

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commission-Kobuk Valley National Park

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Department of the Interior	2024
3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.

National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commission-Kobuk Valley National Park	556
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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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Bi-annual meeting of the SRC to make
 subsistence management recommendations
 for Kobuk Valley National Park and NW
 Arctic region.

10/30/2023 - 10/31/2023

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. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Subsistence Resource Commission for Kobuk Valley 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. 96-487 (the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act), the Commission is required to hold public meetings in all areas affected by the subsistence hunting program.

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 of 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?

Meetings are generally held 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.

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

The Subsistence Resource Commission for Kobuk Valley 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 Kobuk Valley 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. 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 Kobuk Valley National Park. 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, the Organic Act of 1916, and NPS policy 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.

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

All meetings are open.

21. Remarks

The Kobuk Valley Subsistence Resource Commission met twice during fiscal year 2023. These meetings were held on October 26, 2022 in person and via teleconference and on April 14, 2023 in person and via teleconference.

Designated Federal Officer

Raymond McPadden Superintendent, Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, Shared Beringian Heritage Program & Acting-Superintendent Western Arctic National Parklands

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Custer, Merle	10/29/2019	11/04/2024	Subsistence Hunter	Representative Member
Downey, Shield	02/24/2015	12/15/2024	Subsistence User	Representative Member
Griest, Nellie	02/24/2015	12/14/2024	Subsistence User	Representative Member
Horner, Rosa	11/04/2016	11/04/2024	Subsistence Hunter	Representative Member
Mitchell, Enoch	11/04/2000	12/15/2024	Subsistence Hunter	Representative Member
Newlin, Gordon	02/24/2015	12/14/2024	Subsistence User	Representative Member
Westlake, Benny	11/15/2018	12/01/2024	Subsistence Hunter	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 7

Narrative Description

The Subsistence Resource Commission for Kobuk Valley 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 Kobuk Valley 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. The Commission's recommendations help the NPS to ensure the continuation of the opportunity for local rural residents to engage in the subsistence use of resources in Kobuk Valley National Park. 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, the Organic Act of 1916, and NPS policy to:

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- 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.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

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

Not Applicable

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

19

Number of Recommendations Comments

Historically, only formal hunting recommendations were tracked by this report. Since the Federal Subsistence Board was put into place, the SRC also comments on federal and state wildlife proposals. No recommendations were made in FY 2023.

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

The Commission made one recommendations on a Federal subsistence regulatory proposal that was full implemented by the Federal Subsistence Board this year.

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

30%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The commission made one recommendation on a Federal subsistence Temporary Wildlife Special Action Request in FY 2022 that was partially implemented by the Federal Subsistence Board.

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

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Public meetings

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 type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Access Comments

Not Applicable