

What is a range plan?

Woodland caribou are integral to northern Saskatchewan's boreal forest and are a culturally significant species to Indigenous peoples. Caribou populations are currently stable in the Boreal Shield and declining in parts of the Boreal Plain due to landscape disturbances that alter older conifer forests and peatlands.

Caribou range plans provide a path forward for effective land management and will simultaneously benefit many other species that call the boreal forest home.

Examples of disturbance



Industrial activity



Forest harvest



Roads



Wildfire

Ecozones

- Taiga Shield
- Boreal Shield
- Boreal Plain
- Prairie

Goal of range plans:

To achieve and maintain a self-sustaining woodland caribou population by managing habitat availability, while acknowledging Traditional land use and allowing for continued economic activity in northern Saskatchewan.



Each range plan identifies important areas for caribou. Different management strategies are applied based on an area's historical and current value to caribou, current condition and potential risks.

The range plans are developed with input from many groups and communities, and incorporate knowledge from different sources. The range plans take a balanced approach to woodland caribou conservation.

Planned management actions will take a number of years to reduce disturbance levels in caribou habitat. **Saskatchewan will continue to monitor caribou to assess their status and the success of management actions on maintaining or achieving self-sustaining populations.**

As of 2023, range plans have been developed for three regions in the Boreal Plain and planning is in progress for the Boreal Shield. Learn more about range plans and Saskatchewan's approach to woodland caribou recovery: saskatchewan.ca/woodland-caribou