

TO EGRIP STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS, DANISH AND GREENLANDIC AUTHORITIES.

PROJECT EGRIP (C-16-5) – SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) no.06, Sunday 22nd May 2016.

This SITREP covers the period 16th May– 22nd May, 2016 (inclusive).

Movement of personnel:

May 16th-17th Hans Christian Florian (GRL) and Chris Jacobs (UK) on traverse to (76 06' 21'' N, 40 17' 45'' W) returned to EastGRIP at 09:20 AM on the 17th May.

Movement of cargo:

May 16th-17th 7 ton equipment: Shelter, fuel, generator, food, emergency equipment on traverse. On the return 4 sledges; two empty fuel tanks, the drillers sled est. 8 ton and the timber sled, est. 8 ton.

May 21st From Copenhagen (CPH) to Kangerlussuaq (SFJ) by air Greenland:
825 kg drill equipment

Camp activities:

Activities this week have focussed on trench construction. On Monday, the first batch of balloons cast in the snow was deflated. After some hand excavation, all caves were found to be in a good state. The balloons were removed as well as hoses and pumps and the construction site was cleaned. Tuesday morning at 0920, the traverse returned with all the sleds and tanks that were abandoned in 2015. The winter depot is now removed and all materiel is now at EGRIP. The two persons completed a 270 km roundtrip in 42 hours.

The heavy lift has been installed in the elevator shaft and a floor with a hole for the elevator and with railings to protect from accidents was placed on top of the elevator shaft and later covered by a tent.

On Wednesday, the second stage of trench construction began. After careful survey and marking, the excavation intersected the two tunnels from the previous stage. Thursday the excavation was complete, and Friday and half of Saturday were spent removing excess snow from tunnels and covered trenches. Sunday, the balloons were inflated and covered with snow. The large scale excavation and snow blowing is now completed.

On Monday we received a Twin Otter flight from Summit with Abdalati group. They visited to maintain a station set up in 2015. The visit was short from 1000 to 1700, but they got their job done. After the visit the team returned to Summit.

Science activities:

This week, the construction of two orthogonal trenches with a length of 50 meters each for solely scientific purposes has begun. Here, the top meter has already been sampled using carbon fiber tubes at a spatial resolution of 5 m. In addition, half of the snow cores taken from the science trench were measured in the DEP (dielectric profiling) and cut for water isotope sampling. The other half has been packed and safely stored in the science trench for transport back to Europe.

EGRIP Camp Population: 8 people and 2 persons on traverse, end of week 10 people.

EGRIP iridium numbers:

+8816 777 37835 (Camp, primary number)
+8816 234 93272 (secondary)

Weather at EGRIP:

The week began with stronger winds from W (12-14 kt) but changed on Wednesday to mild wind from SW (3 kt). On Tuesday a little snow precipitated.

Temperatures were during the week -19 to -30C, increasing to -12 to -22C by the end of the week with a 10kt WSW wind decreasing to 5 kt from SV and visibility to the horizon.

Kangerlussuaq activities:

As there have been no flights to camp, this week again has been quiet. We received 825 kg of cargo on Friday and sent a box with Koni Steffens team with a number of items wanted by camp. Konis team left for Summit on Saturday and will continue to EastGRIP Monday.

The EGRIP FOM office is open.

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Weather in Kangerlussuaq/SFJ: First part of the week cloudy and cold. Last part of the week sunny and cloud free.

EGRIP Field Operations office,

Marie Kirk

Helle Astrid Kjær