

SITREP 3, December 4, 2011, Day 12 at WSD

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Written at WAIS Divide

I. Passenger movements

A. SCO

1. V. Miller (I-161), G. Clow, F. Urban (I-168), E. Waddington, S. Anandakrishnan and D. Kluskiewicz (I-162) arrived at WSD 11/29 on D009.
2. R. Bay and L. Peters arrived at WSD on 12/1 at D011.

B. IDDO

1. N/A

II. Cargo Movements

A. Cargo arriving from CONUS

1. N/A

B. Cargo arriving from McMurdo

1. All remaining cargo for the Borehole Logging team arrived on D011.

III. Camp Activities

A. Current camp population, 41, 4 T-350, 1 I-477, 1 I-122, 2 I-161, 2 I-162, 3 I-168, 21 RPSC, 6 NANA; All is well

B. Camp continues to be kept in outstanding condition. Drifts are regularly groomed.

C. The 953 Cat is still having some track issues. Its use is being limited to critical picks. Spare parts have arrived and repairs are scheduled for the coming week.

D. Work by the RPSC Carpenter Crew in the Arch has been completed. The drill trench has been widened and the tray cleaned in time for Borehole Logging.

E. Work continues on keeping the Arch doors cleared. The processing-side door has been drifting more than in past years forming a dangerous cornice. This area has been heavily flagged.

F. Refrigerator Tech started freezer units in the Arch. While I felt this was too early, there was a need to increase the load on the generators and this was the best way to do it. This also give time for any problems to show up.

G. The Fire Tech was at camp for one night. He initiated the fire alarm system in the Arch.

IV. Drill Depth and Time

A. N/A

V. Status of Drilling (# of runs, meters of ice drilled, core quality)

A. N/A

VI. Status of Borehole Logging

- A. The winch was moved into position and the Weatherhaven construction completed on 11/30. The winch assembly was completed on 12/1 and testing began. Testing of all four tools was successfully completed by noon on 12/3. Borehole logging commenced at 1530 with lowering of the temperature probe.
- B. Several problems were identified with regards to the logging operation;
 - 1. Radio interference shutting down the winch
 - 2. Power fluctuations
 - 3. Noise on cable from blowing snow
 - 4. Unanticipated power outages.
- C. With cooperation between T-350, Camp Staff and the Borehole Loggers, all of these were addressed and remediations found.
- D. In preparation for logging G. Clow asked the drillers about the zero mark for depth. In consultation with Jay Johnson (IDDO) a zero depth was established as used by the drillers. I am preparing a separate report on this question.
- E. The generators suffered an extended failure the night of 12/2 due to overheating caused by problems with the ventilation system due to shifting winds. A temperature watch has been initiated to insure that this does not happen during logging. However, as I write this, we just lost power. The temperature logger is on the way up so we did not lose any time or data. We are discussing using the 20 kW generator to run the winch instead of the main camp gens. We need to know how reliable the 20 kW is though.
- F. Weather is hampering the efforts of L. Peters to survey and drill shotholes. Camp is at Condition 2 at 0700 on Sunday and the weather forecast is not good. Peters is confident that he can be ready for the VSP on time.

VII. Other

- A. Safety continues to be a primary focus of all residents at WAIS Divide.
- B. K. Dahnert, E. Morton, G. Clow and D. Voigt have continued to inspect the worksites at the Arch and Logging Winch to evaluate progress and assess the work environment. Safety concerns have been addressed with the Camp Manager and Construction Foreman, and corrections continue to be made.

VIII. G. Clow, F. Urban and E. Morton completed the first temperature log at 0500 on 12/4.