

Progress Report, 2-year Action #18
2015-2017 Bilateral and Multilateral Actions,
Circumpolar Action Plan:
Conservation Strategy for the Polar Bear



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| Title | Determine priority research needs considering the monitoring framework, national mandates and funding options |
| Timeline | 2015-2017 |
| Description of Activity from 2017 Implementation Table | International Union for the Conservation of Nature/Species Survival Commission (IUCN/SSC) Polar Bear Specialist Group (PBSG) to consider all the science-related actions in the Circumpolar Action Plan (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. |
| Baseline status | Actions not prioritized |
| Planned Outputs | Prioritized list of all science-related actions necessary to fulfill the items of most immediate importance identified in the CAP during 2016. Research and monitoring plan for consideration by the Range States at the 2018 Meeting of the Parties |
| Modifications | None |
| Progress Report Date | November 24, 2017 |

Progress Report on Activity

PBSG provided comments on CAP actions to the CAP Implementation Team (CAP IT) in 2016; however, the list of CAP actions has not yet been prioritized. The Operations, Policies, and Procedures (OPP) Working Group (WG) is currently working to formalize procedures for requesting input from PBSG.

Next Steps

Over the next two-year implementation cycle, the CAP IT will engage directly with PBSG to develop a list of prioritized research needs to address the actions in the CAP. In addition to prioritization at the Range State level, prioritization of research at the national level will be encouraged by the Range States.

To fully implement this action, more formalized procedures for Range States requests for input from PBSG will be developed. The OPP WG is currently working to develop these procedures.