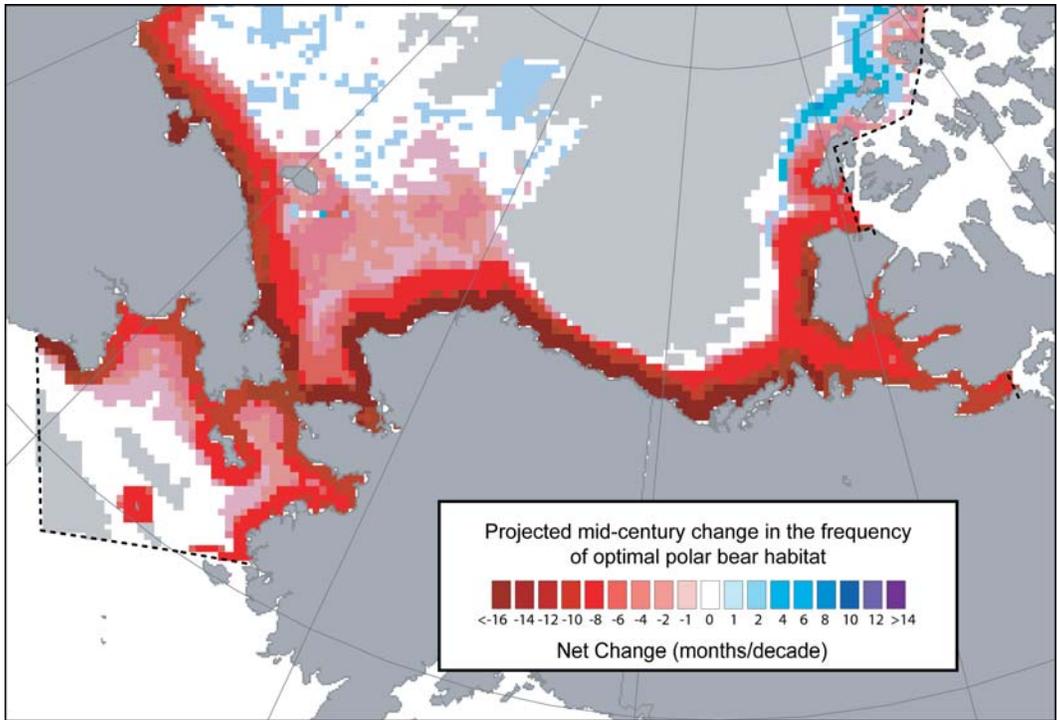


Observed changes in the spatial distribution of optimal polar bear habitat from 1985 through 1995 to 1996 through 2006. The map shows the net change in the number of months per decadal period where optimal polar bear habitat was either lost (red) or gained (blue). Offshore gray shading denotes areas where optimal habitat was absent in both periods. Broken line denotes the boundary of the habitat model domain. Figure adapted from Durner et al. (2009).



Projected changes (based on 10 IPCC AR-4 general circulation models [GCMs] run with the SRES-A1B forcing scenario) in the spatial distribution of optimal polar bear habitat from 2001 through 2010 to 2041 through 2050. The map shows the net change in the number of months per decade where optimal polar bear habitat was either lost (red) or gained (blue). Offshore gray shading denotes areas where optimal habitat was absent in both periods. Broken line denotes the boundary of the habitat model domain. Figure adapted from Durner et al. (2009).