A scenic landscape of a coastal village, likely in the Qikiqtaaluk Region of Nunavut. In the foreground, a small white boat is beached on a dark, pebbly shore. Several people are visible on the beach, some near the boat and others further back. The middle ground shows a small settlement with a few buildings and more boats. In the background, a large, rugged mountain with significant snow cover rises above the water. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

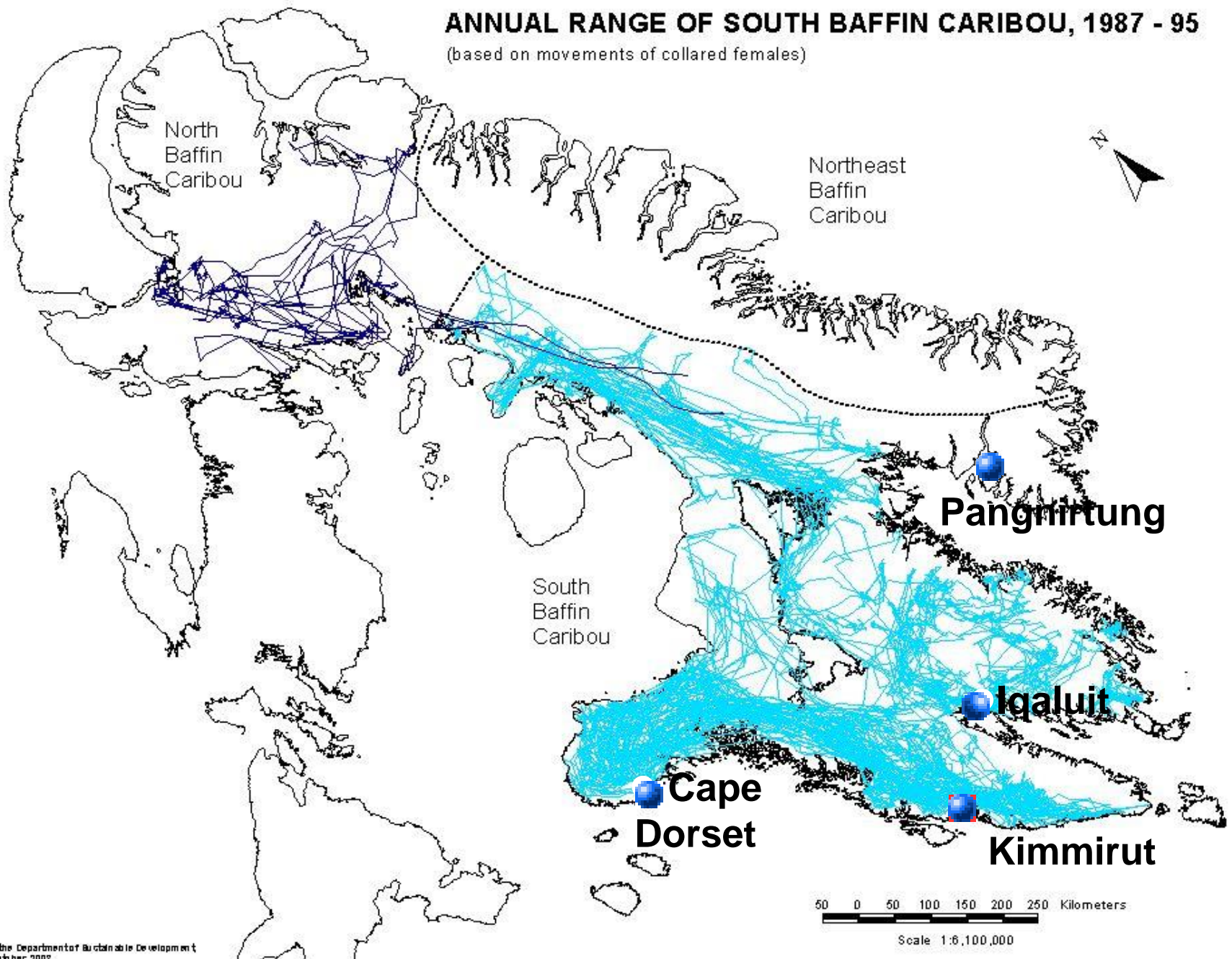
Using Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit to Protect Caribou and Their Habitats in Qikiqtaaluk Region

Mike Ferguson and James Qillaq
Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board



ANNUAL RANGE OF SOUTH BAFFIN CARIBOU, 1987 - 95

(based on movements of collared females)



Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Interviews

- We did complete interviews with 36 elders and older hunters in 4 communities on southern Qikiqtaaluk.
- Each interviews took 2 - 7 hours
- Also, we obtained specific information from 7 other hunters in short interviews

Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Interviews

- **Part 1 – Historical Life Map**
- **Part 2 – Memories about Caribou**
- **Part 3 – Ecological concepts**

Participants from Iqaluit

Year	Informant	Interviewers
1983, 1994	Simonie Alainga	Goo Arlookto, Aiju Peter, M. Ferguson
1985, 1994	Akaka Saataa	Pauloosie Kilabuk, Aiju Peter, M. Ferguson
1985, 1994	Lucassie Nowdluk	Pauloosie Kilabuk, Aiju Peter, M. Ferguson
1985, 1994	Lucassie Nutaraluk	Pauloosie Kilabuk, Aiju Peter, M. Ferguson
1985, 1994	Novayuk Ipeelie	Pauloosie Kilabuk, Aiju Peter, M. Ferguson
1985, 1994	Okaetok Quaraq	Pauloosie Kilabuk, Aiju Peter, M. Ferguson
1985, 1994	Pudloo Nowdluk	Pauloosie Kilabuk, Aiju Peter, M. Ferguson
1985	Harry Kilabuk	Pauloosie Kilabuk
1985	Joe Tikivik	Pauloosie Kilabuk
1985	Korgak Kilabuk	Pauloosie Kilabuk
1985	Markoosie Peter	Pauloosie Kilabuk
1988	Akeeshoo Nowdluk	M. Ferguson
1994	Geosha Uniuqsaraq	Aiju Peter, MF
1994	Pauloosie Kilabuk	M. Ferguson

Participants from Cape Dorset

Year	Informant	Interviewers
1985	Abraham Etungat	Michel Labine, Martha Jaw
1985	Equaluk Nungusuituk	Michel Labine, Martha Jaw
1985	Ejeetsiak Peter	Michel Labine, Martha Jaw
1985	Osuitsiaq Pudlat	Michel Labine, Martha Jaw
1985	Paulassie Pootoogook	Michel Labine, Martha Jaw
1985	Simionie Quppapik	Michel Labine, Martha Jaw
1985	Sakiassie Ragee	Michel Labine, Martha Jaw
1985	Sagiatuk Sagiatuk	Michel Labine, Martha Jaw
1995	Ohituq Ashoona	M. Ferguson
1995	Mathew Saviajuk	M. Ferguson
1995	Joe Tigullaraq	M. Ferguson
1995	John Tongak	George Koonoo, Joe Tigullaraq

Participants from Pangnirtung

Year	Informant	Interviewers
1990	Etuangat Aksayuk	Peter Kilabuk, M. Ferguson
1990	Jaco Evic	Peter Kilabuk, M. Ferguson
1990	Pauloosie Angmarlik	Peter Kilabuk, M. Ferguson
1990	Towkie Maniapik	Peter Kilabuk, M. Ferguson
1994	Charlie Akpalialuk	Jonah Kilabuk, M. Ferguson
1994	Jamesie Mike	Jonah Kilabuk, M. Ferguson
1994	Pauloosie Nowyook	Jonah Kilabuk, M. Ferguson
1994	Elijah Keenainak	Amie Nashalik, M. Ferguson
1994	Enosik Nashalik	Amie Nashalik, M. Ferguson
1994	Josephie Keenainak	Amie Nashalik, M. Ferguson
1994	Pauloosie Anilniliak	Amie Nashalik, M. Ferguson
1995	Simeonie Keenainak	M. Ferguson

Participants from Kimmirut

Year	Informant	Interviewers
1994	Iola Ikkidluak	Mathew Akavak, M. Ferguson
1994	Joe Arlooktoo	Mathew Akavak, M. Ferguson
1994	Josephie Pudloo	Mathew Akavak, M. Ferguson
1994	Pauloosie Lyta	Mathew Akavak, M. Ferguson
1994	Sandy Akavak	Mathew Akavak, M. Ferguson

Caribou Ecology



IQ about Caribou Disturbance

- When caribou are abundant, they go where they want!
- When there are few caribou, they are easy to disturb and will leave important areas.
- When caribou have little food and are skinny, they may not leave when they are disturbed, but they will not return in future.

IQ about Tundra Caribou Seasons

- Females and their calves are sensitive in summer.
- All tundra caribou are sensitive in winter.
- Heavy snow and ice is no problem for caribou if they have a lot of good food.
- Snow, ice and wolves are problems for caribou if have been too many for too long.

Caribou Abundance

Map code	Inuktitut Descriptions of Abundance
	No sign of caribou
	Only caribou tracks seen
	Not enough caribou
	Enough caribou
	More than enough
	Too many caribou

RESULTS OF A STUDY OF INUIT KNOWLEDGE ABOUT SOUTH BAFFIN CARIBOU

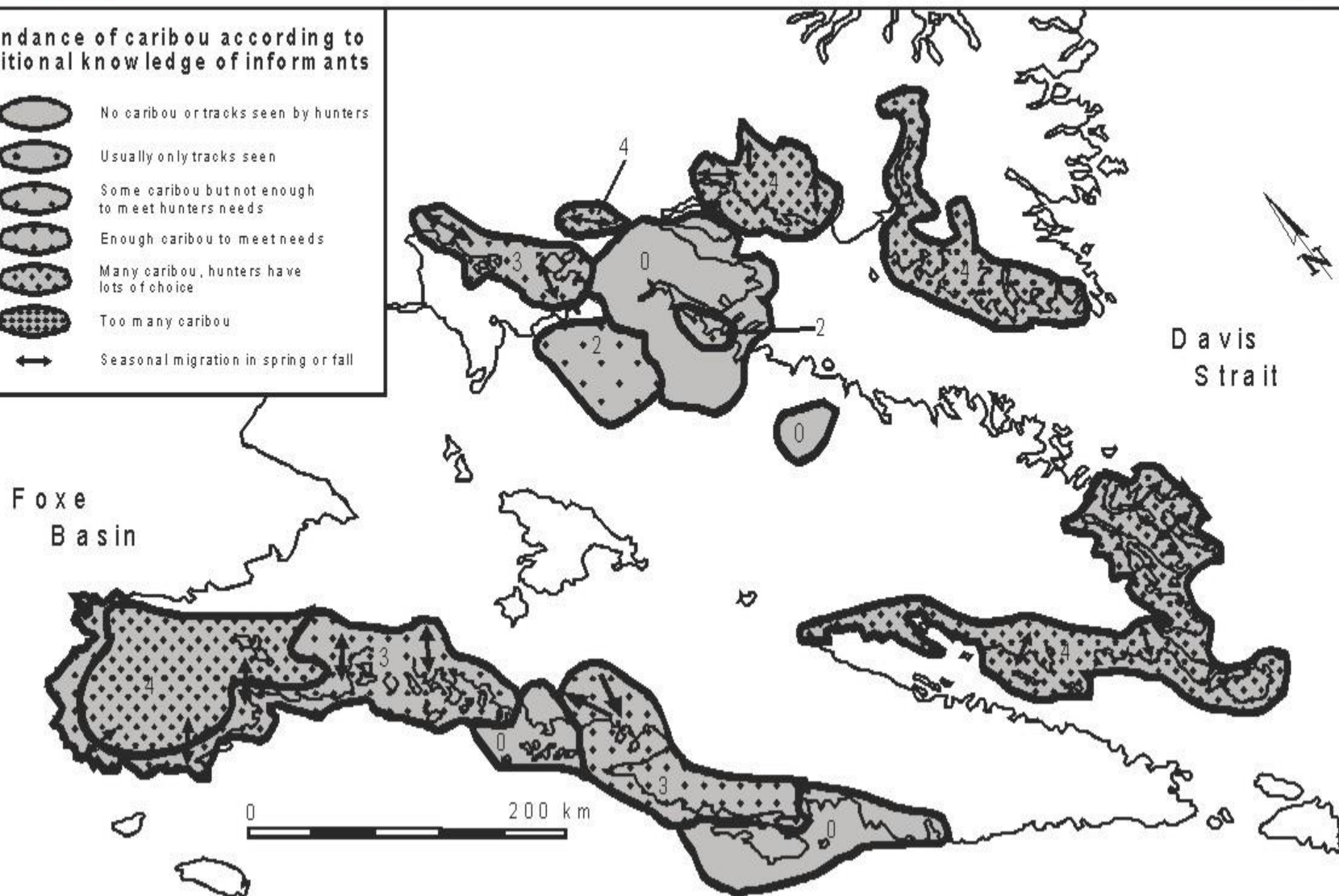


Distribution and abundance of caribou on southern Baffin Island during winter 1920-1923



Abundance of caribou according to traditional knowledge of informants

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| 0 | | No caribou or tracks seen by hunters |
| 1 | | Usually only tracks seen |
| 2 | | Some caribou but not enough to meet hunters needs |
| 3 | | Enough caribou to meet needs |
| 4 | | Many caribou, hunters have lots of choice |
| 5 | | Too many caribou |
| Seasonal migration in spring or fall | | |



RESULTS OF A STUDY OF INUIT KNOWLEDGE ABOUT SOUTH BAFFIN CARIBOU

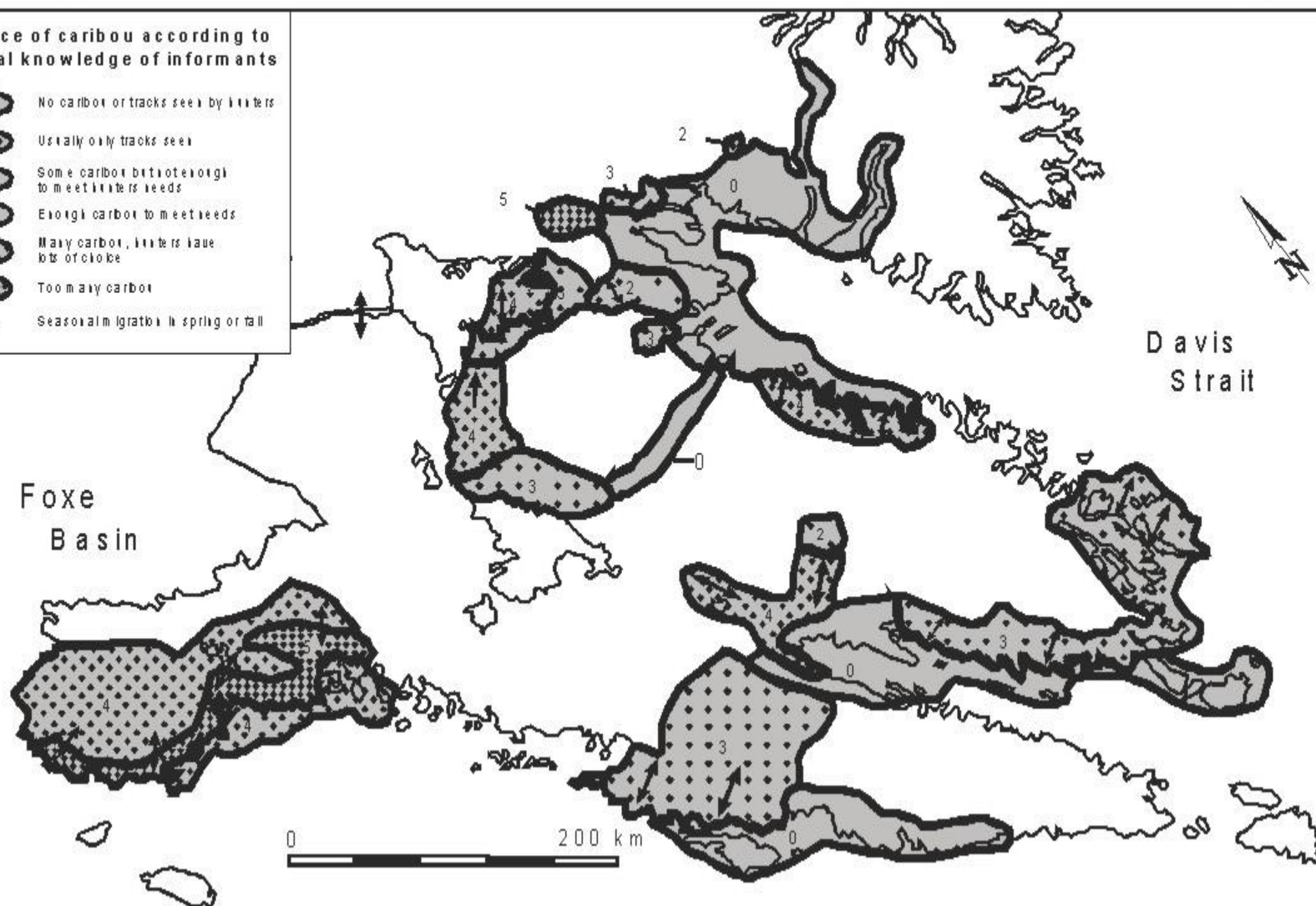


Distribution and abundance of caribou on southern Baffin Island during winter 1980-1983



Abundance of caribou according to traditional knowledge of informants

- 0 No caribou or tracks seen by hunters
- 1 Usually only tracks seen
- 2 Some caribou but not enough to meet hunters needs
- 3 Enough caribou to meet needs
- 4 Many caribou, hunters have lots of choice
- 5 Too many caribou
- Seasonal migration in spring or fall



“Everybody was cold.
Nobody knew where the caribou were.”

- Elijah Keenainak, Pangnirtung, 1994

RESULTS OF A STUDY OF INUIT KNOWLEDGE ABOUT SOUTH BAFFIN CARIBOU



Distribution and abundance of caribou on southern Baffin Island during winter 1940-1943



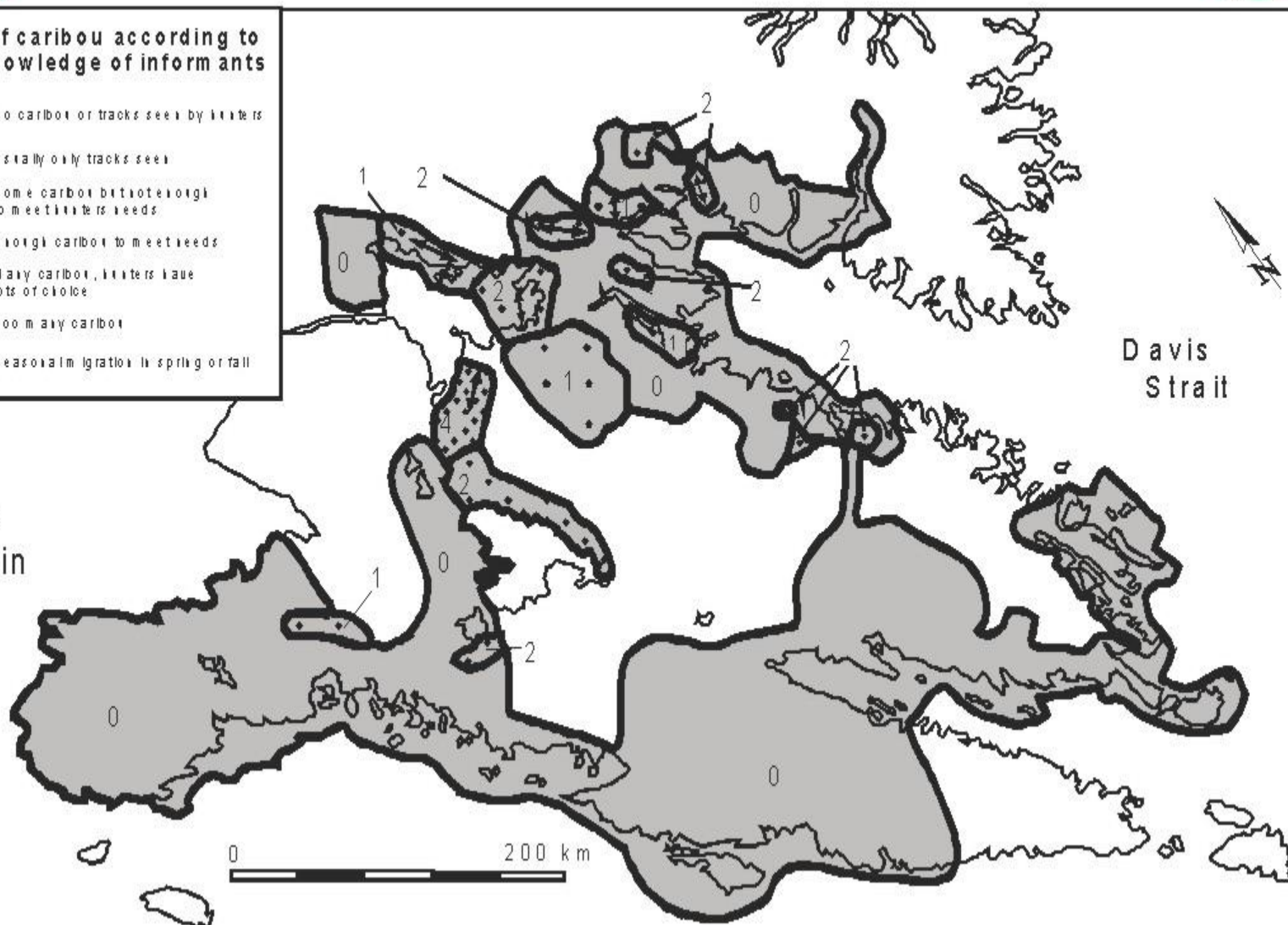
Abundance of caribou according to traditional knowledge of informants

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| 0 | | No caribou or tracks seen by hunters |
| 1 | | Usually only tracks seen |
| 2 | | Some caribou but not enough to meet hunters needs |
| 3 | | Enough caribou to meet needs |
| 4 | | Many caribou, hunters have lots of choice |
| 5 | | Too many caribou |
| Seasonal migration in spring or fall | | |







Foxe Basin

Davis Strait

0 200 km



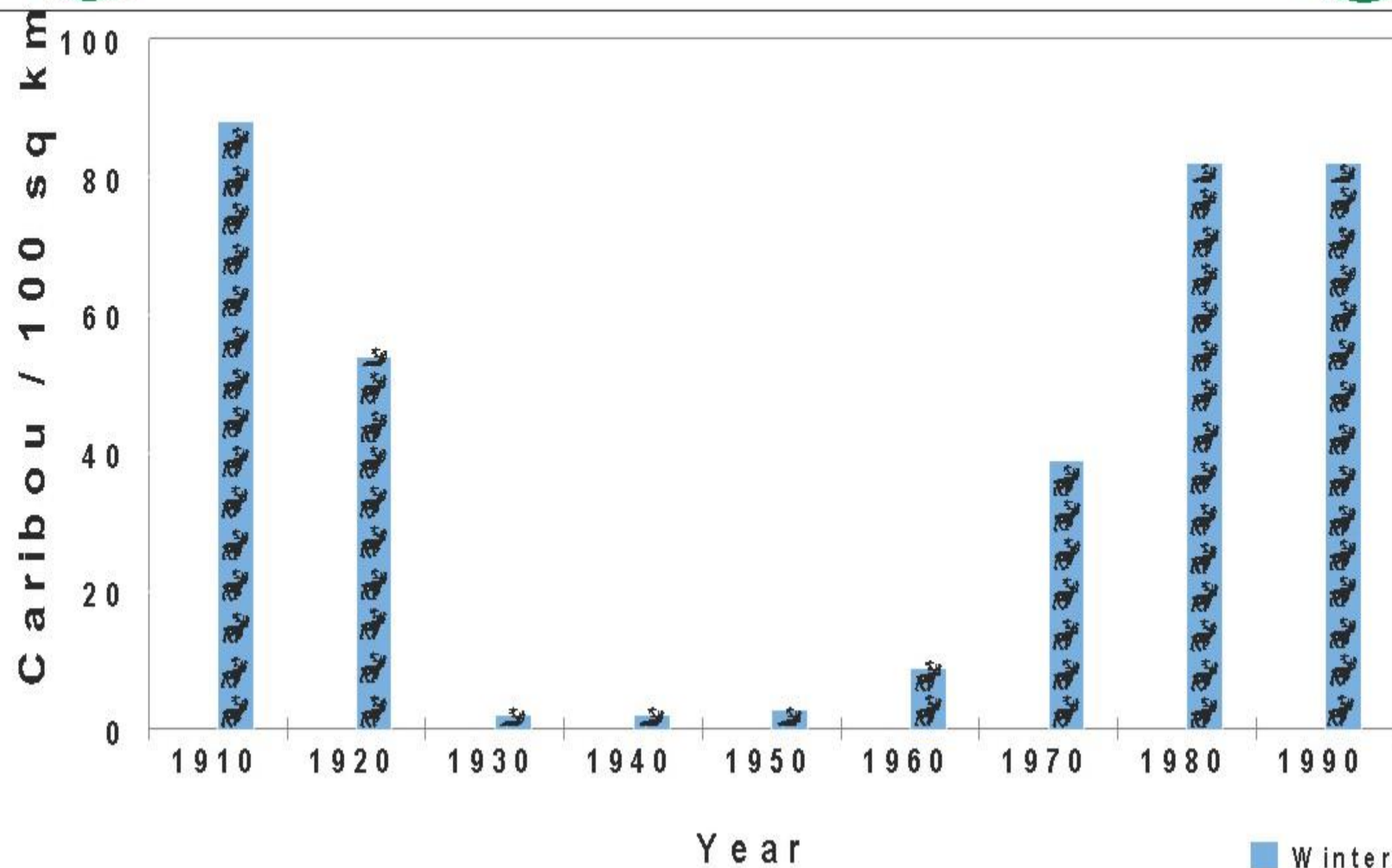
Caribou Abundance

Map code	Inuktitut Description	Approximate survey density (caribou / 100-sq-km)
	ᑕᐅᑦᓴᑦᑕᑦ ᑕᑭᑦᓴᑦᑕᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦ No sign of caribou	0
	ᑕᑭᑐᑦ ᑭᑦᑐᑦ ᑕᑭᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦ Only caribou tracks seen	1
	ᑕᐅᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦ ᑭᑦᑐᑦ ᑕᑭᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦ Not enough caribou	4
	ᑕᐅᑦᓴᑦᑕᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦ ᑕᑭᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦ Enough caribou	20
	ᑕᐅᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦ, ᑕᑭᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦ More than enough caribou	100
	ᑕᐅᑦᓴᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦᑐᑦ Too many caribou	500

RESULTS OF A STUDY OF INUIT KNOWLEDGE ABOUT SOUTH BAFFIN CARIBOU



Overall Densities of Caribou from 1910 to 1990



RESULTS OF A STUDY OF INUIT KNOWLEDGE ABOUT SOUTH BAFFIN CARIBOU



Areas that may have caribou when there is no caribou anywhere else



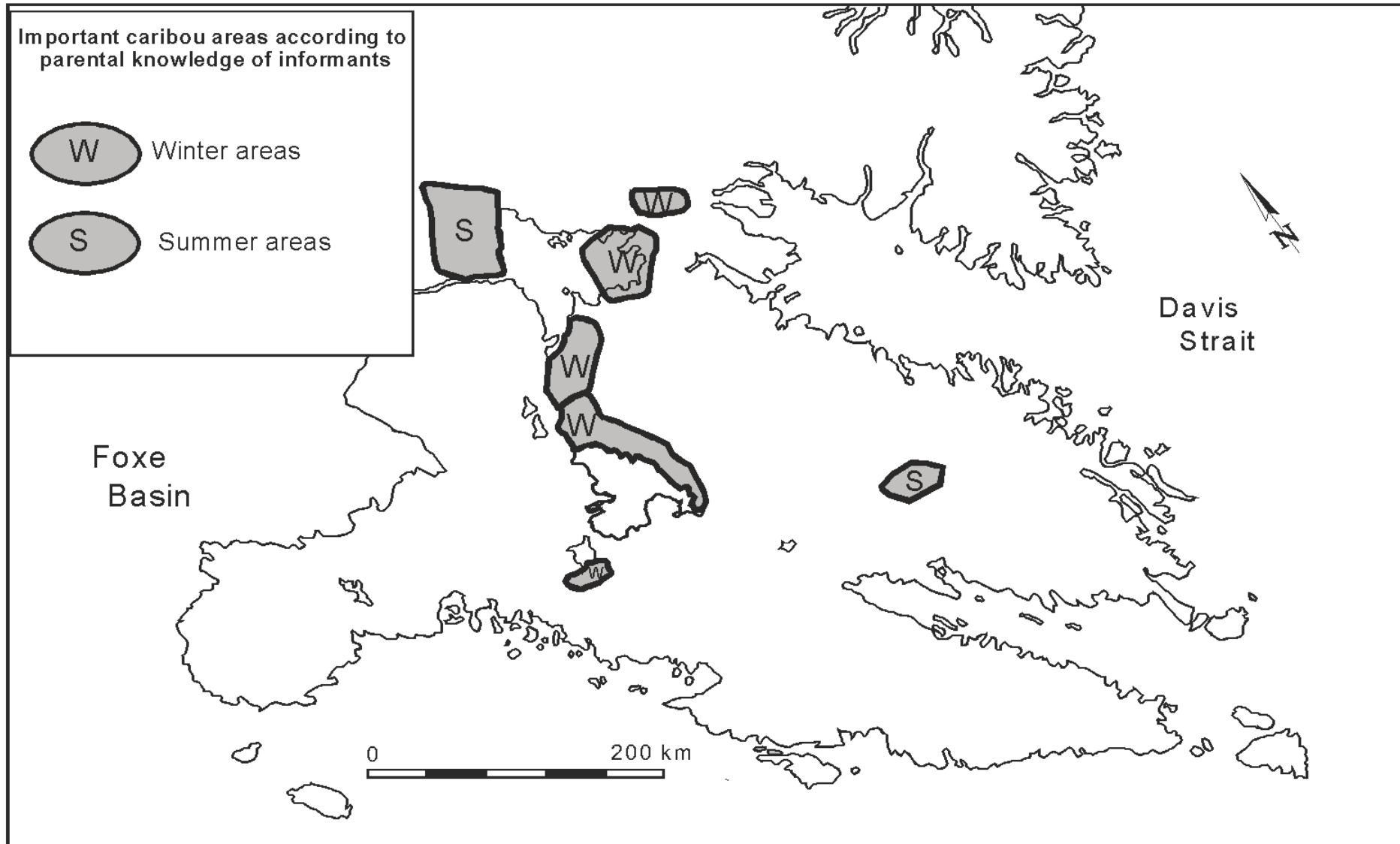
Important caribou areas according to parental knowledge of informants

-  Winter areas
-  Summer areas

Foxe Basin

Davis Strait

0 200 km



Risks of Not Protecting Caribou Habitat based on IQ

- Predictions of Inuit elders have come true!
- Human development in important caribou areas could prevent future recovery of Qikiqtaaluk and Peary caribou populations!
- All sexes and ages of tundra caribou need strong protection in winter when there are few animals!
- Females and calves need protection in summer.
- We urgently need more IQ about important places for northern Qikiqtaaluk!

Acknowledgements

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