Role of regional studies, environmental assessments, and cumulative effects

An NGO perspective

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My background

WILDERNESS S O C I E T Y

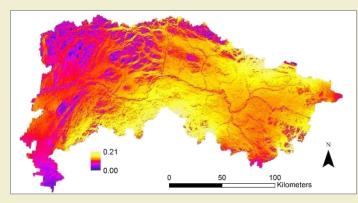
Wildlife ecologist



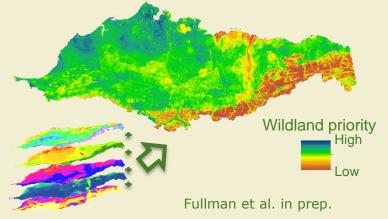






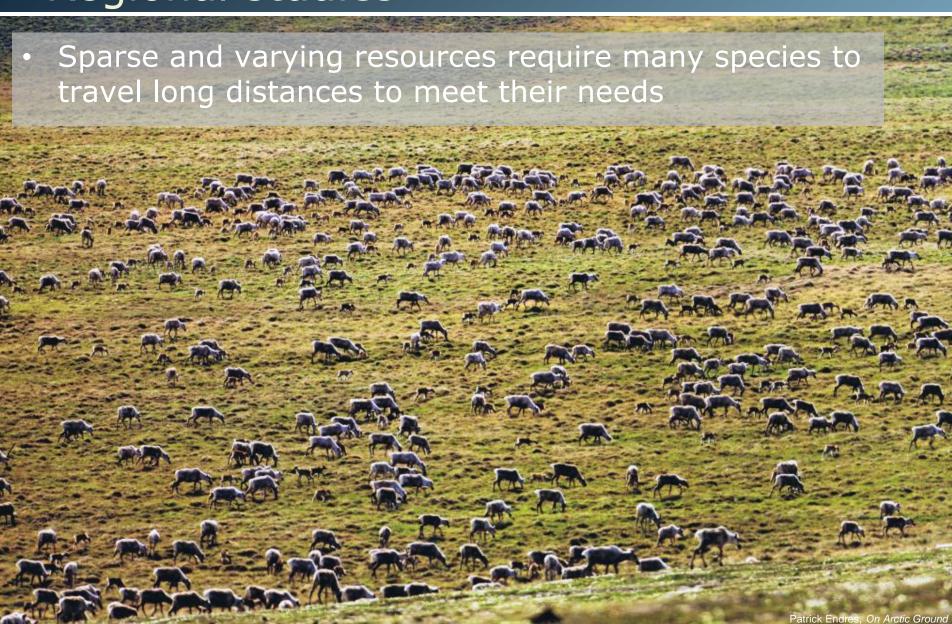


Fullman et al. 2017 Movement Ecology





Regional studies





Crossing jurisdictions









160°W 155°W 150°W Colville River watershed Utqiaġvik Nuiqsut subsistence use area **Federal** (Barrow) TCH late summer range **Native** TCH southeast winter range State Roads **Cross Island** Wainwright Atqasuk N.89 Anaktuvuk 50 **Pass**



Challenges: data availability

- Data often are not as consistent or fine scale as at lower latitudes
- Still is much basic information we do not know
- Environmental studies are needed to provide this information and inform decisions

Broad whitefish (Coregonus nasus)





Research conducted in collaboration between The Wilderness Society, University of Alaska Fairbanks, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and the Native Village of Nuiqsut Tribal Council



Challenges: data access

- Local-scale studies cannot be combined to provide a regional perspective if data are not made available
 - Leads to redundancies and survey fatigue
- National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)
 - Giving a voice to a broad array of stakeholders
 - Data used to inform public decisions should be made available to a broad range of stakeholders







Projects with a relatively small footprint can have larger

cumulative effects



Consider facilitative effects of projects



Greater respect and conversation needed between various stakeholders

