

Tarfala Research Station (TRS) is located at 1135 m asl in the Kebnekaise Mountains, northern Sweden, and is run by Stockholm University. TRS welcomes scientists from all disciplines to conduct research in a unique arctic-alpine environment.

Thank you for a successful summer season at TRS!

On September 18th, TRS was closed after a very successful and work-intensive summer season, lasting for 78 days. The last day spoiled us with sunshine, blue skies and some fresh snow on the mountain tops! Despite the pandemic, we were able to welcome small groups of guest researchers, not only from Stockholm University, but also from KTH, Uppsala University and Lund University!



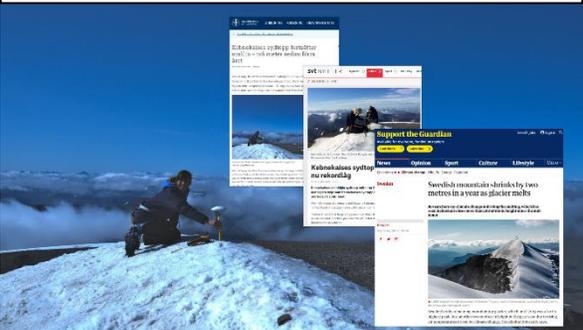
TRS, 18 Sept. Pic: N. Kirchner

During a few days, TRS also served as a base for the Swedish Armed Forces conducting exercises in difficult alpine glacial and near-glacial terrain. In total, TRS could record 229 guest nights during the summer season. It was a pleasure hosting everyone, and we hope to see you again!

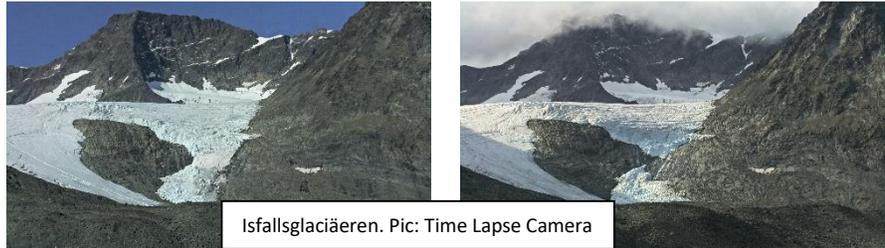
At and around TRS

Measurements of the elevation of Swedens (formerly) highest peak, Kebnekaise Southtop, were conducted on August 14, 2021, and confirmed what was anticipated: the Southtop's elevation was 2094.6 m above sea level, which is more than 2 m less than the elevation of the Northtop (2096.8 m). Both national and international media reported and commented.

A.Granebeck at Southtop, 14/8 2021. Pic: E. S. Mannerfelt

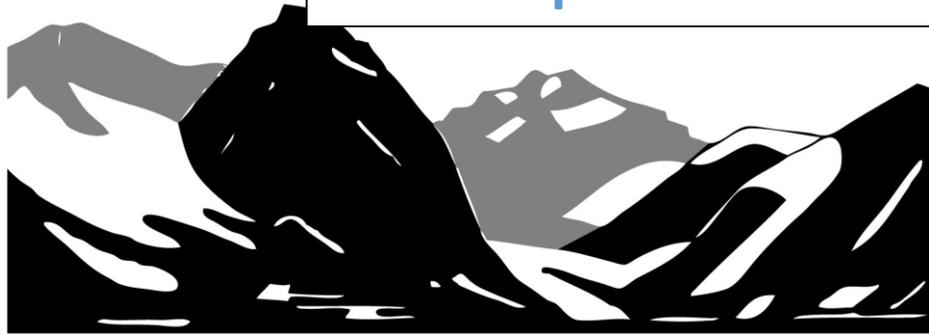


A dry calving event at Isfallsglaciären started on August 23, 2021 which could be observed from TRS, where a Time Lapse Camera was immediately installed to monitor



Isfallsglaciären. Pic: Time Lapse Camera

further activities. After the dry calving activities ceased, a large portion of bedrock was exposed, along which meltwater continues to fall down in streams.



Mooring in Lake Tarfala replaced

Quick and efficient communication, collaboration and planning mad it possible to replace the mooring in Lake Tarfala that was lost during this year's ice-off (see Newsletter from August). The new mooring, equipped even with a larger variety of sensors than the lost one, is a collaborative effort by Joachim Jansen (Uppsala University) and Nina Kirchner (TRS), and was anchored in the deepest part of Lake Tarfala on September 14, 2021. To minimize the risk of future losses, the mooring was anchored using an acoustic releaser. Retrieval is planned for the summer season 2022.



L. Jansen at Lake Tarfala. Pic: N. Kirchner

International and national collaboration and events

Congratulations to SITES, the Swedish Infrastructure for Ecosystem Sciences, for securing funding from the Swedish Research Council VR until 2027. TRS is one of the many field stations that are included in SITES, and we look forward to continued successful collaboration!

The Symposium in recognition of the late Prof. Koni Steffen, to be held in Davos in October 2021, where TRS was meant to be represented by a poster contribution, is unfortunately cancelled due to the pandemic.

Save the date: A TRS workshop will be held at Stockholm University on February 10, 2022. This will be a one-day event where activities at and around TRS are presented, and where a platform will be provided to inspire for future research projects that can be conducted at TRS, from and across disciplines, and also strengthening research communication. Please save the date – we are looking forward to seeing you in February!

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Next news: December 2021.