

What is the Arctic Freshwater Biodiversity Monitoring Plan?

It is a framework to improve circumpolar monitoring efforts of Arctic freshwaters, including ponds, lakes, rivers, and their associated tributaries and wetlands.

The Freshwater Plan provides Arctic countries, monitoring professionals and volunteers with a set of guidelines for common approaches and indicators in monitoring activities, and for collecting existing data.

The Freshwater Plan will facilitate information collection and analysis, identify and fill knowledge gaps, and provide better information for use in policy and decision-making.

What is the Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP)?

The CBMP is an international network of scientists, government agencies, Indigenous organizations and conservation groups working together to harmonize and integrate efforts to monitor the Arctic's living resources. It is the cornerstone program of the Arctic Council's Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) Working Group.

The CBMP contributes to:

- national monitoring and reporting efforts
- the Arctic Council
- the Group on Earth Observations-Biodiversity Observation Network
- UNEP's Biodiversity Indicator Partnership
- the UN Convention on Biological Diversity

Photo: river in Arctic Canada, Marcel Clemens/shutterstock.com

Get involved!

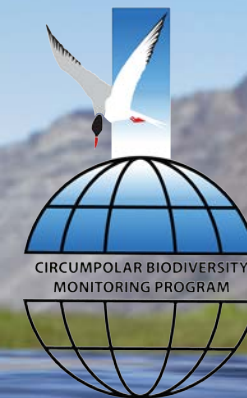
The CBMP welcomes participation from interested parties. Your participation and observations will:

- contribute to broader analyses of status and trends, reach new audiences and impact decision-making
- allow access to complementary data to contextualize research and support interpretation
- provide opportunities for collaborative, cross-disciplinary research
- influence local, regional and global conservation efforts

Contact Us

CAFF International Secretariat
Borgir, Nordurslod
600 Akureyri
Iceland
caff@caff.is

www.cbmp.is



The Arctic Freshwater Biodiversity Monitoring Plan

Coordinated circumpolar monitoring for research and decision-making



Photo: Arctic char, Greenland. Dan Bach Kristensen/shutterstock.com

What will the Arctic Freshwater Biodiversity Monitoring Plan do?

The Plan's goal is to:

- help detect long-term change in the composition, structure, and function of Arctic freshwater ecosystems
- lead to the understanding of the causes of change
- develop reliable assessments of key elements of Arctic freshwater biodiversity.

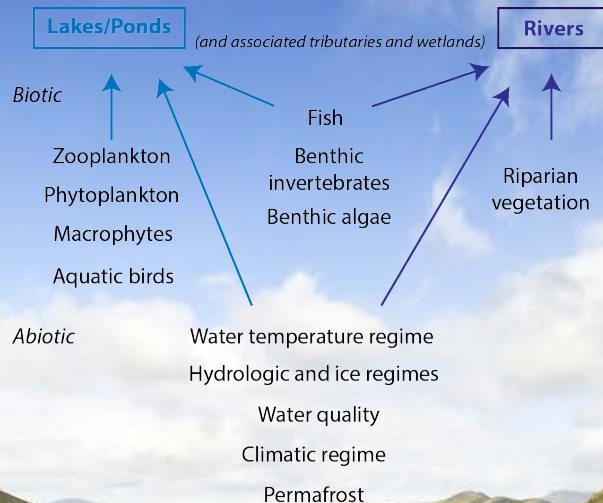
Specifically the Plan seeks to answer:

- what is the current status of freshwater biodiversity in the Arctic?
- can biodiversity status be measured through simple variables and indicators and, if so, what suite of these should be applied?
- is biodiversity changing and, if so, are species increasing, declining, moving or disappearing?
- what are the primary environmental and anthropogenic drivers causing this change?
- are boundaries of the Arctic and sub-Arctic ecosystems shifting?

Current activities and priorities

- Finalize the collection of national metadata summarizing existing paleo, historical and contemporary monitoring data
- Create summary maps and reports describing spatial and temporal coverage of existing data
- Aggregate existing data, national and regional dataset compilations, QA/QC, data agreements, and formatting
- Secure funding to support the activities of national Freshwater Expert Networks

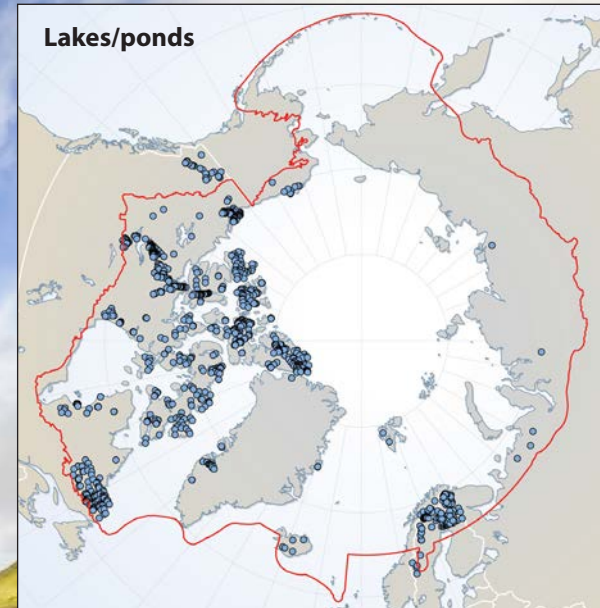
What will be monitored, and where?



Governing structure



Lakes/ponds



Sites of existing lake and river biotic and abiotic data in the CAFF designated zone. Points on the maps may represent more than one location.

Rivers

