Ocean Tracking Network (Scott Inlet)

In the summer of 2012, the main central Arctic research program was relocated from Cumberland Sound to Scott Inlet/Sam Ford Trough. The program consists of an acoustic array of 70 receivers with an additional 10 moorings and 2 stations with oceanographic equipment and marine mammal listening devices (AURALs) with small temperature depth sensors.

Greenland shark tagging. Photo credit: Steve Fields/U Windsor

	Name	Email	Phone Number
Primary Contact	Fred Whoriskey	oceantrackingnetwork@dal.ca	(902) 494-4101

Owner
Ocean Tracking Network (Dalhousie University)

Membership
Regular Member

Website
www.oceantrackingnetwork.org

Latitude
Range: 70 to 72. CSV files can be retrieved from members.oceantrack.org/data/discovery/ASI.htm

Longitude
Range: -72 to -70. CSV files can be retrieved from members.oceantrack.org/data/discovery/ASI.htm

Location
Scott Inlet/Sam Ford Trough, an arm of Baffin Bay

Nearest Community
Clyde River

Territory/ Province
Nunavut

Aboriginal Government/ Homeland
Clyde River Municipal Government

Facility Type
Site for Observing/Monitoring

Research Hinterland
Coastal, Freshwater, Large River, Marine, Streams

Main Research Disciplines
Isotopic Chemistry, Marine Biology, Oceanography, Sociology, Traditional/Aboriginal Knowledge

Research History
OTN deployments in Canadian waters began in 2008 off Halifax. The first Arctic deployments were Frobisher Bay (2008; Arctic char) followed by Cumberland Sound (2010; Arctic skate, Greenland halibut, Greenland shark, ringed seal) and Lancaster Sound (Arctic cod, fourhorn sculpin, Greenland shark, sculpin, shorthorn sculpin), Scott Inlet (2012; Greenland halibut, Greenland shark) and Cambridge Bay (2013; Arctic char, lake trout) members.oceantrack.org/data/discovery/ARCTIC.htm

Current Projects
Deep-water Arctic marine fishes: developing commercial fisheries and interactions with marine mammals

Power
OTN equipment is self-powered (on-board batteries)

Communications
Internet, Computer, Videoconferencing, Satellite

Local Transportation
Periodic missions using chartered assets to maintain OTN infrastructure in different parts of the Arctic.

Equipment Storage
N/A

Dormitory/Sleeping Facilities
N/A

Dining/Kitchen Facilities
N/A

Laboratory Facilities
N/A

Fuel Availability
N/A

Research Requirements
Appropriate permits and animal care certifications must be obtained at the home institution of investigators using the OTN infrastructure.

Special Rules and Regulations
Data gathered by the OTN infrastructure will be made available to the broader scientific community after investigators have published their work, as per the terms of the OTN data policy.
members.oceantrack.org/data/data-collection/otn-data-policy

Local External Resources
Government of Nunavut, DFO, Clyde River HTO, Northern Scientific Training Program

Nearest Medical Service
N/A

Safety Considerations
Marine Emergency Duties, First Aid

Cost
Use of the data recorded on the infrastructure is free of cost, following registration with the OTN (contact Susan Dufault: susan.dufault@dal.ca). Investigators typically pay the costs of tagging their target animals.

Other Information
OTN provides electronic telemetry (acoustic and satellite) infrastructure, and associated monitoring of oceanographic conditions, to track the movements and survival of marine animals and enable both to be linked to environmental conditions. Results from telemetry studies are used to guide fishery policy and management decisions (e.g., determination of fishery boundary lines), to identify critical habitat for marine species at risk, to assist in the planning of marine protected areas, and to provide fundamental information on the structure and function of Arctic aquatic systems.

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