



## Quarterly Conservation Update Q2 2025

This update includes highlights from our science, education, advocacy, and outreach teams in the second quarter of 2025.

### Science and Research Highlights

#### Foundational research

*Impact of this work: Any effort to conserve polar bears begins with an intimate understanding of their life history and needs. Foundational science is essential to that effort.*

- Our **groundbreaking model** is being used to predict how [increased time off the sea ice](#) affects the energy balance, reproduction, and survival of polar bears in three key populations. This cutting-edge science helps anticipate the future and informs the prioritization of conservation efforts by polar bear nations.
- A soon-to-be-published study examines the impact of climate change on polar bear populations at a [genetic level](#). What we learned: There's limited evidence that polar bears are adapting as quickly as their habitat is changing. The paper **advocates for genetic management plans** that can help populations remain genetically healthy and robust.

#### Indigenous Knowledge

*Impact of this work: By partnering with Elders and Indigenous Knowledge Keepers, we can gain valuable insights into the coexistence of polar bears and their communities.*

- We supported a **workshop in Nunavik, Canada**, where Indigenous community members learned to use hair snare and trail camera techniques to monitor polar bears. This work builds capacity for non-invasive approaches to learn about a population's numbers and well-being.

#### Emerging Scientific Techniques

*Impact of this work: By supporting these efforts, we're expanding our understanding of polar bears and Arctic ecology while also mentoring the next generation.*

- We've secured approval to relocate our **"[Bear-dar](#)" radar system** to Eureka, Nunavut, for a High Arctic field trial, a major milestone for safe coexistence with polar bears. A second radar system is in the works, expanding this innovative approach to prevent conflict. These high-impact, proactive measures will protect both polar bears and communities.

## Management, Policy, and Advocacy Highlights

### Keeping people and polar bears safe

*Impact of this work: We're committed to helping people stay safe when living, working or recreating in polar bear country.*

- Our second [community exchange](#) brought community representatives from Manitoba and Ontario, Canada, to Svalbard, Norway, to share knowledge on polar bear safety, tourism and more. These global, community-driven exchanges promote international learning about coexistence strategies and strengthen relationships between Arctic communities on the frontlines of polar bear conservation.
- Better waste management can go a long way towards keeping bears and people safe. In response to [last year's fire](#) at a waste containment facility in Churchill, six large **bear-proof waste bins** are being installed around Churchill. We're also working with the town to install **electric fencing** around areas where polar bears gather, such as the town landfill.

### Policy and Advocacy

*Impact of this work: By encouraging policies that support polar bear conservation and engaging the public in advocacy, we can help sustain the future of polar bears.*

- We're tracking what the [changes in the U.S.](#) mean for polar bears — and we're speaking up. This spring, we submitted science-backed policy letters to the U.S. Congress, advocated for the Endangered Species Act, and created a primer on policy affecting polar bears.
- We **empowered youth voices** by supporting a young Churchill leader's participation at the [Arctic Youth Conference](#) and a youth delegate at the U.N. Climate Talks—lifting new voices in conservation and giving them the opportunity to contribute to systems-level change.

## Education and Outreach Highlights

### Education and Awareness

*Impact of this work: Our outreach highlights the issues facing polar bears and inspires people to take climate action.*

- Our [Earth Day event](#) with explore.org reached thousands of young people, focusing on polar bears and Arctic ecosystems, while we connected with nearly a thousand students through virtual classroom events and mentored a new Loran Scholar intern. **Inspiring and empowering youth** is the first step in training the next generation of polar bear conservationists.
- We began training our latest [Climate Alliance](#) cohort of animal care specialists on climate change messaging, **amplifying the polar bear and climate story** through a network of zoo visitors that reaches hundreds of millions of people each year.

## Media Coverage

*Impact of this work: By sharing accurate information on polar bears and the threats they face with a global audience, we help combat misinformation and inspire action.*

- Our innovative [den monitoring](#) project, which captured **rare images of cubs leaving the den**, continued to make waves with coverage in Mongabay and the Barents Observer, while BBC World News featured expert commentary from a PBI scientist.
- In total, PBI's work was featured in 210 unique articles around the world.

To view previous quarterly conservation updates, please visit our [Our Impact](#) page on the website.