

Memorandum to Senior Arctic Officials

25/9/2015. Actions for Arctic Biodiversity 2015-2017.

2015

Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)

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Document Title

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Agenda item number

Due to fact that the agenda has not yet been finalized, an agenda item number is not yet available for all documents. This section will be revised as information becomes available.

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Submitted by

CAFF

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2

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Memorandum

Memorandum to Senior Arctic Officials 25/09/2015

Actions for Arctic Biodiversity 2015-2017

For information and decision

BACKGROUND

The [Actions for Biodiversity 2013-2021](#) comprises the implementation plan for the ABA recommendations. The Action Plan is not meant to be exhaustive or to replace working group work plans; rather it is complementary, emphasizing specific actions that address the ABA recommendations. Recommendations are primarily aimed at the Arctic Council, however, success in conserving Arctic biodiversity depends upon actions by non-Arctic states, regional and local authorities, industry and all who live work and travel in the Arctic. These recommendations therefore, also provide a guide for action for states, authorities, and organizations beyond the Arctic Council. Some of the ABA recommendations directly encourage cooperation with those outside the Arctic Council process.

Implementation will build on a solid framework of established CAFF activities, including the [Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program \(CBMP\)](#) and the [Arctic Biodiversity Data Service \(ABDS\)](#). It also builds on other relevant Arctic Council working group initiatives and processes of international biodiversity conventions and organizations, in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Some ABA recommendations provide specific directions for focusing and enhancing work through these programs and activities. New directions and initiatives will be phased into work plans. Some recommendations call for action to remedy gaps and deficiencies in knowledge and in conservation. The specific activities outlined in this Action Plan are designed to meet these calls for action.

PURPOSE

The attached Excel Tracking Tool is a working document to help track progress and identify decisions needed on those actions in the *Actions for Biodiversity 2013-2021* scheduled during phase 2: 2015-2017. It will be updated prior to every Board meeting and contains two information sheets:

- CAFF Leads: actions where CAFF is taking a lead or co-lead role
- CAFF Contributions: actions where CAFF will contribute (as identified in the Action Plan)

ACTIONS REQUIRED

- **SAOs**: To provide guidance, take note of and welcome progress on the implementation of the ABA recommendations

The following graphic tracks the timeframe of the actions that are current in Phase 2 (either new in 2015-2017, or ongoing from previous years).

