

2026 Current Fiscal Year Report: Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee

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1. Department or Agency		2. Fiscal Year	
Department of the Interior		2026	
3. Committee or Subcommittee		3b. GSA Committee No.	
Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee		162	
4. Is this New Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	11/27/2024	11/27/2026	
8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority		8c. Actual Term Date
No	25 U.S.C. 3006(i)		
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?
25 U.S.C. 3006	11/16/1990	Continuing	No
15. Description of Committee National Policy Issue Advisory Board			
16a. Total Number of Reports	No Reports for this Fiscal Year		
17a. Open	17b. Closed	17c. Partially Closed	Other Activities
0	0	0	0
17d. Total			
0			
Meetings and Dates			
No Meetings			

	Current	Next
	FY	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 Committee averages two in-person meetings and one or two telephonic meetings per fiscal year. All meetings are open to the public and are essential for the Review Committee to carry out its consultative, advisory, and review responsibilities. During a meeting, the Committee may make findings of fact related to the identity or cultural

affiliation of cultural items, or the return of such items; facilitate the resolution of disputes relating to the return of cultural items, including convening the parties to the dispute; consult with the Secretary of the Interior in the development of regulations; and report to the Congress annually on the progress made, and any barriers encountered, in the implementation of NAGPRA.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The membership reflects the interests most affected by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. As required by the Act (25 U.S.C. 3006(b)), the Review Committee is composed of seven members appointed by the Secretary of the Interior as follows: (a) three members are appointed from nominations submitted by Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, and traditional Native American religious leaders, with at least two of these members being traditional Indian religious leaders; (b) three members are appointed from nominations submitted by national museum organizations and scientific organizations; and (c) one member is appointed from a list of persons developed and consented to by all the members appointed pursuant to (a) and (b).

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

Meetings are generally held three or four times per fiscal year. Meetings are held in different locations across the country to allow for different audiences and varied participation. Presentations and public comment made at these meetings often reflect the relevant issues related to repatriation in a particular region. Regularly spaced meetings allow for the Review Committee to monitor and review

the implementation of NAGPRA throughout the fiscal year.

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

The Review Committee provides essential advice, recommendations, and oversight for the present and future implementation of NAGPRA (including the Act's reserved regulatory sections); provides a forum for public comment; consults with Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations and museums and Federal agencies on matters within the scope of the work of the Review Committee; reviews and makes findings related to the identity or cultural affiliation of cultural items, or the return of such items; and facilitates the resolution of disputes, which could not be facilitated in any other venue.

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

All meetings of the Review Committee are open.

21. Remarks

The purpose of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee is to monitor and review the implementation of the inventory and identification processes and repatriation activities required under 25 U.S.C. 3003, 3004, and 3005. The responsibilities of the Review Committee are laid out at 25 U.S.C. 3006(c).

Designated Federal Officer

Melanie O'Brien Manager, National NAGPRA Program

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
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Ayau, E Halealoha	11/22/2022	11/22/2026	Nominated by the American Anthropological Association	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Catches Enemy, Michael	12/04/2024	12/04/2028	Nominated by the American Anthropological Association	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Garcia-Lewis, Angela	11/22/2022	11/22/2026	Nominated by consensus of all members of the Review Committee	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Patrick, Toby	06/01/2023	06/01/2027	Nominated by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Shah, Monica	12/04/2024	12/04/2028	Nominated by the Association of Art Museum Directors	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
deBeaubien, Domonique	11/22/2022	11/22/2026	Nominated by the Seminole Tribe of Florida	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 6

Narrative Description

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee serves as a major conduit to the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of the United States government for the implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, and is the focal point for public participation in and consultation regarding the implementation of the Act.

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

NA

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

The Review Committee's dual role of representing various constituencies regarding implementation of the statute and facilitating the resolution of disputes between museums, Federal agencies, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations is likely to divert some parties from engaging in costly litigation. Travel to different locations allows museums, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations to save travel costs.

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

247

Number of Recommendations Comments

In FY 2025, the Review Committee made no new recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior.

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

90%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Recommendations regarding the disposition of culturally unidentifiable human remains generally receive the Secretary of the Interior's concurrence.

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

10%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Recommendations regarding the disposition of culturally unidentifiable human remains generally receive the Secretary of the Interior's concurrence.

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 Designated Federal Officer provides regular feedback on the status of the Review Committee's recommendations through formal presentations at meetings and other notifications. The National NAGPRA Program provides an annual report on the implementation of NAGPRA through statistical information, as reported by museums, Federal agencies, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

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

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reorganized Priorities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Reallocated resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Issued new regulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Proposed legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Approved grants or other payments | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Action Comments

Agency had not proposed legislation. In addition to support of the Review Committee, the

agency also issues regulations, establishes priorities, allocates resources, and approves grants. The Review Committee does not review or award grants.

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

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

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

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Contact DFO | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Agency Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Committee Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online GSA FACA Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Publications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Access Comments

N/A