



Grey Ghosts of Wabakimi

Woodland Caribou are a threatened species in Ontario under the Endangered Species at Risk Act. They avoid areas with human disturbance and seek out large areas of undisturbed boreal forest. If you are lucky, you may see a caribou during your visit to the park!

Woodland Caribou in Wabakimi Provincial Park

The population of caribou is limited by a number of factors, but primarily by winter food supply, calf survival/mortality, and predation by wolves. Wabakimi currently provides critical summer and winter habitat for the caribou. These caribou in Wabakimi, are located at the southern extent of Ontario's identified current caribou range.



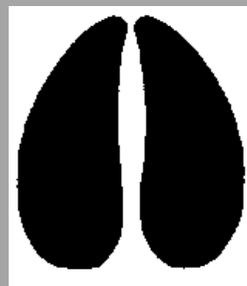
Caribou have very large annual home ranges and depend on specific habitat which supports a large amount of ground lichen. When lichen is disturbed it takes a minimum of 40 years to regenerate.



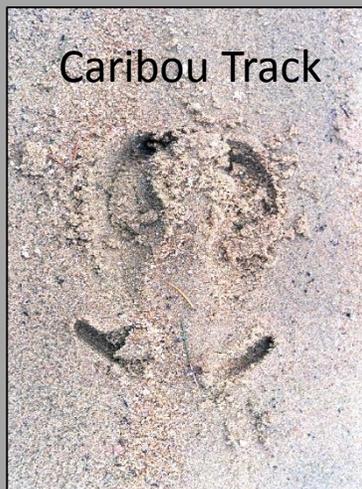
Caribou tracks are rounded rather than pointed like moose.



Caribou



Moose



Calving

During the summer, caribou of the Wabakimi area disperse to islands in lakes to calve, primarily to avoid predation during this vulnerable time. Calving usually occurs during May and June, however they may continue to use the islands until September.

Caribou droppings- about the size and shape of Glosette Raisins



What can you do to help?

Please do your part to help ensure that there will always be woodland caribou in the park:

- Try to avoid camping/ using shore lunches on islands during the vulnerable calving period (May and June).
- Use existing campsites
- Stick to trails to reduce the overall footprint on the sensitive lichen-carpeted habitat.
- Keep dogs on a leash
- If you see a caribou, do not pursue it. Keep your distance and just observe.
- If you see a caribou please take time to fill out the sightings chart.
- Thanks! The caribou appreciate it!

