



## Act Now to Protect Polar Bears from Global Warming!

<http://polarbear.biologicaldiversity.org>



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**Polar bears are at risk of extinction as global warming melts away their Arctic sea ice habitat.** If current greenhouse gas emissions trends continue, summer sea ice in the Arctic will melt away entirely, and polar bears will be unable to survive.

**We need your help to protect the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act.** The Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed listing the polar bear as “threatened” under the Endangered Species Act and give polar bears important new federal protections. The Service is collecting public comments on the proposal before it makes a final decision.

**Please submit a public comment to help protect**

**the polar bear today!** Your comments will help protect the polar bear *and* highlight the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to combat global warming. The deadline to submit public comments is April 9, 2007.

### How you can help

- **Attend a public hearing.**

The Fish and Wildlife Service is planning three hearings on the polar bear listing proposal. Attending a hearing is one of the most effective ways to show your support, and gives you the opportunity to present oral testimony in favor of listing the polar bear.

**Anchorage, AK.** March 1, 2007, 7 to 10 p.m. Wilda Marston Theatre, Z.J. Loussac Library, 3600 Denali Street, Anchorage, AK 99503.

**Washington, DC.** March 5, 2007, 6 to 9 p.m. Department of the Interior (Sidney Yates Auditorium), 1849 C St., NW., Washington, DC 20240.

**Barrow, AK.** March 7, 2007, 5 to 10 p.m. Barrow--Inupiat Heritage Center (Multipurpose Room), Barrow, AK 99723.

- **Submit a written public comment.** If you are unable to attend a hearing in person, a written public comment is another great way to let the Fish and Wildlife Service know that you support protecting the polar bear. Address your comments to:

Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Marine Mammals Management Office  
1011 East Tudor Road  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
Or e-mail: [Polar\\_Bear\\_Finding@fws.gov](mailto:Polar_Bear_Finding@fws.gov)

### Polar Bears at Risk in a Warming Arctic

- **Disappearing habitat.** Polar bears need Arctic sea ice to survive. They use the sea ice to hunt their primary prey of ringed and bearded seals, as well as for travel, mating, and maternity denning. If greenhouse gas pollution is not reduced, summer Arctic sea ice may disappear entirely by 2040, with dire consequences from the polar bear.
- **Starvation.** Reduced food availability has led to polar bear cannibalism off the north coast of Alaska and Canada. In the spring of 2006, several bears were found in Alaska that had starved to death.
- **Drownings.** Scientists with the U.S. Minerals Management Service documented the drowning of at least four polar bears in September 2004, when the sea ice retreated a record 160 miles off the state's northern coast.
- **Polar bear experts concerned.** The Polar Bear Specialist Group has classified the polar bear as “Vulnerable” on the World Conservation Union’s Redlist of threatened species. Five of the world’s polar bear are known to be declining.

For more information and to submit a comment online, visit <http://polarbear.biologicaldiversity.org>