Ny-Ålesund research in Svalbardkartet – Quick user guidelines
Updated 19.12.2025

Svalbardkartet is an interactive themed atlas of Svalbard supplemented with a rich dataset of environmental data layered on top of a detailed base-map. One of the layers in Svalbardkartet is Research Ny-Ålesund (Forskning Ny-Ålesund), which provides information about research objects (instruments, installations and field sites) in Ny-Ålesund. In the map one can see where all the research objects are located, and one can get the additional metadata for this object.

Under follows a quick user guidelines for some of the most important features for searching for or filtering on data.

Content

Language
You can use Svalbardkartet both in Norwegian or English. Choose between the languages at the bottom left side of the map.

Legend
Four types of objects are included. The first three categories are objects that are active today, while the latter is historic objects.

Overview of metadata

To get the metadata information of one object, zoom in and click the number in the map and a Cluster summary box opens.

By choosing "Browse features", one can see the metadata for each object. Use the arrow at the bottom to see all objects (if there are several).

In the map on the top right-hand side, there are five icons. Each of these provides different functionalities. The two last icons are described here.

Search and filtering

By clicking on the table icon ( ) a data table with the entire database opens. Each column corresponds to each metadata field. Appendix 1 provides info of the full data model.

The search box offers the possibility for a free text search in the database

One can also filter the data from the various columns.

The icons to the right provides the user with the possibility to choose which metadata column to include ( ) or set up a filter or search function ( ).

The search function includes several options:
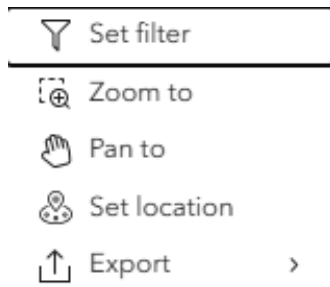
The lets the user set up a filter or a set of filters. The filter functions are as follows:
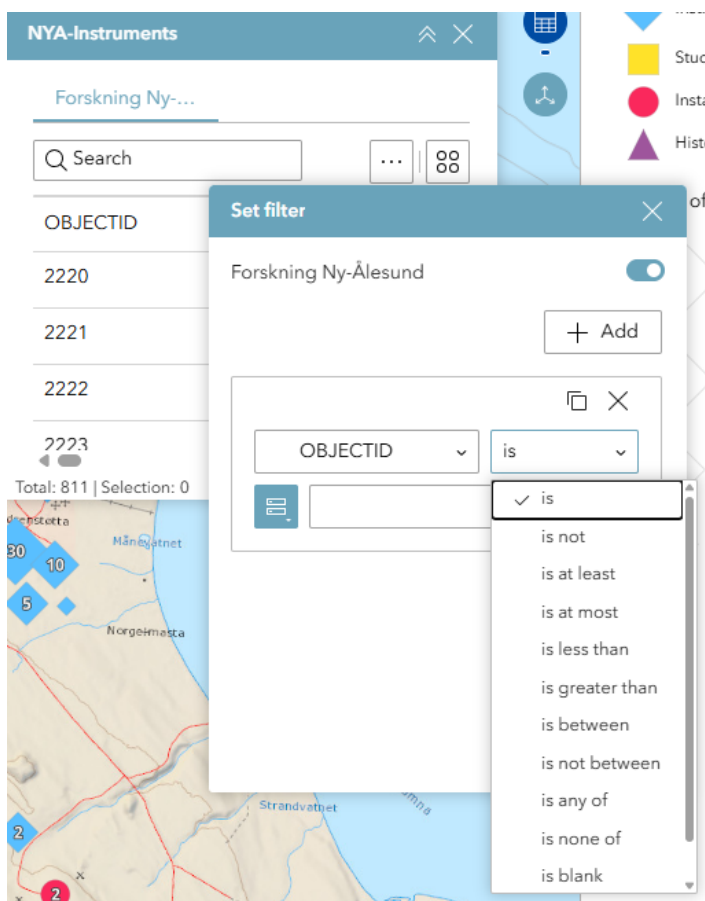
The user can add several filters by utilizing the AND/OR function. This becomes visible when clicking "add", thus adding one more filter / variable.

For example: If you would like to see all objects belonging to one of the observatories, choose

"Observatory" "is" , and choose "Unique" under "Select source type" . In this way you can choose between the different available observatories.

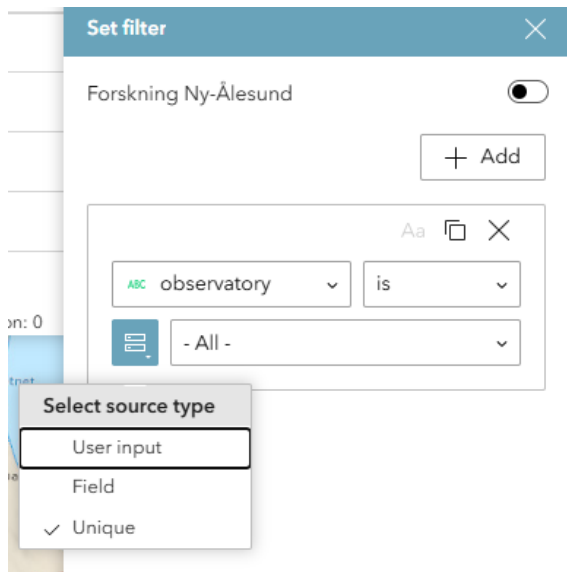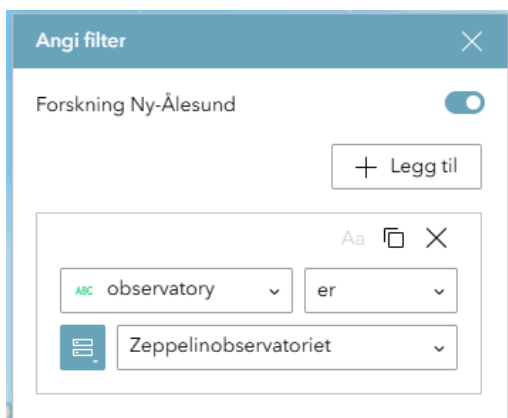To see all objects from e.g. the Zeppelin Observatory, choose "Zeppelinobservatoriet" and activate the blue radio button at the top left corner. The radio button activates the search in the table.

If you would like to add another filter to the same search, click "Add" and "Clause" and add another clause/subclause.

E.g. the search below gives all objects at Zeppelin Observatory and owned by NILU (Norwegian Institute for Air Research). In this way one can build up the search one wants.

Export metadata

By clicking the four circles again ( ) and choosing Export   it is possible to export the datapoints in the search. One can choose between six data formats (JSON, CSV, GeoJSON, Shapefile, FGDB, KML).

Finding coordinates for one object

The arrow icon ( ) lets the user get the coordinates of an object in the map.

Press the cross in the bottom left of the dialogue box that opens and click on the map to get the coordinates of an object.
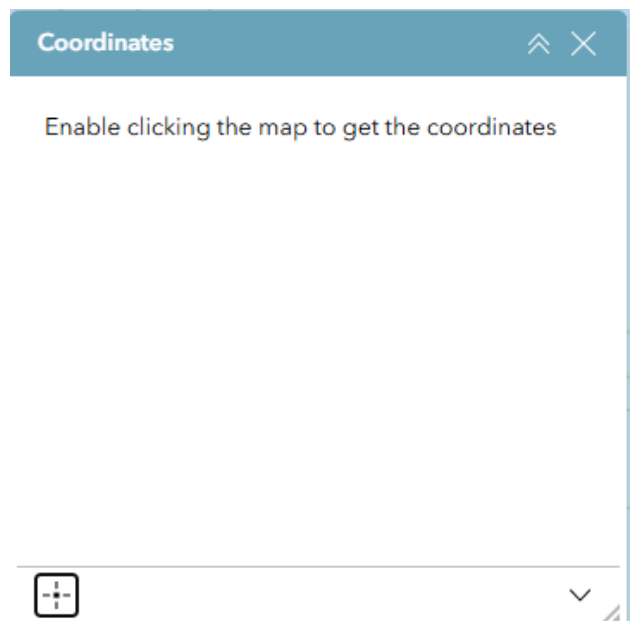
Background map

By pressing the in the lower right corner the user can choose between several background maps:

Attachment 1: Database model

Each object in the map contains the following metadata. Fields marked with a * are mandatory

1. *Name/title of object:
2. Geographical name: Geographical name where object is located
3. *Object type: Domain list with three options: instrument, installation, or field site.
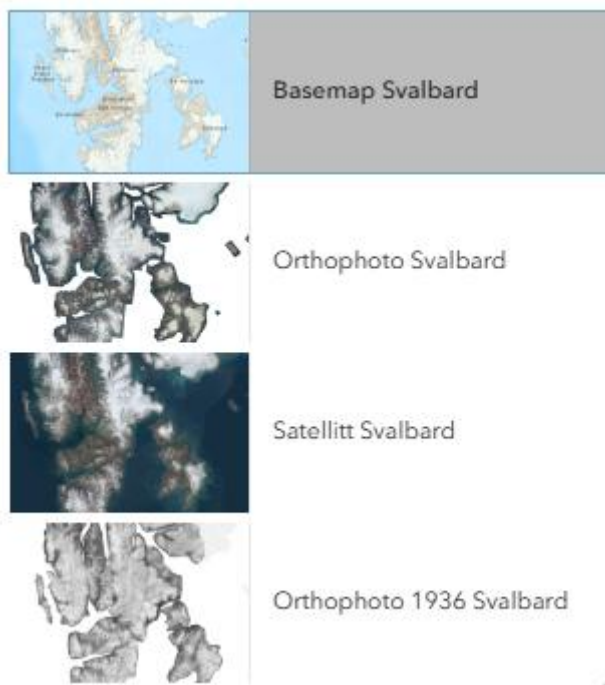4. Observed/measured variable: Observed variable selected from the list of GCMD science keywords (NASA Global Change Master Directory, https://gcmdservices.gsfc.nasa.gov/static/kms/
5. Observatory/platform: If the object is placed in an established observatory/platform. A domain list including 9 observatories.
6. Object ownership
    a. *Country of origin responsible institution.
    b. *Responsible institution.
    c. Contact person: name
    d. Contact person: email
7. Timespan:
    a. *Start date. Unknown is set to 01.01.1900
    b. End date. Blank if ongoing
8. References:
    a. RIS number. The number of the corresponding *Research in Svalbard* project.
    b. DOI to data set or url to a datacenter.
9. Description
    a. *Disipline: Chosen from a domain list. The disciplines are the same as used in *Research in Svalbard* database.
    b. Activity description. Information on sampling frequency, active radio device, activity period, etc.
    c. *Object description/site information. Typically information included: network affiliation; instrument type; site information, radius of non-disturbance around object, other relevant comments.
10. Attachment
    a. Image attachment.