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December 17, 2018

Jim Rennie
Mayor
Woodlands County
Box 60, 1 Woodlands Lane
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N3

RE: Invitation to become an Associate Member of Northwest Species at Risk Committee

Dear Mayor Rennie:

Northwest Species at Risk Committee (NWSAR) is a solutions-based committee comprised of Voting and Associate member municipalities, in Northwest Alberta.

Our committee was founded in November 2016 by: Mackenzie County, County of Northern Lights, Clear Hills County and the Towns of High Level, Rainbow Lake and Manning. Our Associate membership includes County of Grande Prairie, Northern Sunrise County, MD of Opportunity, MD of Fairview, Big Lakes County and the Town of High Prairie.

NWSAR is actively involved in efforts towards caribou recovery in five (5) Boreal Caribou ranges; these include Bistcho, Yates, Caribou Mountains, Red Earth and Chinchaga, all located in Northwest Alberta. Our efforts are focusing on improving local population number of caribou herds, while safeguarding our local economies.

At our last meeting on December 4, 2018 **Motion 18-12-007** was **CARRIED** for NWSAR to extend Associate Membership invitations to all municipalities impacted by the Northwest caribou ranges. Although Woodlands County is impacted by recovery planning for other Boreal Caribou ranges, NWSAR has appreciated your action and advocacy on this file.

Becoming an Associate member of NWSAR provides your municipality with access to all meeting agendas, minutes and updates on NWSAR's progress.



Associate members are welcome to attend all meetings to partake in discussions, but do not have a vote in the NWSAR decision-making process.

As per NWSAR's Terms of Reference, Associate members shall pay a \$1,000 (one-thousand dollar) annual fee to NWSAR's budget. Please review the attached Terms of Reference for more information.

While NWSAR's predominant focus is Boreal Caribou recovery, we also have interests in the Wood Bison and Grizzly Bear recovery files.

To find out more about NWSAR and to review previous meeting minutes' highlights please visit our website: <https://albertanwsar.ca/index.php/information/updates> or our Facebook page: Alberta Northwest Species at Risk Committee.

Please advise us on your decision at your earliest convenience, and we will provide you with an invoice and all relevant documentation, should Woodlands County choose to accept Associate Membership of NWSAR.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us or our administration – please see the attached contact information table.

Yours Sincerely,



Lisa Wardley
Chair, NWSAR
Councillor, Mackenzie County



Crystal McAteer
Vice Chair, NWSAR
Mayor, Town of High Level

cc: Northwest Species at Risk Committee

