

Progress Report, Action #33
2018-2020 Bilateral and Multilateral Actions,
Circumpolar Action Plan:
Conservation Strategy for the Polar Bear



Action	Annual population Assessments for each of the Polar Bear Subpopulations
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	Population status table updated by International Union for the Conservation of Nature/Species Survival Commission (IUCN/SSC) Polar Bear Specialist Group (PBSG).
Planned Outputs	Annual reports.
Modifications made to date	None.
Progress Report Date	September 30, 2019

Progress Report on Activity

Range States conduct population estimates as part of their national conservation plan or bilateral agreements. The PBSG assesses these efforts and, in conjunction with other research efforts, produce status assessments for polar bear populations. The PBSG updates the status table when new information is made available. In practice, this has been less frequently than annually.

During this two-year period, the PBSG has made a thorough revision of their assessment methods.

The PBSG updated their “Summary of polar bear population status” table in September 2019. It is available on their website at: <http://pbsg.npolar.no/en/status/status-table.html>.

Next Steps

This action is on-going and will remain on-going and recurring for the full 10-year action plan period (i.e., until 2025).

Considerations Going Forward:

We recommend keeping this action as is.