

# The Arctic Biodiversity Congress

*December 2-4, 2014 – Trondheim, Norway*

---

*Identifying and safeguarding important/sensitive areas*

*Chaired by:*

*Tom Christensen  
Aarhus University,  
Denmark*

*Hans Meltofte  
Aarhus University,  
Denmark*

# Session Program

- **Tom Christensen, Aarhus University:** Introduction to session.
- **Hans Meltofte, Aarhus University :** Mapping and prioritizing of the protection of biodiversity hotspots in the Arctic
- **Mette Frost, WWF Denmark:** The Last Ice Area
- **Henry Huntington, Pew Charitable Trusts:** Marine biodiversity and conservation in the Arctic winter: the case for polynyas
- **Anna Kuhmonen, Barents Protected Areas Network:** Barents Protected Areas Network
- **Mikhail Stishov, WWF Russia:** Evolution of the Russian Arctic network of protected areas as a tool to build resilience of biodiversity to rapid Arctic Change
- **Tom Christensen, Aarhus University:** Identification of Important Biodiversity Areas
- **Short Facilitated Discussion**



# Examples on recently finished or ongoing international processes

- IUCN; Identification of EBSA's in The Arctic (2010 – Based on CBD's EBSA criteria)
- CBD: The CBD EBSA Process (Based on CBD's EBSA Criteria)
- Arctic Council/ AMAP: Oil and Gas assessment (and AACAA)
- Arctic Council/ PAME: AMSA IIC (2013 – Based on IMO's PSSA Criteria)
- Arctic Council/ PAME: Process related to Marine Protected Areas
- Arctic Council (/PAME): Focus on Ecosystem Based Management
- Arctic Council/ CAFF: Arctic Biodiversity Assessment and follow up:  
*Identifying and safeguarding important/sensitive areas*



How to identify important areas for ecosystems and/or biodiversity?

How to ensure a circumpolar adequate representation of important ecosystems and species within protected areas?

How to safeguard important and sensitive areas?

How to best safeguard Arctic biodiversity under changing environmental conditions?

How to include traditional knowledge and community values into protected areas planning and management?

Suggestions related to monitoring of protected areas in the Arctic (e.g. to be implemented through CBMP).