

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>