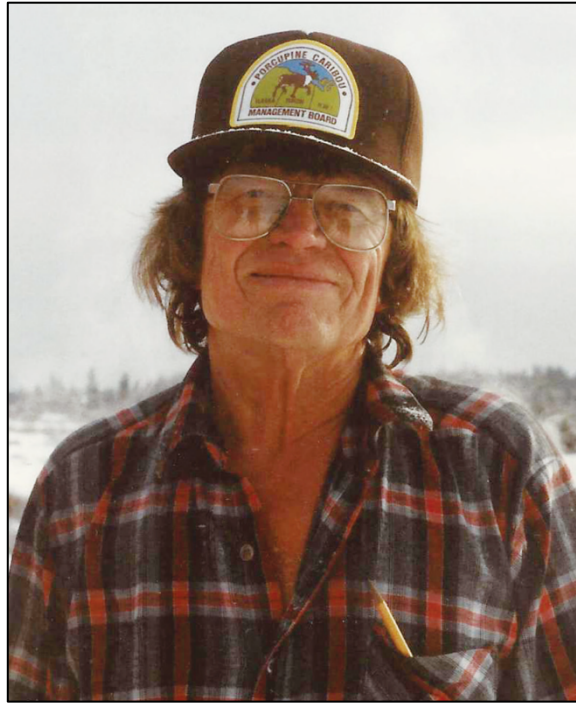


Dr. Arthur T. (Tom) Bergerud



Dr. Arthur (Tom) Bergerud, also known as Caribou Biologist, made a significant contribution to wildlife research and management in Canada. He extensively studied caribou herds across Canada and their interactions with predators and human beings, often leaving him at odds with colleagues and falsely accused of supporting wolf control. Tom Bergerud's research program is a case study in accepting whether field data are telling managers, industry and politicians what they should know, not what they want to know.

Dr. Bergerud was born on November 11, 1930 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. As a youth he loved nature and enjoyed visits to the Bell Museum of Natural History on the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota. He earned a B.Sc. in Wildlife Management at Oregon State University in 1953. Soon after, he began work as a Fish and Wildlife Specialist at the Delta Waterfowl Research Station in Manitoba. In 1956, he became a District Wildlife Biologist for Newfoundland and Labrador stationed in St. John's, which led to him becoming Director of the Province's Game Division in 1960. It is here that he began his research on caribou and the impact of wolves on the various sub-populations in Newfoundland and Labrador. This led to advanced degrees, including a M.Sc. in wildlife management from the University of Wisconsin and a PhD from the University of British Columbia. His PhD research was published in The Wildlife Society's *Wildlife Monograph* No.71 entitled: The Population Dynamics of Newfoundland Caribou.

Tom Bergerud's research examined many factors influencing caribou populations and their status across Canada. He recognized that logging was not detrimental but that it led to a cascade of changes increasing access patterns for predators, primarily wolves and humans. He forewarned about human-caused intrusions, such as roads and pipelines, into caribou range that increases access to predators.

During his career, Dr. Bergerud was frequently challenged on his proposals to manage wolf populations by colleagues and management authorities, who welcomed resource development in caribou range. At the same time, he is credited with promoting Newfoundland and Labrador's conservation officers to be active participants in supporting research as well as enforcers of the law.

Tom Bergerud was awarded an Honourary Doctor of Philosophy from Memorial University in recognition of his recovery efforts of the Avalon Caribou population. Tom's publishing career spanned seven decades with over 100 papers published primarily on caribou. He was known as the "Caribou Biologist," a provocative thinker on animal behaviour and population dynamics of wildlife. Tom passed away on 27 November 2019 at the age of 89.