

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: North Slope Science Initiative Science Technical Advisory Panel

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1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3. Committee or Subcommittee

North Slope Science Initiative Science Technical Advisory Panel

3b. GSA Committee No.

No.

25153

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

07/05/2018

6. Expected Renewal Date

07/05/2020

7. Expected Term Date

06/18/2020

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

No

8c. Actual Term Date

No

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-58, Section 348)

13. Effective Date

08/08/2005

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open Meetings and Dates

Purpose

This meeting will include continued consideration of recommendations from the recent North Slope Development Scenarios Project; development of a communications plan to facilitate North Slope Science Initiative actions for ensuring effective coordination of monitoring and research activities; and evaluation and development of strategies for minimizing effects of monitoring and research activities on North Slope residents and subsistence resources.

Start

End

11/07/2017 - 11/08/2017

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	\$125,000.00	\$150,000.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00

18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$12,275.00	\$16,000.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$250.00	\$400.00
18d. Total	\$137,525.00	\$170,400.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.15	0.20

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The purpose of this group is to advise the North Slope Science Initiative Oversight Group on issues such as identifying and prioritizing inventory, monitoring and research needs, and providing other scientific advice as requested by the Oversight Group. The group's goals include the following:

- a. Advise the Oversight Group on science planning and relevant research and monitoring projects;
- b. Advise the Oversight Group on scientific information relevant to the Oversight Group's mission;
- c. Review selected reports to advise the Oversight Group on their content and relevance;
- d. Review ongoing scientific programs of NSSI-member organizations on the North Slope at the request of the member organizations to promote compatibility in methodologies and compilation of data;
- e. Advise the Oversight Group on how to ensure that scientific products generated through NSSI activities are of the highest technical quality;
- f. Periodically review the North Slope Science Plan and provide recommendations for changes to the Oversight Group;
- g. Provide recommendations for proposed NSSI funded inventory, monitoring and research activities to the Oversight Group;
- h. Provide other scientific advice as requested by the Oversight Group;
- i. Coordinate with groups and committees appointed or requested by the Oversight Group to provide science advice, as needed.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Section 348, Energy Policy Act of 2005, PL 109-58 states that, the panel shall consist of a representative group of not more than 15 scientists and technical experts from diverse professions and interests, including the oil and gas industry, subsistence users, Native Alaskan entities, conservation organizations, wildlife management organizations, and academia, as determined by the Secretary.

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

There are approximately four meetings held each year. This panel includes 15 members who cover 12 science disciplines. Each member brings to the table a knowledge base within their respective disciplines and the entire panel works together to provide recommendations on pressing management issues in the Arctic.

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

Section 348, Energy Policy Act of 2005, PL 109-58 established this Panel.

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

All meetings of the North Slope Science Initiative Science Technical Advisory Panel are open to the public.

21. Remarks

The NSSI committee met once during FY18. The relevance and importance of this committee have increased due to the increasing pace of energy development on the North Slope.

Designated Federal Officer

Paul Scott Guyer Designated Federal Officer

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Bolton, Robert	10/30/2015	10/30/2018	University of Alaska Fairbanks	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Brewer, Linda	10/30/2015	10/30/2018	T-3 Strategies	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Cairns, David	10/30/2015	10/30/2018	Texas A&M University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hemsath, James	10/30/2015	10/30/2018	Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lynn, Lorene	10/30/2015	10/30/2018	Red Mountain Consulting, LLC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Pegau, Scott	10/30/2015	10/30/2018	Oil Spill Recovery Institute	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Robards, Martin	03/11/2016	10/30/2018	Wildlife Conservation Society	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Suydam, Robert	10/30/2015	10/30/2018	North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wisdom, Sheyna	10/30/2015	10/30/2018	Fairweather Science, LLC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 9

Narrative Description

This North Slope Science Initiative Science Technical Advisory Panel supports the activities of the North Slope Science Initiative related to the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-58)

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

Not Applicable

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

An in-depth analysis has not been done to determine cost savings associated with the North Slope Science Initiative Science Technical Advisory Panel. However, the contributions of the Panel are of great benefit to the BLM.

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

30

Number of Recommendations Comments

Working Groups Identified and progressed making draft recommendations. 1. 2011 Barrow Workshop Follow-Up; 2. Ecosystem & Focal Species Status and Trends Monitoring; 3. TK Documentation & Integration in Management Decision Making; and 4. Aircraft Disturbance of Subsistence Resources & Activities.

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

50%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Recommendations have been presented to the Oversight Group for consideration and determination whether to direct NSSI or partner agency staff to implement, based on partner agencies' mission, capacity, and need.

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

50%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

This is difficult to determine since the North Slope Science Initiative represents 14 Federal, state, and local governments with a variety of mandates and independent budgets. The North Slope Science Initiative Oversight Group reports that some recommendations are incorporated into ongoing programs while others are being planned for future budgets.

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

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

The North Slope Science Initiative Oversight Group provides feedback to the Science Technical Advisory Panel.

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

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

No

Grant Review Comments

n/a

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

A North Slope Science Initiative website has been established for both an information outlet and a feedback loop. In addition, the North Slope Catalog has been implemented for the discovery of information necessary for management decisions. A project tracking has been added to help collaboration and coordination of science projects. Visit:

<http://www.NorthSlopeScience.org>