

A caribou with small antlers is standing in a snowy forest. The caribou is facing left and has a collar around its neck. The background is filled with snow-covered evergreen trees.

Partnership Agreement Caribou Recovery Land Use Objective Stakeholder Committee

Chetwynd
January 24

Outline

1. Background and context
2. Discuss and confirm the purpose of Stakeholder Committee
3. Discuss the approach that the committee will take in completing its work
4. Timeline and key milestones

Meeting approach

Mutual Understanding and Openness

- Strive for mutual understanding of each other's interests and perspectives on issues.
- Share information that will help us to build and maintain healthy community relationships.
- Recognize that the need for openness will have to be balanced at times with the need to protect confidential information.

Communication and Trust

- Recognize that by sharing information and jointly developing effective communication we can build and maintain trust in our relationships

Respect

- The Committee will be a facilitated forum for a respectful and frank exchange of information

The Goal of Caribou Recovery

Why are we here

Canada, BC, West Moberly and Saulneau First Nations have recognized the urgent need to take action on caribou recovery.

The Partnership Agreement provides a framework for government to government to government cooperation in the recovery of the central group of Southern Mountain Caribou.

This framework is guided by a shared understanding that:

- Southern Mountain Caribou is listed as threatened under the federal *Species at Risk Act* and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada has determined that there is an imminent threat to their recovery.
- The need to protect habitat is key to the recovery and conservation of caribou.
- BC and Canada are committed to fully adopting and implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.
- Indigenous people play an important role in wildlife stewardship and indigenous perspectives and participation should inform all aspects of the Partnership Agreement.

Land Use Objectives, Why Partnership Agreement

Shared Recovery Objective of the Partnership agreement

“immediately stabilizing and expeditiously growing the population of the Central Group to levels that are self-sustaining and support traditional aboriginal harvesting activities, consistent with existing Aboriginal and Treaty rights.”

12. *The Parties anticipate management of Zone A1, B1 and B4 will provide for the following:*
 - c. *provincial decision making that will:*
 - vi. *ensure compliance with the Caribou Recovery Related Land Use Objectives scheduled to this Partnership Agreement.*
22. *British Columbia has identified draft Caribou Recovery Related Land Use Objectives as set out in Schedule 2. The Parties agree to establish a Technical Working Group (TWG) with a mandate to develop Caribou Recovery Related Land Use Objectives for the Parties according to the terms of reference set out in Schedule 3,*

Land Use Objectives, Why

Provincial objectives

Caribou Program goals

- Reverse the decline of woodland caribou where it is feasible to do so;
- Achieve a stable to increasing population of identified woodland caribou herds;
- Demonstrate reasonable efforts to meet the *Species at Risk Act* caribou recovery strategy;
- Provide increased certainty for the natural resource sector in B.C.;
- Ensure resources are efficiently allocated, coordinated and prioritized to those actions and activities that achieve demonstrable caribou recovery objectives; and,

Land Use Objectives, How?

- *Land Act*
- *Government Action Regulation*
- *Environmental Land Use Act*
- *Other?*

Land Use Objectives, How?

Land Act

Minister may establish *Forest and Range Practices Act* objectives by order

93.4 (1) For the purposes of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, the minister by order may establish objectives for the use and management of

(a) Crown resources,

(b) Crown land, or

(c) private land that is subject to a tree farm licence, woodlot licence or community forest agreement.

(2) An order of the minister under subsection (1) may apply in respect of Crown resources or Crown land, whether or not the Crown resources or Crown land are also the subject of a designation made or an objective established by the Lieutenant Governor in Council under this Part.

Land Use Objectives, How?

Government Action Regulation

General wildlife measures

9 (1) The minister responsible for the [Wildlife Act](#) by order may establish a general wildlife measure, to be applied to a specified area, for a category of species at risk, regionally important wildlife or specified ungulate species, if satisfied that

- (a) the measure is necessary to protect or conserve the species in the category in the area to which the measure relates, and
- (b) this regulation or another enactment does not otherwise provide for that protection or conservation.

Orders of Lieutenant Governor in Council

7 (1) On the recommendation of the committee, and despite any other Act or regulation, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make orders the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary or advisable respecting the environment or land use.

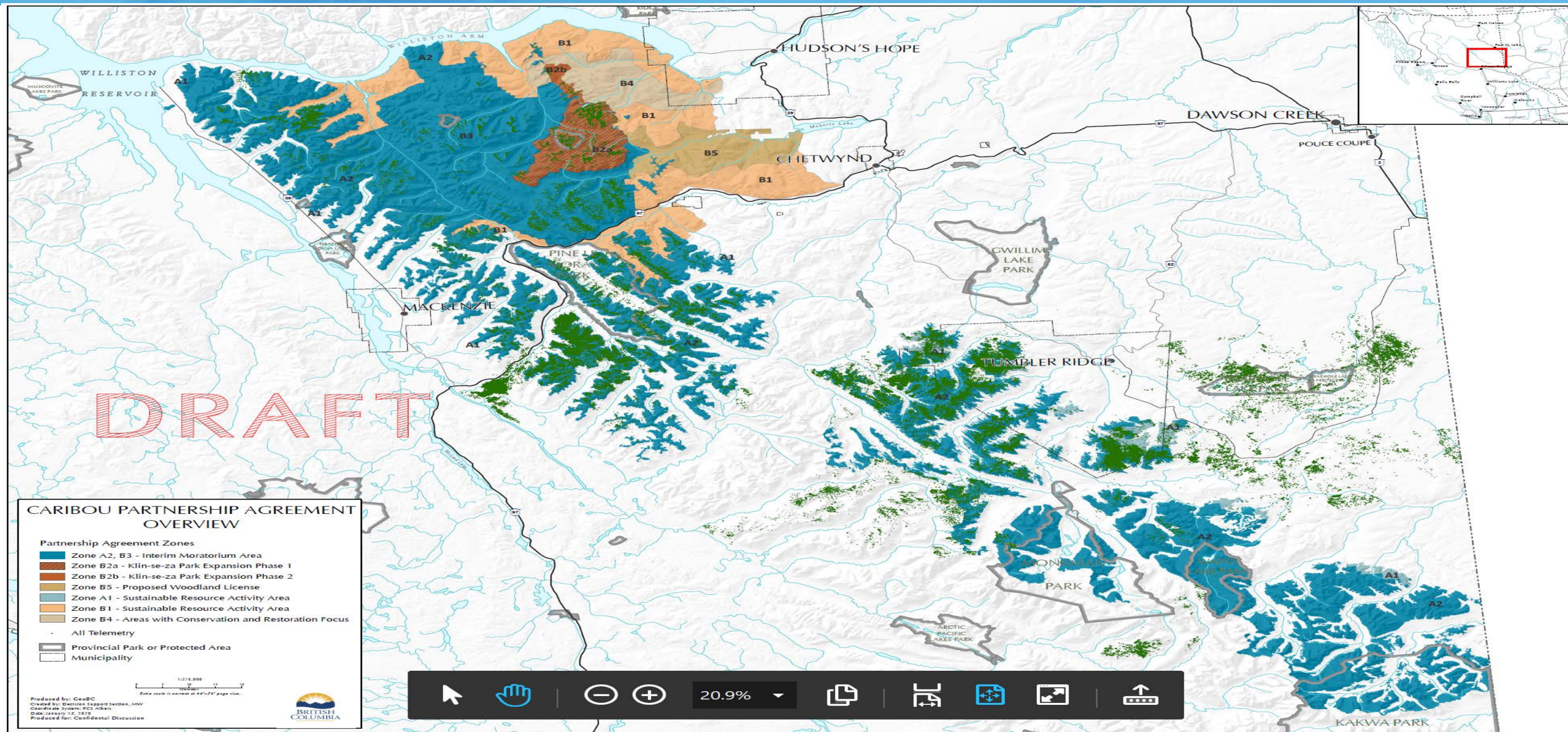
(2) A minister, ministry or agent of the Crown specified in an order under subsection (1) must not exercise a power under any other Act or regulation except in accordance with the order.

Land Use Objectives

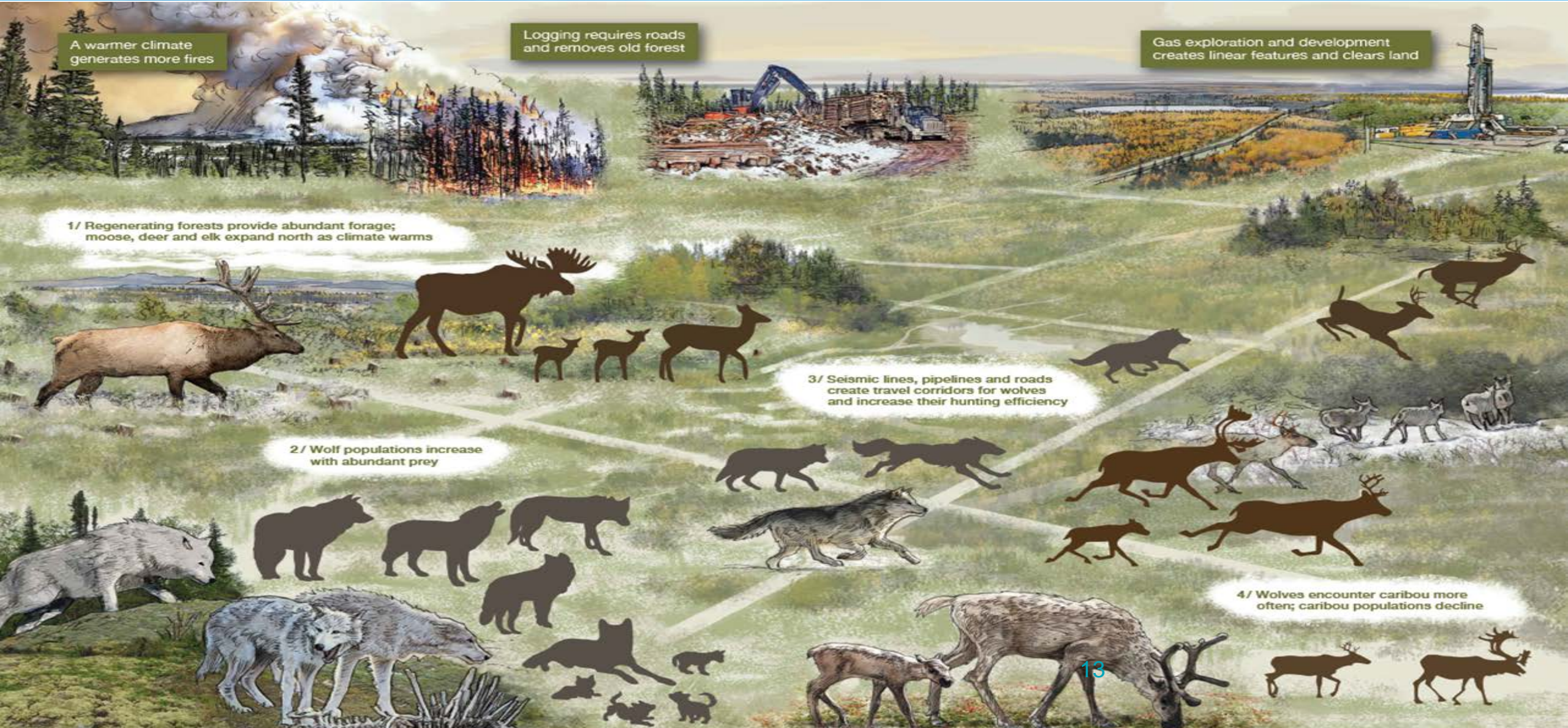
Guiding Principles

1. When combined with other recovery measures contribute to, immediately stabilizing and expeditiously growing the population of the Central Group to levels that are self-sustaining and support traditional aboriginal harvesting activities, consistent with existing Aboriginal and Treaty rights.
2. Minimize impacts to Annual Allowable Cuts (AAC).
3. Objectives must be clear and achievable by the industrial resource users.

Land Use Objectives, Where?



Impacts on Caribou Populations



Land Use Objectives, Drafts

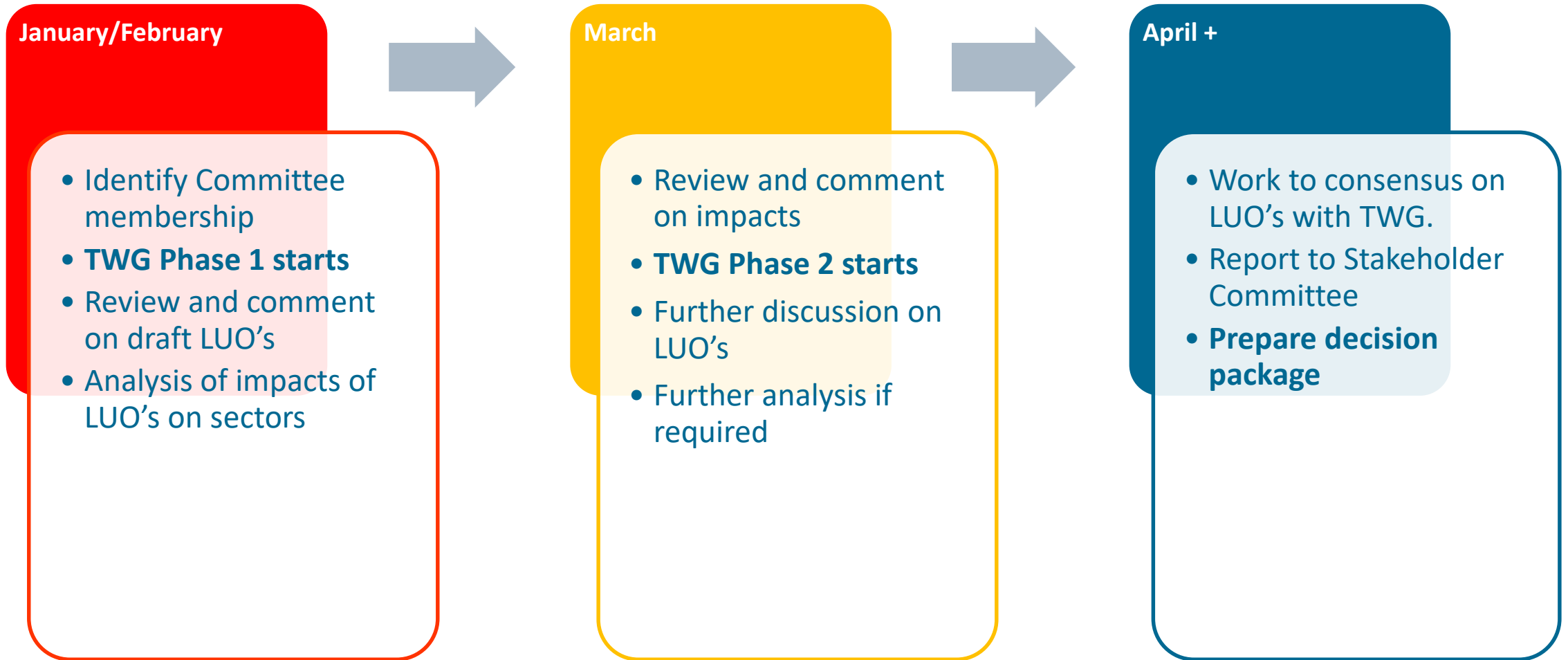
Schedule 2 of the Partnership Agreement

1. To address the adverse effects of unsustainable predation pressure on caribou:
 - the amount of early seral habitat that contributes forage to moose (to be defined) must not exceed [tbd]% of the planning unit (to be defined).”
2. To address fragmentation of defined critical habitat areas, and disturbance that contributes to primary prey forage production:
 - the amount of linear development in critical habitat must not exceed [tbd] km/km². If this limit is currently exceeded, the proponent must demonstrate how the level will be decreased to net neutral or positive for caribou by March 31, 2029.

Purpose of the Stakeholder Committee

1. Provide information to BC government staff representing on the Technical Working Group.
2. Keep committee members informed of the progress and outputs of the Technical Working Group.
3. Provide direct input into the Caribou Recovery Land Use Objectives.
4. Work with the Technical Working Group to come to consensus on proposed measures.

Timeline and Key Milestones



Stakeholder Committee Next Steps

Tentative short term approach

1. Identify membership for the LUO Subcommittee, January 31st
2. Develop draft Terms of Reference from conversations today.
3. Conference call, February 6th
 - Review and finalise Terms of Reference
 - Review draft LUO's and discuss input/impact/feedback on those objectives.
 - Update on progress of the TWG.
 - Develop meeting schedules and objectives
4. F2F or Conference call, Feb 13th or 14th Update on work of the TWG,
 - Review any updates on LUO's
 - Review or discuss analysis of impacts

END