

Inuvialuit-Inupiat Polar Bear Management Agreement for the Southern Beaufort Sea



To conserve polar bears in Alaska and Canada, the Inuvialuit and the Inupiat have set forth the following management provisions (January 1988, revised August 2011):

- All bears in dens or constructing dens are protected.
- All members of a family group are protected.
- Hunting seasons shall be based on traditional ecological knowledge.
- The annual acceptable harvest shall be determined by the Joint Commission.
- The use of aircraft or large motorized vessels for the purpose of taking polar bears shall be prohibited.
- Each jurisdiction shall prohibit the exportation from, the importation and delivery into, and traffic within its territory, of polar bears or any part of product thereof taken in violation of this Agreement.
- Polar bears in villages during closed seasons should, whenever possible, be deterred from the area.
- Polar bears will not be harvested in the vicinity of bone piles created from whaling activities or active terrestrial walrus haulouts.
- Polar bears threatening human safety, including those killed during research activities, may be taken at any time of the year, and will be counted as part of the total quota.
- **The following data are required to be recorded for each bear killed: sex, date and location of the kill, and hunter's name.**
- The following specimens should be collected from each bear killed: the lower jaw or an undamaged post-canine tooth to be used for age-determination, ear tags, lip tattoos, and radio collars if present, the baculum from each male, and/or other specimens as agreed to by the hunters of either jurisdiction for additional studies.
- These provisions apply to the communities of **Wainwright, Barrow, Nuiqsut, and Kaktovik. The U.S. Russia Bilateral Polar Bear Management Agreement governs management in Point Lay and Point Hope.**