## **RATIC 2017** Sustainable Arctic Infrastructure Forum

## Prague CZ / 6 April 2017









 $\diamond$  39 Participants

♦ Introductory talks (Walker, Kumpula, Schweitzer, Kofinas)
 ♦ Keynote student presentation (Will Tyson)

 ♦ Breakout sessions to address scientific and policy issues related to major types of infrastructure

### Background

Key literature Relevant case studies

Important historical references

## The System: Drivers and effects of change

Key components, linkages and feedbacks Impacts of climate change Social-ecological impacts of the infrastructure itself Climate-infrastructure interactions

## **Vulnerability and Resilience**

Social/ecological vulnerabilities to infrastructure or climate change? Examples of resilience Possible thresholds leading to regime change Examples of heterogeneity

### **Policy Issues**

Policy or regulatory issues

Ideas for involving local communities, government, and industry Examples of successful adaptation or adaptive management Barriers to successful adaptation or adaptive management of change

## **Tools, Approaches and Institutions**

Examples of promising strategies or case studies for adaptation Scientific tools or approaches for monitoring change Groups or institutions studying climate impacts and adaptation Other groups who might support or collaborate on this work IASC working groups to involve

## **Corridors**:

Permanent and temporary linear structures connecting communities or important natural monuments and sites



United States Geological Survey (USGS); AMAP 1997, 1998 and 2002; CAFF, 2001; UNEP/ World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC); United States Energy Information Administration (EIA); International Energy Agency (IEA); Barents Euro-Arctic Council (BEAC); Comité professionnel du pétrole (CPDP), Paris; Institut français du pétrole (IFP), Paris; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); The World Bank; Alaska Department of Environmental conservation, Division of Spill Prevention and Response; United States Coast Guard (USCG); ESRI Data & Maps 2000.

Remote **Communities**: Lack of "connectedness." No year-round road access. **Distant from** decision making bodies.



Indigenous Infrastructure: Connected with subsistence and other forms of traditional resource use (Corrals, trails, camps)



**Onshore** Oil & Gas Infrastructure: Roads, pipelines, drilling and facility pads



Urban Infrastructure: (Cities) Characterized by density and complexity.





## "10,000 meter" view: We will fly over the details.

- Kumpula, Raynolds, Walker et al.
- AMAP 2010. Oil and Gas Activities in the Arctic
- U.S. National Research Council 2003. CE of oil and gas activities on Alaska's North Slope.

## Urban Infrastructure 🗲

• Polar Geography, Oct. 2017 special issue on Norilsk, Russia

### And much more...

- Limited by time & who was in the room
- Need a more comprehensive list of key studies



Study Area: Northern Regions of Russia & Permafrost Extent







## Drivers & Effects of Change

- Key components, linkages and feedbacks
- Impacts of climate change
- Social-ecological impacts of the infrastructure itself
- Climate-infrastructure interactions



## Corridors



# **Remote Communities**



## Mass Reindeer Deaths Linked to Extreme Climate Events on Yamal

November 16, 2016 · Philip Burgess · Blog, Challenges, Reindeer, Reindeer Herders



From the press release announcing a new paper entitled 'Sea ice, and tundra reindeer nomadism in Arctic Russia' published today Biology Letters. You can read the article in full <u>here</u>.

Dead Reindeer.

Scientists have interviewed nomadic reindeer herders in the Yam Autonomous Okrug of West Siberia, the world's most productive





## **Onshore Oil & Gas**



# Urban Infrastructure



## "It's not just permafrost"

## How do climate & infrastructure impacts INTERACT?

- Dust effects on local vegetation.
- Dust effects from roads impact timing of spring melt leading to changes in spring wildlife distribution (e.g. snow-free corridors along roads in spring)
- Warming + roads lead to ice dams and potentially catastrophic flooding



## ...more interactions

- Warming temperatures affect permafrost regimes and stability of infrastructure
- Changes in snow regimes and redistribution of snow lead to warmer permafrost temperatures
- Flooding-hydrology coupled with permafrost heaves caused by increased snow accumulation and general warming





- Vulnerabilities
- Resilience
- Barriers to successful adaptation
- Policy and regulatory issues
- Potential case studies
- Institutions

## **Observation and Monitoring**

Field research & remote sensing monitoring of change

## New sensor systems

- Fiber-optic systems to identify hotspots
- Higher resolution and temporal availability of satellite monitoring

## **Observations systems**

 Innovation and integration to take a whole system approach with an accessible clearinghouse/hub

## Water safety management and testing

- At a variety of levels (e.g. municipal services)
- Planning and decision-making integrated in monitoring systems

## **Modeling and Mapping**

- Mapping infrastructure
- 3D models of cities
- Infrastructure network modeling (Sandia Lab in New Mexico)
- Future scenarios models and scenarios planning (e.g. Tyson et al. 2016; Pembia Institute in Alberta)
- Risk hazard mapping
- Econometric modeling

## **Cumulative Impact Assessment**

- Historical data and reconnaissance
- Annual catalog (increased footprint of roads, pads, etc.)
- Cumulative impact assessment (e.g. Raynolds et al. 2014, Kumpula et al. 2010)
- Cumulative effects of ground thermal regimes

## **Collaboration**

- Interdisciplinary collaboration
- Participatory GIS
- Participatory photo mapping
- Capacity building in communities for long-term monitoring that includes adequate resources

## Indigenous Infrastructure & Governance

- Co-management, devolution (Be aware of informal arrangements)
- Provide economic incentives for involvement of industry and indigenous communities

## **Key Science Questions** (in your handout)