



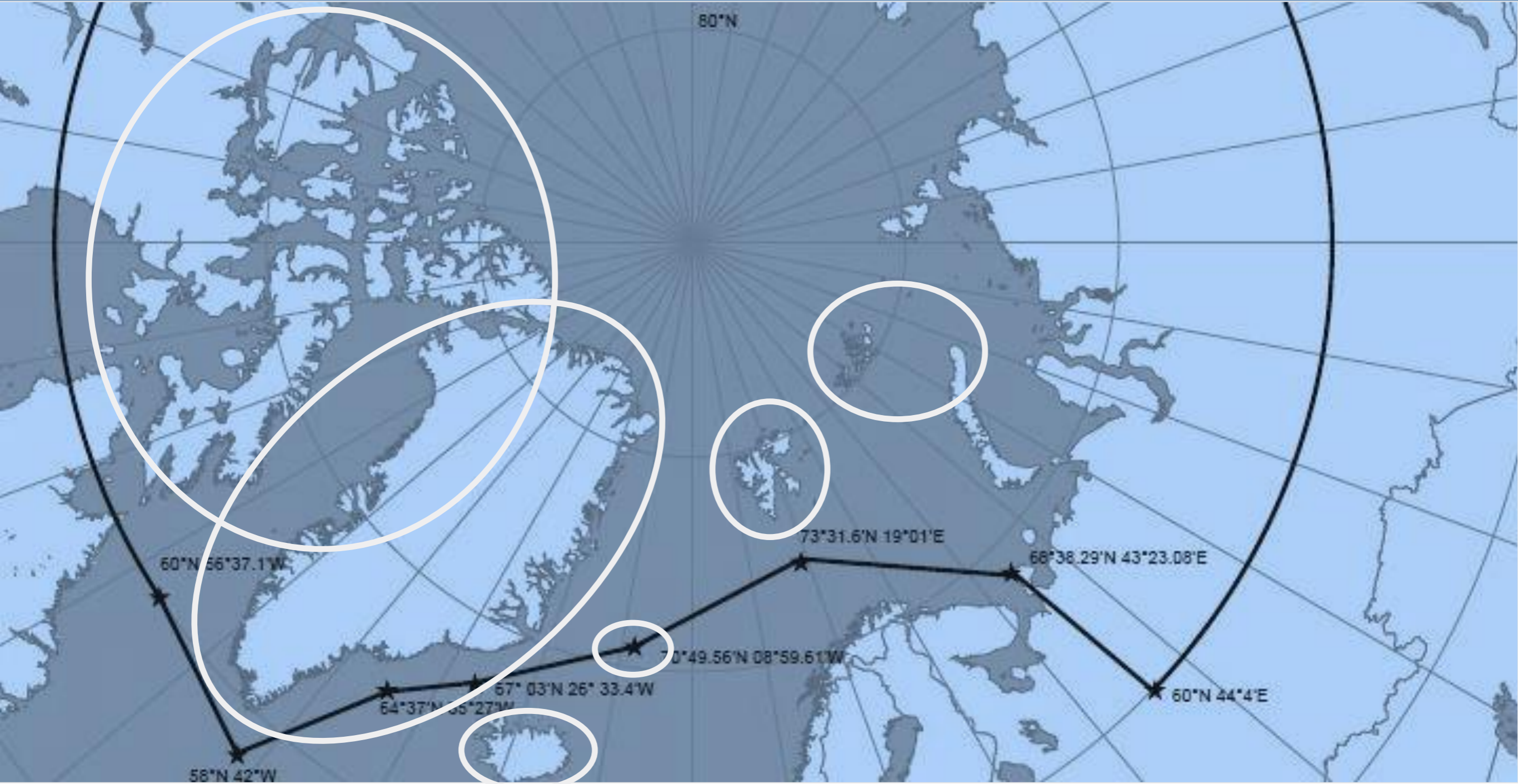
With remote destinations comes great responsibility

Experiences from the Arctic expedition cruise industry
Melissa Nacke, Environmental Specialist

Who is AECO?

- Ensure environmentally friendly, responsible and safe cruise tourism in the Arctic
- Advocate for the expedition cruise industry, and AECO's members' interests





Stop Arctic Aliens Campaign



- AECO is a campaign partner
- Video and campaign website to be used on vessels and before departure

Why is biosecurity important in Arctic tourism?

- Activities in the Arctic can lead to introduction of alien species
- Remote areas
- Fragile ecosystems
- Voyages can include multiple destinations



AECO's biosecurity guidelines

ASSOCIATION OF ARCTIC EXPEDITION CRUISE OPERATORS

AECO

Biosecurity guidelines

for visitors to the Arctic



Photo: Jørgenland

Help protect the Arctic Environment

The Arctic remains one of the most pristine natural environments in the world. AECO's biosecurity guidelines aim to minimize the risk of future introductions of non-native species to the Arctic.

- Launched in 2014
- Mandatory for all members
- Targeted at guests
- Describes preventive measures before and during the voyage

Before travelling

Examine and clean clothes, footwear, and bags thoroughly.



Photo: Dana Bergstrom - Australian Antarctic Division

During the trip

- Follow the biosecurity procedures during the expedition.
- Inspect and clean boots, clothing or gear between landings.
- Spread the word.





How is this communicated to guests?

- Pre-departure information
- Briefings on board
- Onboard displays/screens
- Campaign video

Learning by doing

Responsible tourism:
An educational opportunity



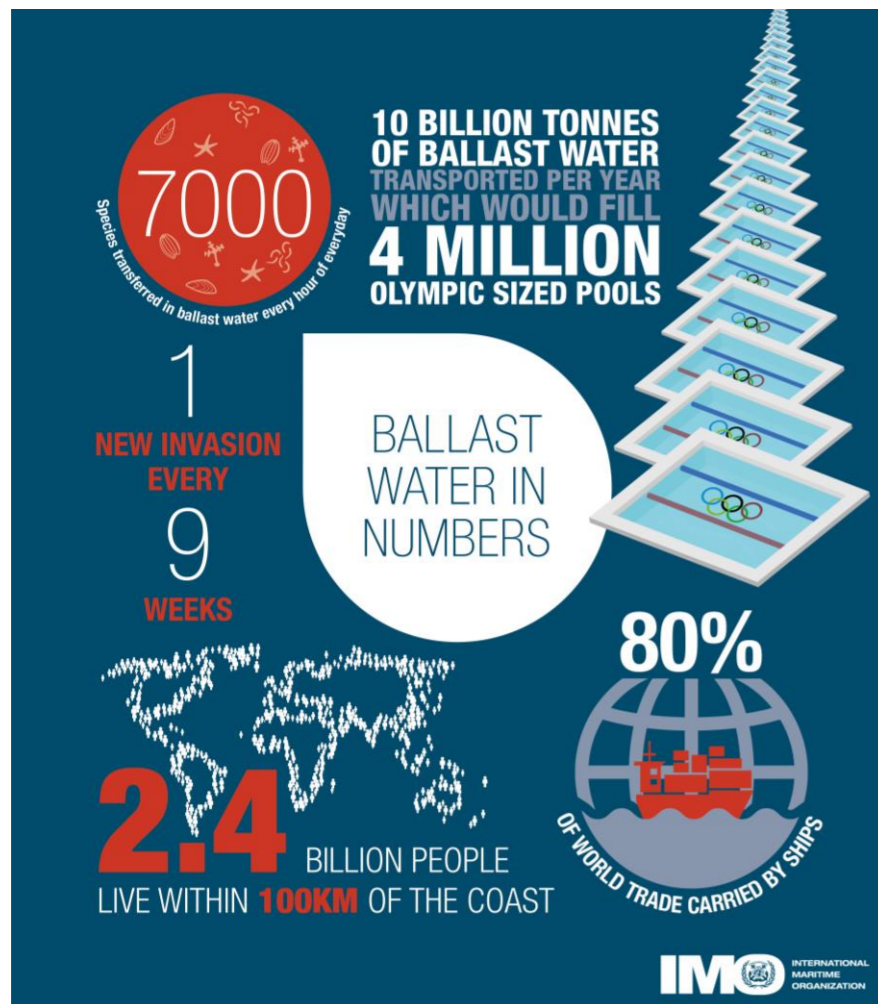
Photo: Quark Expeditions

Vessel measures: Biofouling



- IMO Biofouling Guidelines
- Sea ice can clean fouling off a hull
- A variety of anti-fouling paints exists

Vessel measures: Ballast water



- IMO Ballast Water Management Convention (2017)
 - Minimizing the uptake of organisms
 - Ballast water exchange while at sea
 - Treatment of the ballast water

Supporting science and environmental management

- Collaborations with researchers
- Policy development efforts
- Citizen science
- Monitoring



Responsible travel





Association of
Arctic Expedition Cruise
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