



# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

Fish and Wildlife Service

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### INTERNATIONAL PORCUPINE CARIBOU BOARD MEMBERS NAMED

The Porcupine caribou herd which migrates back and forth between the United States and Canada will soon be afforded additional attention with the first step in implementation of an international agreement between the two countries.

The agreement calls for the establishment of an advisory board consisting of four representatives from each country. The U.S. members of the International Porcupine Caribou Board were announced today in Washington, DC, by Secretary of the Interior Don Hodel.

In making the announcement, Hodel said, "I am very pleased to name the four charter board members and one alternate. Each has earned high distinction in Alaskan and wildlife resource issues, and together they ably represent the diverse interests and concerns associated with the management and protection of the Porcupine caribou herd."

The board members announced today are John P. Rogers, Ph.D., assistant regional director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

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Service in Anchorage, representing the Department of the Interior and named chairman of the U.S. section of the board; W. Lewis Pamplin, Jr., director of the Alaska Division of Game, representing the Alaska Department of Fish and Game; Nolan Solomon, of Kaktovik, Alaska, representing the Alaska native user community; and George N. Ahmaogak, Sr., of Barrow, Alaska, Mayor of the North Slope Borough, representing the Arctic community. The alternate, representing the Alaska conservation community, is David Roseneau, of LGL Research Associates, Inc., a biological consulting firm in Fairbanks.

The appointment of members to the board is the first step in carrying out an agreement signed July 17, 1987, by Secretary Hodel and Canadian Minister of the Environment Thomas McMillan calling for international cooperation in management and conservation of the 180,000-animal herd which migrates between Alaska and Canada. The board will make recommendations on management of the herd using information provided by both countries, and will form the focal point for coordination between Canada and the United States relative to the caribou herd.

Board members selected today, representing a variety of backgrounds, share a common interest in the Porcupine caribou herd.

Rogers joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1966 after completing graduate studies in wildlife management at the

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University of Missouri. He became involved in discussions concerning the Porcupine caribou herd in 1978 as a staff person in Washington, DC, and has continued his interest in the herd since moving to Alaska in 1984.

Pamplin has been directly involved in the management of the Porcupine caribou herd as state director for Alaska's Division of Game, a position he has held since 1983.

Solomon is a long-time resident of the geographic area which supports the Porcupine caribou herd and will represent the users of the resource who for generations have depended on the herd for nutritional, domestic, and other traditional needs.

Ahmaogak, Mayor of the North Slope Borough, has served in a variety of leadership roles in the region including president of the village corporation for Barrow, board member of the Inupiat community of the Arctic Slope, and Alaska representative on the International Whaling Commission.

Roseneau holds a master's degree in wildlife biology, and has studied the Porcupine caribou since 1972. He headed the biological team which studied the herd for the Arctic Gas Project, and much of the calving information used in the draft report on the Section 1002 area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, as defined in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, was drawn from Roseneau's research.

The Porcupine caribou herd received its name from the Porcupine River, a Canadian river within the herd's range which encompasses over 96,000 square miles of northeast Alaska and northwest Canada.