were you LEAST satisfied with?
• Were you successful in killing a MOOSE in 2012?

SECTION C: CARIBOU QUESTIONS
• Did you go hunting for CARIBOU in 2012?
• On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'very dissatisfied' and 5 means 'very satisfied': How satisfied were you with your overall CARIBOU hunting experience in 2012?
• What part of your CARIBOU hunting experience were you MOST satisfied with?
• What part of your CARIBOU hunting experience were you LEAST satisfied with?
• Were you successful in killing CARIBOU in 2012?
• If yes, was it barren ground or woodland?

SECTION D: INTEREST IN ONLINE TECHNOLOGY
• Would you purchase your hunting license and seals online if that service were to be provided?
• Would you report your harvest online if this service were to be provided?

SECTION E: DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS
• Are you male or female?
• Please identify which age group you belong to:
• Which community do you live in?
• How many years have you hunted in the Yukon?
• Comments?
Appendix 2a. Licensed hunting opportunities for moose in the 2012 season.
Appendix 2b. Licensed hunting opportunities for caribou in the 2012-13 season.
Appendix 3. Suggested improvements to mandatory harvest reporting

CONFIDENTIALITY
- No one wants to report what they’ve killed to the government.
- I don’t like the fact that the kills are published.
- I don’t see enough of it, more information would be good.

CONVENIENCE
- Too inconvenient.
- It’s a lot of paperwork.

MISSING DATA
- First Nations hunters should be required to report their harvest (7 comments).
- Without complete information, wildlife is not being properly managed (3 comments).
- Not everyone reports their kill (4 comments).

PROCESS
- Reporting shouldn’t be mandatory.
- If you don’t get anything you shouldn’t have to report it.
- Can understand reporting bear and sheep, but thinks it is inconvenient to report moose and caribou.
- I don’t like any kind of government control. I’m First Nations and don’t think I should have to report my harvest.
- Remind hunters to report.
- Need longer time period to put in report. Got sick and handed in report 1 day late and was treated like a bloody criminal.
- Used to report at the end of the year and that worked well.
- It should have sub-zones not just zones.
OTHER

- I was fined before. Didn't know it was mandatory at the time.
- Hunting seems all about shooting and getting a trophy.
- Too many "no hunt" areas around communities. There are millions of acres that we can't get to that are open but we are not allowed to hunt in areas that we CAN get to.
- Just not a big fan of the rules I guess.
Appendix 4. Suggested improvements to the permit hunt process

COMMUNICATIONS

- Not well advertised.
- I’ve missed the deadline a few times. I think they should advertise more or have reminders.

FAIRNESS

- I’m not sure it’s equitable / fair (10 comments).
- It seems like the same people get the permits year after year (24 comments).
- It should be a fair draw as it states and give regular people a chance, not just Conservation Officer's, police officers and YTG employees.
- Half the permits are going to outfitters. It's also never been restricted for First Nations.
- I think the wrong people win.
- First Nations people should have to enter draws like everyone else (2 comments).
- Hasn't gotten drawn in 10 years.
- Hasn't gotten drawn in 5 years.
- Has never been drawn (5 comments).
- Never being drawn and I’ve been applying every year since 1971.
- It would be nice to get picked for a permit.
- Is there a better way of getting your name drawn?

NUMBER

- Don’t think there’s a need for permit hunts at all (7 comments).
- Permit 714 for sheep I see lots of sheep and no hunters. I don't think it should be on permit at all.
- I think everybody should be on a permit and there should be so many permits per zone.
- We should have more permits available (5 comments).
- They need more deer permits.
• They need more elk permits (2 comments).
• Permits should not be issued in zones where there are small numbers of wildlife (2 comments).
• Environment knows the numbers have been down and they still give out permits.
• I don't think Environment has a good enough handle on animal populations to properly know actual numbers, for deer especially.

PROCESS
• If your name has been drawn you shouldn't be eligible the following year.
• If your name has been drawn you shouldn't be eligible for a couple of years.
• If your name has been drawn you shouldn't be eligible for 3 years in that area.
• I wish there was a priority aspect. So each year your name isn't drawn you move up in priority. For example: you have applied for 3 years without being drawn so your name would now be priority 3 so you'd have a better chance of being drawn.
• Everyone should have equal opportunities to certain areas.
• Make selection process more open. Clean slate on exponential [sic] business and give everyone a fair shot.
• The draw needs to be done in public (6 comments).
• Would like to see a different way of drawing names.
• Refund the money to those who don't get drawn (2 comments).
• Once you put your name in you have to wait.
• The timing is not good. He has applied more than once, but it was too late by the time he sent his information back.
• I'm not here when you can apply, so I always miss out.
• Seems like a person has to go through a lot just to apply and then they get scooped up by the guy before.

OTHER
• Seasons under permit needs to be open longer so you can have a chance of getting something.
• The Whitehorse area is far too restricted.
• It makes it inconvenient to plan for a hunt. Eventually you need to get a permit. You should know that in 1, 2 or 5 years your name will be drawn
• First Nations should be able to hunt wherever they want. You have to spend a lot of money to get where you want and it’s hard to read the zones. There should be more Conservation Officers out there patrolling the land.
• People shoot too much for themselves. They should get what they need and leave the rest.
• Undergoing a poaching charge so I’m just not happy.
• Not a fan of the rules
• We can’t hunt bison in southern Yukon
• When you fill out the tag make sure you get permission by the First Nation.
• The system is not open to discussion.
Appendix 5. Suggested improvements to the Hunter Education program

- Should be held more frequently (3 comments).
- It should be more available for younger generations (3 comments).
- I would like to see it taught in the communities.
- The program should be a few days longer for new hunters.
- The delivery of the curriculum is very boring. The course should be mandatory as a refresher.
- It was too general especially with the harvest of the meat. People should have hands on training.
- The course is done by game wardens. How can they shoot something and film it out of season? Give a course without bias of First Nations vs. non First Nations.
- They don’t have the program.
- I think it was useless / waste of time / don’t believe in it (3 comments).
- Teach them how to hunt properly. They shouldn’t waste any meat.
- Need better education on field dressing.
- Simplify things so people aren’t confused on fishing and hunting.
Appendix 6. Suggested improvements to the clarity of hunting rules as explained in the annual hunting regulations summary

NEEDS BETTER WORDING / PLAIN LANGUAGE / GENERALLY CONFUSING
(15 comments)
- Can’t seem to find anything without going through it a million times.
- Parts are confusing i.e. furbearer, caribou and bison sections.

LEVEL OF DETAIL
- Good general info but not detailed enough.
- Too much information; needs to be simplified (5 comments).

IT’S THE HUNTING RULES THAT ARE CONFUSING
- Hunting rules are too complicated (4 comments).
- Too many rules - too much information to read (84 pages). Make it simple.
- It's getting too complicated. It's alright to hunt in areas you're familiar with. It gets difficult in other areas with the zones.
- Some of the regulations seem to contradict the federal regulations.
- Regulations say one thing and the CO’s say another.
- Bison summary always seem to be different from the regulations.
- There are too many zones.
- The regulations should apply to everyone. First Nations should not be exempt (2 comments).
- First Nations rights are difficult to understand.
- First Nations lands are not marked properly in the book, at the office, in the field (4 comments).

MAPS
- Maps are generally hard to read / see zones (11 comments).
- Maybe use more colors.
- Too crowded – make them larger and easier to read (3 comments).
- Put each zone on a page of its own.
- I liked when the maps were part of the book.
- Should include longitude and latitude coordinates of the zones (2 comments) and important boundaries e.g. First Nation land, intersecting rivers so that people can confirm with their GPS.
- Even the topographical maps are not very good.

ZONE BOUNDARIES
- It's tough to know the zone boundaries (12 comments).
- Put markers on the road like in BC.

OTHER
- Need a ballistics chart.
- Always room for improvement. Review every 3-4 years.
- New rules/regulations don't come out early enough / before hunting season starts (2 comments).
- A French booklet will come in handy.
Appendix 7. Suggested improvements to the quality of customer service

- The level of suspicion when you're in the field. It feels like you are guilty until proven not.

- Works for Environment Yukon and would like it if there was more funding for the longer operating hours. Last year they didn't operate because there wasn't any caribou on the Dempster Highway.

- I called the Tip Line and was told someone would be in touch and they never did. Need more people out in the field.

- Their attitude. It's the government.

- There doesn't seem to be a level of care.

- There's an office in Watson Lake. Workers are not in the office when posted.

- Need to provide more jobs to First Nations people.

- The attitudes of the CO's are guilty until proven innocent. It's like they have a quota to fill.

- CO's are ignorant and rude. Camped on beach. CO pulled in with a boat. I wasn't fishing but still answered questions. CO was very ignorant. At a check stop, CO's started inspecting guns. One CO jumped in the back of my truck and started going through it.
Appendix 8. “Other” comments under MOST satisfied aspect of moose hunt

- Having the ability / opportunity to hunt (7 comments).
- Ease of the hunt (2 comments).
- Saw lots of animals (4 comments).
- Overall good experience (21 comments).
- Good weather (9 comments).
- Good interactions with Environment Yukon staff: Conservation Officers (3 comments), and office staff.
- The ATV riding.
- The price of the moose tags.
- The fact that I knew the whole process from how to get a licence to how to report a harvest.
- Hunted moose and caribou at the same time.
- I enjoy learning it was my first time moose hunting.
- I go out with someone who is very experienced.
- The experience without the kids. It was fun with just my husband.
- When you call a moose and it starts coming towards you.
- I had help packing out the meat.
- I hunt for food not for sport.
- When I come home and eat moose.
- I hunted on a special permit so there lots of moose and not a lot of people.
- If she would have seen a moose it would have been a better experience.
- There was lots of fat on my moose.
Appendix 9. “Other” comments under LEAST satisfied aspect of moose hunt

- Timing was bad: moon was wrong, too early (2 comments).
- Mishaps out in the field: burned food, falling in the water, vehicle problems, generally unprepared (6 comments).
- Field dressing, butchering in the dark, packing and transporting the meat, not having help, age making it harder (9 comments).
- The trip was too long (3 comments).
- Behaviour of other people: disrespectful, canoeists blocking the river, target shooting in the bush, making trails and damaging habitat, littering, shooting from the road (10 comments).
- Large number of other people, hunters (2 comments).
- Too much quad traffic (2 comments). Needs to be limited in some areas.
- We saw snowmobile hunting for caribou. He didn't agree with this practice.
- In 2011 a helicopter was out in the field. I'm sure there were moose scared away.
- Dynamics / interactions with other in the hunting party: My friend getting the moose I called in two hours after I left camp for home, my partner missing the moose, not shooting the moose myself (4 comments).
- Getting a moose - a lot of work, but worth it (2 comments).
- Figuring out where I could get a moose.
- Camping out.
- Going home (2 comments).
- Cleaning my vehicle.
- It was very difficult to report my harvest because of where I was in the bush.
- Saw a lot of moose; saw all bulls and no cows.
- The wolves ate all the moose.
Appendix 10. “Other” comments under MOST satisfied aspect of caribou hunt

- Saw lots of caribou (5 comments).
- Generally a good experience (4 comments).
- Combined with moose hunt (2 comments).
- The accessibility to caribou hunting areas.
- The area I got to hunt in because of the nice weather.
- No people.
- The after kill.
- The way we kill them and the way we bring everything back with us.
- Memories.
- Went up the Dempster and talked to the CO in Dawson who gave good advice and great service.
Appendix 11. “Other” comments under LEAST satisfied aspect of caribou hunt

- Driving back and forth on the road. It gets boring.
- Figuring out where I could hunt.
- It's a long trip to get a caribou.
- Grizzly bears.
- I ended up in frozen water.
- I had some issues with one of the person in my hunting party.
- If we could manage the wolves around the Nisutlin Lake area.
- Meeting up with hunters who left their kill and just took the head and cape.
- None of the permits explained the extent of roads or trails in the areas. Not surprised there were no caribou.
- The fact that I shot something and the hunt was over.
- The heck of a climb back to the rig.
- The same yahoos.
- People out on ATVs ripping up the ground, driving irresponsibly.
- Off road vehicles affect the movement of animals. It's disturbing.
- They've moved way into the back because of mining and ATV's.