

**Polar Bears International**

August 8

As painful & disturbing as the subject is, we return to the dead, emaciated polar bear found in Svalbard. Scientist Ian Stirling clarifies information & offers insights on a tragedy likely linked with climate change: <http://www.polarbearsinternational.org/news-room/scientists-and-explorers-blog/viewing-polar-bears-svalbard-2013>. Photo copyright Ian Stirling.



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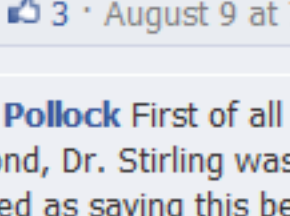
207

Carolyn Ki, Polo Tsai, Martine Ascoli and 251 others like this.

**Barbara Mullis** why can't small floats be placed in the melted areas for the bears to crawl up onto and rest? vs the bears

1 · August 8 at 5:03pm

**Polar Bears International** We receive that suggestion a lot, Barbara Mullis. Here's a response from our scientists: <http://www.polarbearsinternational.org/could-floating-platforms-be-used-save-polar-bears-sea-ice-losses>.



**Could floating platforms be used to save polar bears from sea ice losses? | Polar Bears...**

[www.polarbearsinternational.org](http://www.polarbearsinternational.org)

Answered by Dr. Steven C. Amstrup, chief scientist at Polar Bears International

... See More

3 · August 9 at 7:09am

**Lori Pollock** First of all this photo was taken in Svalbard NORWAY. Second, Dr. Stirling was DISTURBED and DISAPPOINTED at being quoted as saying this bear died of starvation. Before you pass on information, check your facts. otherwise you do nothing but undermine TRUE animal horror stories!!!!!!

2 · August 8 at 4:14pm

**Polar Bears International** Lori Pollock, Dr. Stirling believes the bear LIKELY died of starvation due to massive sea ice losses in the area. Polar bears need sea ice to hunt their prey, seals. He is disappointed that in some media he was quoted as saying he was CERTAIN the bear had died of starvation--without a necropsy, it's impossible to tell. He also adds, "Something to still reflect upon though is that although we cannot say unequivocally that the bear in northern Svalbard died as a result of climate warming, such an event is entirely consistent with the predictions for polar bears as a result of climate warming. And, if climate warming continues unabated, with associated loss of sea ice at critical periods for feeding, polar bear scientists predict an increase in such sad events." And whether a bear starved in Norway, Alaska, or Canada, it's still a tragedy. I hope this helps clarify!

4 · August 9 at 7:04am

**Lori Pollock** "Likely" does not cut it in science. This bear could have been injured or ill. I admire much of the work you do; but science is science. A hypothesis needs EMPIRICAL evidence in order to be confirmed. You cannot try and make the science match your cause. No one is a bigger advocate for animal rights than I am; but I am also an advocate for the truth.

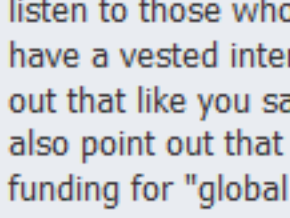
1 · August 9 at 7:12pm

**Michael Ramstedt** Why is it "likely linked with global warming"?

years and this "idea" has already been debunked by numerous scientific studies as well as various local Indian tribes.

1 · August 8 at 5:47pm

**Polar Bears International** That's actually a myth, Michael Hartford. Here are the facts: <http://www.polarbearsinternational.org/about-polar-bears/what-scientists-say/are-polar-bear-populations-booming>.



**Are polar bear populations increasing: in fact, booming? | Polar Bears International**

[www.polarbearsinternational.org](http://www.polarbearsinternational.org)

Answered by Dr. Steven C. Amstrup, chief scientist with Polar Bears International and USGS polar bear project leader for 30 years.

August 9 at 7:07am

**Michael Hartford** Uh responded to the wrong Michael. But while the studies like this do make the claim that over all they haven't increased when you talk to the natives who live in the far north then they say that there has been an increase. I tend to listen to those who actually live amongst them over those who have a vested interest in making certain claims. I will also point out that like you said your numbers are educated guesses. I will also point out that many scientists who are not trying to get funding for "global warming" research point out that while there has been a slight increase in the global temp we are still substantially lower than the temp during the Dark Ages. The Polar Bears survived that didn't they?

August 9 at 4:54pm · Edited

**Lori Pollock** Canadian Geographic had a great article on polar bears in December of 2012. Some populations are thriving, some are not; neither group could be unequivocally linked to so called "climate change."

August 9 at 7:23pm

**Kelsey Tarraran** the greatness of a nation can be shown by the way it treats its animals- Gandhi. What about the entire world? We such as a "nation"

10 · August 8 at 2:34pm

**Kelsey Tarraran** I'm glad the poor thing is no longer suffering.

8 · August 8 at 2:33pm

**Gillian Sloan** I was with the group that was there with Ian Stirling, he gave us the facts about the bear as was passed onto him plus a theory about what could of happened. Without proper analysis it was

4 · August 8 at 3:30pm via mobile

**Adeena M-M** Terrible

3 · August 8 at 2:02pm via mobile

**Erin Laura Bennett** 😞 and 😞

1 · August 8 at 2:09pm

**Gwyn Moses** I was there with Ian as well. Although this one was dead we saw over a dozen which looked pretty healthy. One we stayed with for 42 hours while he finished every bit of meat on a seal leaving only skin and bones for the gulls

2 · August 8 at 3:54pm via mobile

**Maria Casey** Heartbreaking.

1 · August 8 at 2:37pm

**Michael Hartford** Well Pat the seal slaughters happen because the seal population has severely increased. If this bear actually did starve it is just one of many that die every year for centuries. Some wait too long to move from the ice shelf to the continent while others never become very successful in their hunting skills. Much as my sons and I HATE to see a dead Polar Bear we also know that dozens die every year some as babies and others much older. But this is a part of nature and always has been.

2 · August 8 at 2:27pm

**Adaline Speagle** Im gonna cry. =[ my poor baby!!!

August 8 at 2:55pm

**Pat Reavy** It's so sad that a bear who lived for 16 years died in this manner. I don't know what the cause of death was. I just know he looks like he suffered a lot.

August 8 at 5:54pm via mobile

**Polo Tsai** So sad 😞

August 18 at 9:12am

**Osito Mui** 😞

1 · August 11 at 6:59pm

**Kim Laker** 😞

August 9 at 7:56am

**Alinor Anne Wood** Let's all get behind climate change...this is just a travesty. :0>

1 · August 8 at 8:01pm

**Heather Rose McKinley** 😞

August 8 at 6:41pm

**Susan Bittenhouse Bales** This picture kills me! We must do

1 · August 8 at 4:36pm

**Christine Paruch Asper** This picture breaks my heart....

1 · August 8 at 4:01pm via mobile

**Dennice Morningstar** Awe the poor little soul.

1 · August 8 at 3:58pm via mobile

**Sandra Suarez** So sad

1 · August 8 at 3:55pm via mobile

**Helena Urukalo** This face is haunting me 😞

1 · August 8 at 3:20pm

**Hallie Boca** oh I hate seeing this, I was even thinking about the polar bears last night when I couldn't sleep 😞

August 8 at 3:20pm

**Jim McIntosh** Thanks for this report. Much clearer information. 'Tis far better to read reports from the researchers involved rather than media journalist reports. As I queried before, this old man bear has not been able to feed in the prime ice pack areas for whatever reason.

1 · August 8 at 2:33pm

**Cathy Radabaugh** oh I can't stand this...I always donate to the wild life fund but to little to late! 😞 so sad! breaks my heart!

August 8 at 2:21pm

**Maria Freudenthal** 😞

August 20 at 11:06am

**Joanne Pang** 😞

August 13 at 8:13am

**Jamie Berry** :''''''(

August 12 at 6:45am

**Katie DeLorenzo** Thank you for continuing to fight for these bears, even when some people are in denial about global warming and the effects it has on these animals. It's sad that people think global warming is a hoax to support our own agendas... what agenda would that be? 30 years ago scientists predicted things like this would happen, and now it is.

August 11 at 1:43pm

**Lori Pollock** <http://polarbearsinternational.org/2013/08/07/ian-stirlings-latest-howler-the-polar-bear-who-died-of-climate-change/>



**Ian Stirling's latest howler: "the polar bear who died of climate change"**

Will wildlife biologist and Polar Bear Specialist Group member Ian Stirling now ... See More

August 9 at 7:35pm

**Shany Salvatore** so sad 😞 poor bear

August 9 at 12:28pm

**Jeanny Whittam** It breaks my heart to see this picture xxx

August 9 at 11:37am via mobile

**דפנה אהרוני פארן** OMG horrible death

August 9 at 10:55am via mobile