



Toolik Steering Committee Research Assistants/Technicians

**Portland, Oregon
01 February 2018
Dan White**

RA Survey

- List of emails associated with RA reservations supplied by Brett.
- 81 surveys sent
- 13 responses

Resources

- 5 respondents reported using EDC equipment
 - 5 used GIS/Spatial Analysis Support
 - 3 used EDC Environmental Data
 - 3 used Science Support

EDC Equipment

- microscopes, balances, hydrolab, incubation chambers, pipettors, drying ovens, ect...
- Most popular item balances and request was made for more of them to be available, especially during plucks.
- Equipment was in good condition and no complaints about quality.

GIS and Remote Sensing

- Services and products used:
 - Bathymetric maps
 - Drone imaging
 - Online maps
 - GPS instruments – a respondent noted that quality of the instrument was great
- No complaints about quality or service

EDC Environmental Data

- Weather station data very commonly used
- The lakes groups commonly uses ice cover records in the Naturalist Log and website webcams.

Science Support

Science support was critical to many projects.

Delivering Boats to remote lakes

Lake Warming Project

Met stations and pulling data loggers

Fishscape Project

Transportation

- 3 respondents reported using a CPS Truck,
 - 4 used NSF Truck
 - 2 used MBL Truck
 - 3 used MBL/Toolik Boats
- Complaint that it was unclear if you could sign up a NSF truck ahead of time. Also that there were a couple of times that a signed out truck did not start.
- A respondent commented about the helicopter that “the pilot gave a thorough orientation and safety briefing, and was clearly experienced and flew expertly.”

Logistical and Facilities Support

- Everyone Compliments the Kitchen
- There were compliments for the beds, linens, labs and other facilities
- Easy access to a wide variety of tools
- General appreciation for cleanliness and upkeep
- The orphan science equipment tent was appreciated

Working Conditions

- Most respondents reported Toolik as a positive work environment
- Many comments praising the easy access to equipment and expertise
- Shipping/receiving efficient
- Most felt that it was a safe working environment

Living Conditions

- The general impression is that Toolik is “Outstanding” place to visit.
- The kitchens efforts to satisfy gluten-free folks were greatly appreciated.
- There were many compliments about the cleanliness of bathrooms and shower module.
- Lots of positive comments about social and recreational opportunities.
- One report of dangerous, drunken behavior but that it was “dealt with at the time.”

Title IX

- There was a consensus that Title IX was well explained in orientation and the quiz.
- The on site poster were appreciated and useful.
- There was a criticism that people, both scientist and staff, were joking about Title IX, and that the issue should be taken more seriously.
- Someone overheard another person drunkenly make inappropriate comments about their and other womens bodies after sauna.

Sauna

- Many people reported enjoying the sauna
- There were reports of inappropriate behavior, drunk and disorderly
- Also some people were spending hours in the sauna
- Suggestions
 - ask people to limit their time in the sauna
 - make it clear that inappropriate behavior will result in loss of sauna privileges
 - sauna should not be go-to place for hanging out

Equipment Request

- There was a request that more Sat Phones be available to sign out.
- There was a request for a few more camp bikes.
- More battery powered drills and large mallets.

Other Comments/Concerns

- “I think camp policies; especially regarding the sauna should be thoroughly explained and enforced.”
- Use of flush toilet should be discouraged.
- People drive too fast.
- Locks on Weatherports

Not sure what to do with

- “When I was at the field station, I became depressed and wrote a message on the community board identifying how the small community made me feel excluded at the time. In retrospect, my time at Toolik has served my memory as one of the best experiences of my life so far. I hold a great deal of regret for penning that message. I hope that I am able to return to Toolik sometime in my life to lend myself to the research initiatives ongoing. Although this is faceless, I would like to extend my sincerest apology to everyone who read that message. I was wrong to be accusatory and my assessment was shortsighted and ill-informed. My time at the station has caused a great deal of emotional and intellectual growth in myself, so I am forever thankful..”

Shout Outs!!!

- Brie, Jeb, Justin, Emma, Chad, Molly, Travis, Kristen, Juliette, Jeremy, John, Fay, Ian
- Rae and Helo crew
- Trivia Group
- Polar Services
- Kitchen Crew
- EDC & GIS Staff
- Toolik Staff as a Whole!