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# Caribou Recovery Program Updates

November 7, 2023

Muskwa Kechika Advisory Board



**BC CARIBOU  
RECOVERY PROGRAM**





# Outline

- Boreal Caribou Protection and Recovery Plan
- Central Group Caribou (Partnership Agreement)
- North Peace
  - Graham, Pink Mountain & Chinchaga
- Northern Mountain Caribou
  - Monitoring/Inventory
  - Division of responsibilities



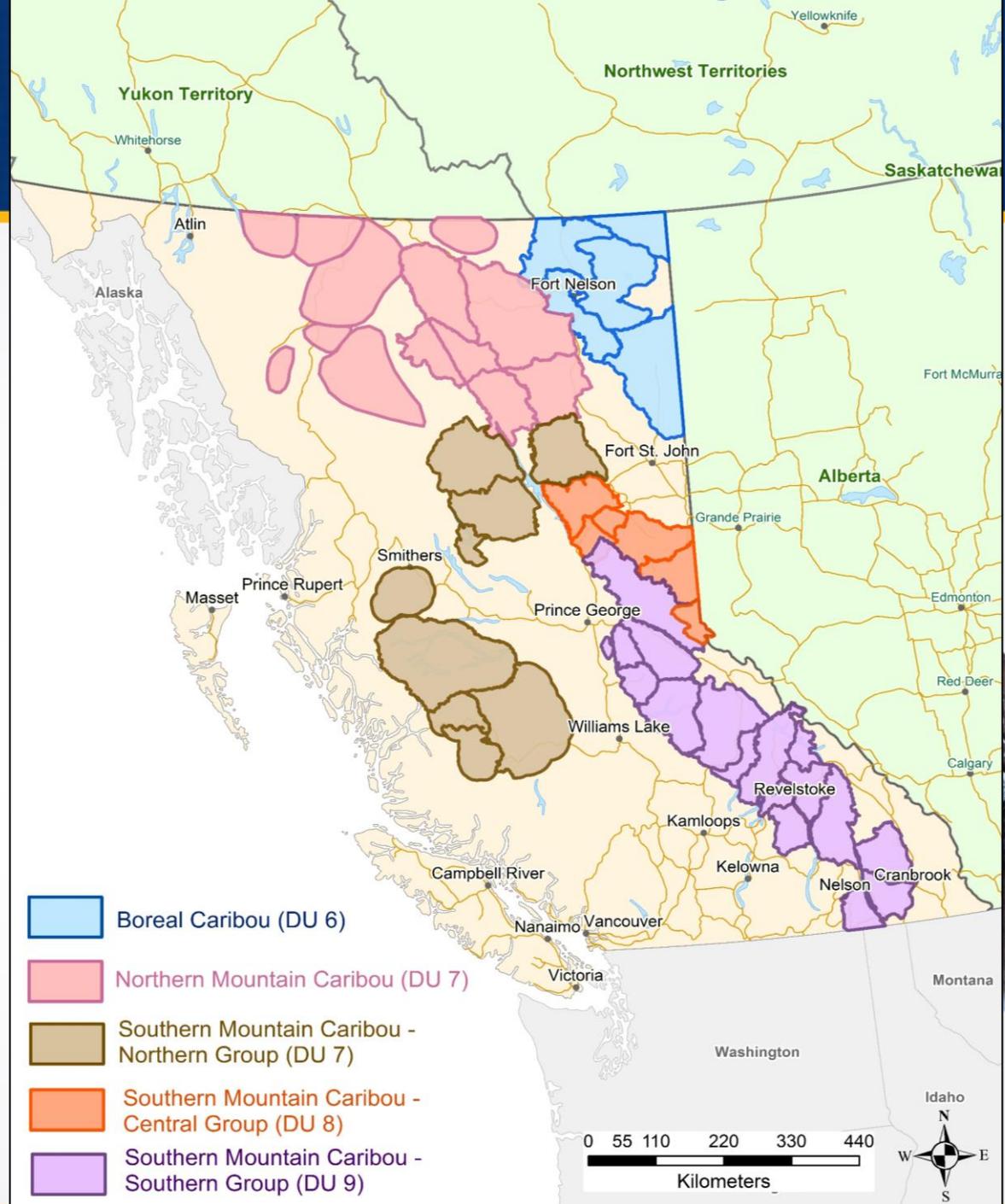


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# Caribou in BC



## BC CARIBOU RECOVERY PROGRAM





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# Boreal Caribou Protection & Recovery Plan

## Endorsement & Next Steps



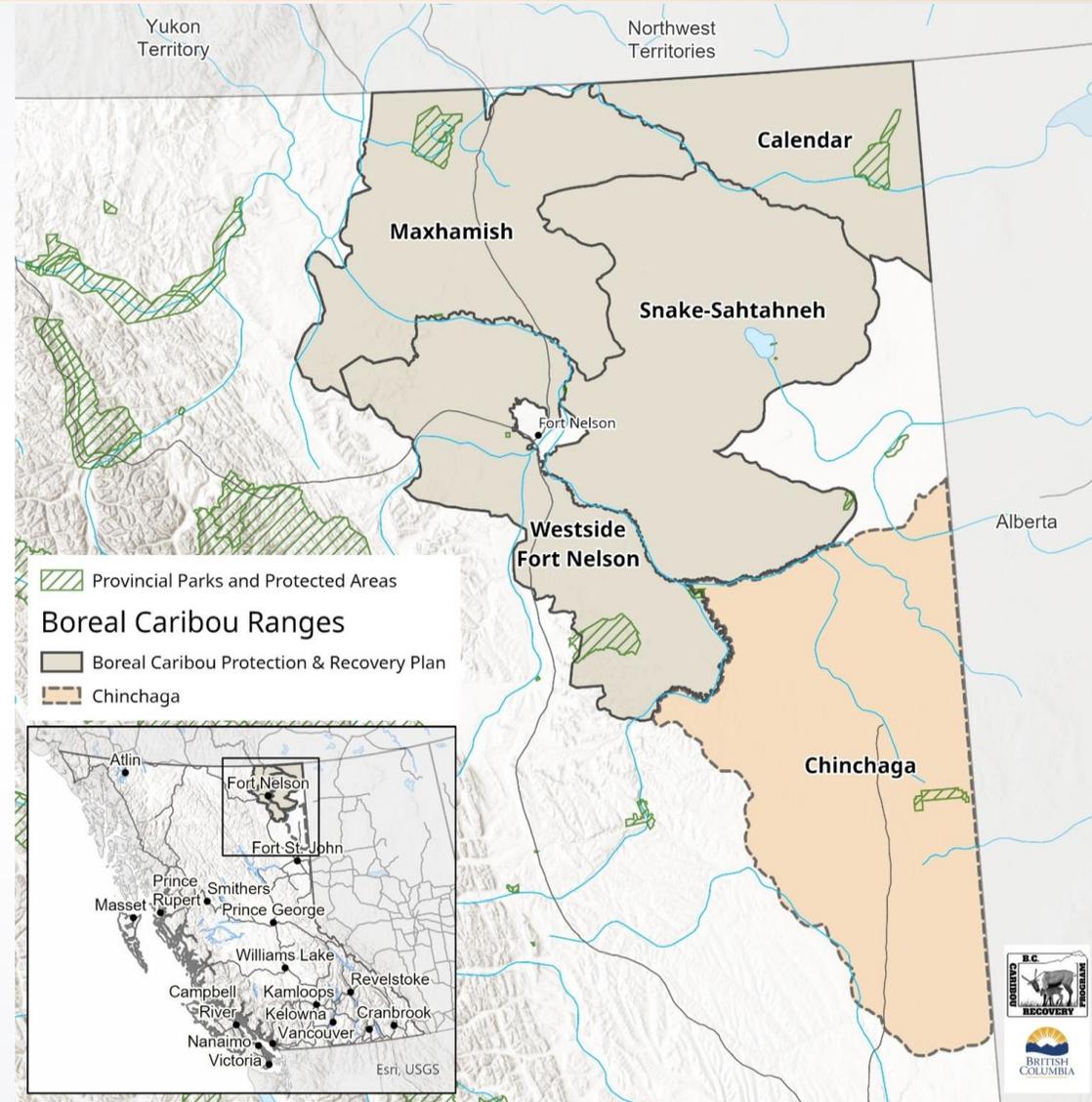
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The ***Boreal Caribou Protection & Recovery Plan*** (BCPRP) was developed in partnership with Fort Nelson First Nation and through collaboration with the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality.

The BCPRP will replace the existing ***Implementation Plan for the Ongoing Management of Boreal Caribou (Rangifer tarandus caribou pop. 14) in British Columbia*** released in 2011 and establishes management goals, objectives and supporting management measures for four of the five boreal caribou ranges in B.C.





## **Since Engagement Closed in spring 2022:**

- Bi-lateral Contribution Agreement to support boreal caribou recovery measures has been negotiated with ECCC to March 31, 2026.
- BCPRP endorsed by Cabinet in Summer 2023 with direction to implement in alignment with collaborative land-use planning, including establishing interim habitat and population management measures.



# Implementation Next Steps

- Finalized version of BCPRP will be posted to the provincial recovery documents online database and GovTogether.
- Alignment of BCPRP management measures through Liard Collaborative Stewardship Forum.
- Regulatory consultation on management measures to inform statutory decision packages.
- Implementation of habitat and population management measures.

Fall 2023

Winter 2023

Winter 2023/24

Spring/Summer  
2024

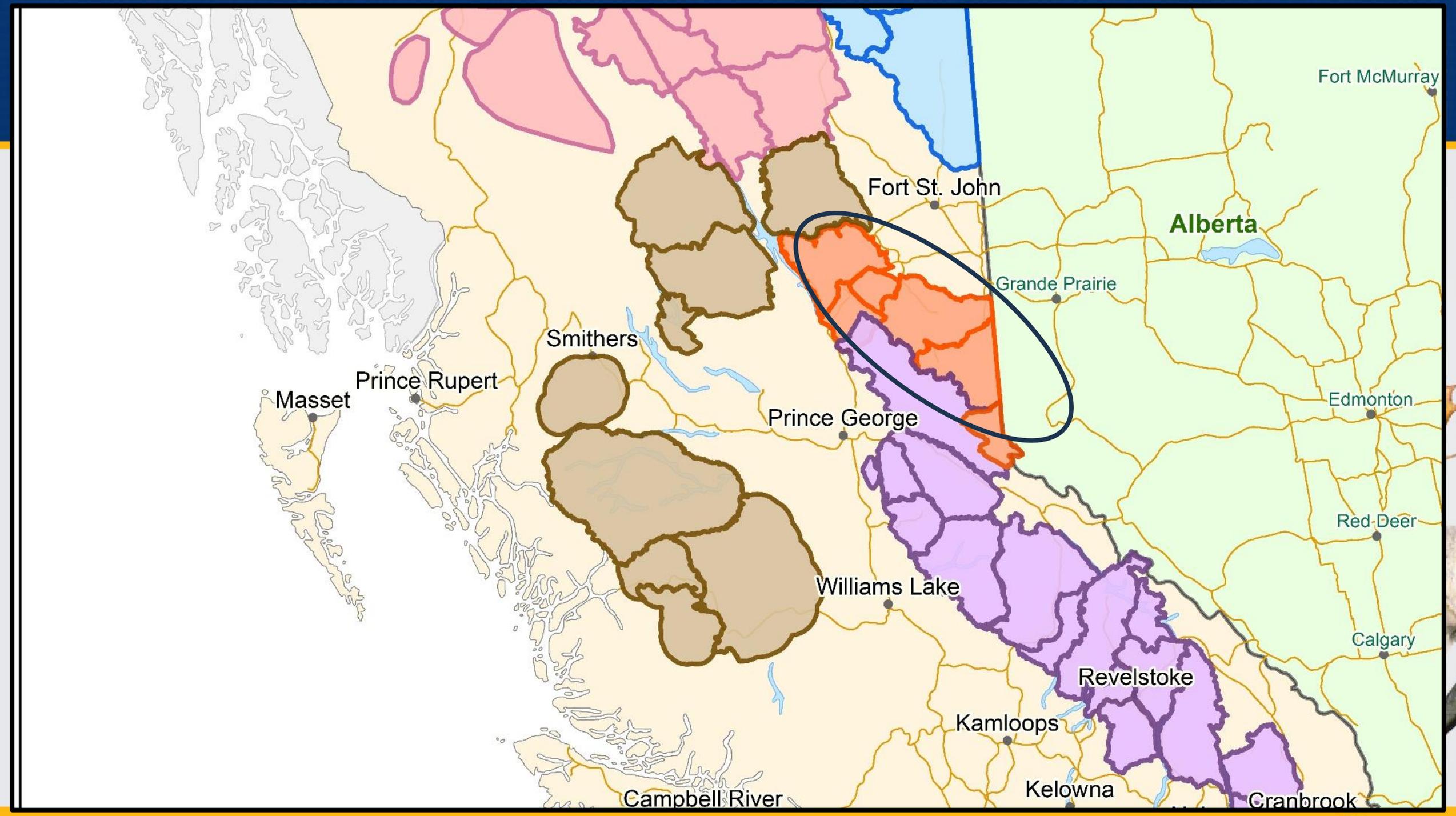


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# Caribou Partnership Agreement

## Land Use Objectives

Central Group of Southern Mountain  
Caribou



# Caribou Partnership Agreement



- The Intergovernmental Partnership Agreement for the Conservation of the Central Group of the Southern Mountain Caribou was signed in 2020
- Legally binding component of the Section 11 Conservation Agreement with Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Shared Recovery Objective: *to immediately stabilize and expeditiously grow Central Group populations to levels that are self-sustaining and support traditional harvesting activities, consistent with Aboriginal and Treaty rights*

# Caribou Recovery Related Land Use Objectives

1. Reduce the impacts of anthropogenic disturbance activities to caribou
2. Reduce the density of linear disturbance features.
3. Reduce cumulative habitat disturbance.
4. Opportunities to improve likelihood of culturally meaningful hunt



# Status of Land Use Objectives

- In process of seeking Cabinet (ELUC) endorsement to engage on draft Land Use Objectives
- IFS contracted by FOR to undertake holistic socio-economic assessment of impacts of potential new caribou habitat protections & other land protections stemming from other initiatives





# North Peace – Graham, Pink Mountain, Chinchaga herds

- Herd planning for Graham (SMC) and Chinchaga (Boreal) still high priority
- Herd planning work on Chinchaga boreal range initiated 2018/19 with Blueberry River FN and Doig River FN
  - Paused to align with LRMP update then paused to align with land use planning initiatives stemming from the Burke (Blueberry) Decision.
- Pink Mountain (NMC)
  - High priority of the special concern herds given extensive disturbance outside of the MKMA



- Caribou Recovery Program area of responsibility is *threatened* herds – Southern Mountain Caribou and Boreal
  - Majority of resources on SMC and Boreal
- Regional Operations area of responsibility is *special concern* herds
  - Support from the Caribou Recovery Program
  - Coordination and collaboration across Regional Ops and the Caribou Recovery Program
- 2023/24 monitoring and inventory
  - Graham
  - Pink Mountain
  - Muskwa (collar deployment)



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Thank-you!  
Questions?



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