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Abstract

## Conservation Approaches and Indigenous Participation: Streamlining Co-management of Living Marine Resources

Co-management of marine mammals with Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic is changing with the changing climate and increased uncertainty. The resiliency of marine mammal co-management systems is being tested with rapid changes to management of species like the polar bear. Berkes identifies factors in building resilience including to “strengthen local institutions and build cross-scale linkages.”<sup>1</sup> The “Ecosystem-Based Management in the Arctic” Report recognizes that an ecosystem approach can require capacity building and monitoring for “effective management.”<sup>2</sup> This presentation will discuss the importance of working across scales and boundaries in co-management to address impediments to conservation and co-management and to develop best practices. The presentation will provide an example case study of polar bear co-management in Alaska.

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<sup>1</sup> Berkes Firket, 2007. “Understanding Uncertainty and Reducing Vulnerability: Lessons from Resilience Thinking.” *Natural Hazards* 41, 283-295.

<sup>2</sup> Arctic Council. May 2013. “Ecosystem-Based Management in the Arctic Report.” Expert Group on Ecosystem Based Management. Tromsø, Norway. p. 26.