



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Participating in the Polar Bear Public Hearing

### Guidance for Providing Comments at a Public Hearing:

- When your name is called, please approach the microphone.
- Give your name, and spell it.
- Give your organization (if any).
- Please follow time limit established by Hearing Officer.
- Please provide your comments, observations, and suggestions on the proposed rule.
- Please conclude comments when prompted by the Hearing Officer.

### Information Sought on Polar Bears

(1) Taxonomy, distribution, habitat selection (especially denning habitat), food habits, population density and trends, habitat trends, and effects of management on polar bears;

(2) Effects of climate change and sea ice change on the distribution and abundance of polar bears and their principal prey over the short- and long-term;

(3) Effects of other potential listing factors, including oil and gas development, contaminants, hunting, and poaching, on the distribution and abundance of polar bears and their principal prey over the short and long term;

(4) Management programs for polar bear conservation, including mitigation measures related to oil and gas exploration and development, hunting conservation programs, anti-poaching programs, and any other private, tribal, or governmental conservation programs that benefit polar bears;

(5) The specific physical and biological features to consider, and specific areas that may meet the definition of critical habitat and that should or should not be considered for a proposed critical habitat designation as provided by section 4 of the Act; and,

(6) Whether any populations of the species may qualify as distinct population segments.

(7) Comments on the data and studies referred to in the proposed rule.

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Marine Mammals Management Office  
1011 E. Tudor Road - MS 341  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
<http://alaska.fws.gov/fisheries/mmm/polarbear/issues.htm>**

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