

Polar Bear Range State Action Plan

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 - iv. Bilateral Environmental Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Norway, including provisions on polar bear conservation
 - v. *Other inter-jurisdictional agreements (national and international) to be added*

5. Overarching objectives of a Range State Action Plan

6. Threats to Polar Bears

- a. Habitat loss and fragmentation
 - i. Extent and composition of sea ice as a result of climate change
 - ii. Food availability
 - iii. Separation from terrestrial refugia and denning areas
- b. Human-caused direct mortality
 - i. Harvest (including trophy/sport hunting)
 - ii. Illegal take/poaching
 - iii. Defense kills (including human-bear interactions)
 - iv. Other mortality (e.g. research-associated mortality)
- c. Oil and gas activities
 - i. Exploration and exploitation
- d. Toxic chemicals
 - i. Local sources and global circulation
- e. Shipping
- f. Tourism
- g. Mining exploration and exploitation

7. Cross-cutting challenges to Polar Bear Conservation

- a. Broad nature of threats
- b. Difficulty in obtaining information
- c. Habitat conservation
- d. Interaction of threats
- e. Interjurisdictional existence

8. Aboriginal Collaborations for Polar Bear Conservation

- a. Partnerships with Aboriginal people of the Range State countries towards effective conservation measures that incorporate Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge
- b. Standardized documentation of Traditional Knowledge from Aboriginal peoples throughout the polar bear range
- c. Incorporation of Traditional Knowledge in decision making

9. Range-wide Conservation Strategy and Action Plan

Overview of conservation goal

Objectives and action

Management

- a. Protection of essential habitat
- b. Use of scientific evidence
- c. Prevention and management of human-bear conflicts by non-lethal measures
- d. Development of inter-jurisdictional agreements for shared populations
- e. Development of strategies to minimize impacts of human activities (e.g. mining, shipping, oil and gas activities, tourism)
- f. Management of sustainable harvest
- g. Ensure active involvement and engagement of public living in polar bear areas in developing and achieving goals of the Action Plan
- h. Engage the general public and communities in outreach activities that facilitate communication, and that lend themselves towards coordinated management and conservation.

Monitoring

- a. Assessments of population size, trend and future status
- b. Monitoring harvest and other removals
- c. Document vital rate estimation, evaluating trends and projection

Research (identified by the PBSG)

- a. Understanding movement & distribution patterns (and changes caused by habitat changes/loss)
- b. Establish trends in physical condition and document changes (and why occurring)
- c. Document trends in habitat use, availability and trends
- d. Document trends in the effects of pollution and disease
- e. Standardization of research methodologies to allow for the coordination of analyses

Development of interjurisdictional agreements/actions towards the conservation and management of polar bears

Criteria (standards for measuring success of actions)

10. Implementation schedule

11. Review and evaluation