Status of Caribou Habitat in Manitoba (2017)

Woodland caribou are sensitive to disturbance and thrive in intact forest. The federal government set a threshold of 65% undisturbed habitat as a component of identifying critical woodland caribou habitat.

This threshold provides a 60% probability that a local population will be self-sustaining. This 65% threshold was a policy decision, based on a model developed by ECCC that considered both human and natural disturbance.

Another key component for the viability of a caribou herd is population size. If there are fewer than 100 animals in a range it may be vulnerable to extinction from random events due to its small size.

Range ID	Range Name	Range area	Fire (%)	Human	Total	Population
		(km2)		Causes (%)	Disturbed (%)	estimated to be above 100
						animal threshold
MB1	The Bog	4,464	6	14	19	Yes
MB2	Kississing	3,170	39	15	54	Yes
MB3	Naosap	4,570	28	28	52	Unknown
MB4	Reed	3,574	7	20	26	Unknown
MB5	North Interlake	4,897	4	14	18	No
MB6	William Lake	4,882	25	17	36	No
MB7	Wabowden	6,289	10	20	28	Yes
MB8	Wapisu	5,650	11	13	23	Unknown
MB9	Manitoba North	62,055	23	11	33	Unknown
MB10	Manitoba South	18,673	4	12	16	Unknown
MB11	Manitoba East	66,128	26	3	29	Unknown
MB12	Atikaki-Berens	23,877	29	6	34	Unknown
MB13	Owl-Flinstone	3,636	25	18	39	No
Percentage of Full Range			21.6	9.3	30.1	
Total square kilometers		211,865	45,747	19,740	63,744	

^{*} Please note: For total disturbance, areas impacted by both fire and human causes are not counted twice in the total.

source: Report on the Progress of Recovery Strategy Implementation for the Woodland Caribou (Rangifer tarandus caribou), Boreal population in Canada for the Period 2012 to 2017 Table 2 and Appendix A