

The Role of New England in Navigating the New Arctic

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Project Website Urls & Social Media Accounts:

<http://nearctic.net>
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Project Objectives: Assess the socio-economic and bio-physical links between Arctic change and New England; identify transformational convergent research that will anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to future challenges and opportunities.

Keywords: Convergence, North Atlantic Arctic, Regional Network

Progress to Date/Future Plans: Continued progress underway in the following areas:

- *Predict Socioeconomic Scenarios* for New England and the Arctic during ongoing major Arctic change, *Strategically Balance* environmental ethics and social justice with economic considerations and fully *Engage Stakeholders* in the design and execution of research.
- Include the *knowledge of Indigenous peoples* and promote *citizen science* to understand the scale and rate of change of inter-linked systems in the Arctic and connected regions.
- Develop a *collaborative Regional Network* (New England Arctic Network, NEAN) to support research and informed decision-making in response to Arctic change.
- *Train the next generation of Arctic researchers*, including Arctic System Change, Convergence Research with community partners and field experiences in the Arctic.

Highlights or Expected Outcomes:

- Developed visions of how Arctic change might create opportunity, risks, and hazards along the eastern coast of North America over a continuum of time scales from urgent to intergenerational.
- Established a New England Arctic Network to prepare for multi-institutional convergent response to the coming cascade of changes across all systems in the broadly defined region.
- Created core collaborative teams in line with NSF Navigating the New Arctic.

NNA Community Collaboration and Research Coordination:

- There is a critical need to support large-scale research initiatives focused on changes in the North Atlantic sector of the Arctic and resultant impacts on communities in eastern North America, including Greenland.
- Continue building a collaborative regional New England hub of Arctic researchers and educators to bring greater understanding of the global impacts of Arctic change to all communities and community members.

Advice for Overcoming NNA Project Challenges:

The following are barriers and needs to ensure continued progress:

- Ways to secure funding for planning grants to engage Arctic communities with researchers who do not yet have solid community relationships in order to identify priorities and collaborations (capacity-building).
- New pathways for funding international research (cooperative agreements among nations to overcome the barrier that NSF is unable to fund international collaborators)
- Provide opportunities for funding interagency collaborations (e.g., research initiatives that include FFRDCs)