Petition to Increase Protection of the Central Selkirk Mountain Caribou from Winter Recreation

To the Government of British Columbia and Environment and Climate Change Canada:

WHEREAS the Central Selkirk mountain caribou herd is severely endangered, with only 24 animals remaining; and WHEREAS the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change (ECC) has declared that this herd is facing imminent threat to its recovery and has urged immediate action to increase habitat protection;

And WHEREAS the BC government has documented areas where heavy winter recreation use has displaced the caribou into low-quality habitat; and the ECC has confirmed that snowmobiling, heli-skiing and cat-skiing are "very likely continuing to displace caribou into lower quality habitat where mortality risk from avalanches and predation may be higher." And WHEREAS only 3.3% of the Caribou Ungulate Winter Range (UWR) is protected by snowmobile closures;

We, the undersigned, insist that closures to winter recreation should be expanded, should apply to snowmobiling and skiing, and should be treated as permanent winter sanctuaries for the caribou. The current Valhalla Wilderness Society proposal to expand the closures from 3.3% to 6.5% of the UWR is a positive step forward supported by the following signators.

NAME (print)	STREET ADDRESS, CITY, PROVINCE	**POSTAL CODE**	SIGNATURE

Return to Valhalla Wilderness Society, P.O. Box 329, New Denver, British Columbia, V0G 1S0