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SN.1/Circ.305
1 February 2012

SAFETY OF NAVIGATION

NORTH AMERICAN ICE SERVICE – ICEBERG INFORMATION AND SERVICES

1 At the request of the Government of the United States, the attached announcement of the North American Ice Service – Iceberg Information and Services – is brought to the attention of Member Governments. This was formerly known as the Announcement of 2011 International Ice Patrol Services (SN.1/Circ.299 refers).

2 Member Governments are requested to bring this information to the attention of shipowners and shipmasters and other parties concerned encouraging them to immediately report any sightings of ice when near or within the "estimated limits of all known ice" and advising them to be guided by the attached announcement.

ANNEX



NORTH AMERICAN ICE SERVICE ICEBERG INFORMATION AND SERVICES

The North American Ice Service (NAIS), a partnership comprised of the International Ice Patrol (IIP), the Canadian Ice Service (CIS), and the U.S. National Ice Center (NIC), provides year-round maritime safety information on iceberg and sea ice conditions in the vicinity of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland and the east coast of Labrador, Canada. The daily NAIS Iceberg Limit, valid at 0000Z, along with the daily Sea Ice Limit, valid for 1100 EST the previous day, will be distributed as a NAVAREA IV warning in the format of a text Iceberg Bulletin and as a graphic Iceberg Chart in accordance with Table 1.

The purpose of the NAIS Iceberg Bulletin and Chart is to advise mariners of the estimated iceberg extent within the region. On the Chart, numbers within each grid sector inside the Iceberg Limit are intended to provide mariners an awareness of the relative density of icebergs. For more information on the Iceberg Bulletin and Iceberg Chart visit <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/iipCharts>. NAIS reconnaissance is focused near the Grand Banks of Newfoundland and the east coast of Labrador, ice conditions south of Greenland are not monitored by NAIS. (For iceberg conditions south of Greenland visit the Danish Meteorological Institute's website at <http://www.dmi.dk/dmi/en/gronland/iskort.htm>.) While NAIS strives to be as accurate as possible in reporting the presence of icebergs to mariners, it is not possible to ensure that all icebergs are detected and reported. There is no substitute for due vigilance and prudent seamanship, especially when operating near sea ice and icebergs.

Reports of icebergs in the North Atlantic originate from various sources, including passing ships, reconnaissance flights, and spaceborne reconnaissance. Once position, time, size, and shape of icebergs sighted are received, the data is entered into a computer model that predicts iceberg drift and deterioration. As the time after sighting increases, so does the uncertainty in estimated positions. This uncertainty is taken into account when the Iceberg Limit is determined.

If an iceberg or radar target is detected and reported outside the published NAIS Iceberg Limit, a Notice to Shipping (NOTSHIP) will be sent by the Canadian Coast Guard

Marine Communications and Traffic Service (MCTS) and an urgent NAVAREA IV message will be distributed on SafetyNET via the U.S. National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) as the NAVAREA IV Coordinator. These warnings will remain in effect for 24 hours. Iceberg products will be revised shortly after notification between 1200Z and 0000Z or by 1400Z if reported between 0000Z and 1200Z.

Ships are encouraged to immediately report sightings of icebergs or stationary radar targets that may likely be icebergs to the nearest Canadian Coast Guard MCTS Station or through INMARSAT using Service Code 42, as there is no charge when using this code. See Table 2 for MCTS contact information. Vessels participating in a Voluntary Observing Ship (VOS) program should continue to report weather and sea surface temperature (SST) to their respective programs. Vessels interested in providing weather and SST reports to U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's VOS program can contact vos@noaa.gov or visit www.vos.noaa.gov for guidance.

When making iceberg reports, please include **SHIP NAME** and **CALL SIGN**, **ZULU TIME**, **SHIP POSITION** (latitude, longitude), **COURSE**, **SPEED**, **VISIBILITY**, **ICEBERG/RADAR TARGETS POSITION** (Specify either the geographic coordinates or range/bearing from ship's position), **ZULU TIME OF SIGHTING**, **METHOD OF DETECTION** (Visual, Radar, or Both), **LENGTH** (in meters), **SHAPE OF ICEBERG** (See Table 3), and **VESSEL CONTACT INFORMATION**.

International Ice Patrol in New London, CT



Phone: (860) 271-2626
Toll free: (877) 423-7287
Fax: (860) 271-2773
Email: iipcomms@uscg.mil
Web: <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/IIP>
Office hours: 1200Z - 0000Z

Canadian Ice Service in Ottawa, ON



Phone: (877) 789-7733
Fax: (560) 451-6010
Email: cis-scg.client@ec.gc.ca
Web: <http://www.ice-glaces.ec.gc.ca>
Office Hours: 0730 - 1730 EST

TABLE 1: NAIS BROADCASTS

Product Type	Transmission Means	Broadcast Station	Broadcast Time (UTC)	Frequencies (kHz) or Location
NAIS NAVAREA IV ICEBERG BULLETIN	SafetyNET Broadcasts as NAVAREA IV messages	AOR-W Satellite	1000, 2200 Urgent Broadcasts of targets outside limit sent upon receipt	SafetyNET
	NAVTEX Broadcast	Canadian CG Marine Communications and Traffic Service St. John's/VON	1820 (Winter) 2220 (Summer) (Changes with DST) Urgent Broadcasts of targets outside limit sent upon receipt	518 F1B
	SITOR/NBDP Broadcast	USCG Communication Station Boston/NMP	0140-0230 1630-1720	6314, 8416.5, 12579 F1B 08416.5, 12579, 16806.5 F1B
	Internet	International Ice Patrol Website	updated daily by 2200	http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/IIP
		Automated Email		https://radioaid.rdc.uscg.gov/mailman/listinfo/iceberg_bulletin
	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Website		http://msi.nga.mil/NGAPortal/MST.portal	
NAIS ICEBERG CHART	Radio Facsimile Broadcast	USCG Communication Station Boston/NMP	0438, 1039 1600, 2239	4235, 6340.5, 9110 F3C 6340.5, 9110, 12750 F3C
		Offenbach, Germany via Pinneberg/DDK	0930, 2100	3855, 7880, 13882.5 F1C
		Canadian CG Marine Communications and Traffic Service Sydney/VCO	1741	6915.10 J3C
	Internet	International Ice Patrol Website	Updated daily by 2200	http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/IIP
		Automated Email		https://radioaid.rdc.uscg.gov/mailman/listinfo/iceberg_chart
National Weather Service Website		http://weather.noaa.gov/pub/fax/PIEAS8.gif		
	Email On Demand*		ftpmail@ftpmail.nws.noaa.gov	
PIEAS8	Radio Telephone	Canadian CG Marine Communications and Traffic Service St. Anthony/VCM	0107, 0907, 1907 & as required continuous	2589 J3E VHF Channel 21B & 83B

*To prompt email on demand send an e-mail to ftpmail@ftpmail.nws.noaa.gov with any subject line. The body of the text should read as follows (please note the text is case sensitive and must be sent in plain text format):
open
cd fax
get PIEAS8.gif --or-- get PIEAS8.TIF
quit
The e-mail server will then automatically send a GIF or TIF formatted image of the facsimile back to the sender's e-mail address.

TABLE 2: REPORT RECEIVING STATIONS

The following Canadian Coast Guard Marine Communications & Traffic Service (MCTS) Centers (Receiving Stations) monitor and transmit on VHF 16 & HF 2182 J3E:

Bold indicates the Coast Guard Radio call name.

St. Johns NL (VON) Email: ECAREGSNF@INNAV.GC.CA Phone: 709-772-2106	St. Anthony NL (VCM) Email: ECASNY@INNAV.GC.CA Phone: 709-454-3852
Labrador NL (VOK) Email: ECAGOY@INNAV.GC.CA Phone: 709-896-2252	Placentia NL (VCP) Email: ECAPLA@INNAV.GC.CA Phone: 709-227-2181
Port aux Basques NL (VOJ) Email: PAXTFC@INNAV.GC.CA Phone: 709-695-2167	Sydney NS (VCO) Email: CCGOPS@ELSMAIL.NET Phone: 902-564-7751
Dartmouth/Halifax NS (VCS) Email: CCGOPS@ELSMAIL.NET Phone: 902-426-9750	Saint John/Fundy NB (VAR) Email: CCGOPS@ELSMAIL.NET Phone: 506-636-4696

Visit http://www.vos.noaa.gov/vos_resource.shtml for instructions on sending INMARSAT 2-digit access code reports. For all iceberg reports use access code 42.

TABLE 3: ICEBERG SHAPES



Non-Tabular: This general shape category includes blocky, pinnacle, dry dock, wedged, dome, or any iceberg that does not meet characteristics of a tabular iceberg.



Tabular: Flat-topped, most show horizontal banding.