



Sverdrup Station, Ny-Ålesund, recent activity



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Norwegian Polar Institute Sverdrup Research Station in Ny-Ålesund

The Norwegian Polar Institute (NPI) established research activities in Ny-Ålesund in 1968, a few years after the coal-mining town was closed down. The Sverdrup Research Station, a modern 700 m² building for arctic research activities, was opened in 1999. The station serves as a research and monitoring facility for long and short-term measurement programs as well as a field base giving logistical support for research teams working in the pristine Kongsfjorden environment. The station has a permanent staff of five: an Operational Engineer, an Optical Engineer and a Logistics Engineer and two Station Managers (attendant at the station in turns). The station operates permanent research programs and supports visiting scientists with established or new research activities in Ny-Ålesund. The settlement of Ny-Ålesund is run by Kings Bay, the company providing the infrastructure, housing and boarding facilities in Ny-Ålesund, as well as being responsible for the flight traffic and the quay. The Norwegian Polar Institute is a member of Ny-Ålesund Science Managers Committee NySMAC.

Some events since the last NySmac meeting:

- Launch of the new Sverdrup website and registration page (<http://sverdrup.npolar.no>)
- First winter season without station manager in Ny-Ålesund (Nov-Feb)
- New logistic employee to start in May/June replacing Svern Erik Pedersen

Projects in Progress

- Renewal of radiation station
- Measurement platform at Zeppelin
- Adjustment of station routines to new winter situation
- Common booking platform (SSF)





Projects at the Sverdrup Station



- Since October 1st 2009, we received 55 project applications (Details: <http://sverdrup.npolar.no> → “projects”)
- From April through August 2010 we expect at present 91 scientists in 10 internal (NPI) and 24 external projects giving a total of 1288 lodging days.
- More applications are expected (deadline April 15th).
- Increased winter activity, shorter quiet season (e.g. large group already in January).
- We notice increased pressure on flight and lodging with some dates already booked out in early April 2010.
 - Challenge this year are times with large projects (EPOCA, AMASE, 30-40 people each) and the Ny-Ålesund Symposium.
 - Since June 21-23 is fully booked by the Ny-Ålesund symposium, scientists are not able to arrive before and leave after the symposium.