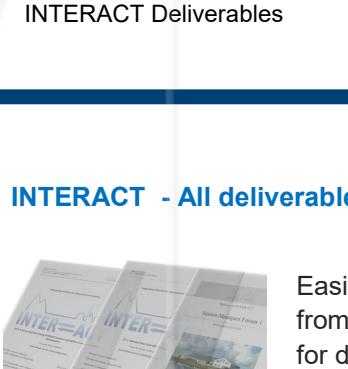




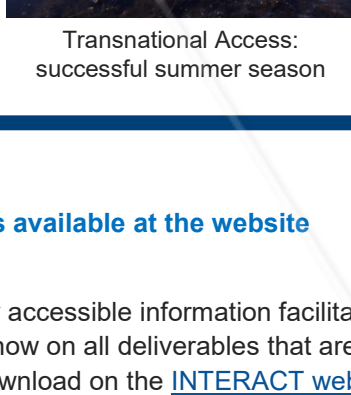
# INTERACT NEWSLETTER

Newsletter #2 September 2017

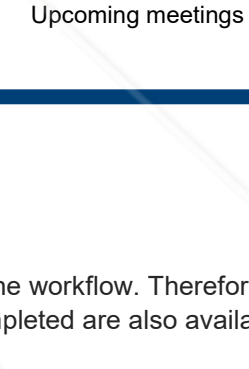
## Top stories in this newsletter



INTERACT Deliverables

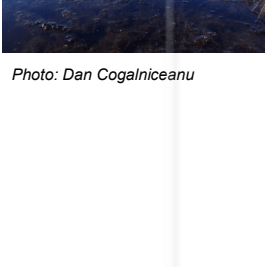


Transnational Access:  
successful summer season



Upcoming meetings

## INTERACT - All deliverables available at the website



Easily accessible information facilitates the workflow. Therefore, from now on all deliverables that are completed are also available for download on the [INTERACT website](http://www.eu-interact.org).

## Transnational Access: Successful summer season

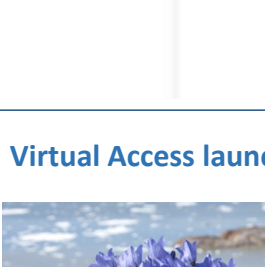


Photo: Dan Cogalniceanu

Fifty-seven groups were conducting field work with the support from INTERACT Transnational Access during the summer field season. Two of the projects utilised the new modality of transnational access, Remote Access. According to its name, in Remote Access the scientists do not physically visit the station themselves, but instead utilise the access remotely and the station conducts the study and collects the samples according to the project's research plan.

The Transnational Access visits took place at 32 research stations located in the northern-most Europe, North-America and Russian Federation, as well as in stations located in the northern alpine and forest areas. The topics of the TA projects ranged from ecosystems and biodiversity studies to research of biogeochemical cycling and human dimension.

Overall, 43 research stations in INTERACT offer 7800 days of Transnational Access in 2016-2020. You can learn more about the Transnational Access and related opportunities from the [IA webpages](#) under the INTERACT website.

Call for Transnational Access is open until 13th October.

## Virtual Access launched



Photo: Lawrence Dyke

A new modality of access -Virtual Access- was launched during the summer with opening of the INTERACT Virtual Access single-entry point under the INTERACT webpages. Currently, five INTERACT partners offer access to their datasets and portals via the single-entry point, but the amount is expected to increase during the autumn once more and more partners set up their datasets available on-line. With time, 29 partners will provide free and open access to their datasets from arctic research stations through the INTERACT Virtual Access single-entry point.

## Arctic Research blogs are gaining popularity

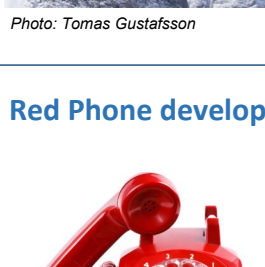


Photo: Kathryn Adamson

Outreach is an important component of INTERACT activities, and scientists visiting research stations with support from transnational access have joined forces to let the general public join the adventure of their field work. Thirteen blogs have taken place at the [INTERACT Arctic Research blogs](#) during the summer field season, reaching thousands of people worldwide.

## WP 7 Workshop

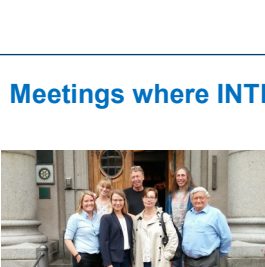


Photo: Willem Goedkoop

A workshop on Improving and harmonizing biodiversity monitoring was held in Iceland in August. This workshop helped move the work forwards by pooling resources and experiences from the Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS), the Zackenberg Research Station and RIF Field Station in Iceland. The Circumpolar monitoring plans for Arctic Freshwater and Terrestrial monitoring plans developed by the Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP) are being tested in the field at RIF with the ultimate goal of developing a user manual for their implementation. These efforts will also identify ways in which biodiversity data generated at INTERACT stations can feed into Arctic Council initiatives.

## Upcoming WP 8 Workshop on drones



Photo: Tomas Gustafsson

Preparations for the upcoming drone workshop in Svalbard have been intense and ongoing, and WP 8 has been in dialogue with many interesting drone stakeholders from Europe, North America and the Arctic region - don't miss the Drone workshop on 24 October on Svalbard!

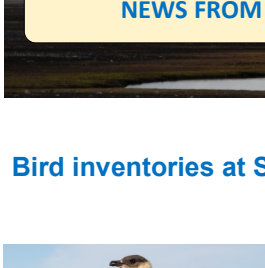
## Red Phone development



WP 6 is working on how to help protect Arctic and global residents from the potential environmental emergencies or hazards, and have so far identified the potential risks and sorted them into the categories according to their origin (natural, man-made, incidental, non-predictable).

In the next steps, the plan is to contact relevant agencies and organisations to discuss the particular, potentially hazardous, environmental events in the Arctic and focus on the creating of protocols to record that potentially hazardous events leading to establishing a process of alerting research station staff through the Arctic and adjoining territories to possible risks.

## Meetings where INTERACT was present



The INTERACT Daily Management Group had its last meeting in the end of August, and the meeting minutes are available at the INTERACT website.

Part of the work of an infrastructure network is of course networking, and INTERACT was either presented or represented at multiple meetings throughout the last couple of months:

- RDA (Research Data Alliance) Plenary Meeting, Montréal, Canada
- COMNAP, Brno, Czech Republic
- RICH Expert Seminar on International Cooperation in Research Infrastructures, Lisbon, Portugal
- The establishment of a new International Research Hub in Greenland, Nuuk, Greenland
- INTAROS stakeholder workshop, Brussels, Belgium
- EGU2017, Vienna, Austria

## Meet us at upcoming meetings

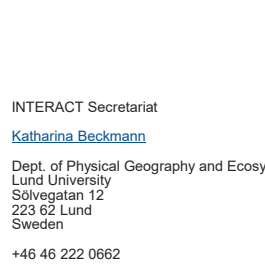


Photo: Margareta Johansson

INTERACT's annual meeting will take place in Longyearbyen, Svalbard 21-25 October, where also the Station Managers' Forum and a Workshop on Drones are being held. We are very pleased that so many of you are attending.

INTERACT will also be represented at several meetings throughout the next couple of months:

- Arctic Circle, Reykjavik, Iceland 13-15 October 2017
- GEO week in Washington, USA, 23-26 October 2017
- Salekhard meeting, Salekhard, Russia 31 October- 5 November 2017
- COP23, Bonn, Germany 13-14 November 2017
- Arctic Change, Quebec City, Canada, 11-15 December 2017
- ISAR-5, Tokyo, Japan, 14-17 January 2018
- Polar 2018, Davos, Switzerland, 15-26 June 2018
- UArctic Congress, Oulu, Finland, September 2018

## NEWS FROM THE STATIONS

### Bird inventories at Sudurnes Science and Learning Center



Photo: Solvi Runar Vignisson

Sudurnes Science and Learning Center in Iceland has had a busy field season. Different bird inventory projects were conducted throughout the season in different parts of Iceland: oystercatchers, auks, gannets, shags and skua were monitored amongst others.

### WARC Ethnobotany Gardens creating a virtual tour



Illustration: nwtresearch.com

Since 2014, the Western Arctic Research Centre has been developing an Ethnobotany Garden. The Aurora Research Institute is developing a website for the garden that will include additional cultural content and images of the plants, as well as sound clips of the names and terms in languages local to the Beaufort Delta region. The site will offer a virtual tour of the garden, so that the space can be accessed any time of the year.

### Night sky as orientation reference for animals

A new project was launched at Sodankylä research station in northern Finland, where the night sky was measured in order to estimate how animals would perform under natural conditions in comparison with when light pollution is present.

### Four new observer stations



Photo: Skálanes

We are proud and happy to announce that four new observer stations have joined the network.

Three of the stations are part of AWIPEV, a French-German Arctic research base and they are all situated on Svalbard. This base includes the Koldewey Station buildings, the Rabot Station, and the Jean Corbel Station.

The last station to join is Skálanes in Iceland, an experimental nature and heritage field centre.

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