Ecology of Place: Field Stations of the Future
Who am I?
What You Do Really Matters

What Happens in the Field Shouldn’t Stay in the Field

Ecosystem Services--$33 trillion/yr and Quality of Life
What You Do: Exploration and Discovery (dash of piracy?– William Dampier 1651-1715)
Emergence of Professional Research Class
What Do Field Stations Do?

• Access
• Logistical Support
• Community (training, collaboration)
What Do Field Stations Offer: Ecology of Place

The Ecology of Place
Edited by Ian Billick & Mary V. Price
Modeling Complexity
Trend #1 Innovation in Measuring:
Opening Up the World to Observation
Trend #2 Experiments/Studies as Infrastructure: Expanding Temporal and Spatial Scales
Trend #3 Big Data: Data Integration and Collaboration to Generate Novel Insights
Opportunities for Data Management

- Making field biology explicitly spatial—higher order mapping products
- Supporting collaborative workflows
- Managing data from perspective of scientists, not research administration
- Dark data
Big Picture Ideas

What Are Unique Research Opportunities Does Toolik Offer?

Is There a Scientific Vision for Toolik Beyond Meeting Needs of Today?

Ask Not What Your Field Station Can Do For You, But What You Can Do For Your Field Station

Experiments as Infrastructure
Strategic versus Tactical
The Importance of Field Research Will Only Grow