



# Communication with users

# Toolik Steering Committee

- ! Provides input to IAB and NSF on the management and operations of the Toolik Field Station, including the services that we offer under our Cooperative Agreement (CA) with NSF
  - ! Supported by the CA
- ! Provides input on development of the station, and how it can best meet needs of a broad community of scientists using TFS as a research & education platform
  - ! Helps facilitate site selection of research plots (if there is a conflict)
  - ! Provides input on issues related to coordination of science support services & other issues

# Promoting scientific collaboration

- ! Second Toolik All Scientists' Meeting in January 2019 (tomorrow)
  - ! ~90 attendees (as compared to 77 last time)
  - ! 16 oral presentations, 29 posters
  - ! breakout groups on facilities, services, landscape planning
  - ! This is a chance to get input from a larger cross-section of the community than previously
  - ! Thank you for your help in organizing and for your help to make this meeting a success

# Toolik Steering Committee

- ! Members (one is ):
  - ! Steve Oberbauer (co-Chair)
  - ! Breck Bowden
  - ! Ed Rastetter
  - ! Michelle Mack
  - ! Mike Weintraub
  - ! Ian Billick
  - ! Dan White
  - ! Tom Glass
  - !
  - ! Donie (co-Chair), Brian, Mike, and Brett
- ! Meets at TFS in summer, in Fairbanks (or Portland) in winter, as desired in between by teleconference



# Appreciation

- ! On-site staff very helpful
  - ! EDC, GIS, Chad, Jeb, Faustine, kitchen staff are fabulous
  - ! Thanks for maintaining the legacy vehicles
- ! EDC data is very useful, and so is EDC help provided to projects
- ! GIS department help with permitting, maps is greatly appreciated
- ! Kudos for the website, and its ease of use
- ! Notes of appreciation from NEON staff, Daniel Obrist, Sveta Stuefer, K-12 teachers via suggestion box
  - ! “To NSF: Toolik Field Station is awesome. Best project and support I ever received. Keep it up, it’s a treasure up here.”  
– Daniel Obrist
- ! Two European groups (INTERACTers) were happy

# Frustrations

- ! Not many complaints this year, most people thought things went well
- ! Wifi and shelving in residences popped up several times over the summer
- ! Vehicles - more for common use, need to replace long-haul vehicles, and for LTER
  - ! We are making progress, with a new truck last year and another one coming, new van should be awesome
  - ! We plan to maintain summer DHE service



# Some Recurring Issues

- ! Less discussion of permits this year, but BLM permitting continues to be challenging and expensive
  - ! Switching over to Right-of-Way instead of permit for long-term projects
  - ! BLM is far behind in dealing with applications, prioritizing new research applications over conversions
  - ! Progress is being made on archaeological clearances
- ! Site selection
  - ! Most site selections went well this year
  - ! Landscape planning will be a topic at ASM, as areas with easy access are getting very crowded

# Issues

- ! Desire to coordinate and integrate scientific research and measurements
  - ! Preserve legacy of institutional knowledge as PIs retire
  - ! Moving ahead to add spatial component linking project locations with reservation/project database
  - ! Over the next two years, student intern will help to enter historic project information

