



## Prince Albert Model Forest Partners Protect Woodland Caribou in Central Saskatchewan

The Prince Albert Model Forest with its partners of Prince Albert National Park, Saskatchewan Environment, Prince Albert Grand Council, and Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd., recently launched a research project to protect the nationally threatened boreal woodland caribou. The ultimate goal of the research is to ensure that forest management throughout the region provides for critical habitat and movement corridors for caribou. This will help to ensure this elusive boreal species remains a part of the forests of Central Saskatchewan for generations to come.

The research will involve putting global positioning system (GPS) collars on twenty caribou to track their distribution and movements on the landscape. An innovative technique using DNA found in fecal pellets will also provide a measure of the genetic diversity and allow biologists to estimate the population size. With these results as well as recently developed landscape connectivity analysis, biologists will be able to identify critical habitat and movement corridors for the woodland caribou. Analyzing caribou movements and locations on a digital forest cover map, will help biologists determine what types of forest, how much, and what forest patch sizes and corridors are important to the species.

Prince Albert Model Forest is located 75 kilometres north of Prince Albert and covers 366,000 hectares including part of Prince Albert National Park and Waskesiu, the Resort Village of Candle Lake, Weyerhaeuser's Forest Management Agreement area, the reserve lands of Lac La Ronge Indian Band and Montreal Lake Cree Nation, and provincial Crown lands. The Model Forest and its partners are committed to sustainable forest management meeting the needs of current generations while ensuring healthy forests for the future.

For further information on this and other Prince Albert Model Forest projects, contact:  
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