



14 August 2015

Dear [PAME Rep] and [CAFF Rep]

Subject: *Arctic Marine Protected and Important Areas: Phase 1: Integrate and harmonize existing data on the Arctic's marine protected and important areas (2015)*

Building upon the [Framework for a pan-Arctic network of Marine Protected Areas](#) and information generated by the [Arctic Biodiversity Assessment](#) the CAFF and PAME Secretariats are integrating and harmonizing existing marine protected areas data.

This project consists of three distinct phases each building upon the other, spread over a three year period. Phases 2 & 3 are dependent upon the outcomes of phase 1: *Integrate and harmonize existing data on the Arctic's marine protected and important areas (2015)* and subject to approval by CAFF and PAME.

As part of phase 1 please find attached the following information on [COUNTRY NAME] Marine and Terrestrial protected areas that fall within the Arctic

- A shapefile of [COUNTRY NAME] protected areas (a dataset of multipart polygons)
- An excel sheet with the attribute data for [COUNTRY NAME] protected areas
- A PDF explaining the attribute data requested
- A shapefile showing the boundary which defines the area covered by the dataset

You are kindly asked to:

- Review the spatial data and revise based on any changes/additions needed
- Pay special attention to protected areas which have a coastal component, to identify these and to please note the size of the protected area which is marine
- Review the various attribute data and change/update as needed

Return the revised datasets to [hoddi@caff.is](mailto:hoddi@caff.is) by September 14<sup>th</sup>

Summary of timeline and next steps:

- 1) Sep: Provide update and status at the working groups meetings in September.
- 2) Sep-Nov: Combine the reviewed data into a one database.
  - 3) Nov-Dec: Prepare 1<sup>st</sup> draft summary report on marine protected areas indicator. The aim of is that this be a short and concise visual document directed towards policy and decision makers and indicate status and trends regarding marine protected areas in the circumpolar Arctic (Building upon CAFFs protected area indicator for the Arctic).
- 4) Jan 2016: Send out 1<sup>st</sup> draft summary indicator report for review and comments by member states for the Feb 2016 working groups meetings.
- 5) Feb-Mar 2016: Agree on the final version of the Summary indicator report.
- 6) Mar 2016: Release harmonised dataset and indicator report at Arctic Council meetings/events

Best Regards

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Tom Barry  
CAFF Executive Secretary

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Soffia Gudmundsdottir  
PAME Executive Secretary