Ice Patrol Narsarsuaq, Greenland and DMI Ice Service, Copenhagen

General information

DMI Ice Service and Ice Patrol Narsarsuaq collects information regarding ice conditions in the waters around Greenland and distributes this information to ships primarily as ice charts and reports.

Ships may contact us for information about issued or planned ice charts.

Ice charting is primarily based on information received from the radar carrying satellites Radarsat and Envisat. These are supported by information obtained from weather satellites, in addition to manual observations and model forecasts.

Ice piloting by helicopter, primarily for inshore sailing routes in South Greenland, is also available.

Additional ice charts and ice piloting can be obtained and this special service must generally be ordered no less than three days in advance. Charges may be expected.

Contact information

Ice conditions - please call: +299 66 52 44 daily from 8:00-12:00 and 13:00-16:00 local time. Urgent calls may be made outside regular hours.

Emails: isc@greennet.gl or iskort@dmi.dk
Web: www.dmi.dk/dmi/en/gronland/iskort.htm

Poll Ice chart via fax:
Cape Farewell Ice Chart: Fax +299 66 53 44
West Greenland Ice Chart: Fax +299 66 52 47
East Greenland Ice Chart: Fax +299 66 52 47

Local time = UTC minus 3 hrs. Local summer time = UTC minus 2 hrs.

Covering Areas of Ice Charts and Inshore Ice Reports

Cape Farewell Ice Chart:
Covers the waters around Cape Farewell: primarily from Paamiut (Frederikshåb) along the west coast to Cape Farewell and to Tingmiarmiut along the east coast, south of 62°N.

West Greenland Ice Chart:
Covers areas on the west coast of Greenland north of 62°N. The covered areas depend on the ice situation.

East Greenland Ice Chart:
Covers areas on the east coast of Greenland north of 62°N. The covered areas depend on the ice situation.

Inshore Ice Report:
Covers the inshore routes in South Greenland: Prins Christians Sund – Nanortalik—Qaqortoq - Tôrnârssuk—Paamiut.

Ice charts/Ice reports via internet & e-mail

All ice charts and inshore ice reports can be obtained via Internet - See contact information. On request inshore ice report can be made in English. All ice charts are forwarded to the various harbour offices located in the coastal towns of Greenland. These charts are available to the public.

The Ice Patrol, Narsarsuaq is able to send ice charts by e-mail in pdf format (about 90 Kb in 300 dpi). Any ship, company or other users may sign up for the email distribution. Please mail to isc@greennet.gl and specify which chart(s) should be included in the distribution (Cape Farewell, east coast or west coast). On request ice charts can be send in lower resolution (about 20 Kb in 100 dpi).

Transmission of ice charts via fax

In order to poll Cape Farewell Ice Chart and the most recent Inshore Ice Report issued in Danish the Ice Patrol, Narsarsuaq can be reached at fax: +299 665344.

To poll West and East Greenland ice charts issued use fax: +299 665247.

Satellite Image

Communication between the Ice Patrol helicopter and commercial ships

The helicopter can be contacted on VHF Channel 16. Call sign for the Helicopter is "ICERECCO".

Reduced ice reports from coastal radio stations

A condensed ice report is prepared for each Cape Farewell ice chart and occasionally for east and west coast ice charts, called "Reduced Ice Report", which indicates the outer limits of sea ice concentrations, and is broadcast using NAV-TEX.

Reduced ice reports may also be obtained from the coastal radio stations.

Ice reports via KNR Greenland Radio

A concise ice report is prepared in connection with transmission of new Cape Farewell Ice Charts and after an inshore ice reconnaissance. These reports are read during KNR’s Greenland & Danish service transmissions.

Weather information

Warnings and forecasts are broadcasted by KNR (Greenland Radio) and Greenland coast radio stations. For schedules, frequencies and areas see “Admiralty List of Radio Signals”.

Cape Farewell

Polar Ice

Ice Patrol Narsarsuaq