# Arctic System Science



John Farrell, US Arctic Research Commission 75th Anniversary of NARL, Utqiagvik, AK, 8.3.22

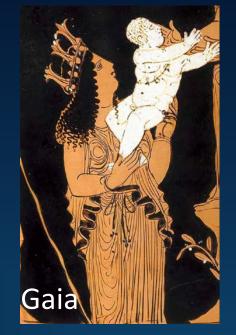


# What is it?

Arctic system science is research on the interaction between the Arctic and Earth systems\*, with a focus on the relationships among physical, chemical, biological and human processes.

\*Earth systems are: geosphere, biosphere, cryosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere

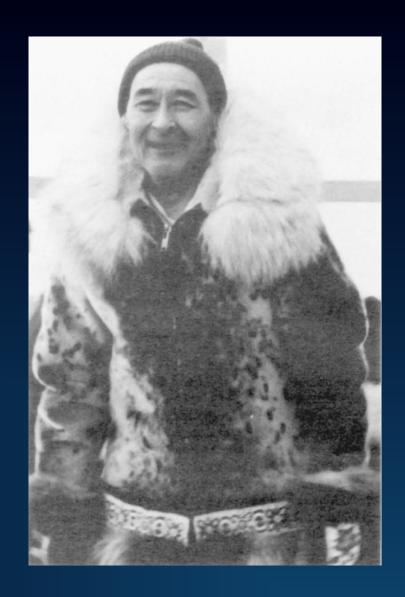
#### Arctic system science:



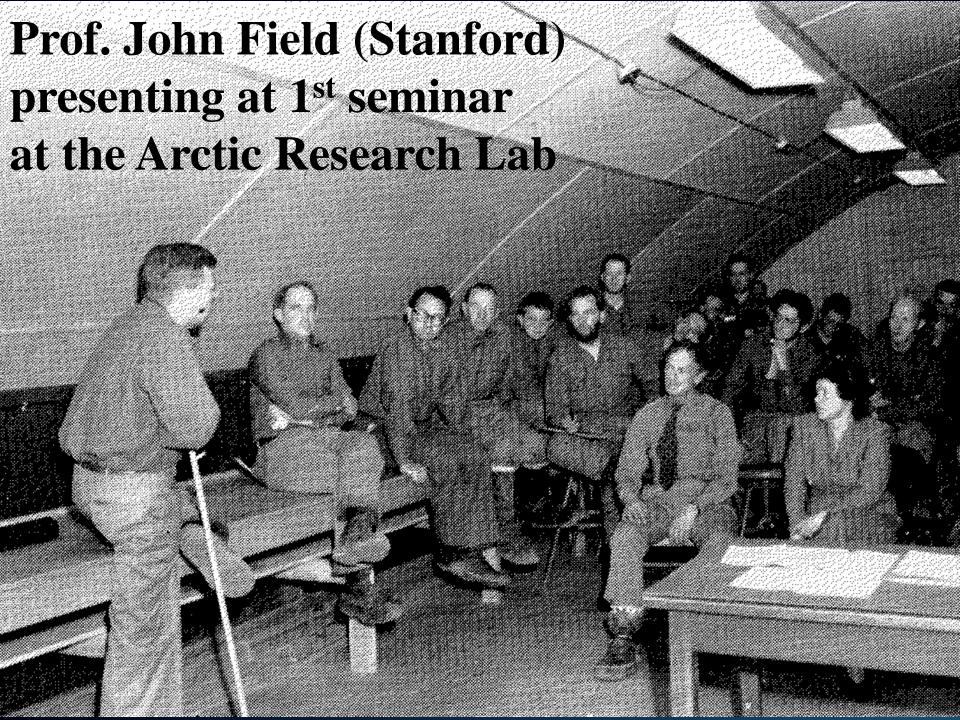
- advances our understanding of the Arctic as a coupled system
- is often interdisciplinary
- often seeks to understand how humans drive or respond to enviro. change

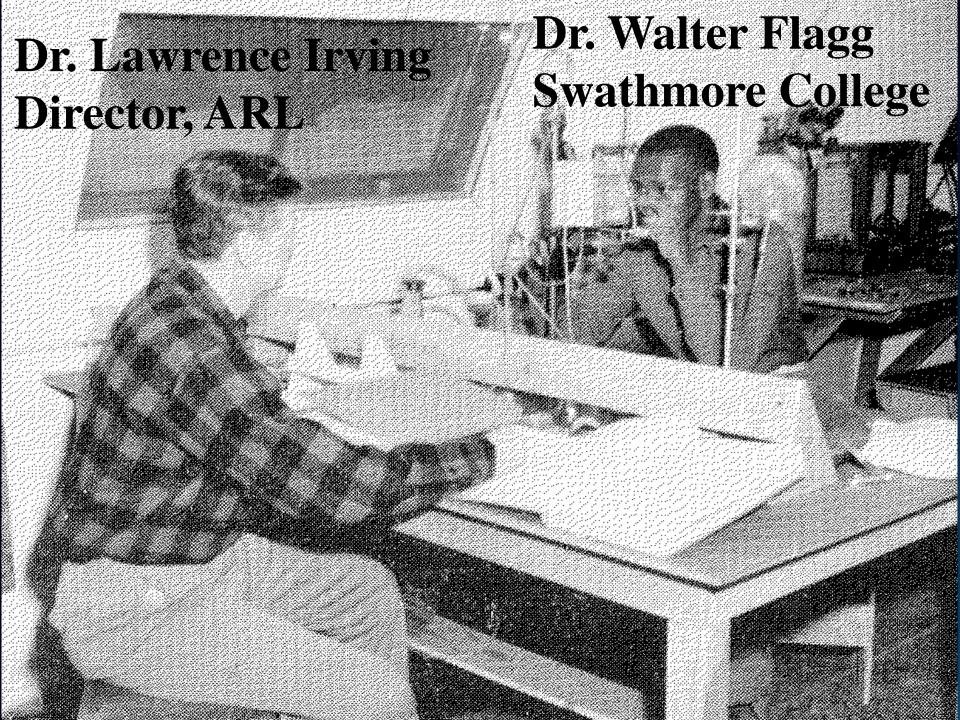


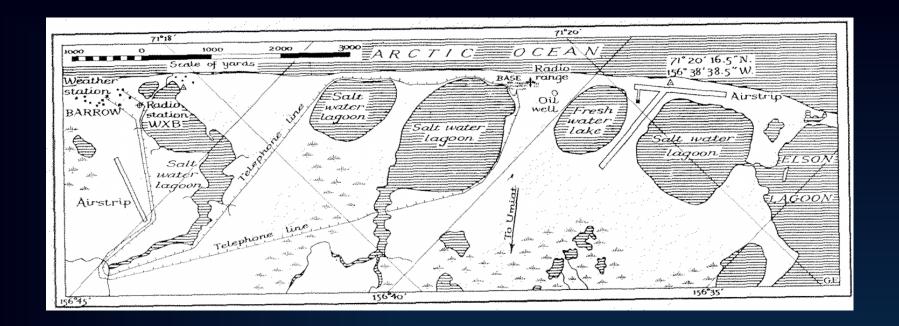
Simon Paneak Circa 1950 Photographer unknown



Harry Brower, Sr.
Barrow, Alaska, 1986
Photo by Trish Brower McFarlin







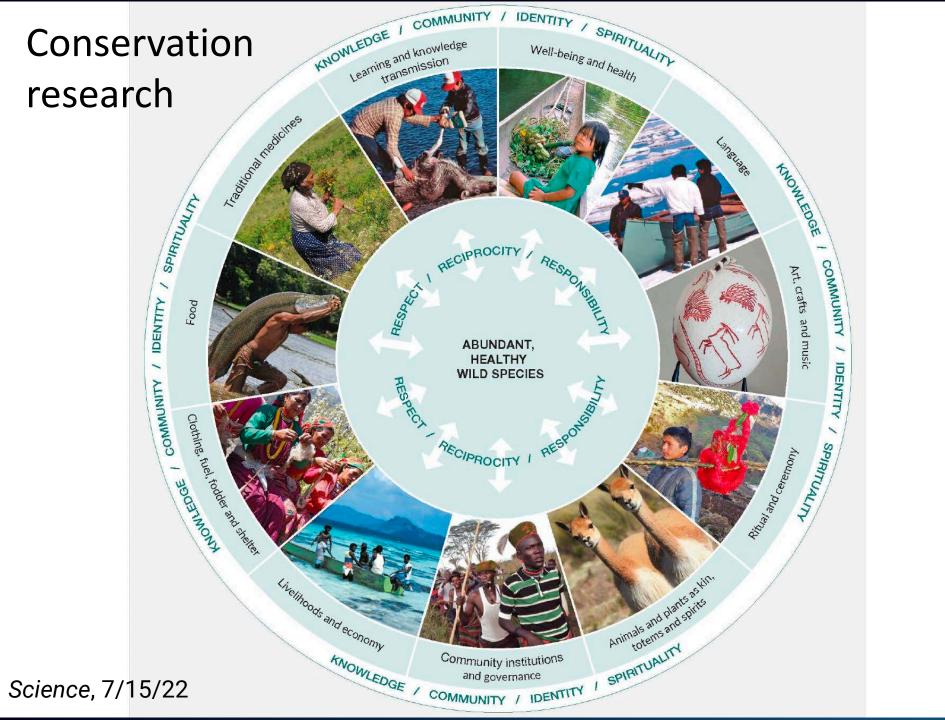
Arctic system system science is everywhere...

Experiment...

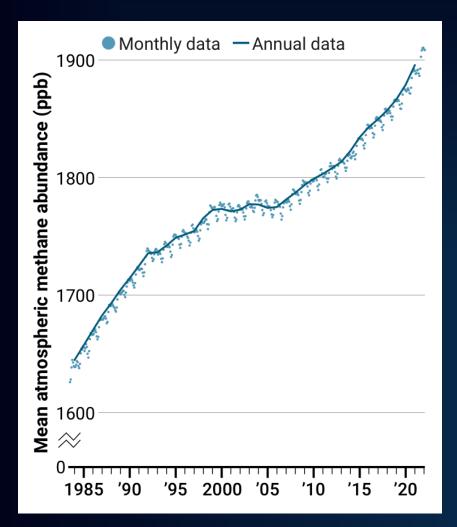
Find examples in June/July 2022 issues of: *Nature* and *Science* 

# 11 examples

- UN calls use of wild species called "unsustainable"
- Methane emissions
- Glaciers in the tropics, and at the poles
- Nuclear power...a solution?
- Polar bears
- War in Ukraine impacting research
- Climate risk is financial risk
- US gun policies, what research says about effectiveness
- Carbon layer sparked ancient bout of global warming
- "Helicopter research"
- Bird flu outbreaks, Arctic flyway



# Methane rising

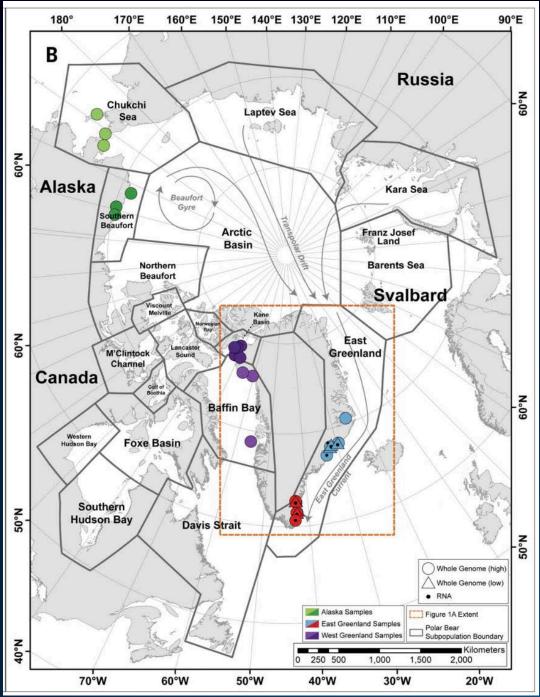




#### **Polar Bears**



Laidre et al. have identified a distinctive and isolated population of polar bears in southeast Greenland.

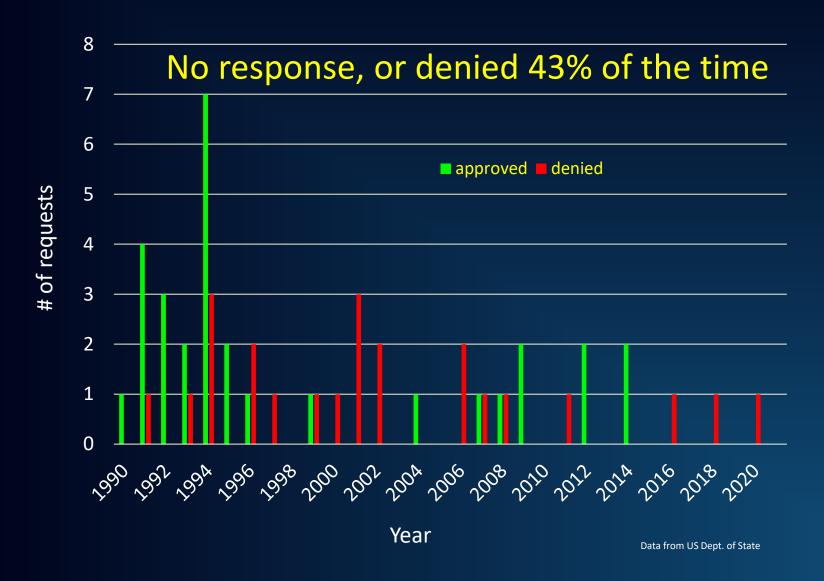


## Russia's war in Ukraine...impact on Arctic research

- "...a moral crisis that we can't ignore." Brendan Kelly
- Research on hold, esp. between Russia and N. America / Europe
- Global science reshaped?
- "....we are embarking on a multi-year maybe even decadal-scale
   interference to Arctic collaborations." Matt Druckenmiller
- Cutting off all research links is in no one's interests
- "Science should go on, no matter what." Vlad Romanovsky

#### Russia's war in Ukraine

US requests to conduct marine scientific research in Russian EEZ



## "Helicopter research"

#### 7<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Research Integrity in Cape Town



### **IARPC**

Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee

Melissa Maktuayaq Johnson

Indigenous Communication and Engagement Specialist



#### ARCTIC RESEARCH PLAN

2022-2026



Product of the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee of the National Science and Technology Council

DECEMBER 2021



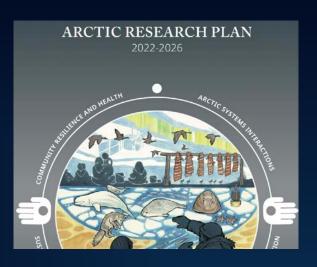
## **Priority Area 2: Arctic Systems Interactions**

Enhance our ability to observe, understand, predict, and project the Arctic's dynamic interconnected systems and their links to the Earth system.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers researchers Jackie Richter-Menge and Bruce Elder install an ice mass balance buoy in the Beaufort Sea. Photo: Art Howard, via DOD

# Federal Arctic research policy/process







USARC set goals



IARPC adopts, creates & executes research plan



White House:
OMB/OSTP
coordinate &
review budget

"The Commission shall, after submission of the President's annual budget request, review the request and report to Congress on adherence to the Plan."



Congress:
Authorizes &
Appropriates



August 3, 2022



August 1-4, 2022 | Utqiagvik, Alaska USA

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Naval Arctic Research Laboratory: Celebrating the Past—Planning for the Future

The events during the week of August 1st, 2022, will include Enhancing Arctic Science and Engineering Workshop along with Regional Development Tours and forums on the Arctic science to plan for the next 25 years of Arctic research. Participants will include scientists and engineers, Indigenous leaders, Arctic community members, policymakers, government organizations and businesses to celebrate past research success, take stock of current challenges and opportunities and plan for the next generation of collaboration and knowledge co-production that will keep Utqiagvik and Indigenous knowledge at the forefront of Arctic science and contribute to a safe and sustainable future for the Arctic.

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