



2-Year Implementation Plan of Circumpolar Action Plan 10-Year Actions, 2018-2020

Adopted in Fairbanks, Alaska, USA

February 4, 2018

Action Number	Action	Timeline	Point of Contact or Lead Country
1	Consider the cumulative effects of climate change and human activities on polar bear subpopulations and habitats when making management decisions using tools such as predictive modeling.	Task proposed for 2018-2025 Proposed Timeline: October 2017: application of the Regehr et al. (2017a) modeling framework for harvest risk assessments of the Baffin Bay and Kane Basin subpopulations. 2018-2025 (ongoing, as new scientific data are obtained): application of harvest risk assessment methods that consider the combined effects of human-caused removals and habitat change to help inform management strategies for different subpopulations.	Greenland
3	Define and identify essential polar bear habitat and document change over time	Carried over from 2015-2017; additional progress could be made in 2018-2020 and beyond, pending funding	Greenland
7	Develop strategies for responding to the potential for large numbers of bears stranded on shore near communities and human developments and consider the consequences including those for human safety and transmission of disease between bears	Carried over from 2015-2017; task expected to be completed in 2018-2020 2-yr cycle	Conflict Working Group
12	Consider, and implement as appropriate, recommendations from the Range States' Trade Working Group	Carried over from 2015-2017; task expected to be completed in 2018-2020 2-yr cycle	Trade Working Group/Canada
13	Assess the adequacy of existing oil and contaminant spill emergency response plans to protect essential polar bear habitat, and prevent polar bears from being exposed to oil	Carried over from 2015-2017; task expected to be completed in by February 2018	Russia

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14 & 16	<p>14: Work with appropriate authorities to develop the necessary emergency response plans</p> <p>16: Compile, and prepare as necessary, international, national, and local BMPs for mineral and energy exploration and development</p>	<p>Task proposed for 2018-2020</p> <p>Proposed timeline: 2018-2019: 1) Analytical review of current ice conditions in place of potential oil spills and assessment of the probability of occurrence of an emergency with the crossing of oil-contaminated ice borders (Russia / Norway, Canada / Greenland, Canada / USA, Russia / USA).</p> <p>2) Proposals to international response plans on the liquidation of oil spills in the cross-border area (possible implementation within the framework of bilateral cooperation);</p> <p>3) Review of the results of the pilot studies and training activities for the elimination of oil spills in the Arctic seas.</p>	Russia
19 & 20	<p>19: Establish working relationships with tourism organizations</p> <p>20: Collect occurrence data, and develop BMPs, with the goal of minimizing the impact of tourism-related activities and their impact on polar bears</p>	<p>#19 carried over from 2015-2017; will be combined with #20 and tasks expected to be completed in 2018-2020 2-year cycle</p> <p>Proposed timeline: February 2018 – September 2018: Part 1 September 2018 – February 2019: Part 2 Spring 2019: Part 3</p>	Norway
22	<p>Reduce the risk of injury and mortality to humans and bears as a result of their interactions by:a. continuing to support the work of the Range States CWG;b. implementing and making available to all Range States the Polar Bear-Human Information Management System (PBHIMS);c. developing and implementing appropriate data-sharing agreements among the range states and making the data available to Range State management authorities;d. entering all available data on human-bear interactions into the PBHIMS database on an ongoing basis; and,e. developing best management practices (BMPs) on tools and techniques for use in preventing and mitigating human–bear conflicts</p>	<p>Carried over from 2015-2017; task expected to be completed in 2018-2020 2-yr cycle</p>	Conflict Working Group

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27	Inter-jurisdictional collaboration in support of consistent research methods and data sets for polar bears	Carried over from 2015-2017; task will be carried into 2018-2020 2-year cycle and through 2025	Polar Bear Specialist Group/Norway
29	Determination of population size estimates as per the Inventory Schedule	Carried over from 2015-2017; task will be carried into 2018-2020 2-year cycle and through 2025	All Range States/Norway
30	Obtain information, where possible, on vital rates for all 19 subpopulations of polar bears. Improve methods to evaluate ecological indicators (e.g., reproduction) as proxies for robust estimates of vital rates	Task proposed for 2018-2020 Proposed Timeline: January 2018: Canada develops information templates; February-April 2018: request to Range State members to solicit existing vital rates information from national experts; May-October 2018: information compiled and expert opinion sought to determine priority information needs and sampling recommendations; November-December 2018: draft report prepared by Canada; January-April 2019: report reviewed by Range State national experts; May-July 2019: final report complete.	Canada
33	Annual population assessments for each of the polar bear subpopulations	Carried over from 2015-2017; task will be carried into 2018-2020 2-year cycle and through 2025	Polar Bear Specialist Group/Norway
34	Obtaining Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) for each subpopulation	Carried over from 2015-2017; task will be carried into 2018-2020 2-year cycle and through 2025	All Range States/ Canada and Greenland
35	Establishment of a Range State definition of TEK and guidelines for the use of TEK in management decisions	Carried over from 2015-2017; task may be carried into 2018-2020 2-year cycle and through 2025	Gordon/Hansen
42	Compile the state of knowledge on (both global and local source) contaminants affecting polar bears and prey	Task proposed for 2018-2020 Proposed Timeline: February 2018 – June 2018: Range states will compile existing information and describe current research and monitoring efforts on	Norway

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		<p>contaminants, pollution and marine debris affecting polar bears or their prey.</p> <p>June 2018 – December 2018: The Norwegian Polar Institute will compile and analyze received information and create a draft report with input and communication with relevant scientific partners in other RS.</p> <p>Spring 2019: After review of draft report, final report will be completed and posted to RS Website.</p>	
53	Maintenance of website established for 2015 Range State meeting and establishment of a permanent Range State website	Carried over from 2015-2017; task may be carried into 2018-2020 2-year cycle and through 2025	Communications Working Group/Norway
58	Use the PBHIMS database to produce safety education materials for use throughout the Arctic in order to minimize and mitigate human-bear interactions	<p>Task proposed for 2018-2020 Proposed Timeline: January-June 2018: CWG Range states will compile existing information on polar bear safety messages currently in use, as well as examples from the black and brown bear world. Summer 2018?: CWG meets face to face to : (1) identify priority polar bear safety messages; (2) the relative merits of different data sources, with priority given to published literature and (3) best practices for proactively minimizing human-polar bear conflicts. September 2018-June 2019: – Produce a suite of vetted polar bear safety messages, along the lines of Alaska’s 2017 “A Framework for Bear Safety Messages in Alaska” produced by the Alaska Interagency Bear Safety Education Working Group September 2019: final report complete and posted to RS website.</p>	Conflict Working Group/U.S.
59	The Comms WG will create a report which strategically identifies appropriate messages regarding climate change threats to polar bear bears and the means to communicate these messages to the global audience.	Task for current 2-year cycle complete; will be carried into next 2-year cycle and through 2025	Communications Working Group/Norway
60	The CAP Implementation Team (IT) will develop a biennial report which will include national updates as well as a progress report on actions related to the Plan. The reports will be posted on the website shortly before each Range States Biennial Meeting of the Parties MoP. In depth 4 year review completed by 2020.	Task for current 2-year cycle expected to be completed prior to Feb 2018; will be carried into next 2-year cycle and through 2025	Circumpolar Action Plan Implementation Team/Norway

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63	Explore methods for improving the design of improving polar bear population studies	Carried over from 2015-2017; task will be carried into 2018-2020 2-year cycle and through 2025	U.S.
17 (2-year action)	Explore and develop options for making the operations of the Range States more standardized and/or formal. A working group will be created to develop options for consideration by the Range States in 2017. Options should include a full range from formally adopting rules of procedure and protocols to consideration of a Secretariat, and associated costs and funding options to implement the CAP	Carried over from 2015-2017; options may be carried into 2018-2020 2-year cycle	U.S.
18 (2-year action)	IUCN/SSC PBSG to consider all the science-related actions in the CAP and to prioritize them into two and ten year actions with a report back to the Range States for their consideration. The report will include possible funding sources and applications will have been made, where appropriate.	Carried over from 2015-2017; task will be carried into 2018-2020 2-year cycle	Norway

LEGEND New proposed action for next 2-year cycle (i.e., action not carried over from 2015-2017)

Annex III of the Circumpolar Action Plan contains a 10-year action plan titled "Summary Table of Bilateral and Multilateral Actions to Address Threats 2015-2025" and can be found online at: <https://polarbearagreement.org/resources/circumpolar-action-plan/cap-annexes-and-appendices/annex-iii>.

The 2-year implementation plan "Circumpolar Action Plan: Conservation Strategy for the Polar Bear 2015-2017 Implementation Table of Bilateral and Multilateral Actions" of the 10-year action plan was adopted at the Range States Meeting of the Parties in Illulissat, Greenland, in 2015. It can be found online at: <https://polarbearagreement.org/resources/meeting-documents/2015-ilulissat-greenland>.