Beaufort Regional Environmental Assessment (BREA)

A partnership among Inuvialuit, industry, governments, regulators and academia to prepare for oil and gas activity in the Beaufort Sea

www.BeaufortREA.ca

Building a strong knowledge base to support regulatory decisions on offshore oil and gas activity

Objectives

✓ Integrate regional scientific and socio-economic information with traditional knowledge to simplify project-level environmental assessments
✓ Engage communities and advance their priorities for oil and gas preparedness
✓ Strengthen integrated management

Research Projects

BREA is funding 23 research projects that will provide regional information to contribute to oil and gas management in the Beaufort Sea

• Baseline fish information (3 projects with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, ArcticNet, University of Manitoba)
• Coastal and marine birds (2 projects with Environment Canada, Upun-LGL)
• Biological information for oil spill response (1 project with SL Ross)
• Coupled ocean-ice-atmosphere modeling and forecasting (4 projects with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Environment Canada, ArcticNet, IMG-Golder)
• Sea Ice types and extreme ice features (7 projects with University of Alberta, University of Manitoba, University of Waterloo, National Research Council, CCore, Environment Canada)
• Geosciences, offshore geohazards and coastal processes (2 projects with Natural Resources Canada)
• Worst-case environmental design limits for ice (1 project with Natural Research Council)
• Community priority – Polar bears and Coastal monitoring (2 projects with Joint Secretariat, Inuvialuit Game Council, Fisheries Joint Management Committee)
• Pilot web based geospatial analysis tool (1 project with Environment Canada)

Working Groups

Six working groups are addressing key regional priorities in the Beaufort Sea

1 - Social, Cultural and Economic Indicators (lead: Inuvialuit Regional Corporation)
   Collect baseline data, conduct research and establish indicators
2 - Oil Spill Preparedness and Response (lead: National Energy Board, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada)
   Assess community roles and needs for oil spill response training; Roles and responsibilities for oil spill response
3 - Climate Change (lead: Environment Canada)
   Oil and Gas Exploration & Development Activity Forecast for the Beaufort Sea 2012-2027; Assess impacts of climate change on oil and gas operations/activities
4 - Cumulative Effects (lead: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada)
   Develop a cumulative effects management framework
5 - Waste Management (lead: Environment Canada and Government of Northwest Territories)
   Develop a regional waste management strategy
6 - Information Management (lead: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada)
   Website, hosted by Joint Secretariat; Make BREA metadata and data accessible through Polar Data Catalogue and the Hydrocarbon Impacts Database

For more information, contact
Ruth McKechnie or Tara Paull
BREA Project Management Office
Petroleum and Mineral Resources Branch
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
15 Eddy St. 10E1
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H4
beaufort@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca
www.BeaufortREA.ca