

Arctic Research Policy Process in the United States



The structure to support Arctic research informing policy, and vice versa, is clearly spelled out in the Arctic Research and Policy Act which defines roles for the US Arctic Research Commission and the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee. Agencies support research to advance their own missions, and IARPC works to coordinate those investments. Outside forces (i.e., ecosystem shifts, extreme weather events, changes in administrations, new budget priorities) influence the process forcing adaptation of the defined structure. USARC and IARPC work to get research results more rapidly into the hands of policymakers and others by improving understanding that supports informed decision making urgently needed to address stakeholder concerns and management needs.

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