

Items for consideration

Comments

Potential Resources

| Field Location | | |
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| Where do I want to go, how often am I going, and how long is each trip? | Use this information to develop a rough "schedule" for each field season. For remote field sites, be prepared to provide coordinates. For more information about a field site, contact the specific third-party provider such as CPS for Summit or Barrow, or IAB for Toolik. You may also refer to the Arctic Stations Layer in ARMAP, a suite of online interactive maps that provide a handy tool for planning projects. In addition to various logistics and scientific layers, ARMAP can provide information about other research projects in your region of interest or in your scientific discipline. | Summit, GL - CPS Toolik, AK - IAB Barrow, AK - CPS Other sites - ARMAP |
| What are the permitting requirements and permit deadlines for each proposed study site? | <p>Researchers are responsible for all project permits. Some third-party logistics providers may submit permit applications on behalf of your science projects and most providers can help you determine what permits may be required. Contact the specific logistics provider if you have questions.</p> <p>When considering your field start date, please allow sufficient time to secure all required permits for your planned fieldwork. Many permits require more than six months of lead time, and many take at least a year to acquire. Be sure to include sufficient permitting costs in your science proposal budget.</p> | Environmental Compliance - CPS |
| Field Team | | |
| Number of field team members | It's important to start off with an approximate number of field team members to help in estimating travel and subsistence costs. | |
| Transportation to/from the Research Hub | | |
| Commercial airline tickets | Researchers should plan to pay for all scheduled (i.e., commercial) airline tickets to their research hub. The logistics provider takes over at the hub. Check with the logistics provider for specifics. | |
| Air charters | CPS handles a majority of aircraft charters for the Arctic Program, though there are exceptions depending on field location. Check with CPS. Canada's Polar Continental Shelf Project (PCSP) provides an excellent summary of common airframe types, capacities, and ranges in its operations manual. This summary is a helpful resource regardless of where you plan to work. | PCSP's Info on Aircraft Specifications (contained in ops manual) |
| Boat charters | CPS can work with a researcher to charter boats for small efforts. Time on larger research vessels such as the <i>Healy</i> must be requested at the proposal stage, typically from UNOLS. | UNOLS ship time requests |
| Cargo shipment | An accurate sense of the amount of gear (both personal and science) is important for estimating shipping and charter costs. Try to identify overall weight, cube, and any odd-size/special handling pieces (such as hazardous or keep-frozen cargo). CPS can help with freight costs from research hubs to/from the field site. | |
| Sample shipment & storage costs | An accurate sense of the amount of samples to be returned is important for estimating shipping and air charter costs. CPS can assist with the cost of sample shipment and storage, but permitting and customs paperwork is the researcher's responsibility. | |
| Travel per diem | En-route hotel/per diem costs are typically paid for by the researcher's grant. | |
| Transportation while in the field | | |
| Trucks, snowmachines, ATVs, boats | Most third-party logistics providers have some transportation inventory. Either contact the specific logistics provider for a site, or contact CPS. | |
| Air support (helicopter/fixed wing charters) | CPS handles a majority of charters for the Arctic Program, though there are exceptions depending on location of fieldwork. Be prepared to identify the type of support you require. Do you need close support or can you be left in the field? Do you need to mount special equipment on the aircraft? Contact CPS for more info. | PCSP's Info on Aircraft Specifications (contained in ops manual) |
| Field Clothing | | |
| Appropriate clothing & footwear for specific field conditions | Many third-party logistics providers DO NOT provide cold weather clothing. Exceptions might include highly specialized items/personal protective equipment such as mustang suits/float coats, etc. The CPS website has recommended clothing / gear lists for general environmental conditions (i.e., marine, high-altitude, tundra, etc.). Contact individual support providers for inventory details and for lists of recommended field gear for a particular situation. | CPS Clothing List |
| Communications | | |
| Satellite telephones and HF/VHF radios | Most facilities run by third-party logistics providers offer some level of communications infrastructure. For all others, CPS offers a substantial communications inventory. | |
| Data communications | CPS can assist researchers with engineering and implementing custom data communications | |

| | <i>Comments</i> | <i>Potential Resources</i> |
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| | solutions. | |
| Global Positioning System Support | | |
| High-Precision GPS Support | UNAVCO offers high-precision GPS equipment and engineering support to NSF/PLR-funded projects. Investigators should request UNAVCO support at the proposal stage. For low-precision handheld GPS units, contact your third-party provider or CPS. | UNAVCO |
| High-Resolution Imagery | | |
| Imagery for specific field sites | The Polar Geospatial Center (PGC) offers high-resolution satellite imagery of specific field sites to federally funded scientists. Researchers should contact PGC any time in their planning stage. | PGC |
| Drilling Support | | |
| Ice Coring | IDDO provides a range of ice coring equipment, engineering, and field support. Support ranges from the provision of basic hand augers for shallow cores to larger drills (and operators) suitable for deep coring efforts. Investigators should request IDDO support at the proposal stage. | IDPO/IDDO |
| Ice Core Boxes | IDDO (see above) typically does <i>NOT</i> provide core storage boxes or core sleeves. Contact CPS for this support. | |
| Facility Use Costs | | |
| User days | Contact the third-party logistics provider for the facility you wish to visit to determine how user days are paid. | |
| Hotel lodging | Depending on your location, CPS may be able to assist with arrangements for local accommodations. | |
| Local meals | Researchers should budget for meals when staying at hotels/local accommodations that do not offer "user day" rates. See below for remote field food. | |
| Remote site costs | | |
| Shelter, power, heat | CPS maintains an inventory of tents, generators, solar panels, stoves, etc. for researchers working in the remote field. CPS can also provide custom remote power systems. Other third-party providers also have field gear available for projects basing from their stations. Contact your provider, or CPS. | |
| Camping consumables such as fuel, food | For smaller efforts, CPS recommends that researchers budget and procure their own camping consumables. For larger efforts or large field camps, CPS can offer consumables support. Contact your provider, or CPS. | |
| Staffing requirements | Is your camp large enough (10-15 people) to require a camp assistant? CPS can provide this support. | |
| Construction/Power Requirements | | |
| Construction, enclosures, boardwalk | CPS construction personnel can help design/install buildings, enclosures, boardwalk and other structures. Since most construction has a relatively long planning and permitting lead-time, failure to identify this requirement at the proposal stage may delay your field start. Contact CPS for more information. | |
| Power | CPS can design/build custom power systems in remote areas. Since custom power system design may have a relatively long planning and permitting lead-time, failure to identify this requirement at the proposal stage may delay your field start. Contact CPS for more information | www.polarpower.org |
| Safety/Medical | | |
| Wilderness medical, survival, and field safety training | Some if not all of your field team should have a minimum set of field safety skills if working at a remote site. CPS offers training classes to all NSF-funded researchers. Review information provided on the CPS website for courses offered. As appropriate, CPS can work with you to tailor a field safety class to your specific project needs or recommend organizations already providing the training you seek for your team. For more information, contact CPS. | CPS Field Training |
| Wilderness medical support | CPS offers researchers working in wilderness locations medical kits and access to a 24 hour physician call-in service. This need not be identified at the proposal stage. Check our website for more information. | CPS Remote Medical Services |
| Safety escorts | Are you conducting fieldwork in an area with potential hazards? Many third-party providers can match scientists with Native guides, oilfield escorts, or mountaineers. Please contact the individual provider or CPS for more information. | |
| Greenland Medical Clearance | Researchers traveling to remote sites on the Greenland ice sheet may need to complete an NSF-mandated physical. Researchers should budget for physical exam costs for each field team member in their grant. For more information contact CPS. | |