



## File Report 66

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### ABSTRACT

Polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) deterrent research was conducted at Cape Churchill, Manitoba from 5 October to 2 November 1985. The research was conducted to test the effectiveness of non-lethal deterrent techniques for use on problem bears. A minimum of 364 hours of observation was recorded (280 hours during daylight and 84 hours during darkness). A minimum of 69 different bears visited the study site and 60 of these were tested with deterrents. A total of 112 deterrent tests was completed; 46 with the twelve gauge Ferret slug, 38 with a Bear Thumper, 12 with Cart-a-balls, 6 with a sound deterrent, 6 with a flashlight-siren, and 4 with an electric fence. The twelve gauge Ferret slug and the Bear Thumper were the most effective in deterring polar bears. The Cart-a-ball was too inaccurate to be considered an effective deterrent. The sound frequencies and the flashlight-siren had no detectable effect on any bears. The electric fence deterred some bears but not others.