



Quarterly Conservation Update Q3 2025

This update includes highlights from our science, education, advocacy, and outreach teams in the third 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.

- We supported work that **raised concerns about polar bear moms and cubs** of Canada's Western Hudson Bay. The researchers found a [significantly lower percentage](#) of potentially pregnant females compared to four decades ago, and those that were pregnant were in worse physical condition. It's likely the first study to look at long-term pregnancy rates in these bears, and how they relate to climate and the bears' health.

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're continuing our work alongside partners in northern Ontario communities. This summer, these Indigenous communities shared their polar bear knowledge, and we supported their efforts to **safely coexist** with polar bears.

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.

- After years of testing, we successfully installed our "[Bear-dar](#)" **radar system** in Eureka, Nunavut. Not only is this the first time Bear-dar has been deployed for real-world use, but it's also the furthest north! With our partners in the Canadian government, we'll collect data throughout the fall and winter to continue refining this groundbreaking tool for polar bear safety so it can be rolled out to more communities.

- We're working with government and industry partners to determine next steps in improving tools that can **detect polar bear dens** under the snow. These tools can ensure polar bears aren't disturbed by industrial activity during the most vulnerable stage of their lives.

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.

- The Churchill Bear Safe Working Group, with our support to increase local voices in polar bear management and policy, is reviewing new regulations that will lay out **how and where tourists can approach polar bears**. Their experiences will be key in crafting guidelines that are both reasonable and safe for all.

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 were honored to host a group of **Canadian Senators and Members of Parliament** in the PBI House in Churchill, Manitoba, for a discussion about polar bears, climate change, industrial development, and Churchill's future. Our specific [asks](#) included supporting innovative waste management solutions in Churchill and across the North, engaging local knowledge holders and scientists to understand how increased shipping may impact local wildlife, and coordinating wildlife research across Provincial and territorial boundaries.
- We are tracking what changes in the U.S. government mean for polar bears, and **standing up for science**. We submitted a [public comment](#) on the U.S. Department of Energy's review of climate impacts. The report was retracted following significant pushback. We also [commented](#) on future offshore drilling plans.
- [Research](#) by our Director of Policy, Emily Ringer, is directly assisting the Polar Bear Range States in reviewing their progress and making future **plans for cooperation**.
- Polar Bears International has been accepted as a formal member of the **International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**.

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.

- Thanks to the generosity of our partner, explore.org, we launched a new boat: **Sea Canary**. In addition to streaming live footage of the Churchill River belugas for a global audience, we've been collecting wonderful photos and footage of this special marine environment to inspire and inform.
- We kicked off a **new collaboration with Discovery Education**, "[Career Connect](#)", to talk directly to classrooms across North America about polar bears, ecology and our careers. Inspiring and empowering youth is the first step in training the next generation of polar bear conservationists.
- We're grateful to share polar bears with the thousands of people who join us in the field. This summer, we welcomed **over 1,200 visitors** to Polar Bears International House, our interpretive center in Churchill, Manitoba, and **over 4,300** to our Ice House Interpretive Centre in Longyearbyen, Svalbard, Norway. We engaged with an additional **1,500** passengers aboard touring vessels around Svalbard, enabling visitors to bring the polar bear and climate story home, wherever they live.
- Once again, we hosted **two weeks of summer camp in Churchill** — completely free of charge for local children, thanks to the generosity of local partners and donors supporting us from afar. The kids crossed the river to the fort, practiced field data collection skills, learned from Parks Canada and local Indigenous elders, and had a blast celebrating the beautiful natural classroom that is Churchill.

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.

- News coverage **celebrated Arctic Sea Ice Day** and explored how Arctic animals are affected by sea ice melt, with stories and interviews in [CBS News](#), [Mongabay](#), [CTV News](#), [BoingBoing](#) and [EarthSky](#).
- In total, PBI's work was featured in **248 unique articles** around the world, with over **3 billion unique views**.

To view previous quarterly conservation updates, please visit [Our Impact](#) on the Polar Bears International site.