

TO EGRIP STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS, DANISH AND GREENLANDIC AUTHORITIES.

PROJECT EGRIP (C-16-5) – SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) no. 13 Sunday July 10th, 2016.

This SITREP covers the period July 4th – 10th, 2016 (inclusive).

Movement of cargo:

July 6th 2480 kg of Viessmann cabins (logging cabin and drills' cabin) from CPH to SFJ by Air Greenland

Camp activities:

The main activities in camp have been construction tasks: erecting a new weatherport, WP2 (part of the 2015 RECAP kitchen tent) and a white garage (the RECAP drill tent), enlarging the corridor to house the logging cabin by cutting snow blocks and hauling these to the surface, and cabling. In the main dome, work on a new more spacious entrance and an enlargement of the middle floor has been ongoing.

The most notable event in camp was, however, that a polar bear came to camp on the morning of Thursday July 7th. The bear could not be scared away, and it was shot late in the evening following permission by the Greenlandic authorities. We are truly sorry that this was necessary. A detailed report prepared for the Greenland Authorities and the University of Copenhagen is available upon request. We believe that the risk of another polar bear encounter in camp is very small, but in lieu of the incident, we are making changes to the camp equipment and layout and will be adding information about polar bear emergency behavior to the briefing of personnel in camp in order to be well-prepared in the unlikely case of another polar bear approaching camp.

Science activities:

The surface sampling programme in the clean snow area continues.

Special focus has been on the snow surface measurements of the specific surface area (SSA) of snow. An attempt to re-measure a snow sample over time has been made, and field measurements were made where the Ice Cube instrument was taken from the water vapour tent directly to the site of measurement along the snow line (the snow line is a 1 km long line where samples are taken from the surface).

The AWI snow-height sensors have been checked and data downloaded.

We had to pause sampling along the 1 km snow line due to safety measures implemented after the polar bear encounter.

The Cryo-egg3 site 12 km from camp was revisited because there was a data communication issue which was successfully fixed.

The Japanese sampling program continues and includes drilling of a 5 m hand auger snow core and the digging of a second snow pit planned to be 4 m deep.

Drilling activities:

Drilling equipment has been staged for the mounting of equipment for the deep drilling.

EGRIP camp population: 16 people.

EGRIP iridium numbers:

+8816 777 37835 (Camp, primary number)

+8816 234 93272 (secondary, night)

Weather at EGRIP:

Overcast and light snowfall early in the week and mostly sunny mid- and late week. Daily maximum temperatures in the range from -7°C to -4°C and night minimum temperatures ranging from -17°C to -10°C . Winds predominantly from SW-NW between variable from almost calm to 15 knots.

Kangerlussuaq activities/SFJ:

We continue to unpack and arrange equipment from last year's RECAP project. This week, we have also spent a lot of time ordering supplies for next flight period and preparing the many visits to camp that will take place in the July 17th – 21st flight period.

Weather in Kangerlussuaq/SFJ:

Mostly sunny and dry, temperatures in the 14-17 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ range with. Mosquito level moderate and increasing.

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