

TAYLOR

**CAPTURE AND TRANSLOCATION OF CARIBOU FROM THE ALASKA PENINSULA TO THE TOGIK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

K.P. Taylor, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 1030, Dillingham, Alaska 99576

L. Hotchkiss, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 270, Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Abstract: Caribou were abundant in the Togiak and Goodnews drainages in western Alaska prior to 1880 but have been absent from this area since 1900. A cooperative project between the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and the villages of Togiak and Manokotak was undertaken in February 1988 to restock this area with caribou from the Northern Alaska Peninsula Herd. Using a Hughes 500 helicopter with a skid mounted "double-barreled" net gun, 168 caribou were captured and slung to the staging area where they were processed and loaded into a DeHavilland Otter for transport. Four calves and yearlings were released prior to transport and 148 caribou were released in good condition in the Togiak Refuge. Total project mortality was 16 caribou (9.5%). Actual capture mortality was 6 caribou (3.6%). Sixty-two calves survived the 1988 calving season and a minimum of 77 were produced in 1989. The present population (July 1989) is 243 caribou.

**4th NORTH AMERICAN CARIBOU WORKSHOP**

**ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND**

**OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 3, 1989**

**PROCEEDINGS**

**Edited by: Charlie Butler and Shane P. Mahoney**

**Technical Editors: John Blake, Margo Hoban and Brian Tucker**

**Artist: Frank LaPointe**

**Newfoundland and Labrador Wildlife Division**

**February 1991**

**Citation example:**

**Eastland, W.G. 1991. Correlations of weather and autumn caribou movements in Butler, C.E. and Mahoney, S.P. (eds.). Proceedings 4th North American Caribou Workshop. St. John's, Newfoundland. pp 143 - 145.**