Activity 2

In Ontario, there are two times in the year when people are allowed to hunt black bears –winter and spring. In 1999, the spring bear hunt was cancelled and then it reinstated in 2015 (“Spring bear hunt to be reinstated in Ontario”). As a result of eliminating the spring bear hunt, bear populations increased, human-bear contacts rose and bears began to enter residential areas (“Spring bear hunt to be reinstated in Ontario”).

Think about some key issues embedded in **both** the cancelled and re-instated spring bear hunt (both obvious and subtle) and their causes onto the Adaptive Cycle Model and the Social-Ecological Systems Model using the **Social Ecological Systems Assessment Framework** that we have highlighted. We have listed some suggested questions and examples.

**Describe the System**

* What are the key issues?
  + Examples: population control, resident safety
* Who are the stakeholders?
* Are there multiple systems embedded in one another?

**System Dynamics**

* How do these systems operate in the present?
* Has the threshold been passed?

**Interactions**

* What are the connections between states (i.e. what factors/results link growing bear populations to resource reorganization after the spring bear hunt)?

**System Governance**

* What institutions are involved in key issues?
  + Examples: Provincial government, Ministry of Natural Resources, Animal rights lobbying groups (i.e. PETA)

**Acting on the Assessment**

* Is the cancellation of the spring bear hunt initiating positive transformations in social-ecological systems?

Works Cited

Robinson, Michael. “Spring bear hunt to be reinstated in Ontario.” *Toronto Star*, 3 November 2015. Web. 31 January 2018. https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2015/11/03/spring-bear-hunt-to-be-reinstated-in-ontario.html