

Submitted Abstract

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Abstract

Managing risk in the field includes physical, objective risks of the environment, but also the interpersonal challenges carried by working with small teams in isolated places. Scientists working in remote field conditions are even more vulnerable to impacts from extreme working environments or harassment because they are far from their personal support systems such as friends and family and they typically can't escape their working and living situation, often one and the same, if something goes awry. Here, we present insights from FieldSafe, a hands-on workshop that teaches field scientists effective tools for creating an inclusive team culture. We argue that this should be seen as an integral part of risk management and creates a win-win situation for individuals, institutions, and the wider science community. It leads to higher performing teams that are able to produce better and more creative science; field data is more successfully and efficiently collected; and scientists feel (and are!) safer, enjoy their job more, can better support their colleagues, and exhibit higher retention rates