

Progress Report, Action #27
2018-2020 Bilateral and Multilateral Actions,
Circumpolar Action Plan:
Conservation Strategy for the Polar Bear



Action	Inter-jurisdictional Collaboration in Support of Consistent Research Methods and Data Sets for Polar Bears
Point(s) of contact or Lead country	Polar Bear Specialist Group & Norway Nick Lunn, Daq Vongraven, Andreas Schei and Karen Lone Nick.lunn@canada.ca ; dag.vongraven@npolar.no ; andreas.benjamin.schei@miljodir.no ; Karen.Lone@miljodir.no
Partner Countries	
Timeline Description as per 2018-2020 implementation table	Carried over from 2015-2017; task will be carried into 2018-2020 2-year cycle and through 2025
Baseline status	No systematic approach to sharing research plans exists between jurisdictions.
Planned Outputs	Technical/scientific publications and procedural manuals.
Modifications made to date	
Progress Report Date	September 30, 2019

Progress Report on Activity

The PBSG currently collaborates inter-jurisdictionally to the best extent possible. The PBSG website includes descriptions of several methods extensively in polar bear research, that have been written by PBSG members with specialist knowledge. Three of the methods pages (mark-recapture, line transect surveys and fatty acid analyses) were updated in 2019.

Terms of reference for PBSGs involvement under CAP have been developed.

Additional activities during this 2-year period that supported inter-jurisdictional research collaboration included an international workshop in Tromsø in February 2019 that brought together researchers from all RS. At the workshop several research projects looking into concrete research questions raised under the CAP were identified, and collaborations were initiated or further developed.

Next Steps

This action is ongoing, will be carried into next 2-year cycle.

Considerations Going Forward:

There seems to be agreement that this action can continue to be adequately pursued in parallel by PBSG in their day-to-day workings, as well as by undertaking international workshops similar to the one held in Tromsø – during each 2-year period.