TO EGRIP STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS, DANISH AND GREENLANDIC AUTHORITIES.

Expedition Permit C-22-5 EGRIP – SItuation REPort (SITREP) no.03, Sunday 8 May 2022

This SITREP covers the period May 2 – May 8, 2022 (inclusive).

Movement of personnel:
5. May: Steffen Bo Hansen (DK) and Claus Birger Sørensen (DK) from Copenhagen to Kangerlussuaq by Air Greenland.
7. May: Put-in Sverrir Ævar Hilmarsson (IS), Josef Richard Kipfstuhl (DK/D), Jørgen Peder Steffensen (DK), Frederik Bugge Nielsen (DK), Anna-Maria Buschsieweke (DK/D), Basile de Fleurian (N/F), Bo Møllesøe Vinther (DK), Thomas Witzansky Fløisdorf (DK), Christian Kevin David Jacobs (UK) and Iben Koldtoft (DK) from SFJ to EastGRIP by 109th.
7. May: Iben Koldtoft (DK) from EastGRIP to SFJ by 109th.

Movement of cargo:
07.05.2022 From SFJ to EGRIP by 109th, 8458 lbs of PAX, luggage, equipment and food for the put-in team. 0 L / 0 lbs of fuel delivered to camp.

EGRIP camp activities:
The put-in team arrived at EGRIP Saturday at Noon time. Temperature was -30 C with a 6 – 8 m/s wind from WSW. There was easy access to the main dome, and after two hours the team gained access to the white garage containing two snow mobiles and a snow blower. With the aid of the small portable petrol generator, the team started the vehicles after three years of hibernation. The portable generator was moved to the main dome where it powered the Webasto heater all afternoon and evening. The snow drifts around the garages turned out to be harder and more sintered than anticipated. It took until 2100 to gain access to the 35kW generator in the carpenters garage and the excavation required the entire team. At 23.15 the 35kW generator was started. Sunday morning, temperatures in the main dome was above freezing and during the day, the dome became cozy. A ramp was excavated to the carpenters garage. This took almost a full day, but at suppertime, we got the first Pistenbully out. Most cable outlets for weatherports were located and lifted.

With the put-in delayed for 12 days, the team is somewhat pressed for time. We need to have a fully operational camp including a skiway by May 20. We do not yet know how many camp structures we will be able to lift to the snow surface, and we have to focus on getting the skiway ready right away. We might require assistance from the people arriving on and after May 20 to assist us, before science programs can begin.

Openport communications is established. The EGRIP Field Leader is now monitoring the fl@egrip.camp inbox.
Field Leader telephone is now active: +8816 777 72552
EGRIP crew telephone is now active: +8816 777 72553
Field Leader hand held Iridium phone: +8816 414 00590
EGRIP local time: 1200 UTC is 1000 EGRIP.

Drilling:
No drilling is scheduled before Late June.
Science:
Iben took water samples from Russel Glacier close to Kangerlussuaq.


Weather at EGRIP:
Temperatures between -25 to -36°C. Blue sky with a steady 4-8 m/s wind from mainly W.

Kangerlussuaq activities:
The last car got number plates Monday and during the week 3 of the cars got washed and polished by our mechanic. Late Tuesday afternoon we finally got our expedition permit. It was too late to be on the flight schedule for Wednesday. Wednesday the team packed the pallet and was ready for the put-in for Thursday morning. After all PAX got tested negative for covid-19 Thursday morning, the put-in unfortunately had to be postponed to Saturday due to bad and cloudy weather at EGRIP. For the Hercules to land on open snow, after almost 3 years without maintenance of the Skiway, the weather has to be perfect. With the extra waiting time, the team therefore decided to build an extra pallet with garage covers and skiway markers. Saturday the weather was perfect and the team could finally leave Kangerlussuaq after 12 days of delay.

Weather in Kangerlussuaq/SFJ:
Most days nice and sunny with temperatures between +4°C to -12°C. The temperatures have mostly been below the freezing point. Mid-week we had cloudy weather and little amount of snow for two days. Mosquito situation: None.

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