

The background of the slide features a deep blue underwater scene with two whales. A large, semi-transparent watermark consisting of the Roman numerals 'IX' is positioned on the left side of the image. The text 'Science & Education Report' is centered horizontally across the middle of the image.

Science & Education Report

MS FRAM

August 23rd — September 5th 2026

Arctic Island Odyssey:
Svalbard, Greenland & Iceland





Lectures & Discovery sessions

- 14** Lectures
- 12** Discovery sessions
- 6** Citizen science projects
- 6** Science boats



Wildlife Watch

45 Species:
17 Mammals
28 Birds

Science Boat

We took different measurements during the the different Science boat sessions we had this trip. We collected plankton samples with the plankton net, launched the CTD to measure the parameters of the water, took turbidity measurements with the Secchi disc and launched our hydrophone to record the underwater soundscapes.

Together, these results will help us better understand the ongoing changes in the Arctic Ocean through the living platform and network of [EMODnet](#) where our data will be submitted at the end of this voyage.



This photo, taken of a sample under our microscope, shows a multitude of different plankton taken during this trip:

Copepod

Gastropod

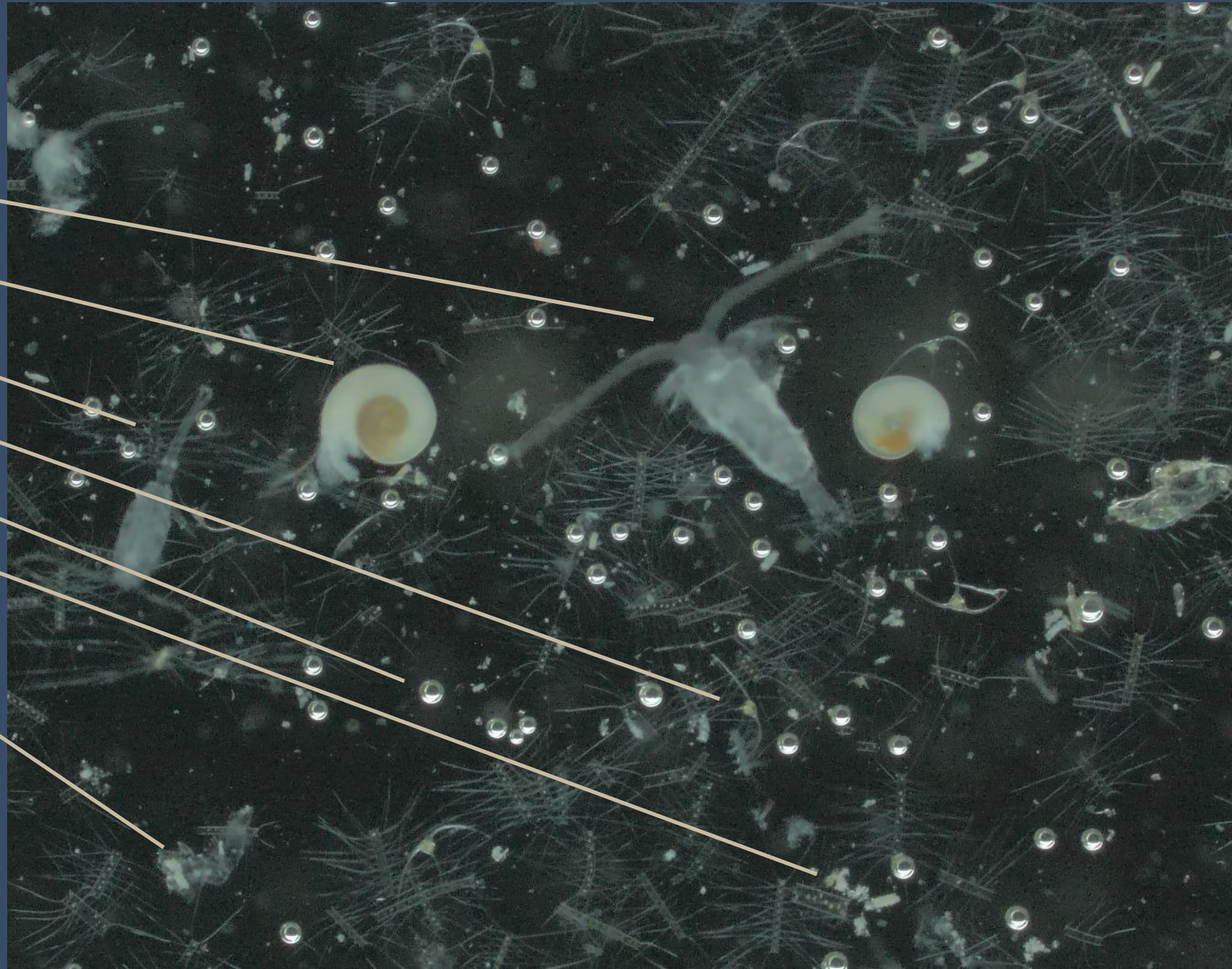
Diatom

Dinoflagellate

Oxygen bubble

In organic matter

Organic matter



History & Culture

Ny Alesund and Greenland

At nearly 79°N, Ny-Ålesund is the world's northernmost year-round research station — once a coal-mining outpost, now an international hub for Arctic science. Once in Greenland, we dived into the history of this massive island, and the several waves of human migration that populated it, from the ancient paleo-Eskimos that crossed the Bering Strait during the last ice age, to the Norsemen and the Thule culture, who the later became the Greenlandic Inuit that we know today. We visited Ittoqqortoormiit, one of the very few human settlements in East Greenland, and we concluded by learning about the history of the explorers who made history trying to reach the North Pole.





NASA Globe Cloud Observer

Nine guests participated in two NASA Globe Cloud observation sessions, and we made 7 submissions. Due to operational constraints were not able to match observations with satellite flyovers.

Please continue looking at the sky back home, since every contribution helps scientists.

[View our data](#) on the global map



GLOBE Cloud Observations Paired with NASA Satellite Data

PACE Clouds Challenge starts 15 September 2026.
Register for the [Volunteer Training webinar](#) in English on 9 September at 3pm ET (19:00 UTC).

Total Satellite Comparisons: 70

Satellite Images (centered on observation location, click image to view)

Useful Resources: [How to Read My Satellite Data](#) | [How to Interpret Satellite Data](#)

Worldview: PACE OCI True Color



GLOBE Cloud Observations Paired with NASA Satellite Data

Useful Resources: [Observation Tips & Tricks](#) | [Cloud Cover](#) | [Cloud Type](#) | [Cloud Opacity](#) | [Cloud Satellite Comparisons](#)

Observation	Your GLOBE Ground View	NASA PACE View
Universal Date/Time	2026-07-06 07:42:00	2026-07-06 07:52:11
Latitude	80.47	80.4746 to 81.2746
Longitude	19.93	19.9275 to 20.7275
Total Cloud Cover	Overcast (>90%)	Overcast (100%)
High Clouds		PACE satellite image available above.
Mid Clouds	Altostratus Cover: Overcast (>90%) Opacity: Opaque	
Low Clouds		

Sky and Surface Conditions	North	East	South	West	Up	Down
Sky Conditions Sky Visibility : no report Sky Color : no report Surface Conditions Snow/Ice : No Standing Water : No Muddy : No Dry Ground : Yes Leaves on Trees : No Raining or Snowing : No						



Example of a Satellite Matching Report

When you register your NASA Globe Observer App, and conduct a observation timed with a satellite flyover / you will receive a satellite matching report. Displayed is one we received form a previous voyage to Svalbard. The matching report highlights what the satellite observed versus your observations.

Thank you for your ongoing participation in this Citizen Sceince program.



iNaturalist

iNaturalist

Thanks to your efforts, we recorded 300 opportunistic observations representing nearly 73 different species!

In the arctic autumn, plants are showing off. They represent around 58% of our observations, followed by fungi (lichens), other birds and mammals.

By sharing your data on iNaturalist, you are contributing to a global, open-access database that fuels scientific research and conservation monitoring. These records are vital tools for researchers tracking species distribution and assessing ecosystem health.

You can view the project and also upload your observations from our voyage by [clicking here](#).



FRGRE2619 - Arctic Islands Odyssey: Svalbard & G...

Aug 23, 2026 - Sep 5, 2026

About

Members 12

Summary of the wildlife observations from expedition team members and guests on-board MS FRAM during our summertime navigation along Svalbard and East Greenland.

[Read More >](#)

[Your Membership](#)

[Edit Project](#)

[Project Journal](#)



Overview

300
OBSERVATIONS

79
SPECIES

30
IDENTIFIERS

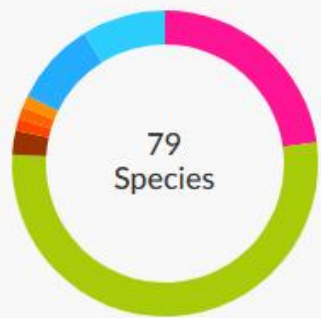
10
OBSERVERS

[Stats](#)

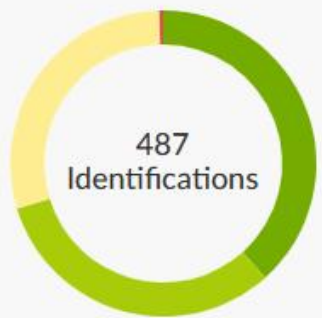
Stats



- Research Grade
- Needs ID
- Casual



- Unknown
- Protozoans
- Fungi
- Plants
- Chromista
- Mollusks
- Insects
- Arachnids
- Ray-Finned F...
- Amphibians
- Reptiles
- Birds
- Mammals
- Other Animals



- Improving
- Supporting
- Leading
- Maverick

Climate change survey

How do you feel about climate change?

As an experiment, we conducted a survey on our guests' views and feelings on the subject of Climate change. In the long run, we would like to gather enough data for a scientific statistical study in the microcosm of our ship.

Thank you to the **86 participants** who answered the survey. On **our** cruise, we find that **66%** of our guests consider climate change a serious problem caused by humans. [You can view the results and interpretations on this link.](#)

The results will continue to evolve the more data we collect.

66.5%

believe climate change is a serious human-caused problem

72%

feel "concerned but hopeful" when hearing about climate change

51%

see some damage as unavoidable but still believe meaningful action matters (Q3)

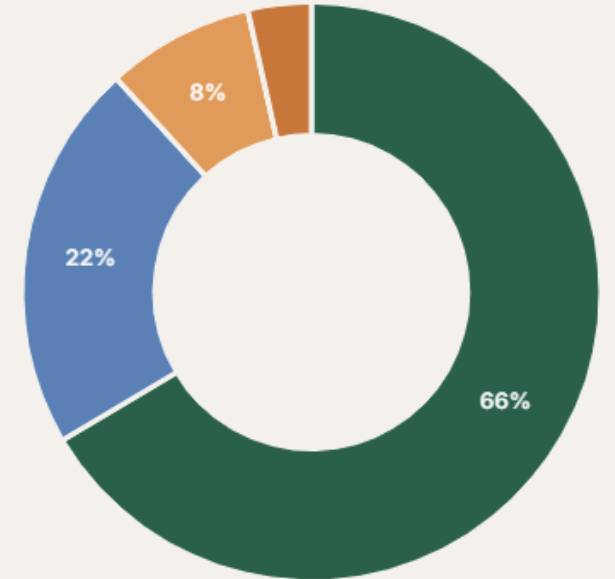
7.55

average personal worry score out of 10 — vs 4.98 perceived for the general public

77%

are willing or very willing to make major lifestyle changes (Q7 scores 4–5)

When you hear about climate change, what best describes your reaction?



- Serious human-caused problem — 66.5%
- Real but causes/impacts uncertain — 21.8%
- Happening regardless of humans — 8.2%
- Overstated — 3.5%
- Not happening — 0.0%

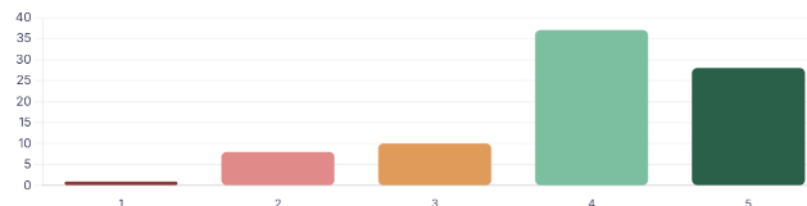
Q7

If such large-scale changes were required, how willing would you personally be to make major changes to your way of life?

Scale: 1 = Very unwilling -> 5 = Very willing - 84 respondents



● 1 - Very unwilling: 1 ● 2: 8 ● 3: 10 ● 4: 37 ● 5 - Very willing: 28



Visit the IPCC website

Climate Change IPCC FAQ

IPCC Summary report

Wildlife List — Land Mammals



Wildlife List – Land Mammals

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH
<i>Rangifer tarandus</i>	Reindeer	Rentier
<i>Vulpes lagopus</i>	Arctic Fox	Polarfuchs
<i>Ovibos moschatus</i>	Musk Ox	Moschusochse
<i>Lepus arcticus</i>	Arctic Hare	Polarhase
<i>Dicrostonyx groenlandicus</i>	Northern Collared Lemming	Nördlicher
<i>Mustela erminea</i>	Stoat or Ermine	Hermine



Happywhale

Although we didn't manage to submit any photos to the HappyWhale project during this voyage, we were fortunate to spot several marine mammals species, including fin, humpback, minke and beluga whales, one polar bear and harbour, bearded, hooded and ringed seals while navigating through the Arctic.

We hope you keep your eyes on the horizon for wildlife once you're back home. Who knows? We may see you on board again soon! Thanks for travelling with HX!

Don't forget to visit MS Fram profile on Happywhale by clicking [here](#)



Credit: Lilia Gonzalez / HX



Wildlife

List - Marine Mammals

Wildlife List – Marine Mammals

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	Common Minke Whale	Zwergwal
<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Fin Whale	Finnwal
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Humpback Whale	Buckelwal
<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	White-beaked Dolphin	Weißschnauzendelfin
<i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>	Beluga Whale	Weißwal
<i>Ursus maritimus</i>	Polar Bear	Eisbär
<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Harbour seal, common seal	Seehund
<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>	Harp seal	Sattelrobbe
<i>Pusa hispida</i>	Ringed Seal	Ringelrobbe
<i>Cystophora cristata</i>	Hooded Seal	Klappmütze
<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>	Bearded Seal	Bartrobbe



eBird

Our ornithologist Simon, together with colleagues and guest observers, recorded 28 different birds species during 29 surveys (checklists) on landings and wildlife watches.

The most numerous species was the Black-legged Kittiwake with 459 individuals observed, followed by Northern Fulmar with 142 individuals and Dovekie/Little Auk with 128. These counts were all made on wildlife watches at sea.

You can review details of these observations by accessing our Trip Report for this voyage here:
<https://ebird.org/tripreport/563164>

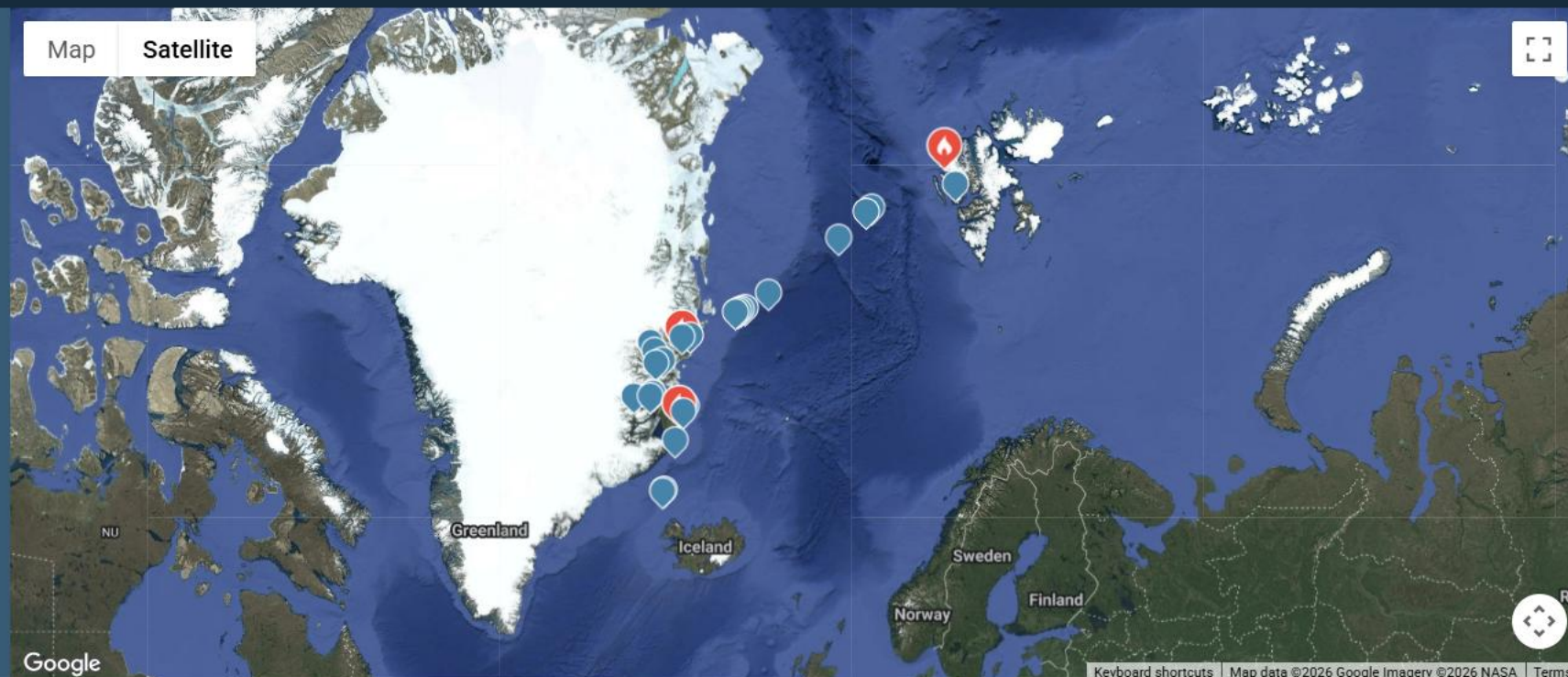
MS Fram: Svalbard - East Greenland - Iceland (Southbound) 23.08.2026 - 05.09.2026

23 Aug – 5 Sep 2026 (14 days) Public

[Greenland](#) | [Iceland](#) | [Svalbard](#) Subregions

[Science Coordinator MS FRAM, Simon Delany](#)

[Share](#) [Edit](#)



Narrative

Owners and editors of a Trip Report may write a narrative.

[Add narrative](#)

DATA FOR: [Group \(all people\)](#)

28

Species Observed
+1 other taxa

29

Checklists

eBird



Species Observed

79 Pink-footed Goose

1 Parasitic Jaeger

10 Red-throated Loon

6 Atlantic Puffin

142 Northern Fulmar

43 Brant

1 Black Guillemot

3 Sooty Shearwater

28 Barnacle Goose

128 Dovekie

2 Northern Gannet

20 Common Eider

2 Thick-billed Murre

33 Common Raven

5 Long-tailed Duck

459 Black-legged Kittiwake

6 Northern Wheatear

1 Rock Ptarmigan

1 Great Black-backed Gull

4 Redpoll

5 Common Ringed Plover

42 Glaucous Gull

22 Snow Bunting

15 Ruddy Turnstone

7 Lesser Black-backed Gull

ADDITIONAL TAXA

4 Sanderling

112 Arctic Tern

2 jaeger/skua sp.

13 Purple Sandpiper

Wildlife List - Birds



Credit: Yuri Choufour/HX

Wildlife List – Seabirds

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH
<i>Morus bassanus</i>	Northern Gannet	Baßtölpel
<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Northern Fulmar	Eissturmvogel
<i>Ardenna grisea</i>	Sooty Shearwater	Dunkler sturmtaucher
<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Lesser Black-backed Gull	Heringsmöwe
<i>Larus marinus</i>	Great Black-backed Gull	Mantelmöwe
<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Glaucous Gull	Eismöwe
<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Black-legged Kittiwake	Dreizehenmöwe
<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Arctic Tern	Küstenseeschwalbe
<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Arctic Skua/ Parasitic Jaeger	Schmarotzerraubmöwe
<i>Cephus grylle</i>	Black Guillemot	Gryllteiste
<i>Uria lomvia</i>	Brünnich's Guillemot / Thick-billed Murre	Dickschnabellumme
<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Atlantic Puffin	Papageitaucher
<i>Alle alle</i>	Little Auk/Dovekie	Krabbentaucher

Wildlife List – Waterbirds

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH
<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Red-throated Diver/Loon	Sterntaucher
<i>Branta bernicla</i>	Brant Goose	Ringelgans
<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	Barnacle Goose	Weißwangengans
<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Pink-footed Goose	Kurzschnabelgans
<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Common Eider	Eiderente
<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Long-tailed Duck	Eisente
<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Ruddy Turnstone	Steinwälzer
<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Purple Sandpiper	Meerstrandläufer
<i>Calidris alba</i>	Sanderling	Sanderling
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Common Ringed Plover	Sandregenpfeifer

Wildlife List — Landbirds

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH
<i>Lagopus muta</i>	Rock Ptarmigan	Alpenschneehuhn
<i>Corvus corax</i>	Northern Raven	Kolkrabe
<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Northern Wheatear	Steinschmätzer
<i>Acanthis flammea</i>	Common Redpoll	Taigabirkenzeisig
<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Snow Bunting	Schneeammer



In summary

Our expedition was a remarkable journey into some of the most remote waters of the Arctic. Our itinerary allowed us to collect valuable data regarding terrestrial flora, fauna and marine ecosystems. Our science boat activities were very popular, together with our lectures and workshops, helping to bridge the gap between science and general knowledge on the pristine and remote ecosystem we visited.

What data?	How much data?
iNaturalist	300 observations, 79 species
Nasa Cloud Globe Observer	2 Observations
eBird	31 checklists, 32 species
HappyWhale	0 submissions
CTD profiles	6 submissions
Secchi Disk	2 submissions

Thank you!

The FRAM Science and Education team extends heartfelt thanks for choosing HX Expeditions to explore the eastern part of Greenland. Your participation not only supports the ongoing work of researchers but also enables them to join our voyages, carry out meaningful studies, and access essential logistical resources that are often difficult to secure.

We are deeply appreciative of your genuine curiosity and shared enthusiasm for the natural world—from birds and marine mammals to flowers, lichens, mosses, and even the microscopic life found in a drop of water.

It was a true joy to exchange ideas, reflect on history over coffee, and marvel together at the diverse ecosystems we encountered. We hope this journey will remain among your most treasured memories.





THX

**Thanks for your
participation!**