

TO EGRIP STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS, DANISH AND GREENLANDIC AUTHORITIES.

Expedition Permit C-17-5 EGRIP– SITUATION REPort (SITREP) no.04, Sunday 14. May 2017

This SITREP covers the period May 7 – May 14, 2017 (inclusive).

Movement of personnel:

9. May Lars Berg Larsen (DK) From SFJ to CPH by Air Greenland.

Movement of cargo:

10. May From CPH to SFJ by Air Greenland:
1072 kg (AWB 631 2728 1682) 3 cll, 7,906 cbm, AWI cargo
586 kg (AWB 631 2728 1682) 20 cll, 7,85 cbm, weatherport + spares from US

Camp activities:

Progress on building camp continues despite adverse weather conditions. Snowdrifts were removed around garages, hot lines vehicles were installed, the Weatherports were outfitted with beds, and an inner cargoline created by moving cargo from winter storage closer to camp. Skiway markers continued to lean in the wind, and had to be straightened. Snowblowers were used to keep the entrance to the trenches free from snowdrift. The large snowblower was mounted on Pistenbully 2 and repairs of Pistenbully 1 started (suffering from too high oil pressure in the planetary gear). Also PM Energy was consulted regarding the main generator, to avoid future problems. An experiment of making a cast cable pipe in the snow, using the balloon method from 2016 and went really well. Now we can retrieve cables laid in the snow, save money and reduce our environmental footprint. An approach radar, mainly for polar bear detection is being tested. The skiway was groomed, an all markers re-set. Of particular interest the SW skiway approach had developed a curve to the South. The most distant marker, some 3.7 km from the SW threshold was found 12 m off the straight line (since 2015) due to differences in ice surface velocities as the line extends into the margin of the ice stream. The line was made straight again. Electronic infrastructure around the satellite disk was extended, and people now have WIFI and IP phone capability to each other and the outside world using standard cell phones.

During the week also a great deal of work was put into the radar connection, software and testing. Plus the camp server and LAN. The new internet connection, allows people in camp, to watch news from home on their mobile phones, and made it possible to watch the final of the European Song Contest, EUROVISION. Also the new local telephone system got online.

Science activities:

Eddy covariance unit now installed at the water vapour sampling site. Water vapour sampling, methane sampling, boundary layer and meteorology station completed and working. The surface snow sampling program continued. Japanese snow and aerosol experiments continued. German snow sampling started. There was a production of tags and labels for ice cores. In the science trench, core logging table was aligned and circular saws mounted. There was work on general trench infrastructure. Tables were setup, and the process of mounting the cooling unit (to keep ice cores cold) in the extraction tunnel started.

Drilling activities:

Infrastructure was mounted inside the 7 m deep cut in the drill trench floor (the bottom is 15 m below the snow surface). Tuesday, the drillers were able to operate the new drill electronics and motor control. This new unit was used to continue reaming; but during the week several issues arose with the new electronics and it had to be swapped with the RECAP motor unit from time to time to continue reaming. After passing the "scar" in the bore hole from freeing the reamer with glycol last year, reaming continue in a routine fashion. Reaming was completed Sunday and video inspection of the bottom of the borehole did not reveal any problems. New equipment for cable spooling under tension was assembled and tested and there was work on installing the FED (Fluid Extraction Device).

EGRIP Camp Population: 19 people

EGRIP iridium numbers:

NOTE: Primary number different from the number given in the field plan.

Primary no.: +8816 777 72510

Iridium Openport

Secondary no.: +8816 234 9137

Field leader, handheld satellite phone

3 m satellite dish installed, and camp has access to LAN and the web.

Weather at EGRIP:

Continued strong winds and low temperatures made work outside unpleasant. Thursday was the only day without significant wind. Wind speeds at 12 to 22 knots and temperatures between -12C and -34C.

Kangerlussuaq activities:

Sent Lars to DK Tuesday. Nicolai has been busy building the new carpenters workshop in the warehouse. Marie has been planning for the upcoming flight period. This includes: Finishing a T2 (double AF pallet) with the cooling system, preparing for the arrival of new personnel, pick up of cargo in the airport, preparing the cargo papers and Hazmat papers for small cargo going on an associated Twin Otter flight to EGRIP on the 18th of May.

EastGRIP field operations office

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Weather in Kangerlussuaq/SFJ:

The weather has been mixed with sun and rain showers and temperatures between -3 and 8 C. No mosquitoes.

EGRIP Field Operations office,

Marie Kirk