Future Research at the Toolik Field Station

Perspectives from Breck Bowden

Science Support Visioning Workshop Portland, Oregon 2-4 August 2012

Arctic System Science

How will change in the arctic system affect integrated landwater dynamics?

A streams perspective



Strategic Rationale

DOE/NGEE: Develop a process-rich ecosystem model, extending from bedrock to the top of the vegetative canopy, in which the evolution of Arctic ecosystems in a changing climate can be modeled at the scale of a high resolution Earth System Model (ESM) grid cell

NASA/ABoVE: Focus on key process associated with the land surface, and on key interfaces between the land and the coastal ocean and atmospheric boundary layer as they interact with climatemediated terrestrial processes

NEON/STREON: Enable understanding and forecasting of the impacts of climate change, land-use change and invasive species on continental-scale ecology -- by providing infrastructure and consistent methodologies to support research and education in these areas.

NSF/CZO: Address pressing interdisciplinary scientific questions concerning geological, physical, chemical, and biological processes and their couplings that govern critical zone system dynamics. Integrate new understanding of coupled hydrological, geochemical, geomorphological, sedimentological and biological processes; and develop, couple and validate system-level models.

Required Science Support

Logistics and residential support are covered well

Resources for larger meetings and classes (outreach and broader impacts) are adequate but could grow

Extended environmental monitoring

Technical instrument and sensor support

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Space to stage complex field installations

Space to process large numbers of samples

TFS as a field research operations hub

Strong partnership between TFS scientists, staff, and management to develop TFS science resources with NSF