

**For Immediate Release
December 15, 2016**

2017-18 USARC report highlights progress in Arctic research & makes new recommendations

Washington, DC - The US Arctic Research Commission (USARC) today released its "[Report](#) on the Goals and Objectives for Arctic Research 2017-2018 for the US Arctic Research Program," (Goals Report) at the American Geophysical Union's (AGU) 2016 Fall Meeting in San Francisco. Emphasizing the need for continued scientific research in all of its six major goals, the Commission released new recommendations for these goals. In addition, the Commission also calls attention to progress made on these goals over the past two years.

The Goals Report is published biennially and highlights these priority research areas: 1. Environmental Change, 2. Arctic Human Health, 3. Energy, 4. the "Built Environment," 5. Arctic Cultures and Community Resilience, and 6. International Scientific Cooperation in the Arctic.

The Commission's research goals help shape the national Arctic Research Plan: FY2017-2021 that will be released at the AGU meeting and may be found [here](#). Implementation of this plan, developed by the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC) that is chaired by the National Science Foundation, and operates under the auspices of the National Science and Technology Council, involves teams from 14 federal agencies. IARPC partners with State and local officials, academia, non-Federal organizations and the private sector for implementation of the Arctic Research Plan. More information about IARPC may be found [here](http://www.iarpccollaborations.org/index.html) (<http://www.iarpccollaborations.org/index.html>).

According to Fran Ulmer, chair of the USARC, "The Commission has always addressed the most important and timely research questions about the Arctic. This report continues that tradition by providing insight into progress that has been made and where focus is required by the next Administration."

The USARC is an independent federal agency that was established in 1984 by the Arctic Research and Policy Act. Its mission is to develop and recommend US Arctic research policy to the President and to Congress and to build cooperative links in Arctic research within the federal government, with Arctic residents, the State of Alaska, researchers and international partners. Visit the USARC at <https://arctic.gov> and subscribe to our daily electronic newsletter, the "[Arctic Update](#)," which provides useful information about recent events, conferences, research initiatives, and news.

###

Media Contact: Kathy Farrow, [703-525-0112](tel:703-525-0112) (o) [703-851-7332](tel:703-851-7332) (c), kfarrow@arctic.gov