Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna

CAFF

Mia Rönkä, CAFF Chair
Tom Barry, CAFF Executive Secretary

Photo: Florian Ledoux
Cross-cutting activities

- Marine Invasive Alien Species in Arctic Waters - PAME
- Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures' (OECMs) in the Arctic marine environment - PAME
- Climate change impacts on Arctic ecosystems and associated climate feedbacks - AMAP
- Arctic Protected Areas Database - PAME
- Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Programme (CBMP) - AMAP & PAME
- Arctic Wildland Fire Ecology Mapping and Monitoring Project (Arctic FIRE) – EPPR
- Information Briefs on the Arctic marine environment under change – PAME
- Status and Trends for Arctic Conservation Measures report – PAME
- Arctic Biodiversity Congress – All Subsidiary Bodies
- Discussions ongoing with SDWG and ACAP to find linkages and synergies
Engagement and communications

- CAFF Communications Strategy
- Local communities
  - Outreach around CAFF events: reindeer herders, artists, researchers...
- Video series and other communications products
- Journalists and editors: Training seminar and outreach
- Photography competition and exhibitions: Arctic Biodiversity Through the Lens
- Non-Arctic States and organizations: talks, panels...

Photos: Mia Rönkä
Co-production of knowledge

• Permanent Participants: meaningful engagement

• Co-production of knowledge, inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge, co-creation in CAFF processes

• Several processes ongoing
  • AMAP-CAFF project on climate change
  • ArcticFIRE
  • Salmon Peoples
  • AMBI: Engagement of PPs in Canada
  • CBMP Coastal

• Calls, workshops and trainings about Indigenous Knowledge and co-production
  • Jan 31, 2022, Sep 2022

Photo: Vesa-Matti Väärä
Youth engagement

• Arctic Youth Engagement Strategy 2021–2026
• Youth Advisory Committee
• Early career scientists
  • CAFF-IASC Fellowship Programme
  • Internships
• Writing competition: Arctic nature and its importance, effects of environmental drivers
• Video interviews
• School visits
• Learning material

Photos: Vesa-Matti Väärä
Actions for Arctic Biodiversity: 2023–2030

• Consultations with Arctic States, PPs, Observers, discussions with other Arctic Council Working Groups
• Analysis of progress in implementation

• Mapping against goals and targets of the draft UN Global Biodiversity Framework; alignment with Arctic Council Strategy and UN Sustainable Development Goals
• Action Plan workshop, Feb 2022
• First draft June 2022
Arctic Biodiversity Congress

• Scheduled for early summer 2023
• Exact dates tbc
• First steps to start organising
  • Organizing Committee
ArcticFIRE

- Overview of AC wildland fire
- On the ground conservation topic with wide ecological, social, cultural and economic implications
- Led by GCI
- PSI funding secured
- Sharing Circle with EPPR
- Cross-cutting topic for several Arctic Council Working Groups

Photo: Pierre Markuse
Arctic Protected Areas

30 x 30?

Draft preliminary outcomes

Terrestrial Target 17%

Marine Target 10%

22%

5%
GOAL: Improve knowledge base for informed decision-making

• 2021: Expert Group established
• 2021: Annotated outline
• 2022: Compilation of non-indigenous species, distributions
• 2022: Review of methods for risk assessment
• 2023: Assessment of the probability of non-indigenous species transferring to, and within the Arctic

Marine Invasive Alien Species in Arctic Waters
Climate change impacts on Arctic ecosystems and climate feedbacks

- 2021 May: Scoping document approved
- Jan: Implementation plan due
- Feb: Work Package 1 workshop
- March: Overall workshop
Conceptual framework

Climate change
- Temperature
- Precipitation
- Sea ice
- Snow cover
- Weather extremes
- Permafrost
- Land ice / glaciers
- Freshwater cycling
- Seawater freshening
- Ocean acidification

Ecosystem perturbations
- Wildfires
- Permafrost thaw
- Nutrient release & harmful algal blooms
- Invasive species
- Phenological mismatch
- Outbreaks of diseases
- Population outbreaks & collapses

Ecosystem state
- Primary production
- Energy flow & nutrient cycling
- Important habitats
- Species composition
- Phenology

Ecosystem-based adaptation
- Restore and safeguard ecosystem components
- Protection of biodiversity
- Remove invasive species

Arctic communities & livelihoods
- Food security
- Cultural ecosystem services & sense of place
- Economic & social well-being
- Transportation & infrastructure

Warming climate
various scenarios (SSPs / RCPs)
Assessment Structure

**WP 1:** Co-production of knowledge (case-studies)

**WP 2:** Climate change – ecosystem interactions

**WP 3:** Ecosystem impacts on communities and livelihoods

**WP 4:** Ecosystem-based adaptation strategies
CBMP Strategic Plan: 2021–2025

• 4 Ecosystem monitoring plans
  • Marine, Coastal, Terrestrial, Freshwater
  • Coastal: Co-production of knowledge platform
• 3 State of the Arctic Biodiversity reports
  • Marine, Freshwater, Terrestrial
• Focus on
  • integration and relevance
  • Follow-up on the “State of...” reports
Arctic Wetlands
Resilience and management

• 13 Key Findings
• 20 Recommendations
• Framework for Arctic Council action
• Implementation Plan
The Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) and Protection of the Arctic Marine Environments (PAME) working groups of the Arctic Council developed this indicator report. It provides an overview of the status and trends of protected areas in the Arctic. The data used represents the results of the 2016 update to the Protected Areas Database submitted by each of the Arctic Council member states (Annex 1). This report uses the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) definition for protected areas (see Box 1) which includes a wide range of Management Categories – from strict nature reserve to protection with sustainable use. Consequently, the level of protection and governance of these areas varies throughout the circumpolar region and its countries.
Thank you

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Photos Mia Rönkä