



Update to UNOLS AICC US Arctic Research Commission

John Farrell
Executive Director



U.S. Arctic Policy (NSPD-66/HSPD-25)

- National/Homeland Security Interests
- International Governance
- Extended Continental Shelf and Maritime Boundaries
- Promoting International **Scientific Cooperation**
- Maritime Transport
- Economic/Energy
- Environmental Protection

Seven policy areas – one overarching legal dynamic –
relationship between international law, mainly the law of the sea
and national sovereignty

Arctic Research and Policy Act (1984)

- Provides a Federal program for basic & applied Arctic research
- Establishes U.S. Arctic Research Commission
 - Sets Arctic research goals & objectives
 - Recommends Arctic research policy
- Establishes Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC)
 - develops 5-year Arctic research program plan & budget



US ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION





US ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION



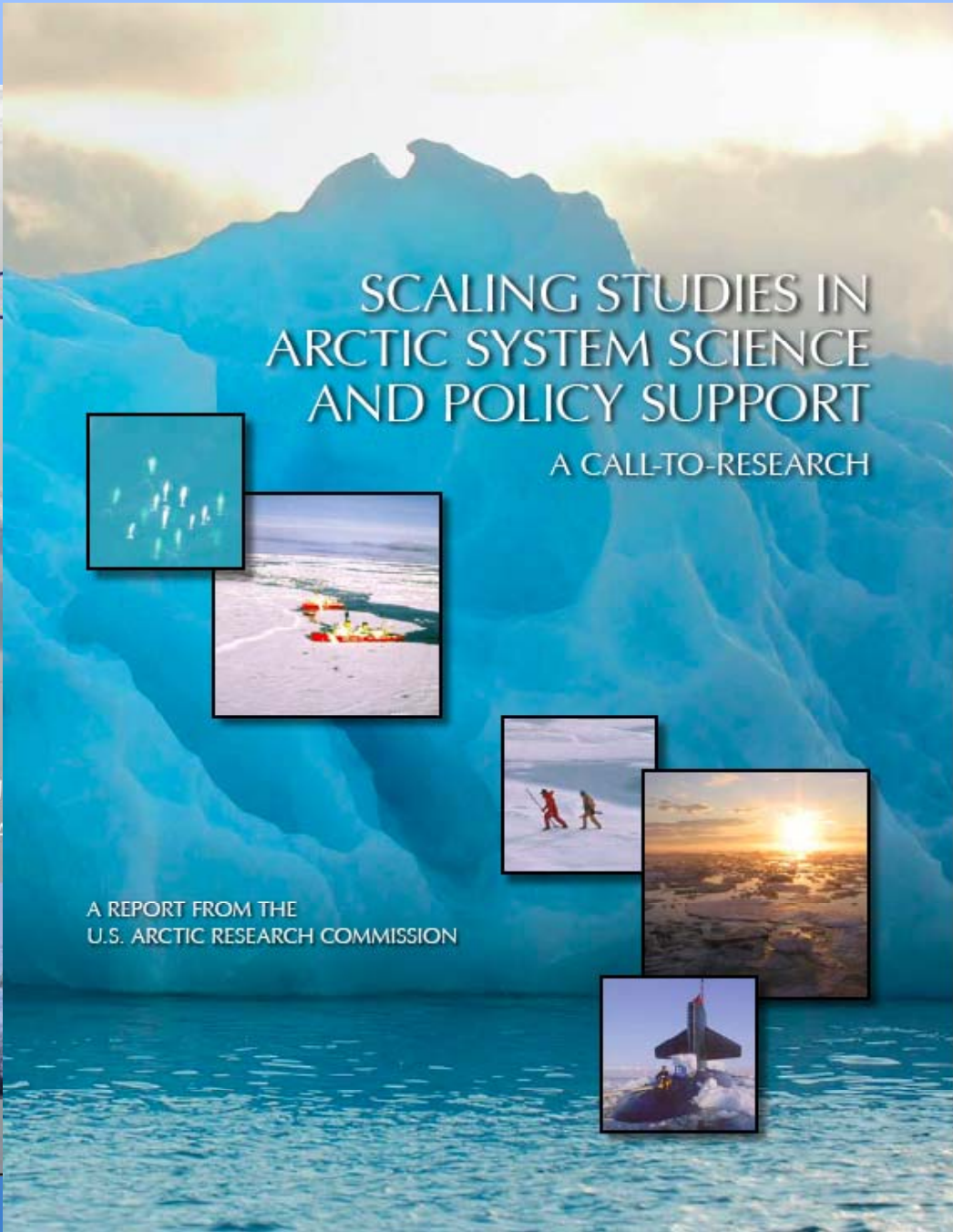
What is the USARC?

- Independent federal agency of presidential appointees that works with Congress and Executive branch
- Sets nation's Arctic research goals and objectives
- Develops an integrated national Arctic research policy
- Helps create a national Arctic research program plan
- Facilitates cooperation among federal, state and local governments, and other nations with respect to Arctic research, both basic and applied



SC

PART 1: TECHNICAL GUIDANCE
SCIENCE ACCOMMODATION



SCALING STUDIES IN ARCTIC SYSTEM SCIENCE AND POLICY SUPPORT

A CALL-TO-RESEARCH



A REPORT FROM THE
U.S. ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION



WHITE PAPER

COMMISSION
DED U.S. FUNDING FOR

ARCTIC RESEARCH



Oil drilling ships with towers frozen in the pack ice covering on the Beaufort Sea with an icebreaker nearby, Northwest Territories, Canada.

Arctic Council
Arctic Marine Shipping
Assessment 2009 Report



Special issue on “Arctic Oceanography”

Co-sponsored by USARC, NSF, NOAA



Guest Editors:

- Kelly Faulkner
- Joe Ortiz
- Patricia Matrai
- Rebecca Woodgate

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US ARCTIC RESEARCH
COMMISSION

REPORT ON
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR
ARCTIC RESEARCH 2009–2010



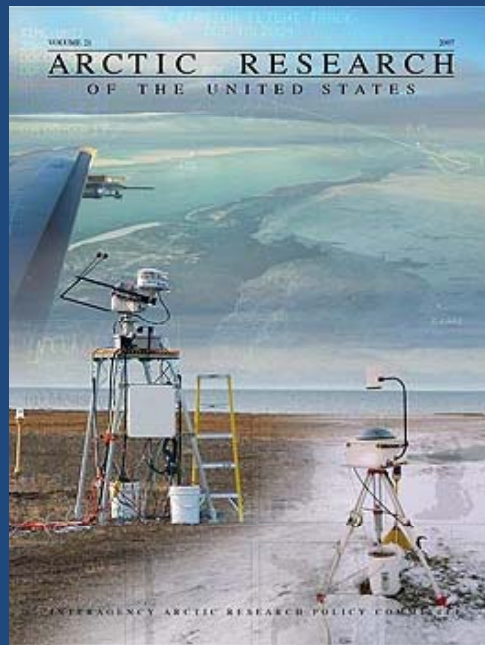
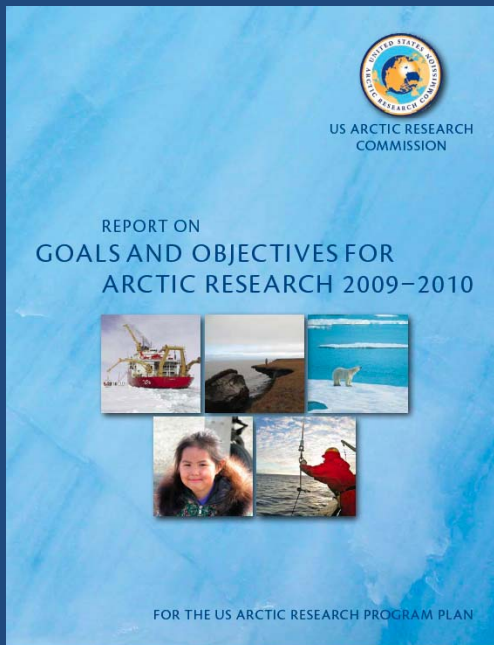
FOR THE US ARCTIC RESEARCH PROGRAM PLAN

USARC sets
nation's Arctic
research goals



USARC's research themes

- Enviro. Change of the Arctic Ocean/Bering Sea
- Arctic Human Health
- Civil Infrastructure Research
- Natural Resource Assessment & Earth Science
- Indigenous Languages, Identities & Cultures



USARC:
establishes
research
goals & sets
research
policy



IARPC:
adopts
goals,
creates
research
plan

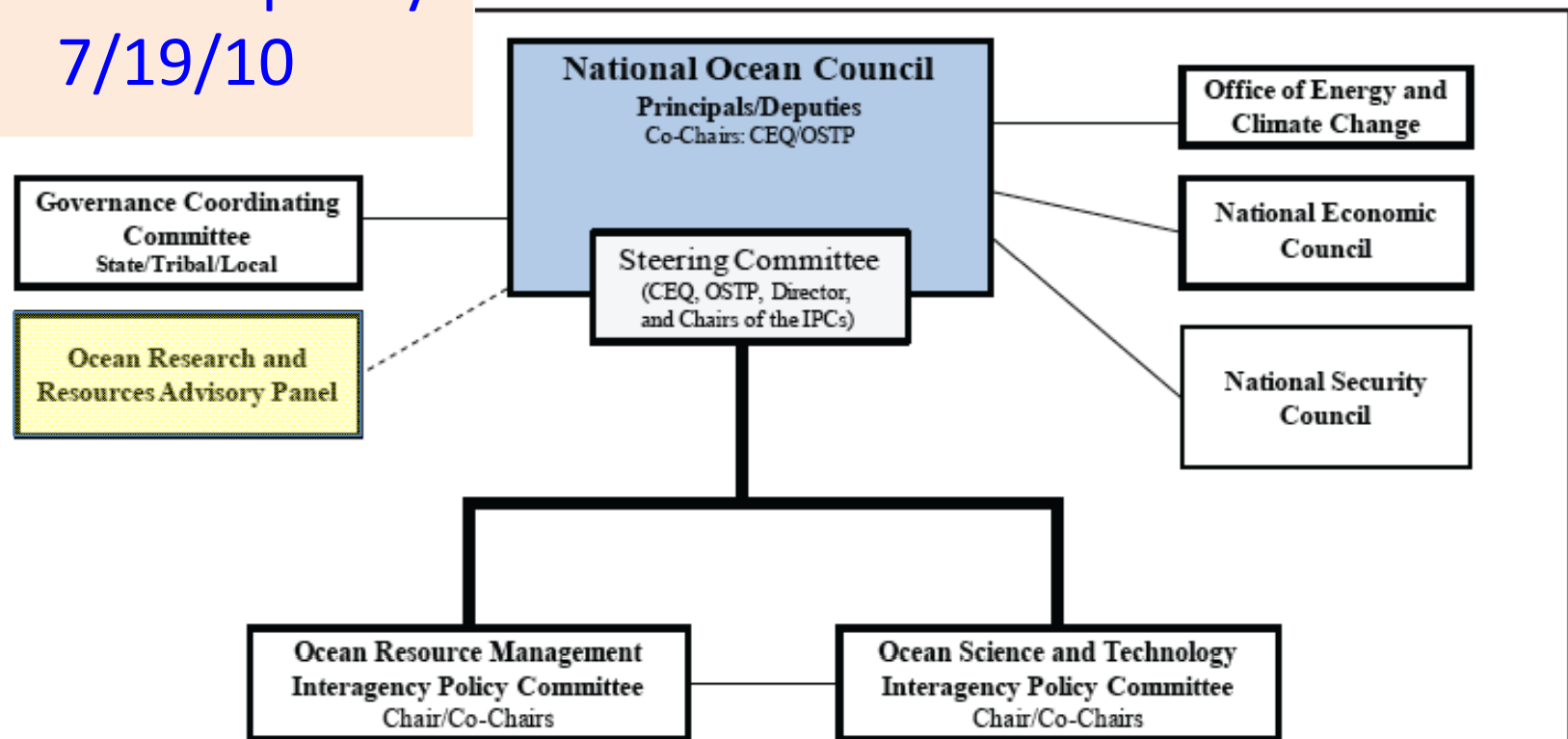


White House:
OMB/OSTP
Congress:
authorizers &
appropriators

USARC comments on budget to Congress

New ocean policy
7/19/10

Policy Coordination Framework



1 of 9 national priority objectives:
“Changing conditions
In the Arctic”

Working and Marine Regional
The External Committee

Coastal Adaptation, Planning

- Reporting
- Coordination
- Communication

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 22, 2010

President
reassigns Arctic
research
coordination from
NSF to NSTC

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

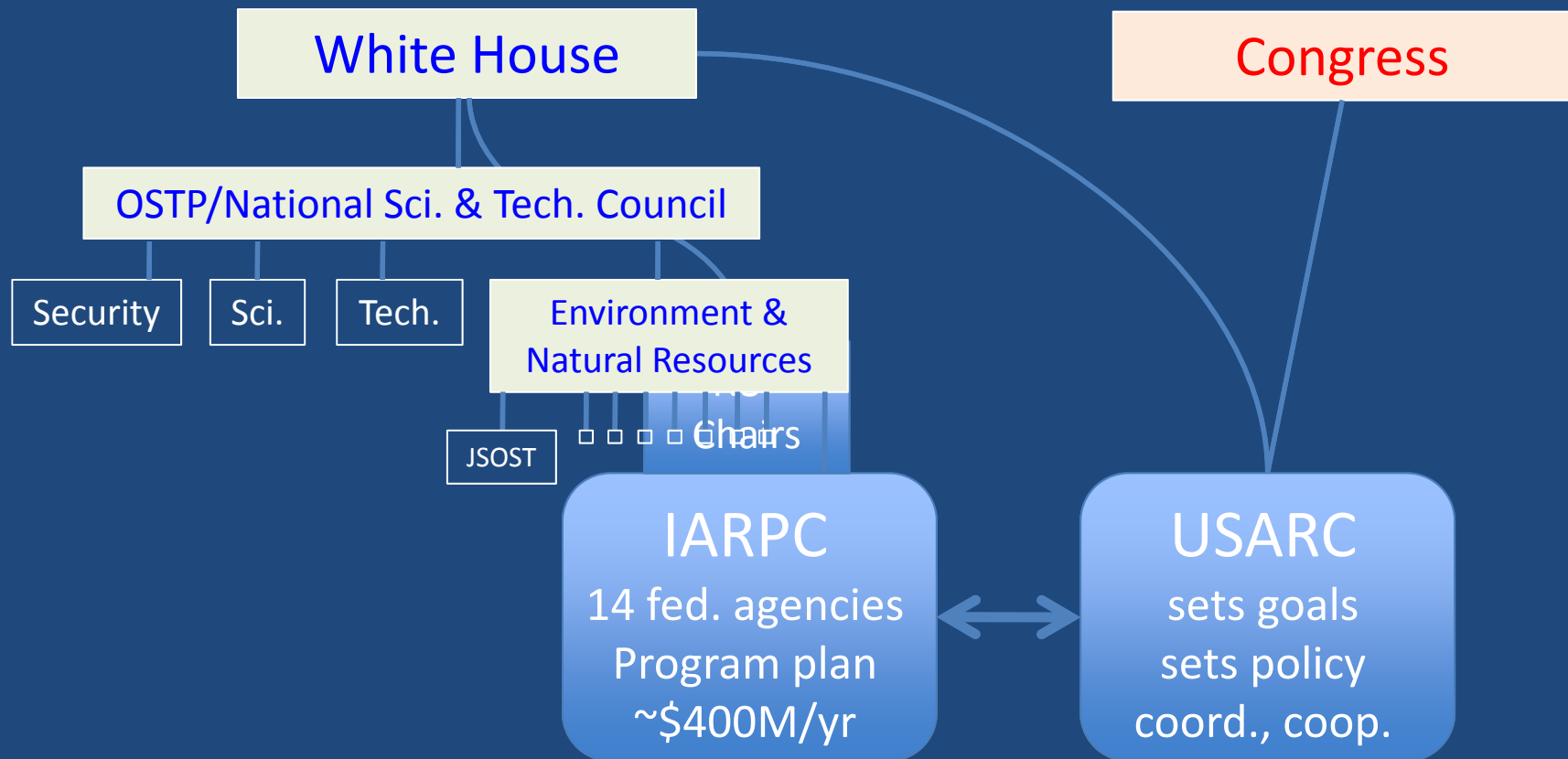
SUBJECT: Designation of the National Science and
Technology Council to Coordinate Certain
Activities Under the Arctic Research and
Policy Act of 1984

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 (Title I of Public Law 98-373) (the "Act"), I hereby assign to the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) responsibility to coordinate activities assigned in sections 107 and 108 of the Act to the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee, including through committees of the NSTC.

The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy is authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.



Impact on Arctic Research Coordination From 7/22/10 Presidential Memo



The Washington Post



Sunday 6/2/11 • Tomorrow: Sunny 66/29 • OTTAWA, B10

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2010

WASHINGTON POST • 79¢

LET'S BE MORE PREPARED THAN EVER.

Shell is dedicated to preventing and preparing for any safety challenges we may face. To support our plans to drill two 30-day exploration wells in the shallow waters off the coast of Alaska in 2011, we have created an unprecedented spill response approach. It includes having offshore, onshore and near-shore response teams and arctic-appropriate equipment ready 24-hours a day, and operational within an hour. It includes the purpose built, ice-class, spill response vessel the Naniuk. And for 2011 we've further improved it by adding a sub-sea containment system, enhancing the response plan and upgrading our blow out preventer. Of course, our goal is to make sure we never have to use it. www.shell.us/alaska

11/10/10
Arctic Drilling



**OIL SPILL PREVENTION and RESPONSE
IN THE U.S. ARCTIC OCEAN**

Unexamined Risks, Unacceptable Consequences



nuka
Research & Planning Group, LLC

“Oil Spill Prevention & Response
In the U.S. Arctic Ocean:
Unexamined Risks,
Unacceptable Consequences”

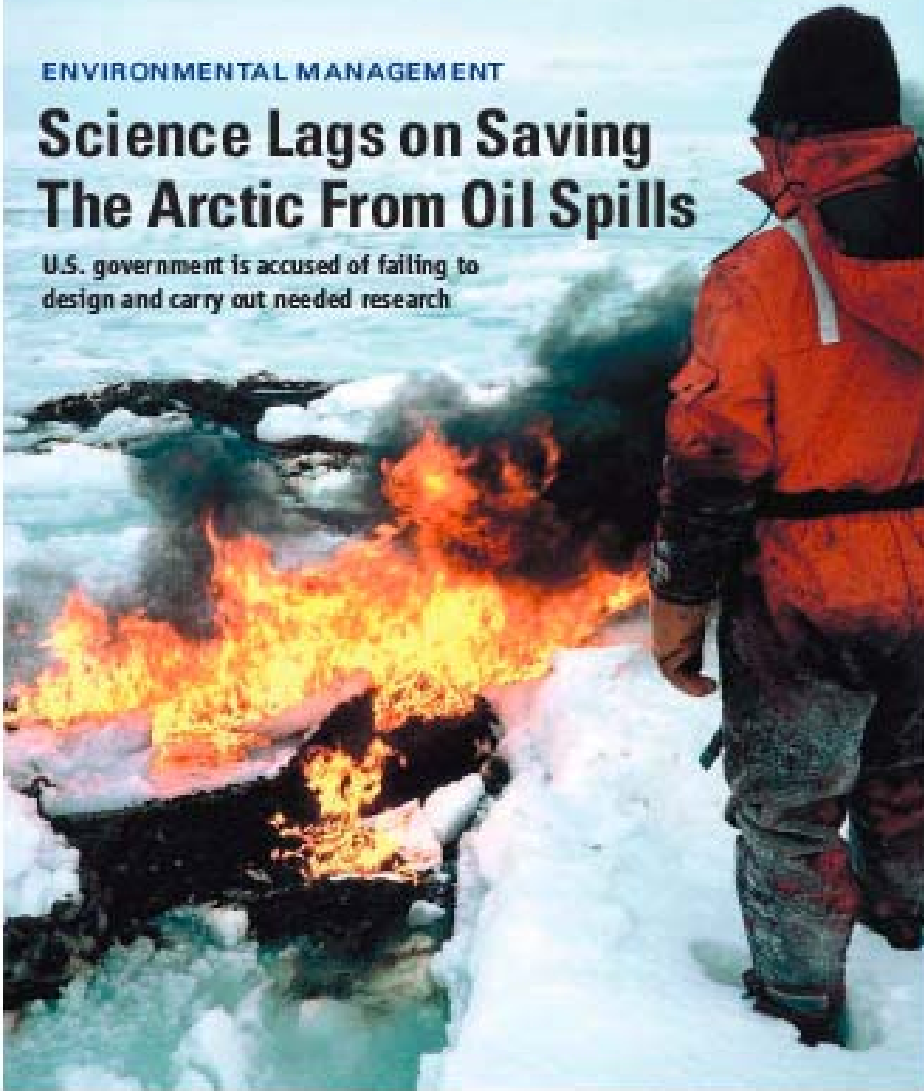
Commissioned by Pew
Researched by Nuka

November 2010

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Science Lags on Saving The Arctic From Oil Spills

U.S. government is accused of failing to
design and carry out needed research



Oil-spill-in-ice research

- Interagency Coord. Comm. on Oil Pollution Research (ICCOPR).
www.iccopr.uscg.gov
- Will update national oil-spill research plan (current vintage '97)

“I’m ecumenical about climate change... All I know is that I’ve got a lot more coastline to take care of.”

**-Former USCG Commandant
Adm. Thad Allen (retired)**



“The opening of the ‘fifth ocean,’ the Arctic, for longer periods of time, will provide new access to resources, migration of fishing stocks and eventually new trade routes, that can’t be overstated.”

**-Chief of Naval Operations
Adm. Gary Roughead**

**Remarks at University of Chicago
Conf. on Terrorism & Strategy
October 12, 2010**





“Conflict is Inevitable in the Arctic”

No, it isn't



Intelligence community interests in the Arctic on the rise...

INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT TO THE
ARCTIC CONFERENCE
16-17 NOVEMBER 2010 | CHANTILLY, VA



CIVIL APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE

- ★ Department of the Interior
- ★ Department of Agriculture
- ★ Department of Commerce
- ★ Department of Transportation
- ★ Department of Energy
- ★ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- ★ Federal Emergency Management Agency
- ★ National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- ★ National Science Foundation
- ★ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

What USARC is encouraging

- Improve interagency Arctic research efforts & dovetail with new ocean policy efforts
- Get serious on Arctic Observing Network
 - Environmental research (wx, climate, sea ice, perma.)
 - Ice sheet and glacier dynamics
- Oil-spill-in ice research (USCG chairs ICCOPR)
- Ocean research infrastructure
 - US icebreakers (...are we're down to one?)

Daily “Arctic Update” from USARC

Subscribe at www.arctic.gov

US Arctic Research Commission



Arctic Update

December 8, 2010

Today's Events

The Senate will consider impeachment proceedings and hold several cloture votes. The House will consider a number of legislative items under suspension of the rules.



[Ocean Research and Resources Advisory Panel \(ORRAP\)](#) **[December 8, Washington DC.](#)**

ORRAP is a federal advisory committee that advises on policies and procedures to implement the National Ocean Partnership Program (NOPP) and to provide recommendations to the



9/23/10
Blake McBride, USN
USCG C-130
ADA flight

Thank you

