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Nov 24/2010

Ms Charlene Johnson  
Minister of Environment and Conservation  
P.O Box 8709  
St John's N.L  
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Dear Ms Johnson

When I read your interview Nov 10<sup>th</sup> on CBC News about the George River Herd Caribou and the latest 2010 census I had to comment on this conservation night mare. With all the technology of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century, we have another species on the brink of extinction. The over fishing of our cod and capelin stocks along with the steady fall of our once upon a time great caribou resource is enough to make anyone with an environmental bone in their body cringe. Are we going to eventually have a moratorium on the caribou also? Can it get any worst? The new count of 71,131 caribou of the George River Herd is barely enough to keep the aboriginals of Labrador going let alone all the other predators that are indigenous to the North. It's going to take generations for this iconic animal to bounce back to an early 90s level. The technology that's sealing the fate of our land and aquatic creatures, should be used much more wisely in the future.

For the caribou to survive this population drop all parties involved will have to practice due diligence in greatest sense of the word. It's the human factor here that I'm implicating as possibly the greatest threat to a caribou come back. Like the buffalo hunters of the 19<sup>th</sup> century who weren't happy till the last buffalo was shot, some of our

21<sup>st</sup> century cowboys won't stop till every caribou, bird and moose is shot. This could possibly be the problem here with the George River herd right now. Unless our Environmental Protection Officers are going to monitor the herd continually, in the field and in the air, and enforce your new legislation, the out look for the remaining George River Caribou is grim. Our cod and capelin stocks are a perfect example of the same human factor called greed. And like I said a million times before in previous environmental letters, limited access of human traffic in our remote wilderness areas is the key to protecting these ecosystems and protecting our precious wildlife resource. Remote cabin development in Cliffty Pond and the 2010 caribou crash is all tarred with the same brush. Let's be honest here and not wait till places like Cliffty Pond become another George River.

Cc: Premier Danny Williams  
Mr. Shane Mahoney  
The Compass  
The Evening Telegram  
The Newfoundland Sportsman  
E.P.O Tammy Mc Donald