

2014 Current Fiscal Year Report: Denali National Park and Preserve Aircraft Overflights Advisory Council

Report Run Date: 07/06/2025 07:55:34 AM

1. Department or Agency		2. Fiscal Year	
Department of the Interior		2014	
3. Committee or Subcommittee		3b. GSA Committee No.	
Denali National Park and Preserve Aircraft Overflights Advisory Council		31971	
4. Is this New Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	12/11/2013		
8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority		8c. Actual Term Date
Yes			09/30/2014
9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?	
Terminate	No	Not Applicable	
11. Establishment Authority Agency Authority			
12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
Section 3 of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-2(c))	09/04/2007 Continuing	No	
15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program 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 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 Denali National Park and Preserve's 2006 Backcountry Management Plan and EIS called for an aircraft overflights advisory group to develop voluntary measures for assuring the safety of passengers, pilots, and mountaineers, and for achieving standards that represent desired future

resource conditions at Denali. The National Park Service needs the advice of this group to develop effective mitigation measures that will be acceptable to stakeholders. The Service chose to use this flexible tool, rather than a more rigid regulatory scheme that might create unnecessary restrictions, to achieve the objectives of the plan. The ongoing dialog of the diverse stakeholders represented on the Council has led to real collaboration in addressing the impacts of aviation on the park's natural soundscape. The Council did not meet in 2014. The park continued monitoring of the best practices.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Membership on the committee includes representation from key stakeholder groups: air taxi operators, commercial aviation interests, general aviation interests, local landowners, the State of Alaska, the Federal Aviation Administration, climbers and other park users, and environmental organizations. The committee represents a balance of local, state, and national interests.

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

Meetings are held two to three times a year which currently satisfies the information needs of key stakeholders and the membership.

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

Denali National Park and Preserve's 2006 Backcountry Management Plan and EIS concluded that air travel is an important means of access for backcountry users, and that scenic air tours are an important means for other park

visitors to access and enjoy Mount McKinley and adjoining scenic peaks and glaciers. However, the cumulative impact of these tours, plus the additional aircraft traffic, must be mitigated to protect park resource values and the quality of the visitor experience. To propose voluntary measures for the protection of this resource, continuing dialogue with stakeholders and the public is needed in this format.

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

All meetings are open to the public.

21. Remarks

The Committee has accomplished its initial task to develop voluntary measures to reduce aviation related impacts on the park's soundscape. The park is now monitoring the effectiveness of the recommended best practices.

Designated Federal Officer

Don Striker Superintendent, Denali National Park and Preserve

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
LeClair, Claire	08/28/2012	08/28/2014	Deputy Director, Alaska State Parks	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 1

Narrative Description

The purpose of the Council is to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the Director of the National Park Service, on matters relating to mitigation of impacts from aircraft overflights at Denali National Park and Preserve. The Council will develop voluntary measures for assuring the safety of passengers, pilots, and mountaineers and for achieving desired future resource conditions at Denali National Park and Preserve.

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

	Checked if Applies
Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

The Council did not meet in FY2014. The park continued monitoring the soundscape and impacts of aviation on the visitor experience to gauge the effectiveness of the best practices previously recommended by the Council.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

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

Number of Recommendations Comments

The Council had no recommendations in FY 2014. The Council had no recommendations in FY 2013. The Council had 2 recommendations for FY 2010 and 1 for FY 2011. 1) Recommendation for NPS to provide feedback on the effects of the voluntary best practices for aviation in Denali Park. 2) Recommendation made to create an information sheet for distribution to the public on the work of the council. 3) Recommendation for testing of a new commercial flight pattern over the backcountry units on the north side of the park.

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

100%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The NPS acted on recommendations provided by the council in FY2011 regarding sound monitoring stations, information to visitors on aircraft use in the park, and information sharing amongst state and federal agencies on flight corridors. In FY2012, monitoring of new north side commercial flight pattern was conducted by the agency. In FY2013, the agency continued monitoring the effectiveness of the commercial flight corridor over the north side of the park.

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

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

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

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Monitoring data to affirm the effectiveness of the best practices is incorporated into park operations.

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

Checked if Applies

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

Action Comments

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 type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

NA