



CARIBOU TEAM BIOS

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) – Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS)

JEAN POLFUS



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 of 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 family, including her three young children and dog.

ROBIN STEENWEG



Robin Steenweg is a wildlife biologist working to conserve species at risk in Canada. He has helped develop and implement conservation and recovery strategies, drive applied research, and develop robust methods to monitor wildlife at large spatial scales. Robin received his B.Sc. from McGill University, M.S. from the University of Northern BC, and Ph.D. from the University of Montana. Robin ensures science is at the forefront of informing policy and management decisions through his role as a Senior Wildlife Biologist with the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment and Climate Change Canada, in Kelowna, BC. He works to enable, guide, and lead applied research that informs policy and management. Robin's professional 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 prioritizes collaboration, and he has built strong interpersonal skills that facilitate his ability to

summarize and communicate science to a diversity of audiences. He has also focused on using quantitative ecological analyses to answer difficult conservation questions and is comfortable working with the program R. In his free time, Robin gets outside with his family biking, hiking, running, skiing - really, any way he can.