

A large polar bear stands on a rocky shore, looking down at two smaller cubs. The cubs are also looking down at the ground. The background shows a body of water with waves and a sunset or sunrise sky.

OUTLINE

- DIRECTION
- DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN
- CONSULTATION HISTORY
- KEY COMPONENTS
- PUBLIC SAFETY
- CHANGES
- GOING FORWARD



DIRECTION

- Replace the Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)
- Be more inclusive of Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit (IQ)
- Identify the importance of working together
- Define roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders
- Identify challenges and solutions to conservation issues

DEVELOPMENT

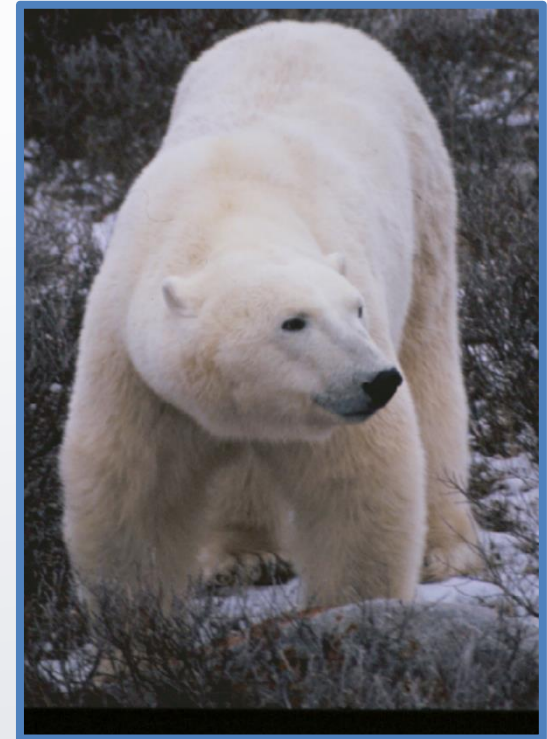
- Identify a working group composed of **GN**, **NTI**, **NWMB**, and **RWO** members to direct and coordinate development of a new polar bear management plan
- The group sought advice from the Inuit Wildlife Advisory Committee (June 2013) on an appropriate approach to develop a new management plan and consult with Inuit
- Based on this input the group developed the outline and general text of a draft over the summer and fall of 2013 and prepared to engage all communities

DEVELOPMENT

- Consultations in all Nunavut communities were conducted from February to April 2014 to obtain information needed to complete the draft plan
- The draft plan was sent back to **HTOs** for review prior to regional follow up meetings
- Three regional meetings were held in June 2014 to provide specific directions to finalize the draft

CONSULTATION

- A consultation team was identified for each region consisting of the **RWO Chair**, **NTI** staff, **DOE** staff, Secretariat support, and facilitator
- Respective regional teams visited every community and met with HTO's and the public
- The teams went to communities to listen and collect feedback to use in developing the plan



CONSULTATION

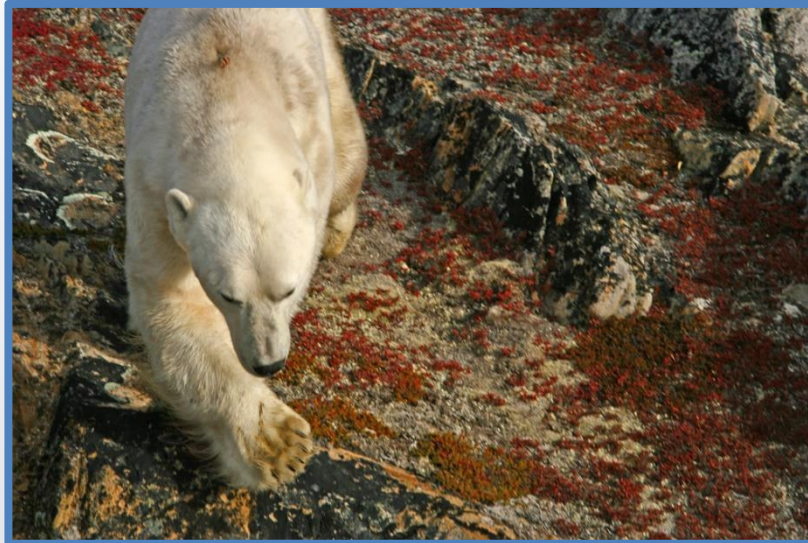
- The HTO and Community feedback was used to complete a draft plan
- Then 3 separate regional meetings were held, with representatives from each community, to get specific feedback on how to move forward with implementation
- The draft plan and process was also reviewed by the Ministers Elders Advisory Committee

KEY COMPONENTS OF PLAN

- The plan acknowledges that in some parts of Nunavut there are too many bears, both for **public safety** and the **environment**
- The Goals of the plan include
 - maintain viable and healthy subpopulations of polar bears
 - assure that they remain as a functioning part of the landscape

KEY COMPONENTS OF PLAN

- The Guiding Principles identify the need to fully integrate **IQ** in polar bear management, and to consider **public safety** and the **best available scientific data and IQ** when making decisions



KEY COMPONENTS OF PLAN

- The plan has a section on challenges to polar bear management which includes:
 - Tourism
 - industrial activities
 - Contaminants
 - habitat change
 - **human-bear conflict**
- The plan has a section on objectives which identifies how to respond to challenges and includes harvest management and monitoring

KEY COMPONENTS OF PLAN

- There are **NO changes to TAH** within the plan. Those changes will occur as new information becomes available and will go through the regular NWMB process following additional consultations.



Public Safety

- There have been some concerns raised about Defence of Life and Property Kills (DLPKs) coming off the TAH
- The TAH recommendations are based on harvest sustainability and management objectives
- By having the option to set a management objective for a decrease, we can address some issues associated with public safety but certainly not all.

Public Safety

- TAHs cannot address all public safety concerns
- The plan identifies additional actions to help with public safety
- The GN provides funding and resources toward public safety measures and equipment for communities and for people who travel on the land
- Changes to harvest levels are not the only option, we collectively need to do more

CHANGES

- No more automatic harvest moratorium on a decline of 10%, each situation will be reviewed individually
- More inclusive of IQ and Inuit perspective
- Maintains the flexible quota systems good parts yet makes it less punitive
- Focus on setting management objectives which could include managing polar bears for a decrease

GOING FORWARD

- Working together to determine subpopulation goals and actions as new information becomes available
- Continue to respond to concerns by striving to improve research and collection of IQ
- To be responsive to observed changes in populations, concerns for public safety, and ecosystem health

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THANK YOU
QUANAQUTIN
MERCI

