

Skógvatn - ForStreams

5. general meeting 22. of April 2007

Attending: Bjarni Diðrik Sigurðsson (chair), Helena Marta Stefánsdóttir (secretary), Jón S. Ólafsson, Gísli Már Gíslason, Edda Oddsdóttir, Hlynur Óskarsson, Gintare Medelyte, Karólína Einarsdóttir.

Excused: Freysteinn Sigurðsson, Berglind Orradóttir, Sigurður Guðjónsson, Nikolai Friberg, Guðmundur Halldórsson, Hreinn Óskarsson, Brynhildur Bjarnadóttir, Robert Ingvar Rosenberg

Missing: Franklín Georgsson and Julia Broska

The meeting started 10:10

Agenda:

1. Open; Minutes of last meeting read and formally accepted
2. Budget for 2008 according to previous decisions
3. Project plan for 2008
4. Still left to do – who is going to do it?
5. Other Issues

1. Minutes of last meeting reviewed and accepted:

The minutes were accepted, but the following notes were made:

- Veiðimálastofnun should make a bill to ForStreams for part of overpaid travel expenses in 2007.

2. Budget for 2008

In the initial application to UOOR there was a budget for 2008 and 2009, where funds were divided between work packages and participants. This original plan has been modified a little by additional funds for MSc student salary from Hekluskojar. All participants accepted the original funding plan, except Mogilsa, which pushed for a little more funding for their work package. It was accepted to increase their funding by 50.000 ISK, which should be taken from the chemical analysis work package of Lbhl.

We sent in a 3 year application to Framleiðnisjóður for better support of our students (2 MSc students in 2008 and 2009 and one PhD in 2010), but the project money was not quite covering their salaries of the MSc students now when they are funded for a whole year. Framleiðnisjóður granted the project 1000.000 ISK this year, with possibilities to renew the application for the next two. This extra funding for student salaries will be split this year 50:50 between Veiðimálastofnun (for Gintare) and Lbhl (for Helena).

The funding for Karólína's PhD project (Alcan + Orkurannsóknasjóður LR) will cover one work package that was in the original ForStreams application, the installation of suction cups to sample soil water and analyse its chemical composition. Even if this was

in the original application, there was no funding allocated to it in the original funding plan (we decided to try to get an extra funding for it). The cost of buying part of the equipment, installing in both in S and E Iceland and analysing once for S-Iceland and 3 times for E-Iceland the same chemical components as are analysed for stream water is estimated to 500.000. The remainder of the funding from LR and Alcan will be used for Karólína's salary, travel cost and extra analyses in her PhD project and will be allocated to Veiðimálastofnun.

3. Project plan for 2008?

- i. *Regular sampling trips* - Four in 2008. First one (winter) was already made in February. Next one (spring) is due in April/May. Eastern Iceland is still having winter conditions, while spring is starting in the S. Decided that HMS, KE and GM will sample S on 29 and 30 April, but the trip to the E will be delayed until the spring has started there (preliminary 12-14 of May).

Regular sampling trips (April/May, Jun/Jul, Sept/Oct)

- a. Empty dataloggers
 - b. Empty litter traps
 - c. Discharge – water level
 - d. In situ pH, Cond, T_{water}
 - e. Water samples from streams (3)
 - f. Transport of OM in streams
 - g. Samples for chlorophyll analyses (stones)
 - h. Surber samples
 - i. Water quality? (ask GH if these should be sampled from streams).
- ii. *Mapping of catchments*. RR, BDS and HÓ already started the mapping of the catchments and surface cover in the S-sites. S will be finished on 12-14 May. Then RR and BDS will continue with E-sites and hopefully finish by 20 of May.
 - iii. *Forest growth, ground vegetation and litter* (EOS and BB) will be done in 2nd or 3rd week of August by EOS and BB. This year only the eastern site will be sampled – the southern site will be sampled next year.
 - iv. *Install groundwater tubes and water quality samples*. GH is working on how to install the groundwater tubes for the water quality monitoring. It will only be installed in the S this spring.
 - v. *Measurements of litter transport and decomposition in streams*. HMS will do this and it is her main topic in her MSc thesis. This will involve 5 trips to the E and 2 to the S. Three trips to E can be combined with regular sample trips.
 - vi. *Soil water samplers (KE, BO)*. Karólína will order the suction cups and additional parts that can not be supplied by LbhI. Install in June in S and E. Three cups per catchment (linked to one tube). Suck water from the cups in July, first samples taken in August. Run-off plots will be installed in E-Iceland if we get the EU funding next year.

- vii. *Sediment transport in the streams (GMG)*. Gísli is going to talk to Orkustofnun considering how to study sediment transport in the streams. The most simple approach would be to measure depth of fine sediment at random locations to get an estimate on relative amount between streams/catchment types. When in 2008?
- viii. *Studies on fish in East Iceland? (SG, GMG, JB)*. Trip to E Iceland in middle of May (JB, GMG, SG?) to inventory the fish populations in the ForStreams sites. How many streams have fish? Based on these first findings, measurements of population density and sampling of fish outside the study areas for gut contents will be made in the autumn (August)?
- ix. *Lab-based chemical analysis (BDS + HÓ)*. This should be done and first samples (2007) sent in early summer.
- x. *Invertebrate fauna in streams*. Gintare's MS project. GM is now working on the surber sample analysis. She is seeing a lot of difference between the Eastern and the Southern sites, but differences between catchment types are much smaller. The Surber samples for Gintare will be sampled in regular sample trips + one additional sample in E Iceland in August.
- xi. *Additional studies on foodwebs in streams*. Karólína: uses key invertebrate species to further study the foodwebs in 6 streams in eastern Iceland (2 treeless, 2 birch, 2 conifer). Foodweb structure is estimated by three methods: i) microscopic study of gut contents of key vertebrate and invertebrate species; ii) study of fatty acids of key species; iii) stable C and N isotopes of tissues of key species and different terrestrial and aquatic food sources. This study will start in August.

Gintare's study on invertebrate species composition in the streams is important for Karólína's study, so Gintare is asked to prioritize sorting the samples from E-Iceland (to find which are the key species in these streams in autumn, winter, spring, summer).

Karólína and JSÓ will take Surber samples from streams in E Iceland in August.

4. Things left to do – who will do them?

- i. Basic information on OM transport in streams. A) Measure dispersed solids (grugg) and FPOM in water samples at the Veiðimálastofnun lab + sort the OM and measure CPOM of samples from stream nets. Helena takes responsibility for this.
- ii. Analyses of water samples for TOC – POC – DOC. Karólína is responsible for this.
- iii. Prepare and analyse dataserries from the water level dataloggers and water temperatures dataloggers. (Helena/Karólína)

5. Other Issues

- *COST ForMan meeting* in Croatia 9-11 April. ESO, JSÓ, GMG and BDS participated in this meeting. This has already resulted in one new project application for Mógilá, LbhÍ and Bulgaria, but not related to ForStreams.
- *Short-Term Scientific Mission*. Helena went on a 10 day visit/training to Macaulay Institute in Aberdeen in Scotland, to Nikolai Friberg. This trip was funded by COST ForMan. Bjarni/Edda encouraged the students to consider the STSMs.
- BDS/JSÓ ask the meeting formally that Queen Mary - University of London will be a part of the ForStreams consortium and hence be added to the MoU. Prof. Guy Woodward from Queen Mary is the main supervisor for Karólína. This was formally accepted by all participants present.
- BDS reminded everybody to send him info on seminars, interviews in newspapers/radio, articles, etc. where ForStreams is presented in some way. He keeps a database with this information. Participants can send this information as e-mail, but it should include a full reference to the article, etc.
- Veiðimálastofnun applied to Fiskræktarsjóður for more large-scale study on fish and vegetation type on catchments. RR and persons from Veiðimálastofnun. Answer will come during summer.
- Karólína sent an application to Rannsóknarnámssjóður Rannís. Reply in June.
- Gintare presented the ForStreams project with a poster at Raunvísindafing in early April.
- Helena gave a talk about ForStreams on Fræðafundur skógræktar and there will be an about the project in the Morgunblaðið, skógræktarblað, this week.
- NECC-BACCI2008. We will have the poster that the students made for Raunvísindafing and Fræðafing landbúnaðarins at this international conference that will take place in Askja on June 16-18.
- Prof. Dawn Ferris from Ohio State is coming in late June and she is interested in getting an introduction to the ForStreams sites. GH is the main contact person for her visit. He will hopefully tell us more about it soon.
- Next meeting date decided 7th of October. It will mainly focus on the preliminary results (scientific meeting).

Meeting closed 13:20