

# FARO Action Group on Field Safety Risk Management

Dr. Jennifer L. Mercer  
Program Manager  
Arctic Research Support & Logistics Program



U.S. National Science Foundation  
Geosciences Directorate (GEO)  
Office of Polar Programs (PLR)



# Purpose within FARO

1. Share updates, information, common practices among Arctic operators
2. Share opportunities for training
3. Use FARO website to share resources and information
  - Manuals, policies, procedures, lessons learned
  - Existing documents, not new ones
  - FARO solicited members last fall, received no responses

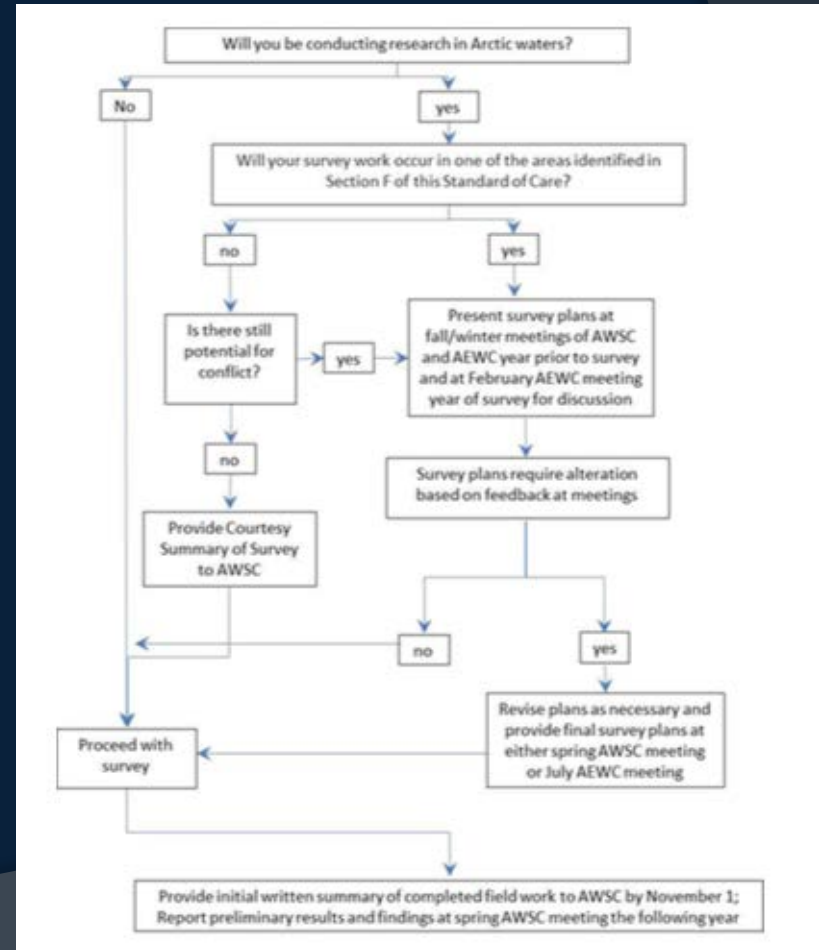
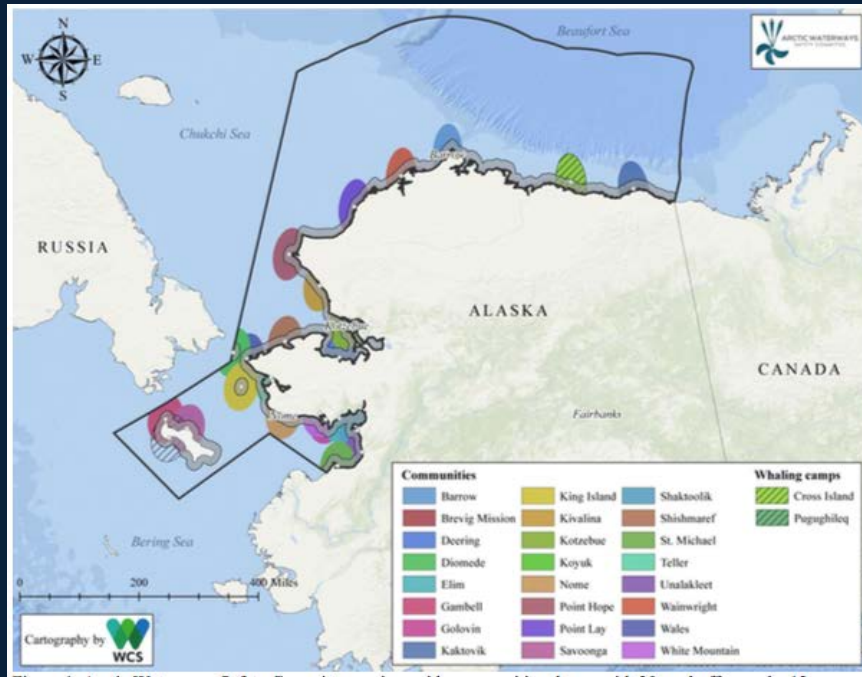
# Implementation: Updates, information, common practices...

## Arctic Waterways Safety Committee

- <http://www.arcticwaterways.org/>
- Now includes a representative for research, Dr. Brenda Konar from UAF
- Established Standard of Care for coastal water operations
- Sikuliaq has established an SOP consistent with AWSC SoC
  - Community and Environmental Compliance SOP (CECSOP)  
[https://www.sikuliaq.alaska.edu/ops/sites/default/files/Sikuliaq\\_CECSOP\\_Mar%207%202017.pdf](https://www.sikuliaq.alaska.edu/ops/sites/default/files/Sikuliaq_CECSOP_Mar%207%202017.pdf)

# Implementation: Updates, information, common practices...

## Standard of Care for Alaska Coastal Operations



# Implementation: Updates, information, common practices...

## Sharing Lessons Learned

- NSF will be publishing list of Incidents and Near Misses going back to 2012 online (on contractor website)
- 2016 Occurrences
  - 11 near misses, 18 incidents

Question for FARO: Do physical evaluations decrease occurrence of illness/accidents?

# Implementation: Training

- Opportunities for shared training?
- Examples from US:
  - Arctic Field Training in 2016 (conducted by Support Contractor)
    - 9 locations around the US
    - 161 participants
  - Joint contractor Safety Forum (Antarctic and Arctic) held in January
    - Sharing of best practices
    - Illustrating commonalities/differences

# Implementation: Gathering resources to share on website

You are encouraged to inform the FARO secretariat about relevant resources to be included in the list.

**Examples: Medical Clearance Requirements, Codes of Conduct, Risk Policies, SOP's, Vehicle Usage, UAV's**

## INTERACT Management Planning

- <http://www.eu-interact.org/station-managers-forum/publications/station-management/>

## Norway (Svalbard)

- University Centre in Svalbard <http://www.unis.no/>

## Denmark (Greenland)

- ISAAFFIK <http://www.isaaffik.org/logistics-links>

## Canada

- Polar Continental Shelf Project Arctic Operations Manual <http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/the-north/polar-continental-shelf-program/arctic-logistics-requests/9991>

## USA

- Arctic Field Safety Risk Management Workshop and Report 2013 <https://rslriskworkshop.com/>
- NSF Arctic Research Support Contractor <http://cpspolar.com/for-researchers/risk-management/>

# Topics of Common Interest

- Firearms
- Policies/Insurance
- Traveling
- Camp Safety
- Vessel Safety

## Hot Topics

- Sexual harassment
  - Issue for US field camps, issue for other nations?
- Other topics? (politics, social, etc.)



# Actions

- Publish resources on FARO webpage
- Schedule regular calls, quarterly?
- Out-year goal: identify commonalities and differences, themes

