



What is the USARC?

- Independent US federal government agency that advises Congress and the Office of the President
- Established by the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984
- 7 presidentially appointed commissioners, and 4 staff in DC & Anchorage
- By law, works directly with both Congressional and Executive branches



US Arctic Research Commission

- promotes Arctic research
- obtains the broadest possible view of Arctic research needs
- recommends policy to the President and Congress reflecting the advice of the scientific community, and the needs of the country.
- Communication and coordination

Goals Report Research Themes

- Environmental Change
- Human Health
- Built Environment
- Natural Resources & Renewable Energy
- Cultures & Community Resilience
- International Scientific Cooperation



Federal Arctic research policy/process



USARC set goals



IARPC adopts,
creates & executes
research plan



White House:
OMB/OSTP

Congress:
Authorizes &
Appropriates

Marine Protected Areas: The Arctic Council will enhance PAME's work on a Pan-Arctic Network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). During the U.S. Chairmanship, PAME will: create an inventory and map of existing Arctic MPAs; perform a “desktop study” of area-based conservation measures and their linkages with categories of Arctic biodiversity to create a toolbox in support of MPAs and MPA networks; and identify examples and best practices for stakeholder engagement and communication as a part of the project on Meaningful Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine Activities. (PAME)

Arctic Council US Chairmanship Deliverables

Arctic Ocean Safety, Security, and Stewardship

- Search and Rescue Exercises
- Marine Environmental Protection
- Marine Protected Areas Network
- Regional Seas Arrangement
- Arctic Ocean Acidification

Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change

- Reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants
- Community and Ecosystem Climate Resilience
- Improving Arctic Climate Science:
 - Agreement on Scientific Cooperation
 - Arctic DEM
 - Early Warning Indicator System

Improving Economic and Living Conditions

- Arctic Energy Summit
- Renewable Energy Demonstrations
- Water and Sanitation
- Telecommunication Assessment
- Suicide Prevention and Resilience

NPRB Arctic Program

ARCTIC UPDATE



THE US ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION DAILY EMAIL NEWSLETTER

September 2, 2015

Today's Events:

Today's Congressional Action:

The House and Senate are not in session.



Media

Obama to Announce New Climate Effort for Alaska.

President Obama will announce a series of programs to help Alaskan communities impacted by climate change during his trip to the Arctic Circle on Wednesday. Obama will travel to the Alaskan town of Kotzebue on the third day of his trip the state. While there, he will detail a handful of



administrative actions to help rural communities cope with climate change, the White House said. Obama will announce that he's directing a federal and local board called the Denali Commission to oversee climate change mitigation efforts in the state. [The Hill](#)

US, Russia United in Desire to Protect Arctic Ocean From Unregulated Fishing. As geopolitical tensions between the United States and Russia have risen, there is at least one subject about which relations are warm -- the mutual desire to protect the Arctic Ocean from unregulated exploitation by vessels chasing northward-moving fish. The

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