Annual Report: Nunavut Water Board Approval No. 8WLC-AFP1415 / Expedition CASE 16

Part 1: Main camp at Flagler Bay

General Remark

Due to logistical reasons and the presence of biological exploration at Alexandra Fiord, the base camp of CASE 16 was installed at the twin Otter landing strip at Flagler bay instead of the originally intended camp site at Alexandra Fiord. Polar Continental Shelf Project (PCSP) logistics manager Mike Kristjanson, proposed the new camp site at Lat 79° 12' 37.0" N / Lon 77° 56' 26.6" W on top of the northeastern bank of the Sanddola Creek. This site is accessible by Twin Otter and it was used repeatedly by expeditions in the past.

Condition of camp area on arrival

The landing strip for Twin Otters was marked by small stone piles. When we arrived on 22nd of June 2014 at Flagler Bay, two depots of old drums were present near the landing strip:

- 6 old black-yellow-black drums of unknown age and origin they are still at Flagler Bay to my knowledge;
- 8 drums (6 grey-white-grey; 2 black-yellow-black) we have used this fuel.

Several stone rings and scattered larger stones mark the positions of former tents and camp sites, respectively. Some plywood pieces laid around. Remnants of a larger camp-site including stone rings around tents and scattered rock cuts were present near the northern end of the landing strip.

Water use and waste disposal activities

The daily use of water for the camp (maximum number of persons present: 16; field days: 29) averaged between 100 and 150 litres per day. A greywater sump and a latrine pit were established far beyond the high water mark of the Sanddola Creek. At the end of expedition CASE 16, both places have been covered with native material and leveled to the original surface contour. All other waste of the expedition including micro-litter has been carefully collected in waste disposal bags, which have been completely transported back by Twin Otter to Resolute Bay for regular disposal by PCSP.

Photographic record of camp site



Arrival at camp site of expedition CASE 16 on the NE bank of the Sanddola Creek (21/06/2014).



Helicopter filling station with fuel berm and spill kit. Latrine pit (white tent) visible in background.



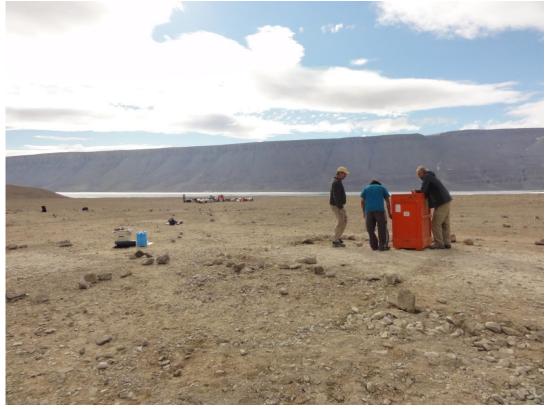
Generator with corresponding fuel in small berm behind the office tent. Spill kit not visible.



View on camp from helicopter, Twin Otter landing strip in foreground (lighter grey from left to right).



CASE 16 camp site during field work: view from NW on terrace of Sanddola Creek. Mess and kitchen tents are on the right. Latrine pit is located outside the left image border. Water for the camp was taken (i.e., carried in jerrycans) either from the main braided river or of the ephemeral creek upstream from the camp (when enough water was available).



View on camp site on the last day (21/07/2014).



Situation just before take-off and leaving the camp site Flagler Bay. The 6 fuel drums to the left of the Twin is the old depot of unknown age and origin. Most of our 30 empty drums were removed the same day. It was arranged with PCSP that they should remove everything from the camp site without the old depot after the expedition.

Summary

Within 30 field days a maximum of 30 x 150 litres = 4,500 litres = 4,5 m³ of water were used for camp purposes.

Location where water was used = Lat 78° 06' 47.49" N Lon 82° 28' 34.58" W (position of kitchen tent entrance = location of greywater sump).

The position of the latrine pit was ca. 200 m E of this point.

The fuel berm was located ca. 150 m SE of this point.

Water was taken out of one of the Sanddola Creek river arms ca. 300-400 m SW of this point (depending if braided river channels had water or not). For some days an ephemeral creek reached the camp (cf. picture) facilitating water supply of the camp.

Expedition waste was transported back to PCSP for regular disposal.

Part 2: Side camp at Stenkul Fiord

A side camp was established at Stenkul Fiord for four days (20/06/2014 - 24/06/2014) with 4 persons. Transport to and from Stenkul Fiord was by Twin Otter. Only small yellow tents were used. Two old fuel drums (rusty) were encountered on arrival. Wood planks including toilet seat of old expedition was removed with the camp move.



Stenkul Fiord side-camp with 4 sleeping-tents and view on "kitchen".

Position of kitchen 77° 21' 37.8" N / 83° 33' 14.4" W Position of greywater sump 77° 21' 38.1" N / 83° 33' 11.9" W

Water was brought to side-camp in jerrycans from PCSP. All expedition waste was transported back to PCSP for regular disposal including old wood planks and toilet seat.

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Schedule of the expedition CASE 16 in summer 2014 to Ellesmere Island