

UNITED STATES ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION

\$1,490,000

The FY 2008 Budget Request for the United States Arctic Research Commission (USARC) is \$1.49 million, an increase of \$40,000, or 2.8 percent, over the FY 2007 Request of \$1.45 million.

United States Arctic Research Commission Funding

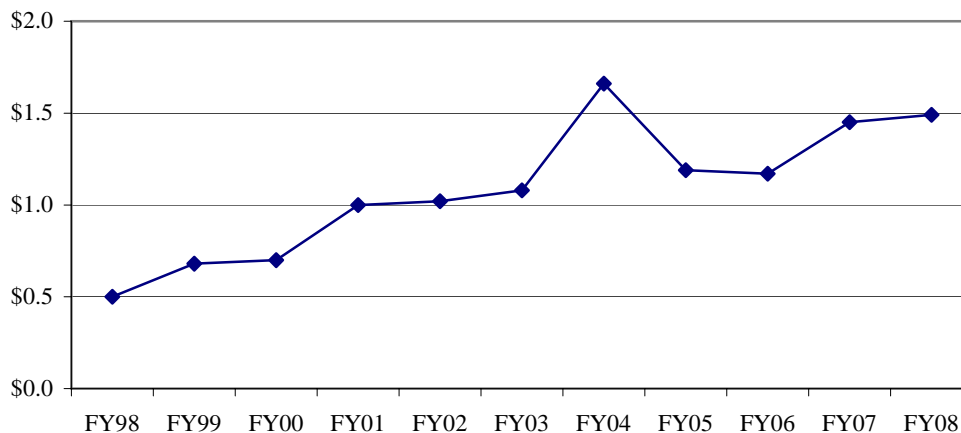
(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Request	FY 2008 Request	Change over FY 2007 Request	
				Amount	Percent
United States Arctic Research Commission	\$1.17	\$1.45	\$1.49	\$0.04	2.8%

The United States Arctic Research Commission was established by the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984, (as amended, P. L. 101-609), to establish the national policy, priorities, and goals necessary to construct a federal program plan for basic and applied scientific research with respect to the Arctic, including natural resources and materials, physical, biological and health sciences, and social and behavioral sciences. This request provides funds to promote Arctic research, to recommend Arctic research policy, and to communicate research and policy recommendations to the President and the Congress, as well as supporting close collaboration with the National Science Foundation as the lead agency responsible for implementing Arctic research policy and supporting cooperation and collaboration throughout the Federal Government. In addition, USARC gives guidance to the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC) to develop national Arctic research projects and a five-year plan to implement those projects. USARC also supports interaction with Arctic residents, international Arctic research programs and organizations and local institutions including regional governments in order to obtain the broadest possible view of Arctic research needs. Special attention will also be placed on emphasizing Arctic scientific research during the “International Polar Year, 2007-2008.”

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(Dollars in Millions)



Note: The increase in FY 2004 reflects a one-time recovery of \$370,000.

USARC is an independent federal agency, historically funded through NSF's appropriations. In FY 2007, USARC was proposed as a separate activity within the Research and Related Activities (R&RA) appropriations account, and the proposal has been accepted, based on appropriations language to date. This addresses the recommendations of several audits of USARC, as well as the Commissioners and auditors concerns that the Commission was not dealt with as an independent agency when the budget was appropriated within the Office of Polar Programs (OPP) as in FY 2006 and prior years.

The United States Arctic Research Commission is requesting an increase of \$40,000 above the FY 2007 Request. The added funding is for salaries – specifically increased funding for Commissioners salaries – as well as for travel and administrative costs. GSA's financial and accounting services to USARC have increased by 50% over the past two years, and USARC will incur costs to become compliant with federal directives, such as the "No FEAR Act" and Homeland Security Presidential Directive-12, among others.