

# 2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commission-Gates of the Arctic National Park

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

National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commission-Gates of the Arctic National Park	555
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<b>4. Is this New Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	09/25/2023	09/25/2025	

<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>
No	P.L. 96-487	

<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

**11. Establishment Authority** Statutory (Congress Created)

<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
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 within Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve. 11/14/2023 - 11/15/2023

**Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1**

	<b>Current Next</b>	
	<b>FY</b>	<b>FY</b>
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The Commission is an advisory group. Federal law and regulation provide the opportunity for continued subsistence uses, including hunting, within the Gates of the Arctic National Park. The Subsistence Resource Commission for Gates of the Arctic 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. 96-847 (the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act), the Commission is required to hold public meetings in all areas affected by the subsistence hunting program. 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 Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve. 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 (Section 202), the Organic Act of 1916, and parks's enabling legislation 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. The NPS SRC program is authorized under Title VIII, Section 808 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Public Law 96-487.

**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 or 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 Gates of the Arctic 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 Gates of the Arctic 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.

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

All meetings are open.

## **21. Remarks**

The Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission met twice during fiscal year 2023. These meetings were held on November 9-10, 2022, in Fairbanks, AK and via teleconference, and on April 18-19, 2023, in Fairbanks, AK and via teleconference.

## **Designated Federal Officer**

Mark Dowdle Superintendent

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Fickus, Tim	12/01/2021	12/01/2024	Subsistence User	Representative Member
Hanchett, Gary	02/06/2023	02/06/2026	Subsistence User	Representative Member
Hepa, Raynita (Taqlik)	12/01/2021	12/01/2024	Research Specialist, Subsistence User	Representative Member
Reakoff, Jack	06/22/2022	06/22/2025	Subsistence User	Representative Member
Sikvayugak, Riley	01/04/2022	12/01/2024	Subsistence knowledge holder Chair Fish and Game	Representative Member
Simon, Pollock	11/04/1982	01/03/2025	Local Advisory Committee/Subsistence Hunter	Representative Member
Woods, Raymond	06/22/2022	06/22/2025	Subsistence User	Representative Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 7**

## **Narrative Description**

The Subsistence Resource Commission for Gates of the Arctic 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 Gates of the Arctic 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 recommendations. During FY 2023, the Commission did not submit any formal hunting plan recommendations to the Secretary of Interior.

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" 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**

During FY 2023, the Commission did not submit any formal hunting plan recommendations to the Secretary of Interior. The Commission continues to monitor issues related to Hunting Plan Recommendation 10-01. The Commission and National Park Service are working together to address concerns for management of wildlife populations within the national park and preserve.

**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  
Cost Savings Other

☐  
☐

### **Cost Savings Comments**

NA

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

26

### **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 by the commission on State of Alaska fisheries proposals. No recommendations were made by the commission on Federal Subsistence fisheries proposals. The Commission made no formal recommendations during FY 2023 but did pass the following motions during the meetings: The SRC 1) Voted to have Raymond Woods represent the SRC at Ambler Access Road Subsistence Advisory Committee meetings. Pollock Simon Sr. was voted as the alternate. 2) Voted to send a letter to the Board of Game to clarify in the state regulations book that in order to hunt on Native Corporation lands, hunters need to be shareholders. Suggest making Corporation lands a different color on the maps and providing a weblink to the different Corporation lands – Doyon Ltd., Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, NANA, and Nunamiut Corporation lands. 3) Voted to support the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Dall's Sheep Collaring Project. Suggested that sampled areas be further away from the Haul Road and that sheep be collared at night.

**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**

Not Applicable

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

40%

### **% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

Not Applicable

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

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

**Agency Feedback Comments**

Not Applicable

**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 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**



Information on Gates of the Arctic National Park may be found at:  
<https://www.nps.gov/gaar/index.htm>