
Subject: Re: Waistlands, Alaska

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 20 Apr 2004 20:55:05 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Craig Markwardt writes:

- > Hey David, didn't you just go swimming with the penguins in Outer
- > Waistlands, Alaska, or something? Your posts have been pretty
- > subdued, almost like you endured a contest of man and nature, and
- > nature won. No good stories about tongues and flagpoles?

Still trying to recover and dig out of the paperwork that built up in my absence. :-)

I'll have a full report soon, along with pictures of the polar bear sow and her cub we nearly landed the helicopter on (accidentally!).

This may have been the best sabbatical break ever. I got completely out of my routine, changed my perspectives dramatically (didn't think about tennis or IDL once, I think), and saw polar bears (along with an arctic fox, a red fox, caribou, muskox, and as much ice and wind as I am likely ever to need to see in my life!). We even scared ourselves half to death when we realized we had just landed our refueling plane, the helicopter, and the damn winch (which weighed, I swear, as *much* as a helicopter!) on less than 12 inches of sea ice. You never saw such stone-cold expressions as we had when our drill broke through and we realized we could have probably kicked through the ice if we had wanted to.

Ah, life is good here, with the trees in full bloom and the green grass. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
