# Contents

### 1 Summary, Findings, and Policy Options 1

Key Findings of Study 14
Policy Issues and Options 18
References 25

## 2 Contamination from Nuclear Wastes in the Arctic and North Pacific 27

Background and Overview 27
Arctic Contamination from Non-dumping Sources 33
Radioactive Contamination from Soviet Nuclear Waste
Dumping 45
Research and Monitoring of Radioactive Contamination in
the Arctic, the North Pacific, and Alaska 50
Research and Monitoring: Data Gaps and Future
Needs 60
Remediation Options 63
Conclusions 71
References 72

# 3 Environmental and Health Effects of Nuclear Waste Dumping in the Arctic 79

Human Health Effects from Radiation 80
Sources of Ionizing Radiation 85
Potential Health Effects from Nuclear Contamination in the Arctic and North Pacific 86
Ecological Effects of Radiation in the Arctic and North Pacific Regions 106
Conclusions 108
References 110

## 4 Sources and Risks of Potential Future Contamination 115

The Russian Nuclear Fleet 117

Managing Spent Fuel from the Russian Fleet: Issues and
Opportunities for Cooperation 133

Russian Nuclear Power Plants—Safety Concerns and Risk Reduction Efforts 149 Conclusions 163 References 166

#### 5 Institutional Framework and Policies 171

U.S. Initiatives and Programs Supporting Research on Radioactive Contamination in the Arctic 173
 Monitoring and Early Warning Initiatives Designed to Address Radioactive Contamination in the Arctic 194
 Institutional Initiatives and Programs Designed to Prevent Future Arctic Radioactive Contamination 202
 Current Russian Institutional Structure 215
 References 221

Appendix A: Reviewers 231

Appendix B: Acronyms and Glossary 233

Appendix C: Excerpts from DoD Appropriations Acts for FY1993, 1994 & 1995 Providing Funding and Authority for the Arctic Nuclear Waste Assessment Program (ANWAP) 237