

SALSA Field Report: 5 Dec 2018. Compiled by Matt Siegfried.

SALSA Geophysics/SALSA EM, Location: Camp 20

- Our high pressure utopia of warm days and light winds came crashing down today with the barometer falling through the day. Winds stayed below 15 kt, but temperatures dropped about 10 F into the mid teens. With good visibility, we went off on our day.
- SALSA Traverse is waiting on a Twin Otter to bring two more crew for the final leg of their journey, so we are using this opportunity to send back our first load of retrograde cargo: 5 empty drums of fuel, an empty propane tank, and other odds and ends we won't need. Matt staged this cargo after breakfast in case the plane to Camp 20 showed up while we were out working (it didn't, but less work for tomorrow!)
- We spent the rest of the morning digging out our two furthest MT stations. We used parts from one of these stations to replace the logger and pre-amp hub on the station giving us anomalously noisy data. We will see how this test fairs tomorrow.
- In the afternoon we dug out two more stations and reinstalled one station along the cross-flow line toward camp, where our earlier data suggested there may be significant two-dimensional subglacial structure. This is the final station we will install in the grounding zone, bringing the total to 16.
- Tomorrow we will clean up the ice stream and bring the final three stations we have deployed back to camp. Then it's time to pack up camp and move upstream. Off to Whillans Subglacial Lake soon (hopefully)!



While installing station T16 today, we saw the second South Pole Traverse of the season drive past. They left McMurdo two hours before the SALSA Traverse.