Three herds, four scenarios

Regional differences in climate and vegetation will shape how Arctic caribou herds respond to rising temperatures.

CENTRAL ARCTIC

- Oceanic climate
- Cooler summers
- Rich tussock tundra vegetation

BATHURST

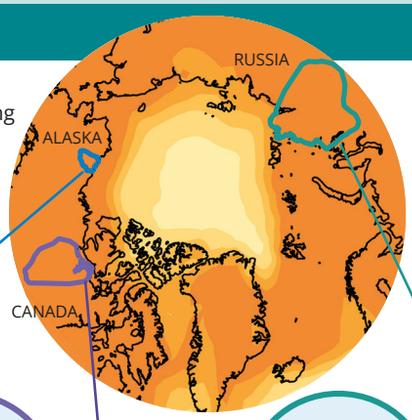
- Continental climate
- Hotter summers
- Sparse tundra on bedrock

TAIMYR

- Continental climate
- Cooler summers by the seas
- Shrub and moss-rich tundra

Best-case scenario 2050

Arctic warming can be limited through strong climate action, such as by cutting greenhouse gas emissions.



Impact on caribou numbers:

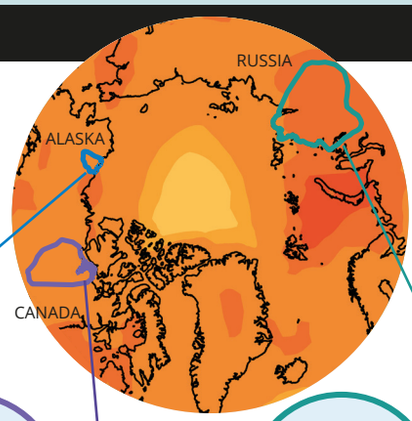
CENTRAL ARCTIC
4% increase

BATHURST
45% decrease

TAIMYR
30% decrease

Worst-case scenario 2050

Without strong climate action, caribou herds will become much smaller.



Impact on caribou numbers:

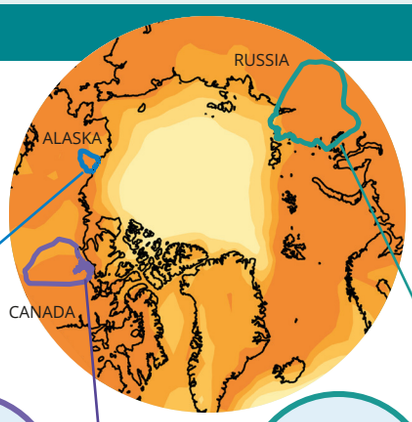
CENTRAL ARCTIC
25% decrease

BATHURST
50% decrease

TAIMYR
More than 40% decrease

Best-case scenario 2100

With strong climate action, caribou herds will be more resilient across the Arctic.



Impact on caribou numbers:

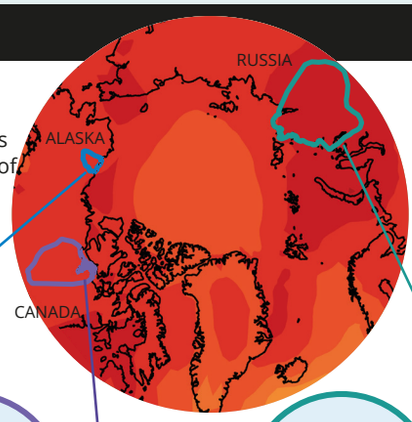
CENTRAL ARCTIC
More than 35% decrease

BATHURST
Almost 40% decrease

TAIMYR
More than 25% decrease

Worst-case scenario 2100

Without strong climate action, we will face a worst-case scenario in 2100. There will be severe declines (50 to 95 per cent) in the number of caribou across all herds.

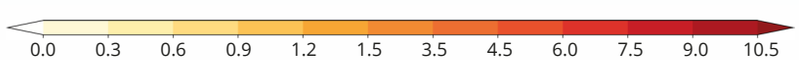


Impact on caribou numbers::

CENTRAL ARCTIC
Almost 50% decrease

BATHURST
Almost 85% decrease

TAIMYR
More than 95% decrease



Summer (June to August) surface air temperature change (°C, relative to 1981-2010 mean)