

SARA Consultation, Cooperation and Accommodation Pilot Project in BC BIOS



Jean Polfus is a conservation biologist who is interested in interdisciplinary approaches to conservation that respect the lives and experiences of people that depend on natural resources for their livelihood. She received her B.A. from Dartmouth College, M.S. from the University of Montana, Ph.D. from the University of Manitoba and was a Liber Ero Postdoctoral Fellow. Currently, Jean is a Senior Species at Risk Biologist with the Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Climate Change Canada, in Kelowna, BC. Her work has focused on building collaborative research projects

with Indigenous partners to better understand relationships among caribou populations and people in order to inform and prioritize management efforts. She is interested in helping to find creative ways to decolonize the language we use to describe caribou by collaborating with Indigenous communities and focusing on Indigenous languages and descriptions of caribou biodiversity from an Indigenous perspective. Jean has an expertise in art (drawing, illustration, painting, photography and design) which complements and enhances her professional interests through science communication and outreach tools. In her free time Jean enjoys skijoring, taking photos, and spending time outdoors with her two young children and dogs.



Robin Steenweg is a wildlife biologist working to conserve species at risk in Canada. He helps develop and implement conservation and recovery strategies, drive applied research, and develop robust methods to monitor wildlife at large spatial scales. Working at the Canadian Wildlife Service with Environment and Climate Change Canada, Robin ensures science is at the forefront of informing policy and management decisions, and he enables, guides and leads applied research that informs policy and management. Robin has degrees from McGill University (BSc), University of Northern BC (MSc) and University of Montana (PhD). Robin's main experience has revolved around the research and conservation of large carnivores, their prey, and their interactions. Often his interests have been on woodland caribou, with all their associated complexities. Robin's strengths include strong interpersonal, collaborative facilities, an ability to summarize and communicate science to a diversity of audiences, as well as, a comfort

doing rigorous ecological analyses in R. In his free time, Robin gets outside with his family biking, hiking, running, skiing - really, any way he can.