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# ARCTIC RESEARCH

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OF THE UNITED STATES



INTERAGENCY ARCTIC RESEARCH POLICY COMMITTEE

## About the Journal

The journal *Arctic Research of the United States* is for people and organizations interested in learning about U.S. Government-financed Arctic research activities. It is published by the National Science Foundation on behalf of the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC). The Interagency Committee was authorized under the Arctic Research and Policy Act (ARPA) of 1984 (PL 98-373) and established by Executive Order 12501 (January 28, 1985). Publication of the journal has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget.

*Arctic Research* contains

- Reports on current and planned U.S. Government-sponsored research in the Arctic;
- Reports of IARPC meetings; and
- Summaries of other current and planned Arctic research, including that of the State of Alaska, local governments, the private sector, and other nations.

*Arctic Research* is aimed at national and international audiences of government officials, scientists, engineers, educators, private and public groups, and residents of the Arctic. The emphasis is on summary and survey articles covering U.S. Government-sponsored or -funded research rather than on technical reports, and the articles are intended to be comprehensible to a nontechnical audience. Although the articles go through the normal editorial process, manuscripts are not

refereed for scientific content or merit since the journal is not intended as a means of reporting scientific research. Articles are generally invited and are reviewed by agency staffs and others as appropriate.

As indicated in the U.S. Arctic Research Plan, research is defined differently by different agencies. It may include basic and applied research, monitoring efforts, and other information-gathering activities. The definition of Arctic according to the ARPA is “all United States and foreign territory north of the Arctic Circle and all United States territory north and west of the boundary formed by the Porcupine, Yukon, and Kuskokwim Rivers; all contiguous seas, including the Arctic Ocean and the Beaufort, Bering, and Chukchi Seas; and the Aleutian chain.” Areas outside of the boundary are discussed in the journal when considered relevant to the broader scope of Arctic research.

Issues of the journal will report on Arctic topics and activities. Included will be reports of conferences and workshops, university-based research and activities of state and local governments and public, private and resident organizations. Unsolicited nontechnical reports on research and related activities are welcome.

Address correspondence to Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

## Cover

*Tom Douglas (left) and William Simpson (right) sampling snow at a pressure ridge on the sea ice near Point Barrow, Alaska. The samples are analyzed for mercury, ions, and halogens. The work is part of a project funded by the National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs on the Arctic coastal environment. Mercury is mainly deposited in the winter into the snowpack through complex chemical reactions that require halogens, light, water vapor, and sea ice leads. (Photo by Matthew Sturm.)*

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## INTERAGENCY ARCTIC RESEARCH POLICY COMMITTEE

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## Report from Federal Agencies for 2004–2005

This is a special double issue of *Arctic Research of the United States*. It presents highlights and results of major fiscal year 2004 and 2005 Arctic research programs and selected projects of the Federal agencies. For more information, you may contact the agency staff representatives listed on page 163.

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