

SALSA Field Report: 20 November 2018. Compiled by Matt Siegfried.

SALSA Geophysics/SALSA EM, Day 21 Update

- The team hasn't submitted a daily report in a few days because we either did nothing, or we did everything. After our mission as backup Saturday morning was not activated, we had the weekend to enjoy beautiful weather (and one last Sunday brunch) in McMurdo, as we nervously waited for the Monday flight schedule to be released.
- We ended up being scheduled as a primary mission Monday, launching at 0930. While we ate breakfast, we heard word of a 90-minute mechanical delay. Instead of our planned 0800 transport, we left McMurdo, bound for Willy Field, at 0930. Two hours of waiting in the Willy Galley later, we boarded our LC130 bound for Camp 20. Two hours after that, we landed at 1420 to find a beautiful, windless day on lower Whillans Ice Stream.
- Our afternoon and evening yesterday was spent setting up a livable camp: kitchen, bathroom, sleep tents. Today, after a late start thanks to working well into the night yesterday, we turned it into our home for the next 2-3 weeks, rearranging the kitchen, unpacking more cargo, organizing, organizing, and organizing some more.
- With three people on the team who have spent a year or more calling San Diego home, Matt celebrated our first full day in the field the appropriate way for a group of San Diegoans: by cooking up a Taco Tuesday for dinner.
- Tomorrow, we will finish unpacking the last of the science gear and prepare ourselves for first data collection Thursday, if weather holds and work continues to move forward efficiently. For that first data point, we'll beeline for the 2015 WISSARD GZ borehole and set up an MT station that will provide the backbone for our entire grounding zone survey.



A view of our home for the next few weeks.