





In December NAS panel released an interim report that makes five recommendations regarding USCG icebreakers:

- 1) The United States should reliably control (by ownership or other means) at least one heavy icebreaker that is available and capable of breaking a channel into McMurdo Station.
- The United States should maintain dedicated, year-round icebreaker capability for the Arctic to support national security interests as well as science.
- In the short term, the required maintenance should be performed to make at least one Polar Class ship mission capable over the next 4 to 8 years.
- 4) In the short-term, the management of the U.S. polar icebreakers should reside with the U.S. Coast Guard, and it should have the appropriate operational and maintenance budget to fulfill U.S. Coast Guard missions that require icebreaking.
- In the short-term, the NSF should revert to being a user and should continue to negotiate financial agreements to pay for icebreaker services when U.S. Coast Guard ships are employed.

