

## Polar Bear Stipulations for Winter Authorizations in NPR-A

1. The permittee and their contractors must cooperate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other designated Federal, State, or local agencies to monitor the impacts of their activities on polar bears.
2. The permittee or their contractors shall allow a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service observer access to the activity site to monitor the impacts of the activity on polar bears.
3. Permittee and their contractors are required to obtain and adhere to the requirements found in the Letter of Authorization (LOA) for the incidental take of polar bears issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office. A copy of the LOA and any associated documents including a polar bear interaction plan, if required, must be submitted to the BLM prior to work starting on the ground in NPR-A.
4. Hazing of polar bears is prohibited unless authorized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Office.
5. The permittee and their contractors are required to review educational materials explaining polar bear denning habitat characteristics in order to enable them to recognize and avoid these areas while traveling and choosing camp sites (materials are available from the BLM).
6. All activities are prohibited within 1 mile of known polar bears dens (including those encountered in the course of permitted activities). Locations of known polar bear dens can be obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office.
7. All observed polar bear dens must be reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office as soon as possible. The phone number for reporting is included in the Letter of Authorization from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
8. Should occupied dens be identified within one mile of activities, work in the immediate area will cease and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service must be contacted for guidance before proceeding with activities. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will evaluate these instances on a case-by-case basis and determine the appropriate action.
9. The permittee or their contractors must designate a qualified individual or individuals to observe, record and report effects of the activity on polar bears to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service within 24 hours of visual observations. Evidence of polar bears, such as tracks, carcass, or dens will also be reported.
10. Every polar bear observed shall be recorded on a polar bear observation form. The permittee and their contractors shall obtain this form from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
11. The permittee or their contractors shall submit an annual polar bear observation report to the BLM within 60 days of completion of field operation. This report shall contain information on all evidence of polar bears, including active den locations, and the actions taken by the permittee on the adherence of these stipulations.

12. A set-back of ½ mile from all barrier island and bluff (coastal and river) habitats within designated polar bear critical habitat shall be maintained for all operations unless the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office allows for mitigation of this stipulation through the Letter of Authorization (LOA) process. The LOA stipulations regarding setbacks shall override this stipulation and the LOA stipulation should be followed.
13. The Permittee or their contractors must follow the polar bear interaction guidelines provided in the document titled: “Polar Bear Interaction Guidelines November 2010.docm”