



NWT CONFERENCE OF MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES

CONSENSUS AGREEMENT RESPECTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INUVIALUIT SETTLEMENT REGION POLAR BEAR JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

The Conference of Management Authorities has reached consensus (hereafter referred to as the "Consensus Agreement") respecting the implementation of the *Inuvialuit Settlement Region Polar Bear Joint Management Plan* and the accompanying *Framework for Action for Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region*.

The management goal is to ensure the long-term persistence of healthy polar bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) while maintaining traditional Inuvialuit use. The recommended management approaches and the NWT Management Authorities' intent to undertake them are summarized in this Consensus Agreement. Further information can be found in the *Inuvialuit Settlement Region Polar Bear Joint Management Plan*.

Implementation is subject to appropriations, priorities and budgetary constraints of the Management Authorities.

Periodic co-management reviews of progress and new information, as outlined in approach 2.1, will allow for the implementation of the management plan and allow for changes as appropriate and agreed to by all Management Authorities.

The processes for developing the management plan, framework for action, and implementation agreement are outlined in Annex B.

GNWT Statements

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) makes the following statements about its intentions to implement the recommended management approaches in the

management plan and accompanying framework for action, subject to appropriations, priorities, and budgetary constraints. The GNWT's intentions are consistent with the implementation role that co-management partners have recommended for the GNWT in the *Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region - As recommended by Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC), Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) (WMAC (NS)) and Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) (WMAC (NWT))* (December 2017) (Annex A).

- A. Implementation Underway** – The GNWT is actively implementing a number of the recommended actions in the management plan and accompanying framework for action in whole or in part. Many of these actions are long-term and progress is made gradually over time. The actions are being implemented with co-management partners as part of ongoing management, monitoring, research, conservation planning, and environmental assessment programs. The recommendations in the polar bear management plan and framework for action provide advice to help guide these programs. Many of these actions are undertaken with Inuvialuit Final Agreement implementation funds; use of those funds for polar bear management actions is subject to annual review and approval by the WMAC (NWT). This statement applies to recommended actions 1.1.3, 1.2.1, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.3.4, 1.3.5, 1.3.6, 1.3.7, 1.3.8, 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.3, 2.3.4, 2.3.5, 2.3.6, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.3.1, 3.4.1, 3.4.2, 4.1.2, 4.1.4, 4.1.5, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.2.4, 4.3.3, 4.3.11, 5.1.1, 5.2.1, and 5.2.4.
- B. Resources Required** - A number of the recommended actions in the management plan and framework for action are important but implementing them would require additional resources and/or re-allocation of existing resources. The GNWT intends to pursue implementation of these actions as resources and capacity allow. The GNWT will seek additional resources and may consider re-allocation of existing resources to implement these actions. Re-allocation of existing resources could affect other commitments. This applies to recommended actions 1.2.2, 1.3.2, 1.3.6, 1.3.7, 4.1.1, 4.1.3, 4.1.6, 4.1.7, 4.2.5, 4.3.4, 4.3.5, 4.3.6, 4.3.7, 4.3.8, 4.3.9, and 4.3.10.
- C. Not Pursuing** – Some actions in the management plan and framework for action are more appropriately led by co-management partners other than the GNWT, and some actions are not currently a high priority for the GNWT to implement given other higher priorities and resource constraints. The GNWT does not intend to actively pursue implementing these actions at this time. This does not prevent the GNWT from participating in implementation if opportunities arise

and/or when other management partners take a lead role. This applies to recommended actions 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.4, 3.5.1, 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 5.2.2, and 5.2.3.

WMAC (NWT) Statement

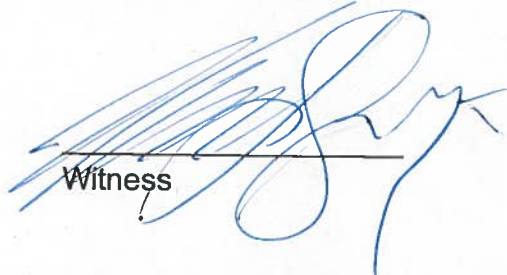
WMAC (NWT) intends to work with partners to move forward on implementation of the objectives and approaches in the *Inuvialuit Settlement Region Polar Bear Joint Management Plan* and actions outlined in the *Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (Annex A)*.

INTERPRETATION

For greater certainty, terms and processes in this Consensus Agreement are as defined and described in the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*.

For greater certainty, the Management Authorities for polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) in the Northwest Territories are: Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

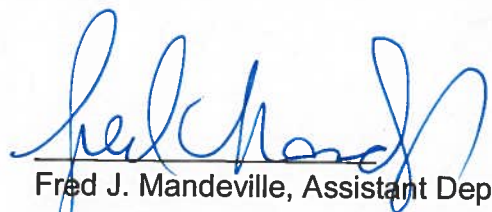
WE THE UNDERSIGNED, having reached this consensus on this 9TH day of March 2018, provide this Consensus Agreement to the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories, and the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT).



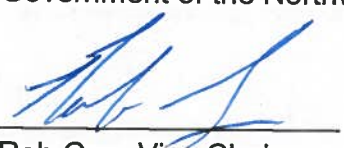
Witness



Witness



Fred J. Mandeville, Assistant Deputy Minister -
Operations
Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources
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Rob Gau, Vice Chair
Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)

ANNEX A

IMPLEMENTATION TABLE FOR ACTIONS ON MANAGEMENT OF POLAR BEARS IN THE INUVIALUIT SETTLEMENT
REGION – AS RECOMMENDED BY IGC, WMAC (NS) AND WMAC (NWT) (DECEMBER 2017)



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT
ADVISORY COUNCIL (NWTC)

Wildlife Management Advisory Council North Slope

Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region As recommended by IGC, WMAC (NS) and WMAC (NWT)

December 2017

The *Inuvialuit Settlement Region Joint Polar Bear Management Plan (the Management Plan)* was recommended by the Inuvialuit Game Council, Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) and Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) on 25 January 2017 to the NWT, Yukon and Federal Ministers (Joint Secretariat 2017). The *Plan* was developed to meet the requirements of a management plan under the territorial *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* and the *ISR (Yukon and NWT) regional component of the national management plan under the federal Species at Risk Act* while respecting the joint management process legislated by the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA). The overall goal of the *Inuvialuit Settlement Region Joint Polar Bear Management Plan* is to ensure the long-term persistence of healthy polar bear populations in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region while maintaining traditional Inuvialuit use.

The *Inuvialuit Settlement Region Joint Polar Bear Management Plan* includes input from all management partners for polar bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. The *Management Plan* identifies objectives, and approaches recommended to meet the overall goal for polar bear management in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. For each approach, the management plan identifies priority, relative timeframe, performance measure, indicator/target, and identifies the threats or knowledge gaps that each approach addresses. Released as a companion document to the *Management Plan*, was the *Framework for Action for Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (the Framework)* and was used to develop this document.

The *Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (Implementation Table)* builds upon the *Management Plan* and the companion *Framework* by providing additional clarity and direction by listing specific actions for achieving identified objectives and approaches. In addition, the *Implementation Table* includes, for each action, relative priority, relative timeframe, measure of performance, and also identifies a proposed lead and potential partners. Management partners provided input into the development of the *Implementation Table*. It is important to note that the leads and partners identified in this implementation table are suggestions only as not all suggested leads and partners have been contacted, and this document is not binding. Implementation is subject to budgetary appropriations, priorities, and constraints of the participating management organizations. It is expected that here will be periodic review of the actions by all parties to ensure collaboration and coordination of efforts.

The Inuvialuit Game Council, Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) and Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) are pleased to recommend this *Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region*. Management authority for polar bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region is jurisdictionally complex and the *Inuvialuit Settlement Region Joint Polar Bear Management Plan* and *Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region* are intended to facilitate an integrated and common approach by all jurisdictions toward ensuring the long-term persistence of healthy polar bear populations in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region while maintaining traditional Inuvialuit use.

Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region As recommended by IGC, WMAC (NS) and WMAC (NWT) December 2017

This document and the management plan itself do not commit any party to actions or resource expenditures; implementation is subject to appropriations, priorities, and budgetary constraints of the participating parties. This table represents guidance from all partners as to the priority of the approaches, who is involved in the action, and appropriate measure of performance.

For additional information, please refer to the management plan and accompanying framework for action. Acronyms used in the table are explained at the end of this document.

Overall Goal of ISR Polar Bear Joint Management Plan:
To ensure the long-term persistence of healthy polar bears in the ISR while maintaining traditional Inuvialuit use.

Recommended Specific Actions for Management of Polar Bears in the ISR	Relative Priority ¹	Relative Timeframe ²	Proposed Lead	Potential Partners	Measure of Performance
Objective #1: Collect traditional knowledge, scientific knowledge and monitoring information in a timely manner to inform management decisions.					
Approach 1.1 Document traditional knowledge and use traditional knowledge to inform management decisions on an ongoing basis. (Critical/Ongoing)					
Action 1.1.1	Necessary	Short term	WMACs	Contractor	A gap analysis of report complete and available to drive research priorities.
Action 1.1.2	Critical	Ongoing	WMACs, IGC	JS (ISR online platform)	Database is queried and results used.
Action 1.1.3	Necessary	Short-term Ongoing	CBMP, (ENR)	Harvesters	Observations recorded in a systematic way and presented to WMACs.
Action 1.1.4	Critical	Ongoing	IGC, WMACs	HTCs, ECCC	Policy in place and applied to all TK research that happens in the ISR. Best practices applied to research.
Approach 1.2 Monitor contaminants in polar bears. (Beneficial/Short term/Ongoing)					
Action 1.2.1	Beneficial	Short-term	ENR, DFO	WMACs, FJMC, IGC, ECCC, YDoE	Monitoring plan developed.

Recommended Specific Actions for Management of Polar Bears in the ISR		Relative Priority ¹	Relative Timeframe ²	Proposed Lead	Potential Partners	Measure of Performance
Action 1.2.2	Implement plan to collect baseline information, followed by periodic monitoring of contaminants.	Beneficial	Short-term Ongoing	ENR, DFO	Harvesters, Research partners	Mercury and PAH baseline data available; periodic monitoring happens as per plan.
Approach 1.3						
Monitor polar bear subpopulations. (Critical/Ongoing)						
Action 1.3.1	Set up an inventory schedule (plan to monitor subpopulations).	Critical	Ongoing	ENR, YDoE, NDoE	All partners	Inventory schedule in place and revised as necessary.
Action 1.3.2	Investigate alternative methods to assess subpopulation size.	Necessary	Ongoing	ENR, YDoE, NDoE	Researchers	Alternative methods considered and investigated as agreed to.
Action 1.3.3	Finalize Viscount Melville subpopulation abundance estimate in collaboration with Nunavut.	Critical	Short-term	ENR, ECCC	WMAC (NWT), IGC, HTOs, KRWB, NDoE	Draft report completed and community meetings held to present results; report finalized.
Action 1.3.4	Encourage enhanced reporting of local observations (e.g., body condition, litter size, sex, age, location, habitat, bear observations), quantify and map (linked to 1.1.3).	Necessary	Short-term Ongoing	CBMP, ENR	Harvesters	Data collected and in a format that can be presented annually.
Action 1.3.5	Refine understanding on subpopulation delineation, including seasonal fidelity.	Beneficial	Long-term	ENR, ECCC, YDoE	PBSG	PBSG developed criteria for subpopulation boundary analysis applied, as appropriate.
Action 1.3.6	Research changes in diet over time, in consideration of sex, age and condition using samples from research activities and harvested bears (fat, bone, hair/skin).	Necessary	Ongoing	Researchers	ENR, Harvesters, ECCC, YDoE	Results presented back to communities. Peer reviewed papers published. Data archived in WMIS.
Action 1.3.7	Research changes in parasites and disease prevalence over time, in consideration of demographics and subpopulations.	Necessary	Ongoing	Researchers	ENR, Harvesters, ECCC, YDoE	Results presented back to communities. Peer reviewed papers published. Data archived in WMIS.
Action 1.3.8	Develop data sharing guidelines or protocols amongst the parties involved in polar bear research and monitoring in the ISR.	Critical	Short-term	ENR	WMACs, IGC, ECCC, YDoE	Data sharing agreements in place for all samples/data leaving the ISR.
Approach 1.4						
Consider best available information on habitat and prey in polar bear management. (Critical/Ongoing)						
Action 1.4.1	Consider best available information from seal monitoring/research in polar bear management.	Critical	Ongoing	All partners	DFO, FJMC	FJMC/DFO present at polar bear meetings (e.g. Inuvialuit-Inuit and Inuvialuit-Inupiat meetings, IFA research day).
Action 1.4.2	Consider best available information on sea-ice conditions in polar bear management.	Critical	Ongoing	All partners	Harvesters, PBSG	Information presented at meetings.
Objective #2: Adaptively co-manage polar bears and their habitat in accordance with the best information available.						

Recommended Specific Actions for Management of Polar Bears in the ISR						Measure of Performance
Approach 2.1	Review information annually to inform adaptive management. (Critical/Ongoing)	Relative Priority ¹	Relative Timeframe ²	Proposed Lead	Potential Partners	
Action 2.1.1	WMACs and Inuvialuit Game Council annually review information in collaboration with jurisdictions that share management authority.	Critical	Ongoing	WMACs, IGC	ENR, YDoE, NSB KRWB, NTI, ECCC	Inuvialuit-Inupiat, Inuvialuit-Inuit and Joint WMACs meetings held to review and discuss management.
Action 2.1.2	WMACs make management recommendations to federal and territorial governments.	Critical	Ongoing	WMACs	IGC, HTC	Recommendations made as required.
Action 2.1.3	Identify priorities for scientific and traditional knowledge research.	Necessary	Short-term	WMACs	All partners	Research priority list created.
Approach 2.2						
Communicate with harvesters and local communities to foster information flow in both directions. (Critical/Ongoing)						
Action 2.2.1	Continue/enhance HTC communications (for example, continue to send them posters of research projects and harvest information; use social media).	Critical	Ongoing	WMACs	All partners	Communication and awareness with HTCs and general public.
Action 2.2.2	Hold community meetings for information sharing.	Critical	Ongoing	Varies	HTCs, WMACs, IGC, ENR	Communication strategy developed (e.g. including use of social media, posters of research projects/harvest information).
Action 2.2.3	Share information at ISR research day.	Critical	Ongoing	WMACs	Researchers, ENR, YDoE	Communication and awareness with HTCs and general public. Polar bear research presented at ISR Research Day.
Approach 2.3						
Coordinate with other jurisdictions on a national and international level. (Necessary/Ongoing)						
Action 2.3.1	Continue annual meetings of Inuvialuit-Inuit and Inuvialuit-Inupiat.	Critical	Ongoing	IGC/NSB IGC/NTI	WMACs, ENR, YDoE, KRWB, ECCC, USFWS, USGS	Partners attend and present at the annual meetings.
Action 2.3.2	Continue participating in Polar Bear Technical Committee (PBTC) and Polar Bear Advisory Committee (PBAC).	Critical	Ongoing	IGC, WMACs, ENR, YDoE, ECCC, PC		Partners actively participate in the meetings.
Action 2.3.3	Continue to participate in Canadian discussions regarding the implementation of the Circumpolar Action Plan for the Conservation of Polar Bears.	Critical	Ongoing	Polar Bear Range States	WMACs, IGC, ENR, YDoE, ECCC, PC	Partners actively participate in the process.
Action 2.3.4	Continue participating in international meetings and coordination (e.g., range state meetings, Polar Bear Specialist Group, Canada-US Oversight Group).	Necessary	Ongoing	ECCC	All partners as necessary	Partners actively participate in the process.

ISR Polar Bear Management Plan Implementation Table

Recommended Specific Actions for Management of Polar Bears in the ISR						
Relative Priority ¹	Relative Timeframe ²	Proposed Lead	Potential Partners	Measure of Performance		
Action 2.3.5	Ongoing	ECCC	All partners as necessary	Partners actively participate in the process.		
Action 2.3.6	Ongoing	ECCC	All partners as necessary	Partners participate in developing and reviewing messaging.		
Objective #3: Encourage wise use of polar bear populations and all polar bear products.						
Approach 3.1 Continue to encourage a male-dominated harvest. (Critical/Ongoing)						
Action 3.1.1	Ongoing	IGC, WMACs	HTCs, YDoE, ENR	No harvest of females with cubs or in dens.		
Action 3.1.2	Ongoing	IGC	All partners	Annual review of overall harvest shows female quota not exceeded.		
Action 3.1.3	Short-term	HTCs	ENR, IGC	Workshops held if required.		
Approach 3.2 Manage human-caused mortalities so they do not exceed the quota. (Critical/Ongoing)						
Action 3.2.1	Ongoing	ENR	HTCs, IGC, WMACs, YDoE, PC	Annual report of mortalities.		
Action 3.2.2	Ongoing	ENR, YDoE, WMACs, IGC, HTCs, PC	WMACs, IGC, HTCs, PC	Tag system in place and enforced.		
Action 3.2.3	Ongoing	WMACs, IGC	ENR, HTCs, YDoE	Quota reviewed annually and recommendations made as required.		
Approach 3.3 Continue to manage guided hunts to achieve conservation benefits. (Necessary/Ongoing)						
Action 3.3.1	Ongoing	WMACs	IGC, HTCs, ENR	All unsuccessful tags are not reallocated.		
Approach 3.4 Continue to regulate polar bear trade. (Necessary/Ongoing)						
Action 3.4.1	Ongoing	ECCC	ENR	Permits issued for polar bears in international trade.		

ISR Polar Bear Management Plan Implementation Table

Recommended Specific Actions for Management of Polar Bears in the ISR		Relative Priority ¹	Relative Timeframe ²	Proposed Lead	Potential Partners	Measure of Performance
Action 3.4.2	Investigate the use of PIT tags (passive integrated transponders) to facilitate increased traceability of hides.	Necessary	Ongoing	ECCC	ENR, HTC	A PIT tag inserted into every bear harvested in the ISR. The three-pronged approach (PIT tags, genetics and stable isotopes) is being considered for use for bears harvested in the ISR.
Approach 3.5						
Explore tools to investigate impacts of harvest on subpopulation trend. (Beneficial/Short-term)						
Action 3.5.1	Hold workshop to better understand the model of Regehr <i>et al.</i> (2015) and its application in the ISR.	Beneficial	Short-term	IGC, WMACs	All partners	Workshop held and model considered for harvest management in ISR.
Objective #4: Minimize detrimental effects of human activities on polar bears and their habitat.						
Approach 4.1						
Minimize detrimental effects of human-bear conflicts. (Necessary/Ongoing)						
Action 4.1.1	Systematically track and compile records for all human-bear encounters or incidents (implement PBHIMS format).	Necessary	Short-term	ENR, PC, YDoE	HTCs, ECCC	All human-bear encounters tracked in standard format.
Action 4.1.2	Analyze human-bear incidents and adaptively change advice as we learn more about appropriate mitigation measures.	Necessary	Ongoing	ENR, PC, YDoE	HTCs, IGC	Advice provided as needed.
Action 4.1.3	Develop guidelines for tourism operators and film crews interacting with polar bears.	Necessary	Short-term	ENR, PC, YDoE	IGC, WMACs, ITI	Guidelines developed and implemented.
Action 4.1.4	Promote bear awareness training for all visitors and workers in polar bear country.	Critical	Ongoing	ENR, PC, HTCs, YDoE		Bear awareness material provided.
Action 4.1.5	Work with communities and industry to reduce human-bear conflicts.	Necessary	Ongoing	ENR, PC, HTCs	EISC, ILA, YDoE	Advice on bear-human conflicts provided.
Action 4.1.6	Encourage/help communities and MACA to review the design and operation of local landfills, including consideration of electric fencing.	Beneficial	Long-term	ENR, Hamlets	IWB, HTCs, IGC, WWF	Landfills modified.
Action 4.1.7	Support community bear patrols during key problem times/seasons, as necessary.	Necessary	Short-term	ENR	Hamlets, MACA, HTCs, IGC, WWF, YDoE	Protocol for bear patrols developed. Bear patrols initiated as necessary.
Approach 4.2						
Minimize detrimental effects of research on polar bears. (Necessary/Ongoing)						
Action 4.2.1	Annually provide information to PBTC on bears handled in the ISR and documented impacts.	Necessary	Ongoing	ENR	Harvesters	Information provided annually for PBTC minutes.

ISR Polar Bear Management Plan Implementation Table

Recommended Specific Actions for Management of Polar Bears in the ISR		Relative Priority ¹	Relative Timeframe ²	Proposed Lead	Potential Partners	Measure of Performance
Action 4.2.2	Advocate for further research regarding the impacts of handling.	Necessary	Ongoing	All partners		Issue raised at all levels of polar bear management.
Action 4.2.3	Explore alternate methods for subpopulation monitoring.	Necessary	Ongoing	All partners		Less invasive research conducted.
Action 4.2.4	Consider the need for research and provide advice on research projects to mitigate impacts to polar bears.	Necessary	Ongoing	All partners		Partners and NWT Wildlife Care Committee reviews all potential research.
Action 4.2.5	Advocate for power analysis of existing data to determine the minimum number of bears needing to be handled to achieve sufficient confidence in results.	Necessary	Short-term	WMACs, IGC	ECCC, USGS, ENR, YDoE	Power analysis done.
Approach 4.3						
Minimize detrimental effects of development and industrial activity on polar bears. (Critical/Ongoing)						
Action 4.3.1	Improve tracking of the human footprint in polar bear range so that environmental screening and review can better take cumulative effects into account.	Necessary	Long-term	ISR online platform	Developers, WMACs, FJMC, ENR, YDoE, EISC	Work plan developed to start the process. Spatial warehouse of human footprint in ISR developed.
Action 4.3.2	Finalize denning habitat maps (from traditional knowledge and Resource Selection Function model) and make them available in digital and paper format.	Critical	Ongoing	ECCC	ISR online platform	Specific and data archived and available on ISR online platform.
Action 4.3.3	Continue to collect denning information through local observations of denning and collared polar bears.	Necessary	Ongoing	ENR, YDoE	Harvesters, USGS, CBMP	Data collected and archived, available on ISR online platform (permission required to access).
Action 4.3.4	Use information from collared animals and from <i>Inuvialuit and Nainiq: A Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Study</i> to help identify areas of significance for polar bears to develop mitigation measures.	Critical	Short-term	WMACs	IGC, HTC, ILA, YDoE, ENR, JS	Sensitive areas identified and data accessible for environmental assessment and mitigation.
Action 4.3.5	Develop protocol for surveying polar bear maternity denning habitat prior to industrial activity.	Necessary	Short-term	ENR, ECCC	WMACs, IGC, ILA, GNWT Lands	Protocol developed.
Action 4.3.6	Develop protocol/regulations for operating near active den sites to limit industrial activity and disturbance of denning female bears.	Necessary	Short-term	ENR	YDoE, EISC, ILA, GNWT Lands	Protocol/regulations developed.
Action 4.3.7	Develop oil spill response protocols for polar bears.	Necessary	Long-term	ENR	ILA, GNWT Lands, ECCC on behalf of the Range States	Review Circumpolar Assessment Report (2017). Discussions with Arctic Council Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR) Working Group held. Response protocol developed.
Action 4.3.8	Develop protocol for shipping and traffic (boats, ships, aircraft and other vehicles) to avoid disturbance of polar bears.	Necessary	Short-term	IGC	All partners, TC, relevant federal departments, IRC	Protocol developed.
Action 4.3.9	Develop protocol for polar bear monitoring at industrial facilities.	Necessary	Short-term	ENR	YDoE, WMACs	Protocol developed.

ISR Polar Bear Management Plan Implementation Table

Recommended Specific Actions for Management of Polar Bears in the ISR		Relative Priority ¹	Relative Timeframe ²	Proposed Lead	Potential Partners	Measure of Performance
Action 4.3.10	Develop guidance for industry on how to work with communities to avoid disturbance of subsistence harvest.	Necessary	Short-term	IGC	WMACs, ENR, ILA, EISC	Guidance developed.
Action 4.3.11	Provide information and guidance into EISC, ILA, EIRB and CEAA 2012 processes of screening, environmental impact assessment and project approvals.	Critical	Ongoing	All partners		Information provided as necessary.
Objective #5: Communicate and share information on polar bears and impacts of climate change on polar bears.						
Approach 5.1 Encourage youth stewardship of polar bears in the ISR. (Necessary/Ongoing)						
Action 5.1.1	Work with youth to teach about polar bear management in the ISR, the importance of polar bears in Inuvialuit culture and the impacts of climate change on polar bears.	Necessary	Ongoing	All partners	IRC	As part of communication strategy (Action 2.2.1), school visits, use of social media.
Approach 5.2 Enhance national and international communications with a particular focus on climate change impacts on polar bears. (Beneficial/Ongoing)						
Action 5.2.1	Continue supporting development of websites to share information about polar bears and their management.	Beneficial	Ongoing	ECCC, GN	All partners	Website operational with current ISR content.
Action 5.2.2	Continue developing communication material (including update of fact sheets and brochures) on the cultural importance of polar bears to the Inuvialuit and how they are managed in the ISR.	Necessary	Ongoing	IGC	All partners	Fact sheets/brochures updated.
Action 5.2.3	Share communication material on the impacts of climate change on polar bears.	Beneficial	Ongoing	ECCC on behalf of the Range States	All partners	Materials posted at community airports (national) and other places (international).
Action 5.2.4	Share information about polar bear management at national and international fora (e.g. public meetings, media, conferences).	Beneficial	Ongoing	All partners		Appropriate information shared internationally.

¹Relative priority can be critical, necessary or beneficial. Critical approaches are the highest priority for the conservation of polar bear and should be implemented sooner rather than later. Necessary approaches are important to implement for the conservation of polar bear but with less urgency than critical. Beneficial approaches help to achieve management goals but are less important to the conservation of the species compared to critical or necessary.

²Relative timeframe can be short-term, long-term, or ongoing. Short-term approaches should be completed within five years and long-term approaches require more than five years to complete. Ongoing approaches are long-term actions carried out repeatedly on a systematic basis.

³ Implementation of the joint management plan and this framework for action is subject to appropriations, priorities, and budgetary constraints of the participating management organizations. This table represents guidance from all partners as to the priority of the approaches, who is involved in the action, and appropriate measure of performance.

EXPLANATION OF ACRONYMS:

CBMP:	Community-based monitoring program
CEAA 2012:	<i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012</i>
CITES:	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
DFO:	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
ECCC:	Environment and Climate Change Canada
EIRB:	Environmental Impact Review Board
EISC:	Environmental Impact Screening Committee
ENR:	Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories
EPPR:	Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response
FJMC:	Fisheries Joint Management Committee
GN:	Government of Nunavut
GNWT:	Government of the Northwest Territories
HTC:	Hunters and Trappers Committee
HTO:	Hunters and Trappers Organization
IGC:	Inuvialuit Game Council
IFA:	Inuvialuit Final Agreement
ILA:	Inuvialuit Land Administration
IRC:	Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
ISR:	Inuvialuit Settlement Region
ITI:	Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment, Government of the Northwest Territories
IWB:	Inuvialuit Water Board
JS:	Joint Secretariat
KRWB:	Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board
MACA:	Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, Government of the Northwest Territories
NDoE:	Nunavut Department of Environment
NTI:	Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
NSB:	North Slope Borough, Alaska
NWT:	Northwest Territories
PAH:	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon
PBAC:	Polar Bear Advisory Committee
PBHIMS:	Polar Bear Human Information Management System
PBSG:	Polar Bear Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission
PBTC:	Polar Bear Technical Committee
PC:	Parks Canada
PIT:	Passive Integrated Transponders
TC:	Transport Canada
TK:	Traditional Knowledge
USFWS:	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS:	United States Geological Survey
WMAC (NS):	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)
WMAC (NWT):	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Northwest Territories)
WMACs:	both WMAC (NWT) and WMAC (NS)
WMIS:	Wildlife Management Information System
WWF:	World Wildlife Fund
YDoE:	Yukon Department of Environment

ANNEX B

DEVELOPMENT OF MANAGEMENT PLAN, FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT

On February 27, 2014, the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories, acting on the direction provided by the Conference of Management Authorities in their *Consensus Agreement on Listing Polar Bear (Ursus maritimus)* (November 2013), added polar bear to the NWT List of Species at Risk as a species of Special Concern. If a species is listed as Special Concern, the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* requires that the Conference of Management Authorities complete a management plan for that species.

The *Inuvialuit Settlement Region Polar Bear Joint Management Plan* (the management plan) describes the management goal and objectives for polar bears in the entire Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR), including the Northwest Territories and Yukon. It was developed to meet the requirements for a management plan under the territorial *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* and the ISR (Yukon and NWT) regional component of the national management plan under the federal *Species at Risk Act*, while also respecting the joint management process laid out in the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement*.

Management authority for polar bears in the ISR is jurisdictionally complex and the management plan is intended to facilitate an integrated and common approach by all jurisdictions. To facilitate this process, a companion document, the *Framework for Action for Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region* (framework for action) was developed. This document outlines actions and areas where further work should be directed. The framework for action was meant to be used by management partners to develop an implementation table.

The management plan and framework for action were prepared collaboratively by Environment and Natural Resources, the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT), Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope), Inuvialuit Game Council, Environment Yukon, Parks Canada, and Environment and Climate Change Canada. The process of developing the management plan and framework for action included meetings in the ISR communities, conducting Crown consultation with regard to Aboriginal and treaty rights, and providing opportunity for public comment.

The management plan and framework for action were developed appropriately with input from the necessary parties. They include appropriate recommended objectives and approaches for the management of polar bears, as well as descriptions of threats and positive influences, as required under section 61 of the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*.

The management plan and framework for action were completed and adopted by the Conference of Management Authorities on June 27, 2017, in accordance with section 59 and sections 61-68 of the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*.

An *Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region* (implementation table) was developed collaboratively and recommended by WMAC (NWT), WMAC (North Slope), and the Inuvialuit Game Council to the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories, the Minister of Environment, Government of Yukon, and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Canada. The implementation table recommends proposed lead agencies and potential partners to implement the actions laid out in the management plan and framework for action.

The development of the implementation table benefitted from a joint workshop between the Inuvialuit Game Council, the WMAC (NWT) and WMAC (North Slope). WMAC (NWT) also sought community feedback on the implementation table during visits to ISR communities in September and October 2017.

This *Consensus Agreement Respecting Implementation of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region Polar Bear Joint Management Plan and Framework for Action* was informed by discussions of the Conference of Management Authorities and other polar bear management partners (WMAC (North Slope), Inuvialuit Game Council, Yukon Government, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Parks Canada), the management plan, the framework for action, the implementation table, the *Consensus Agreement on Listing Polar Bear*, the *Consensus Agreement on Adopting the Inuvialuit Settlement Region Polar Bear Joint Management Plan and Framework for Action*, the Species at Risk Committee's assessment and reasons for assessment, and the approved species status report. This Consensus Agreement was also informed by public input (solicited by the Management Authorities) and the results of Crown consultation duties performed by the GNWT during the listing process and the development of the management plan and framework for action. No information was provided to the Species at Risk Committee by the Conference of Management Authorities or a Management Authority under paragraph 31(1)(c) and no clarification was requested under section 34 of the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*.