



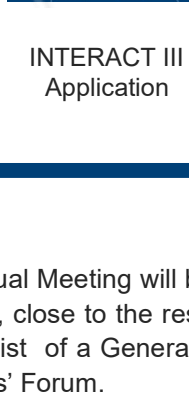
INTERACT NEWSLETTER

Newsletter #5 March 2019

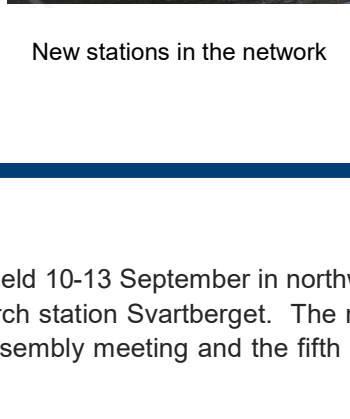
Top stories in this newsletter



Upcoming 3rd Annual Meeting



INTERACT III Application



New stations in the network

3rd Annual Meeting

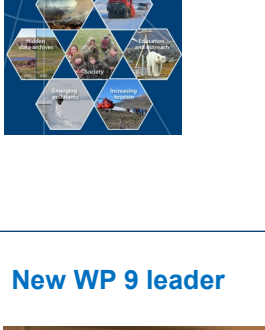


Photo: SLU

The 3rd Annual Meeting will be held 10-13 September in northwestern Sweden, close to the research station Svartberget. The meeting will consist of a General Assembly meeting and the fifth Station Managers' Forum.

INTERACT III Application



INTERACT has submitted an application to the EU Infrastructure call "H2020-INFRAIA-2018-2020". The new project, INTERACT III, is fully integrated and the networking activity (the Station Managers' Forum), the Transnational Access and the Joint Research Activities work together to tackle societal challenges with local and global implications. The call brought together 64 partners from all Arctic countries and beyond.

New WP 9 leader

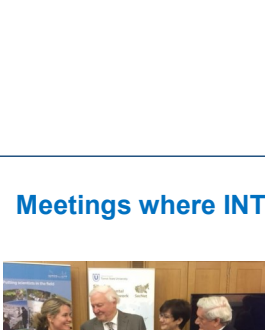


Photo: Ellen Inga Turi

INTERACT WP 9 "Adaptation to climate change" has a new work package leader since January 2019, Rosa-Måren Magga, from the International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry. WP 9 includes three case studies, in Kajbasovo, Russia, in Kevo, Finland and in West Greenland. WP 9 leader met with Otso Suominen at Kevo Subarctic Research Station in the end of February to plan a meeting bringing together the local community and the staff from the research station. This meeting will take place before the summer 2019.

In Greenland, the manager of the Arctic Station, Morten Rasch, has held a stakeholder meeting to identify potential areas for cooperation between the research station and the local community of Qeqertarsuaq. This will be discussed in more detail during spring 2019.

Deliverables

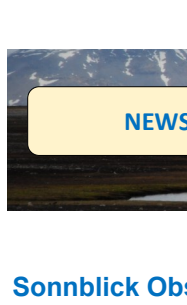


Photo: Rodolphe Merceron

WP3 (Station Managers' Forum) has designed an INTERACT Fieldwork Planning Handbook and an INTERACT Practical Field Guide. These two publications will be presented later this spring at the APECS Online Conference on May 15. These deliverable reports are available at eu-interact.org/app/uploads/2019/01/D3-9.pdf and eu-interact.org/app/uploads/2019/02/D3.10.pdf and the layout version will be available shortly.

WP 4 (Data forum) released a Field Guide to Data Repositories, which in its layout version will be available shortly. The deliverable report can be found at: eu-interact.org/app/uploads/2018/11/D4.3.pdf

Meetings where INTERACT was present



INTERACT was either presented or represented at these meetings throughout the last couple of months:

- The Arctic Biodiversity Congress, Rovaniemi, Finland, 9-11 October 2018
- Arctic Circle, Reykjavik, Iceland, 19-21 October 2018
- GEO week, Kyoto, Japan, 29 October-2 November 2018
- AGU Washington DC, USA, 10-14 December 2018
- POST Annual Reception London, UK 29 January 2019

Meet us at upcoming meetings



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

- ASSW Arkhangelsk, Russia
- EGU Vienna, Austria
- EU Arctic Cluster Meeting, Brussels
- Arctic Circle Reykjavik, Iceland

NEWS FROM THE STATIONS

Sonnblick Observatory



Photo: H Scheer

The high-altitude research station Sonnblick Observatory renewed the access via cable car. Since November 2018 the Sonnblick Observatory can be achieved by a modern cable car engineered by Doppelmayr Italia Srl. The advantage of the new cable car is a high wind stability allowing an operation even at 80km/h wind speeds. That increases safety at the station and supports research campaigns regarding time schedules. The old cable car had to stop operation at wind speeds of 36 km/h. Twice as fast and twice as much capacity load the Sonnblick Observatory is open for new research projects within the Austrian Alps at 3.106m a.s.l.

Mukhrino Field Station

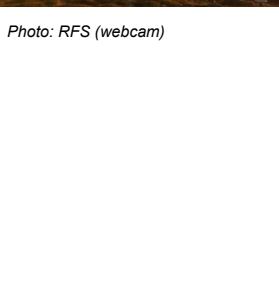


Photo: Nina Filippova

Mukhrino Field Station (MFS) has released its "Biodiversity portal of Northern part of West Siberia", including special collection dedicated to biodiversity revealed in MFS vicinity. The portal aims to integrate biodiversity data in the region, including different collections, literature data, published datasets in GBIF and citizen science projects. The web-site also hosts information about the different sources of data, instructions on biodiversity data publishing, events and activities. The collections' webportal is developed based on Specify software and allows search for collections data, browse maps and pictures and download search results. The project was supported by the INTERACT Virtual Access and could be useful for biologists visiting the station and the region to find out about biodiversity data collected previously in the area.

Abisko Scientific Research Station

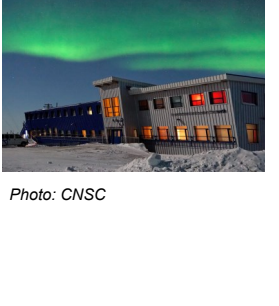


Photo: Annika Kristoffersson

A new online weather station has been installed at the Abisko Scientific Research Station for synoptic weather observations within the network of the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI). Its data can be found here: <https://www.smhi.se/en/weather/sweden-weather/observations#ws=wpt-a,proxy=wpt-a,tab=all,stationid=188790,type=weather>

WARC

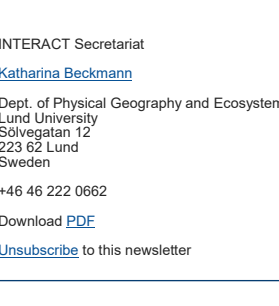


Photo: Aurora Research Institute

WARC is expanding and is in the process of hiring a new permafrost scientist to develop, implement, and manage permafrost data platforms and research programs in Inuvik and the Western Arctic region of the NWT. The new hire will contribute to a new project, developing a permafrost hub in the Western Arctic. The project will develop a permafrost research framework for the western Arctic that is collaborative, involves northerners and fosters knowledge sharing amongst scientists, land users, and practitioners. More information can be found on wtresearch.com/ in the coming months. WARC also recently acquired a new boat, a Hewes Craft 210 Sea Runner, to provide more logistical support for researchers in the region. It is 21 feet long, equipped with a 225 hp Suzuki outboard motor with a 15 hp trawling motor, 90 gallon gas tank and power trim tabs. It has a full hard top with a heated cabin, Lowrance GPS and radar, 200 w power inverter in cabin, a collapsible table for laptops and scientific equipment. It comfortably seats 6 people on 2 air ride captain's chairs and 2 bench seats.

RIF Field Station



Photo: RFS (webcam)

At Rif Field Station preparations for the summer of 2019 have begun. Ecosystem monitoring in the RFS research area will be continued and expanded this summer in accordance with the RFS ecosystem monitoring plan, which was developed as a part of INTERACT Work Package 7. New monitoring in 2019 includes vegetation and freshwater projects, which will be established in cooperation with relevant research institutions in Iceland.

In September 2018, RFS and the Icelandic Met Office set up a climate station in RFS's research area. The station has begun collecting data which will provide valuable background material for all researchers in the area. The climate station is an important step in establishing Arctic monitoring in the Melrækaslétta peninsula.

New Observer Stations in INTERACT

DMI Geophysical Observatory Qaanaaq



Photo: DMI Qaanaaq

INTERACT is growing and one of our newest observer stations is DMI Geophysical Observatory Qaanaaq. Located at the outer perimeter of the city of Qaanaaq in North West Greenland, the station connects different monitoring infrastructures in the region.

Churchill Northern Studies Centre



Photo: CNSC

Churchill Northern Studies Centre in Canada is located in a transition zone where the northern extent of the boreal forest meets the southern edge of the arctic tundra. Major research conducted through the CNSC include aurora research, climate change, climatology, greenhouse gas emissions, inland water quality, marine ecosystems, northern ecology, peatland and treeline dynamics, snow pack dynamics, and wildlife management.

AMUPS



Photo: AMUPS

Adam Mickiewicz University Polar Station is located in "Petuniabukta", Svalbard. Investigations conducted at the station are covering the monitoring of the natural environment in its abiotic and biotic parts.