



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

101 12th Ave, Room 236

Fairbanks, Alaska 99701



April 30, 2024

Dear former polar bear viewing guide and water taxi permittees,

Our last update to you was in January 2022. We have received several inquiries regarding the status of boat-based polar bear viewing on Arctic Refuge waters around Kaktovik for 2024. The boat-based polar bear viewing program continues to be on hold; therefore, we are not issuing permits at this time. Any future polar bear viewing program would be driven by the Kaktovik community's interests and needs. We will inform you if the situation changes.

As always, if you have questions or concerns you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me at merben_cebrian@fws.gov or (907) 456-0250.

Respectfully,

Merben R. Cebrian
Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Manager