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Brent Keeping
Federal Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Hi Brent,

I am writing you to formally submit my concerns regarding the Marathon Gold Valentine Lake project and impacts it could very well have on my business in the future. I own an outfitting business on the Buchans Plateau and offer big game hunts for moose, woodland caribou and bear to non-resident clients. I have built a profitable business over the years and have a great business model using little resource at a high dollar value and it as been working well for me. The woodland caribou holds a great amount of value to my business each year and that continues to grow each year also from non-residents wanting to hunt this species. I am currently getting \$19500.00 USD per Caribou hunt and is a big contributor to my revenue each year. I am really concerned when this project gets up and running that it could have huge negative effects on the woodland caribou, their migration paths and the herds not returning to the grounds they usually do each year. The woodland caribou we hunt do migrate right through the area that will be mined. Woodland caribou are scientifically known to change their migration paths and habits if their environment is disrupted. This is where my biggest fear lies with this project. If the herds I hunt do not return or very few then my business is negatively impacted from a financial and stressful point of view. This is a situation I certainly do not want to see unfold. There is no denying that an open pit mine with all kinds of explosive blasting, heavy equipment operating and huge increase in road traffic will impact these woodland caribou. I have looked briefly at the EA and was happy to see that there was work done on the Woodland Caribou herds that move through the project area each year. It acknowledges the fact that Marathon Gold views this as possibly being an issue but also that they have put much appreciated work into a woodland caribou study. I hope you take my comments and concerns into consideration and I am open to talking to you or any other representative from Marathon Gold regarding this submission anytime.

Thanks.

<original signed by>

Greg Samms
Owner/Operator