

2026 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commission-Gates of the Arctic National Park

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Department of the Interior	2026
3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commission-Gates of the Arctic National Park	555

4. Is this New Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	09/25/2023	09/25/2025	

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date
No	P.L. 96-487	

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
P.L. 96-487	12/02/1980	Continuing	No

15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open 1 **17b. Closed** 0 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 1

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
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The Secretarial Review of the Federal Subsistence Management Program will be discussed at the April 15-16, 2026 meeting in Fairbanks. Comments from this meeting will be submitted during the extended comment period for Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) and Subsistence Resource Commissions (SRCs). 02/17/2026 - 02/17/2026

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18e. Total Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Commission is an advisory group. Federal

law and regulation provide the opportunity for continued subsistence uses, including hunting, within the Gates of the Arctic National Park. The Subsistence Resource Commission for Gates of the Arctic National Park is a forum that promotes effective communication and mutual understanding of subsistence uses and related cultural resources. The Commission consults with every appropriate local advisory committee and regional council for comment and input on draft hunting plan recommendations. In addition to the advisory committee and regional council consultation process directed by P.L. 96-847 (the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act), the Commission is required to hold public meetings in all areas affected by the subsistence hunting program. The Commission's recommendations will help the NPS to ensure the continuation of the opportunity for local rural residents to engage in the subsistence use of resources in Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve. The NPS has adopted the following mission statement to guide its activities.

Subsistence will be managed as a legislated use consistent with the provisions of ANILCA (Section 202), the Organic Act of 1916, and parks's enabling legislation to:

- protect the opportunity for qualified local rural residents to continue traditional subsistence activities
- recognize that subsistence ways of life differ from region to region and are continuing to evolve, and where appropriate, park management practices may reflect regional diversity and evolution
- promote local involvement and participation in processes associated with subsistence management
- ensure that management practices involving the utilization of public lands adequately consider the potential for restriction of subsistence uses and impacts upon subsistence resources
- ensure that

management of park resources is consistent with the conservation of unimpaired ecosystems and natural and healthy populations of fish and wildlife, incorporating scientific data and principles with traditional knowledge and cultural values and • promote effective communication and mutual understanding of subsistence uses and related cultural and social values, and park purposes and protection, between the NPS, subsistence users, the State of Alaska and the public. The NPS SRC program is authorized under Title VIII, Section 808 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Public Law 96-487.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Membership, as prescribed by the Commission's enabling legislation, consists of nine members as follows: (a) three members appointed by the Secretary of the Interior; (b) three members appointed by the Governor of Alaska; and (c) three members appointed by the regional council, as established by the Secretary or the State pursuant to section 805 of P.L. 96-487. The members include a range of individuals having personal knowledge of the region's subsistence conditions, and having an interest in Federal subsistence management.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Commission generally meets twice a year, or as often as circumstances require. Commission recommendations are vitally important on matters relating to the taking of wildlife within the park and are the foundation for the development and review of the subsistence hunting program. Commission meetings provided an opportunity for Commission members, National Park Service staff, other

agency staff, and the public to share information on subsistence issues.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Subsistence Resource Commission for Gates of the Arctic National Park was established by Congress to devise and recommend to the Secretary of the Interior and the Governor of Alaska a program for subsistence hunting within Gates of the Arctic National Park. The Commission's unique insight on local customary and traditional patterns of subsistence use within the park has been important in developing workable subsistence hunting plan recommendations.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

All meetings are open to the public. During each meeting time is allocated for public testimony. The public is welcome to present written or oral comments to the Commission.

21. Remarks

The Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission met twice during fiscal year 2025. These meetings were held on November 13-14, 2024 in Fairbanks, Alaska and via teleconference, and on April 16, 2025 via teleconference.

Designated Federal Officer

Mark Dowdle Superintendent

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Fickus, Tim	12/01/2021	12/01/2025	Subsistence User	Representative Member
Hanchett, Gary	02/06/2023	02/06/2026	Subsistence User	Representative Member
Hepa, Raynita (Taqulik)	12/01/2021	12/01/2027	Research Specialist, Subsistence User	Representative Member

Hugo, Esther	11/04/2016	04/05/2027	Subsistence Hunter	Representative Member
Pattee, Tristen	10/17/2023	10/17/2026	Subsistence Hunter	Representative Member
Reakoff, Jack	06/22/2022	06/22/2026	Subsistence User	Representative Member
Sikvayugak, Riley	01/04/2022	12/01/2025	Subsistence User	Representative Member
			Chair Fish and Game	
Simon, Pollock	11/04/1982	01/03/2026	Local Advisory Committee/Subsistence Hunter	Representative Member
Woods, Raymond	06/22/2022	06/22/2026	Subsistence User	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 9

Narrative Description

The Subsistence Resource Commission for Gates of the Arctic National Park has been established by the Congress to devise and recommend to the Secretary of the Interior and the Governor of Alaska a program for subsistence hunting within Gates of the Arctic National Park. The Commission's unique insight on local customary and traditional patterns of subsistence use within the park has been important in developing workable subsistence management recommendations.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- Improvements to health or safety
- Trust in government
- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

Outcome Comments

The Commission and National Park Service are working together to address concerns for management of wildlife populations within the national park. During FY 2025, the Commission started to develop one formal hunting plan recommendation to the Secretary of Interior. The Commission continues to monitor issues related to Hunting Plan Recommendation 10-01. Fiscal year 2025 GAAR SRC comments were submitted to the Office of Subsistence Management for the Federal Subsistence Board meeting. The SRC voted to support the Western Interior Regional Advisory Council’s Sheep Management Strategy. Once Gates of the Arctic staff and SRC members have reviewed and commented on the document, the finalized document will be submitted as a hunting plan recommendation to the Secretary of Interior.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

38

Number of Recommendations Comments

The Commission made 7 recommendations: o Moved to support the Western Interior Regional Advisory Council’s Sheep Management Strategy. o Moved to submit a proposal for NPS Subsistence Advisory Council funding for NPS to do a land stat imaging project to document old caribou trails and include traditional knowledge on historical caribou movements and also to include data collection on the caribou habitat capacity for Gates of the Arctic. o Moved to support the Western Interior Regional Advisory Council’s Sheep

Management Strategy. Once Gates of the Arctic staff and SRC members have reviewed and commented on the document, it will be discussed at the April 2025 SRC meeting with the intention of submitting the finalized document as a hunting recommendation plan to the Secretary of Interior. o Suggested adding the Gates SRC meeting minutes to the Gates Facebook site. Also, the SRC suggested adding caribou informational updates, so that people in the surrounding rural communities can be better informed. o Moved to make additional edits to the Western Interior Regional Advisory Council's Sheep Management Strategy based off the discussion between the SRC and NPS staff. Suggested NPS create an outline for what the public process is for the Dall's Sheep Management Strategy being submitted as a hunting plan recommendation from the Gates of the Arctic SRC. o Moved to adopt their current SRC Charter. o Moved to send an appreciation letter to former NPS Alaska Regional Director, Sarah Creachbaum.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

60%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Charter is implemented and park staff are working on the implementation of other recommendations.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

40%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Park staff continue working on the implementation of recommendations.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

NPS officials will provide oral or written briefings or status reports during meetings of the Council.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

- Reorganized Priorities
- Reallocated resources
- Issued new regulation
- Proposed legislation
- Approved grants or other payments
- Other

Action Comments

Not Applicable

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

Not Applicable

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

- Contact DFO
- Online Agency Web Site
- Online Committee Web Site
- Online GSA FACA Web Site
- Publications
- Other

Access Comments

Information on Gates of the Arctic National Park may be found at:

<https://www.nps.gov/gaar/index.htm>