



Dear {FIRST_NAME|Wilderness Supporter},

Though it is 24 years since Alberta's woodland caribou were first designated an *endangered* species, caribou numbers are still in desperate decline, and both provincial and federal governments resolutely refuse to act to halt the decline.

Tomorrow (June 22) AWA and our environmental and First Nations colleagues are in court in Edmonton, seeking a court order to force federal Environment Minister Peter Kent to recommend emergency protection of critical habitat for threatened caribou herds in northeastern Alberta.

Please consider joining us in court, or writing Minister Kent to show your support for Alberta's imperilled caribou!

- Nigel Douglas, AWA Conservation Specialist

In This Issue:

Woodland Caribou Battle Goes to Federal Court

AWA

www.AlbertaWilderness.ca

1-866-313-0713

Woodland Caribou Battle Goes to Federal Court

Conservation groups and three First Nations are in Federal Court, wednesday June 22, to demand immediate protection of Alberta's iconic woodland caribou, which are in rapid decline as more and more of their habitat is lost to unchecked oilsands development. AWA and the Pembina Institute are represented by Ecojustice; the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, Beaver Lake Cree Nation and Enoch Cree Nation are represented by Woodward & Company.

The groups are attempting to use provisions of the federal *Species at Risk Act* to actually protect species at risk. The situation for Alberta's woodland caribou is dire:



- Of the thirteen Alberta caribou herds with sufficient data, ten are in decline. Just one is stable. Some herds have declined by more than 70 per cent during the past 15 years.
- Abundant scientific evidence indicates that oilsands operations contribute to caribou population declines, yet as of July 2010, there were 34 current or approved oilsands projects and 12 additional proposed projects within the herds' ranges.
- A 2010 Alberta government study found that if the current industrial development trend continued, local caribou are likely to become extinct in less than 40 years.
- The Government of Alberta's reluctance to introduce any meaningful caribou habitat protection through its recent Lower Athabasca Regional Plan makes immediate federal action even more critical.

Alberta's woodland caribou desperately need as much help as they can get. Please consider joining us in court to show your support.

Who: Ecojustice, representing AWA and the Pembina Institute,
Woodward & Company, representing the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation,
the Beaver Lake Cree Nation and the Enoch Cree Nation

Where: Federal Court, Scotia Place
Tower 1, 10060 Jasper Avenue NW, Edmonton.

When: Wednesday June 22, 2011
Court proceedings to start at 9:30 a.m.

Alternatively, you could write to federal Environment Minister, Peter Kent, to ask that he bring in emergency measures to protect woodland caribou, before it is too late.

The Hon. Peter Kent,
Minister of the Environment
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
10 Wellington Street, 28th Floor
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3
Phone: (819) 997-1441
Email: Minister@ec.gc.ca

And please copy us on your letter: awa.nd@shaw.ca

Defending Wild Alberta through Awareness and Action

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

Alberta Wilderness Association
455 12 Street NW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2E1
CA

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

