

# **POLAR BEAR SSP**

**Mid-Year Meeting March 2021**



Randi Meyerson, DVM  
Polar Bear SSP, program leader

# Population Updates

**USA- 19.23 (42) total 0.1.1 births 2.1 deaths, 23 facilities**  
1 new facility to open soon, one within few years  
1 facility closing for renovations in a year

**CANADA- 13.9 (22) total 0 births/rescues 0.1 deaths, 5 facilities**  
Quebec Aquarium re-opened after renovations

**SPACE SURVEY-**  
Brown Bears  
Younger population  
Importation  
Management of Bears



# Polar Bear Research Master Plan

**2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION REVISION IN PROCESS**  
- distribution late 2021

**1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION 2018**

10 proposals reviewed and endorsed

Vet Medicine, Sensory and Physiological Ecology, Reproductive Physiology

Emerging technologies, Human Bear Coexistence

**LINK ON AZA WEBSITE**



# USFWS updates

## **Research Permit Status-COVID, new PB program director**

**DMA forwarded to Anchorage Field Office for review**

**Field Office staff -positive opinion of**

**Steve Olson-call with DMA and Anchorage offices to review/answer questions**

## **LOA-letter of Authorization to breed wild orphans**

**efforts continue to be unsuccessful**



# POLAR BEAR SSP MEETING March 26<sup>th</sup> 4pm-5:15pm

## AGENDA

Polar Bear SSP Population and USFWS Updates-Randi Meyerson, DVM

Polar Bear Research Masterplan Update-Terri Roth, Ph.D.

CREW reproductive study updates –Erin Curry, Ph.D.

Dev .of healthier diets for polar bears and brown bears based on field and captive studies-Charlie Robbins, Ph.D.

Long term increases in pathogen seroprevalence in polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*) influenced by Climate Change-Nicholas Pilfold, Ph.D.

The complexities of contraception reversals and what we know about polar bears-Ashley Franklin, Ph.D.

