

# Annual Report 2001/2002

## NORWAY

### 1 Scientific Information

#### 1.1 Forward Plans

- (i) The strategic plan for Norwegian Antarctic research can be found on the website of the Norwegian National Committee for Polar Research. A printed copy can be obtained by contacting the Committee directly.
- (ii) Norway plans to continue its active involvement in the project “European Ice Coring Program in Antarctica” (EPICA), an EU-funded project involving ten European countries, where two long ice cores from the Antarctic ice sheet will be drilled for reconstruction of past climate for the last 500.000 years.
- (iii) The next major Norwegian national Antarctic expedition is expected to take place in the 2005/06 season, at which time Norway again is responsible for the overall logistics framework of the three Nordic national expeditions. Research will also be carried through in the intermittent period before the 2005/06 season.

#### 2.1.2 Science Activities in Previous Year (2001-2002)

Project	Short description	Location	Project leader
<i>Seabird project</i>	Environmental pollutants, immunocompetence and population dynamics of South Polar Skua	SSSI No. 23 – Svarthamaren (71°53'S, 5°09'E)	Torkild Tveraa (Norwegian Institute for Nature Research)
<i>Geological investigations</i>	Geological investigations in Central Dronning Maud Land	Central DML (between 5° and 7°30'E)	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (National Institute of Polar Reserach, Japan)
<i>CEMP monitoring*</i>	Monitoring of seals and seabirds	Nyrøysa, Bouvetøya (54°25' S, 3°17')	Kit Kovacs (Norwegian Polar Institute)

\* On-going projects

### 2 Operational information

#### 2.1 National expeditions

The Norwegian Antarctic Research Expedition 2001/2002 was conducted as described in the Pre-Season Information for 2001-2002.

## 2.2 Non-governmental expeditions

- (i) The tour operator Polar Star Expeditions conducted 9 voyages with the M/V Polar Star in the Antarctic Treaty Area as anticipated in the advance notification. Post-visit reports have been made available for each of the nine voyages.
- (ii) A 3-person kayak expedition (Return to Antarctica) paddled one week in the area around Couverville Island (Antarctic Peninsula). The expedition was conducted as described in the advance notice with the exception that the expedition was originally planned as a four-person expedition.

## 3. Permit Information

### 3.1 Visits to Protected Areas

Protected area	# people	Period	Purpose	Comment
Svarthamaren SSSI No. 23	3	01.12.01-01.02.01	Research on environmental pollutants, immunocompetence and population dynamics Seabird studies	Conducted as planned

### 3.2 Taking and harmful interference with flora and fauna

Attachment A gives an overview of permits issued for taking and harmful interference with flora and fauna for the period 30 March 2001 to 1 April 2002.

### 3.3 Introduction of non-native species

Nothing to report for the period 30 March 2001 to 1 April 2002.

## 4. Environmental Information

### 4.1 Compliance with the Protocol

Nothing to report for the period 30 March 2001 to 1 April 2002.

### 4.2 List of IEEs and CEEs

The following Initial Environmental Evaluation for activities taking place during the period 30 March 2001 to 1 April 2002 were prepared and considered in accordance with Annex I, Article 2, of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty<sup>1</sup>:

<sup>1</sup> Note that IEEs are required for all Norwegian activities in Antarctica (unless a CEE is to be prepared). Those activities that were considered to have less than minor or transitory impacts are not included in this overview.

- Seabird biology project (NARE 01/02)  
*Responsible:* Torkild Tveraa, Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Tromsø, Norway  
*Decision:* No more than minor or transitory impacts. Activity to proceed as planned.
- IEE for Antarctic Cruises – MV Polar Star  
*Responsible:* Polar Star Expeditions A/S, Høvik, Norway  
*Decision:* No more than minor or transitory impacts. Activity to proceed as planned.

#### 4.3 *Monitoring activities report*

No significant information has been obtained during the period 30 March 2001 to 1 April 2002 from monitoring procedures put in place in accordance with the provisions of Annex I.

#### 4.4 *Waste Management Plans*

The overall waste management strategy of Norwegian activity in Antarctica is that all waste, with the exception of grey water, and some human waste generated in field camps, is retrograded out of Antarctica for proper disposal at the end of the season.

In the 2000/2001 season, due to difficult weather situation at time of departure, a depot of waste drums had to be left behind on the ice shelf (70°06,5' S, 005°20,5' E). It was a priority for the Norwegian national operations to collect and retrograde this waste as part of the 2001/2002 national operations. However, due to transport difficulties it was not possible to carry through removal operations this season. The site where the waste is stored was inspected during the expedition, and the waste was found to be satisfactorily secured. It will be a continued priority to plan for and implement retrograding of the waste stored at this site.

Waste generated in the 2001/2002 season was secured and is currently stored at Troll. The waste will be retrieved during coming expeditions.

Attachment B gives a record of waste management for the 2001/2002 season.

### **5. Relevant National Legislation**

No new legislation was adopted during the period 30 March 2001 to 1 April 2002. See Permanent Information for an overview of relevant national legislation in force.

## **6. Other information**

### *6.1 Inspection Reports*

#### **A. Inspection under Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty**

Norway has not conducted inspections under Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty in the period 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002.

#### **B. Inspection in Protected Area**

Norway has not conducted inspections in any protected area during the period 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002.

### *6.2 Notice of Activities Undertaken in Case of Emergencies*

Nothing to report for the period 30 March 2001 to 1 April 2002.

**Attachment A**

#	Species	Permitted #	Taken #	Purpose	Permit holder	Comments
<b>FAUNA</b>						
ff01/00	South Polar Skua ( <i>Catharacta maccormicki</i> )	80 pairs	143 individuals	Banding, blood samples, injections	Torkild Tveraa Norwegian Institute for Nature Research	
ff01/00	South Polar Skua ( <i>Catharacta maccormicki</i> )	160 chicks	70 chicks	Blood samples, moving between nests	Torkild Tveraa Norwegian Institute for Nature Research	

**Attachment B: Summary of Waste Management for the 2001-2002 season**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Waste (type)</b>	<b>Disposal method</b>
<b>Troll</b> 72°00'S, 2°32'E	11 drums <sup>Ⓜ</sup>	Mixed waste (household)	Stored at station for later retrieval
	2 drums	Metal	Stored at station for later retrieval
	1 drum	Glass	Stored at station for later retrieval
	2 drums	Waste water	Stored at station for later retrieval
	6 drums	Compost (sewage and food)	Stored at station for later retrieval
	1 drum	Waste oil	Stored at station for later retrieval
	0	Hazardous waste	
	0,5 drums	Urine	Stored at station for later retrieval
	56	Empty fuel drums	Stored at station for later retrieval
	* Waste produced at Tor and in field is stored at Troll	12	Empty fuel drums (compacted) and stored in 'bags'

<sup>Ⓜ</sup> All drums are 200 litre drums