Forest Stewardship Council®



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FSC-STD-CAN-01-2018 EN The FSC National Forest Stewardship

Normative reference Standard of Canada

Indicator 6.4.5c #5

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The requirement #5 of the Indicator 6.4.5c allows for the incorporation of an alternative habitat disturbance threshold informed by experts to be used for managing a caribou range.

- 1. Do experts need to:
 - be directly involved in determining the alternative habitat disturbance threshold?
 - confirm the validity of the alternative habitat disturbance threshold specific to the caribou range and local context?
- 2. Is the involvement of government representatives or stakeholders in the review of the forest management plan that includes the caribou conservation plan sufficient to satisfy the requirement?
- 3. If the decision is to manage the range using the 65% minimum undisturbed habitat threshold identified by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) in its Action Plan for Woodland Caribou (Rangifer tarandus

- No, an expert does not need to be directly involved, nor does formal confirmation (validity) need to be provided by an expert as long as it can be demonstrated that the threshold was determined for the specific range and local context and was developed using best available information and peerreviewed science.
 - The intent is that any alternative disturbance threshold is based on information coming from or authored by expert(s) (best available information and peer-reviewed science) applicable to the specific caribou range and local context relevant to the Management Unit. It shall be demonstrated that the approach fosters stewardship of caribou habitat that supports self-sustaining caribou populations. Using information coming from or authored by expert(s) and taking the collaborative process into account, The Organization shall demonstrate that the approach is based on best available information and peer-reviewed science providing a clear rationale for a threshold that is lower than the 65% as identified by ECCC.
- 2. No, involvement in the process by a government representative or stakeholder does not automatically qualify the person as



caribou), Boreal Population in Canada: Federal actions 2018, does it still need to be informed by an expert?

- an 'expert'. To be considered an expert, the qualifications of the person shall meet the definition of "expert" as described in FSC Canada's Standard (FSC-STD-CAN-01-2018) Glossary. Information coming from or authored by expert(s) shall be relevant to the specific caribou range and local context and based on best available information and peer-reviewed science.
- No, if the range is managed using the 65% undisturbed habitat threshold as identified by ECCC, it is considered that this is consistent with the Federal Range Plan Guidance and has the support of peerreviewed science.