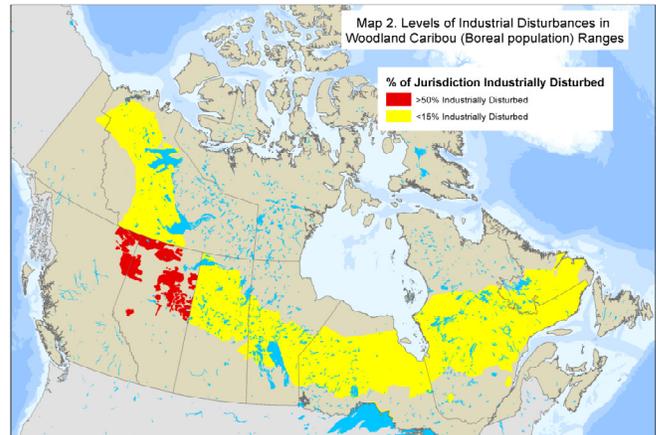


Fossil Fuel development in Alberta is killing caribou

Keystone XL will help push woodland caribou to extinction in Alberta

Alberta does not develop its oil, gas and oil sands responsibly

- *Alberta's woodland caribou are rapidly declining due to industrial development.*
- *Pipelines, roads, seismic lines and well sites fragment the old growth forests and wetlands where caribou live.*
- *In this disturbed habitat, caribou can no longer stay away from other prey (moose, deer, elk), predators (wolves, bears) and stressors like motorized vehicles and noisy well site equipment. Calf survival rates plummet.*



Map of industrial disturbance levels by jurisdiction in Canada. Red (Alberta & BC) >50%, yellow < 15% industrially disturbed. Source: Global Forest Watch Canada. 2012 ⁱⁱ

Caribou and Tar Sands

With today's ineffective project-level guidelines, scientists say **herds in tar sands areas of northeast Alberta will die out in the next few decadesⁱ.**

By 2010, Alberta's oil sands area caribou ranges were 64% disturbed by industry, far past a 20% disturbance limit where they're still likely self-sustainingⁱⁱ. The government keeps authorizing more and more disturbance. By mid- 2011, 83% of oil sands area caribou ranges had approved bitumen leases.

New parks announced in 2012 in northeast Alberta largely avoid tar sands areas even though caribou are dying out there. A total of 20% of caribou range (up from 6%) will be protected from oil sands, forestry and new oil and gas leases; however, old oil and gas leases can still go ahead. There are no promised land use disturbance limits or caribou habitat targets. **Alberta's 2012 land use plan is still far short of responsible or balanced development.**

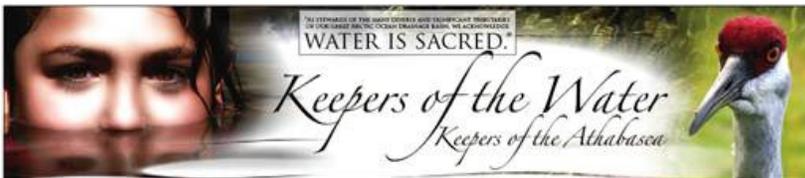
Keystone XL will speed up tar sands development and the irresponsible destruction of Alberta's caribou populations.

Example from West Central Alberta – the Future for Tar Sands Region Caribou?

With 95% range disturbance from forestry, oil and gas, west central Alberta's Little Smoky herd is at immediate risk of extirpation.ⁱⁱⁱ Caribou there are only maintained by poisoning and shooting hundreds of wolves. Oil and gas activity is now fragmenting the remaining 5%.

Alberta's Woodland Caribou Policy (2011)^{iv} states: "The Government of Alberta is committed to achieving naturally sustaining woodland caribou populations... Maintaining caribou habitat is the immediate priority. Restoring disturbed habitat is a critical component of caribou habitat management." **But Alberta's actions don't match these words.**

Alberta does not develop its oil, gas and oil sands responsibly



For more information contact:

Carolyn Campbell, Alberta Wilderness Association, ccampbell@abwild.ca

Helene Walsh, Keepers of the Athabasca, helene_w@telus.net

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ⁱ Athabasca Landscape Team. 2009. Athabasca Caribou Landscape Management Options Report. p. i.

www.albertacariboucommittee.ca/PDF/Athabasca-Caribou.pdf

ⁱⁱ Peter G. Lee. 2012. "Canada's woodland caribou: Industrial disturbances in their ranges and implications for their survival." Global Forest Watch Canada. pp. 3- 5.

http://www.globalforestwatch.ca/pubs/2012Energy/01CaribouDisturbance/Caribou_Industrial_Disturbances_2012.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱ The Alberta Woodland Caribou Recovery Team. Alberta Woodland Caribou Recovery Plan 2004/05 - 2013/14. Alberta Species at Risk Recovery Plan No. 4. p. 6. <http://www.landusekn.ca/resource/alberta-woodland-caribou-recovery-plan-200405-201314-alberta-species-risk-recovery-plan-no>

^{iv} Government of Alberta. 2011. A Woodland Caribou Policy for Alberta. p. 1.

<http://srd.alberta.ca/FishWildlife/WildlifeManagement/CaribouManagement/documents/WoodlandCaribouPolicy-Alberta-Jun2011.pdf>