



Project acronym: BEACH2

Project title: Biodiversity and Ecology of the Arctic Intertidal: Changes and Human Impacts

Project leader: Cath Waller, University of Hull, UK

Discipline: Earth Sciences & Environment: Ecosystems & Biodiversity

Station(s): Rif Field Station (Iceland), Sudurnes Science and Learning Center (Iceland)

The objective of BEACH2 is to understand and predict the response of the Arctic intertidal environment to ongoing and future change and assess the impact of plastic on the Arctic intertidal communities. Our favoured field sites (The Rif Field Station and Sudurnes Science and Learning Center) represent North and West Iceland. We intend on mapping the area, collecting sediment, invertebrates and algae using replicate quadrats representing each habitat at each location. We will record the latitude and longitude and the tidal height of each sample. Efforts will be made to minimise the environmental impact of the study. Where possible only voucher specimens of algae and invertebrates will be collected. Standard ethical and preservation procedures will be followed. Three people are required for minimum safe working practices in the intertidal and drone mapping. The proposed dates (~7 days at each station) include travel time within sites, reconnaissance, 3D mapping, collection of samples, cataloguing and preservation of biological material and preliminary identifications in the laboratory.