



December 6, 2017

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Re: Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region

The Inuvialuit Game Council, Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope), and Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) are pleased to recommend to you the *Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region*. This implementation table was developed building on the publication of the *Inuvialuit Settlement Region Polar Bear Joint Management Plan* and accompanying “*Framework for Action for Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region*”, both of which were recommended to you on January 25th, 2017.

The *Inuvialuit Settlement Region Polar Bear Joint Management Plan* describes the management goal and objectives for polar bears in the entire Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR), including the Northwest Territories and Yukon. The *Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region*, is meant to replace the framework, and builds upon this work by describing the specific actions necessary to achieve the goal and objectives using the identified approaches in the management plan, and identifies the relative priority, timeframe, proposed lead, potential partners, and measurement of performance for each action. Implementation is subject to appropriations, priorities, and budgetary constraints of the participating parties. The table represents guidance from the Councils and their

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collaborators as to the priority of the approaches, who is involved in the action, and appropriate measure of performance, but it is important to note that these are recommendations and further discussion is required.

The Councils would like to express their thanks for the efforts of our partners, especially the governments of the Northwest Territories and Yukon. From the development of the *Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region* and continuing with the *Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region*, this work has truly been a collaborative effort. We remain committed to an ultimate goal to ensure the long-term persistence of healthy polar bear populations in the ISR while maintaining traditional Inuvialuit use.

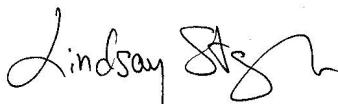
It is our expectation that this implementation table, in addition to providing guidance for the management of polar bears in the Northwest Territories (pursuant to the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*) will also provide guidance to the Yukon and federal governments for future polar bear management in the ISR.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this letter and accompanying *Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region*. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



John Lucas Jr.
Chair, Inuvialuit Game
Council



Lindsay Staples
Chair, Wildlife
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CC

Christine Cleghorn, Director, Fish and Wildlife, Yukon Government Dr. Brett Elkin, Director, Wildlife Division, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Government of the Northwest Territories Caroline Ladinowski, Director, Wildlife Management and Regulatory Affairs, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada

Attachments

Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (October 2017)



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT
ADVISORY COUNCIL (NWT)

Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region

As recommended by IGC, WMAC (NS) and WMAC (NWT)

October 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 January 25th, 2017 to the NWT, Yukon and Federal Ministers (Joint Secretariat 2017). The *Management 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.

DRAFT Implementation Table for Actions on Management of Polar Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region

As recommended by IGC, WMAC (NS) and WMAC (NWT)

October 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	Use the report <i>Inuvialuit and Nanuq: A Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Study</i> and associated database to identify additional research needs and priorities.	Necessary	Short term	WMACs	Contractor	A gap analysis of report complete and available to drive research priorities.
Action 1.1.2	Make results of queries to the database from <i>Inuvialuit and Nanuq: A Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Study</i> , available to management partners, as appropriate.	Critical	Ongoing	WMACs, IGC	JS (ISR online platform)	Database is queried and results used.
Action 1.1.3	Increase systematic collection and analysis of Inuvialuit observations.	Necessary	Short-term Ongoing	CBMP, (ENR)	Harvesters	Observations recorded in a systematic way and presented to WMACs.
Action 1.1.4	Develop and apply policy/best practices for traditional knowledge research in the ISR.	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	Develop a monitoring plan for contaminants in polar bears and seals (DFO).	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, HTC's, 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		Relative Priority ¹	Relative Timeframe ²	Proposed Lead	Potential Partners	Measure of Performance
Approach 2.1	Review information annually to inform adaptive management. (Critical/Ongoing)					
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. Communication strategy developed (e.g. including use of social media, posters of research projects/harvest information).
Action 2.2.2	Hold community meetings for information sharing.	Critical	Ongoing	Varies	HTCs, WMACs, IGC, ENR	Communication and awareness with HTCs and general public.
Action 2.2.3	Share information at ISR research day.	Critical	Ongoing	WMACs	Researchers, ENR, YDoE	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.

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	Continue participating in Inuit Communications Group for polar bears.	Beneficial	Ongoing	ECCC	All partners as necessary	Partners actively participate in the process.
Action 2.3.6	Coordinate actions and messaging related to CITES, e.g., strengthen tracking of exports and update non-detrimental findings.	Critical	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	Continue to implement HTC bylaws and associated regulations that prohibit taking females with cubs and bears in dens.	Critical	Ongoing	IGC, WMACs	HTCs, YDoE, ENR	No harvest of females with cubs or in dens.
Action 3.1.2	Continue to implement the Inuvialuit-Inuit and Inuvialuit-Inupiat user to user agreements by setting quotas so that the female proportion of harvest does not exceed one third of total subpopulation harvest.	Critical	Ongoing	IGC	All partners	Annual review of overall harvest shows female quota not exceeded.
Action 3.1.3	Continue to provide community workshops and education on identifying sex of polar bears, as required.	Necessary	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	Continue tracking all human-caused polar bear mortalities through tag system including harvest, defense of life and property kills, industry-related mortalities, and other mortalities.	Critical	Ongoing	ENR	HTCs, IGC, WMACs, YDoE, PC	Annual report of mortalities.
Action 3.2.2	Continue to enforce harvest quotas and the tag system.	Critical	Ongoing	ENR, YDoE,	WMACs, IGC, HTCs, PC	Tag system in place and enforced.
Action 3.2.3	Annually review harvest based on all available information.	Critical	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	Continue to implement regulations specifying that unsuccessful guided hunt tags cannot be re-allocated.	Necessary	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	Continue to regulate and track trade of polar bears and polar bear parts through permits.	Necessary	Ongoing	ECCC	ENR	Permits issued for polar bears in international trade.

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's	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	HTC's, 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	HTC's, 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, HTC's, YDoE		Bear awareness material provided.
Action 4.1.5	Work with communities and industry to reduce human-bear conflicts.	Necessary	Ongoing	ENR, PC, HTC's	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, HTC's, 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, HTC's, 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.

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	Shapefile 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 Nanuq: 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's, 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.

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	Factsheets/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.

¹**Relative 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*.
²**Relative 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