



Nieuwsbrief 86 juni 2020

Nederlandse SEES-expeditie uitgesteld

19 mei 2020

Vanwege de Coronacrisis is besloten de tweede Netherlands Scientific Expedition Edgeøya Spitsbergen (SEES.nl/2020) expeditie, die zou plaatsvinden van 3 tot 12 augustus 2020, met een jaar uit te stellen.

De SEES expeditie zal daarom plaatsvinden van 6 tot 15 augustus 2021. Dit besluit is genomen omdat de Noorse autoriteiten tot minimaal 20 augustus Spitsbergen hebben gesloten voor cruisetourisme.

Het [Arctisch Centrum](#) en [NWO](#) scharen zich achter dit besluit dat [Oceanwide Expeditions](#) heeft genomen. Oceanwide Expeditions, die de expeditie met hun schip *m/v Ortelius* zal faciliteren, is door de corona-pandemie geconfronteerd met lastige logistieke en veiligheidsproblemen. Ook de organisatoren van het Arctisch Centrum van de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen voorzagen dat uitstel van een jaar een betere optie was.

Bron: <https://www.rug.nl/research/arctisch-centrum/collaboration/dutchcollaboration/wbpi/.sees/nederlandse-sees-expeditie-uitgesteld>

Verslag van de Publieksdag “Expedities Spitsbergen 2015/2020”

Op 25 januari jl. vond deze Publieksdag plaats in Groningen. Veel belangstelling, maar we moesten ook meerdere keren “nee” verkopen, omdat alle beschikbare plaatsen waren vergeven. Om ook degenen die niet konden komen, te informeren, hebben we korte videofilms samengesteld van alle presentaties. U vindt deze op de SEES-website: www.sees.nl. De foto hieronder is gemaakt tijdens de expeditie van 2015.



Imaka-lezingen 2020

<i>Datum</i>	<i>Titel van de lezing</i>
28 september	Nog niet bekend
26 oktober	Eelco Leemans
30 november	Nog niet bekend

Mosaic

The MOSAiC Expedition



Multidisciplinary drifting Observatory for the Study of Arctic Climate September 2019 – October 2020

*What are the Causes and Consequences of an Evolving
and Diminished Arctic Sea-Ice Cover?*

This expedition is still ongoing, despite the fact that the [planning](#) has been affected by the Corona pandemic. Boulder University has produced an interesting [on-line course](#) related to the MOSAiC expedition. There is also a new [blog](#) from the WUR. Click [here](#) for an overview of participating scientists from the Netherlands.

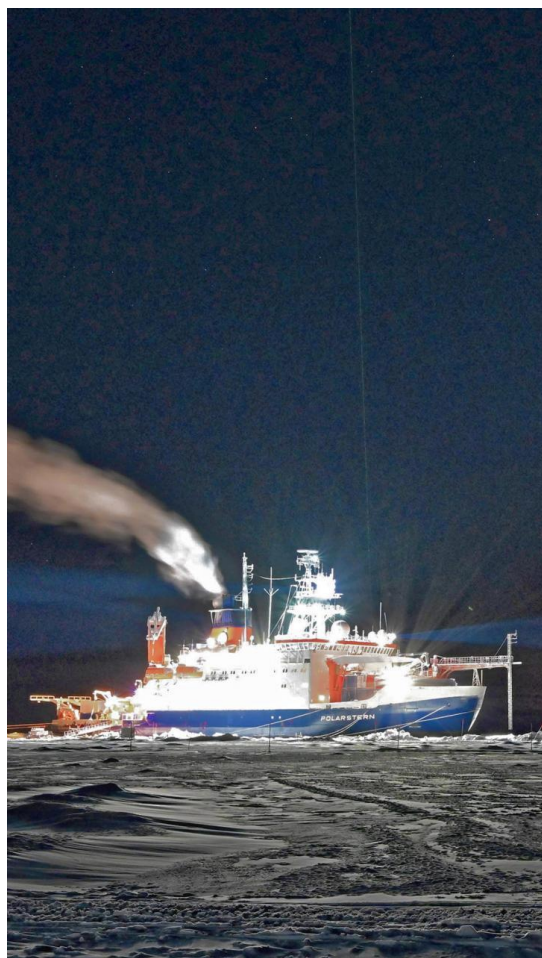
Bron: Willem Barents Pool Instituut, <http://www.wbpi.nl/>
MOSAiC live: <https://mosaic-expedition.org/>

New: Free MOSAiC Online Course

We're excited to share a new massive open online course (MOOC) about the MOSAiC expedition and the Arctic! Produced by the University of Colorado Boulder in partnership with the Alfred Wegener Institute and with funding from the National Science Foundation, the course features 50 videos from over 35 MOSAiC scientists and Arctic experts on topics like sea ice, Arctic climate, and the impacts of climate change on Arctic indigenous peoples. Enjoy the videos for free on [Coursera](#) or [YouTube](#)!

[New! Free MOSAiC Online Course](#)

The Arctic atmosphere -- A gathering place for dust?



RV Polarstern (86°N,121°E).

The atmosphere of the central Arctic is polluted with fine dust from Siberia and North America. This was the result of a preliminary evaluation of the first lidar measurements carried out by the Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research (TROPOS) during the one-year MOSAiC expedition on board of the RV Polarstern. For the first time, a multi-wavelength lidar was used during polar night in the central Arctic, which can measure dust particles at altitudes of up to 14 kilometers with laser pulses from the ground. First data show several layers of dust from human sources and forest fires at altitudes of 5, 6 and 12 kilometers.

The data are an indication that the upper atmosphere of the region around the North Pole is more polluted in winter than previously assumed.

RV Polarstern with the green lidar beam during MOSAiC expedition in the central Arctic.

Credit Ronny Engelmann, TROPOS

Lees hele artikel op:

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2019-12/lift-taa120919.php

Virtuele rondleiding op de Polarstern

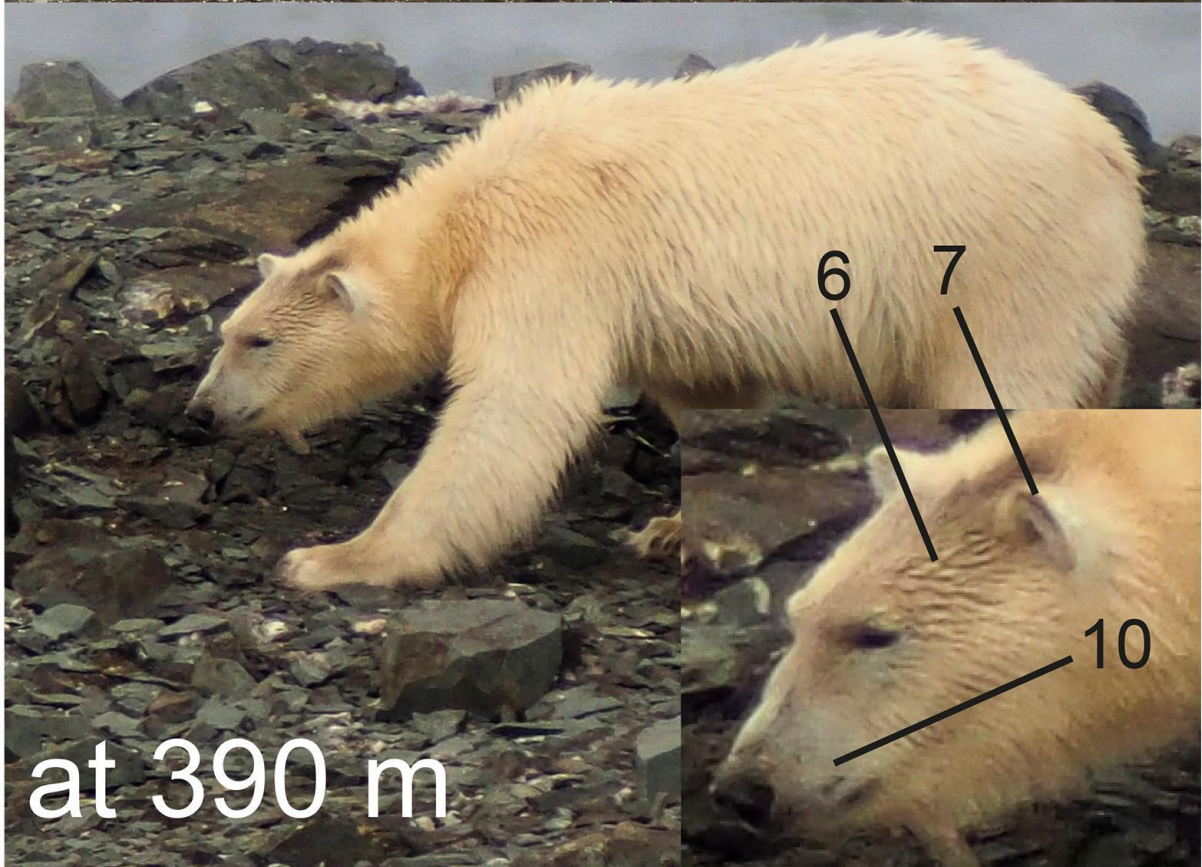
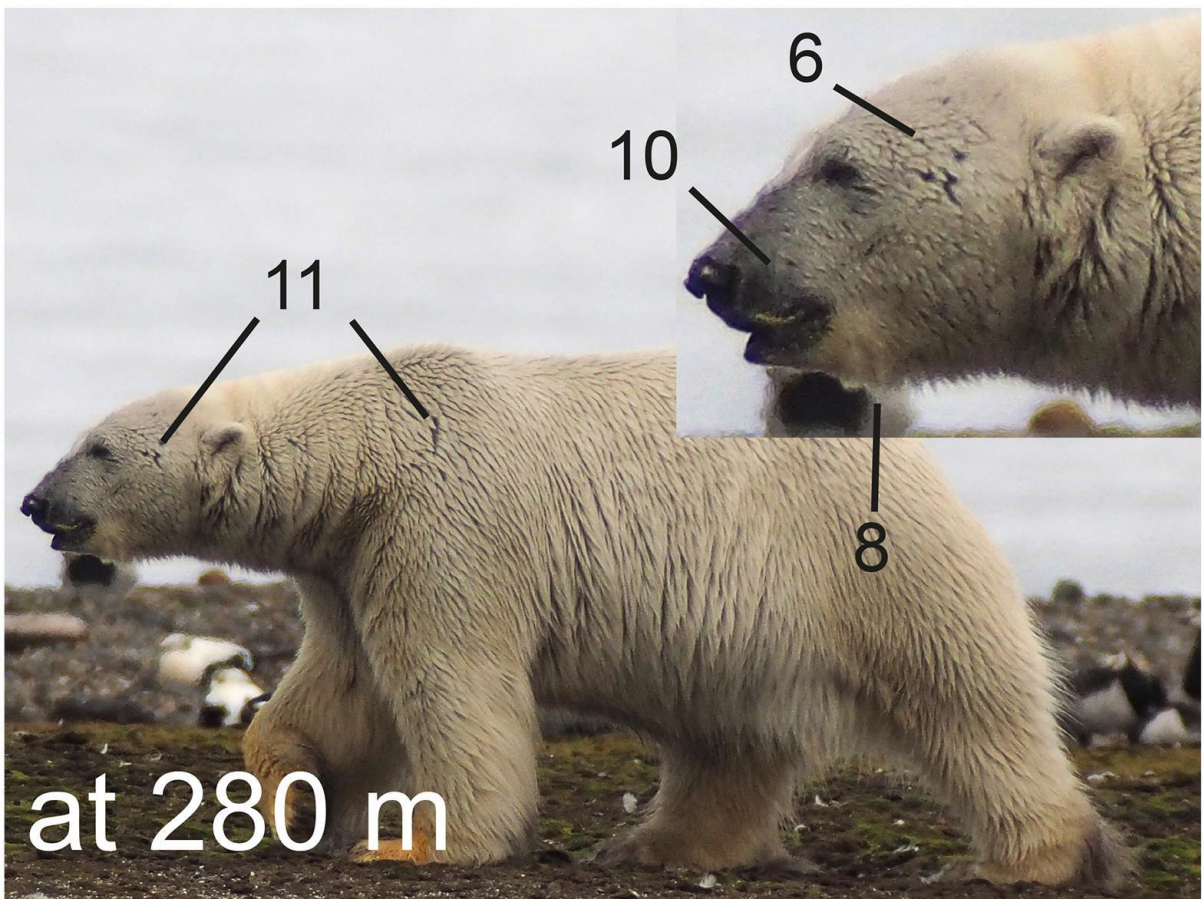
At the center of the MOSAiC expedition is the German icebreaker, *Polarstern*, which was transformed into a drifting climate observatory for an entire year. Hundreds of scientists, technicians and crew members lived and worked on the *Polarstern* during this historic expedition. Hop aboard the *Polarstern* in this all-access, 3D virtual tour! <http://digatwin.com/polarstern/>

Wetenswaardigheden

Identifying individual polar bears at safe distances: A test with captive animals

Jouke Prop and others. Published: February 13, 2020

The need to recognize individuals in population and behavioral studies has stimulated the development of various identification methods. A commonly used method is to employ natural markers to distinguish individuals. In particular, the automated processing of photographs of study animals has gained interest due to the speed of processing and the ability to handle a high volume of records. However, automated processing requires high-quality photographs, which means that they need to be taken from a specific angle or at close distances.



In this study we tested the accuracy of an alternative method to identify polar bears at further distances. This method is based on distinguishing a set of physiognomic characteristics, which can be recognized from photographs taken in the field at distances of up to 400 m.

Vragen en opmerkingen naar: jouke.prop@rug.nl

Bron en hele artikel: <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0228991>

NOT OK

A Little Movie about a Small Glacier at the End of the World

Glaciers have been distinctive features of the Icelandic landscape ever since human settlement on the island 1200 years ago. But since the early 20th century Iceland's 400+ glaciers have been melting steadily, now losing roughly 11 billion tons of ice every year; scientists predict that all of Iceland's glaciers will be gone by 2200. One of Iceland's smallest known glaciers is named "Ok." *Not Ok* is its story. This is not a tale of spectacular, collapsing ice. Instead, it is a little film about a small glacier on a low mountain--a mountain who has been observing humans for a long time and has a few things to say to us.

Many tourists in Iceland are enchanted by the opportunity to walk across glaciers or thrilled to



snowmobile across them. The Un-glacier Tour—the only one in the world—is different. It is a guided hike to the top of Ok mountain and an opportunity to see the glacial remains of Okjökull (Ok glacier). As anthropogenic climate change drives glaciers toward extinction, the Un-glacier Tour is meant to be a reckoning with glacial demise as well as a celebration of glacial life. From the top of Ok mountain, it is possible to see three other spectacular glaciers and a shield volcano.

Meer info én trailer: <https://www.notokmovie.com/>

Tradities in het Arctisch gebied in tijden van verandering

6 april 2020

In 2018 ontving Sean Desjardins, postdoc van het Arctisch Centrum van de RUG, een NWO Veni-beurs om onderzoek te doen naar de veerkracht van het traditionele Inuit-leven in Arctisch Canada. Hij vertelt over zijn interdisciplinaire aanpak en over zijn samenwerking met inheemse gemeenschappen. Desjardins streeft ernaar om gedegen onderzoek te doen, maar hij wordt duidelijk ook gemotiveerd door de relevantie van zijn onderzoek voor dit gebied en voor inheemse samenlevingen in de rest van de wereld.



Sean Desjardins is Canadees, maar hij raakte pas echt geïnteresseerd in het noordpoolgebied toen hij antropologie studeerde in Florida. “Het klimaat en de samenleving in Florida zijn totaal anders dan in het noordpoolgebied, maar het was juist dit enorme contrast dat me fascineerde. De Noordpool is een uitgestrekt gebied met heel weinig bewoners, maar, zoals ik inmiddels heb geleerd, met een ongelooflijk rijke ecologie en culturele historie. Die historie bestaat uit enorme veranderingen in de afgelopen paar duizend jaar. Hoe zijn de inheemse Arctische bewoners met deze veranderingen omgegaan en hoe hebben ze hun culturele identiteit en erfgoed weten te behouden? Deze vraag vormt de basis van mijn onderzoek van de afgelopen paar jaar, en vooral van mijn Veni-onderzoek, waar ik nu mee begin.”

Hele artikel (ook in het Engels): <https://www.rug.nl/news/2020/04/traditions-in-times-of-change>

Websites en downloads

1908 AD

The order to down all tools came in late summer 1908. The miners now abandoned Advent City, and coal would never be extracted here again. At the end of August, the midnight sun touched the horizon, counting down the last mild days of an Arctic autumn. Soon, ferocious storms of the polar night would claw at the forlorn buildings.

<https://escience-center.uni-tuebingen.de/svalbard/>