

# CHAPTER 6

## SHORE STATION OBSERVATIONS AND REPORTS

- Shore Ice Report Format
- Dissemination of Reports
- Example of Report

Shore station observers are in a position to examine closely and make detailed observations of ice conditions on water areas near the station.

The need for shore station ice reports varies with the season, depending on ice conditions. The Canadian Ice Service will advise stations when to commence and terminate the reports;

observations shall be taken once per day. The recommended time of observation should be between 0800 and 1000 hours local time.



Masterfile ©

Photo 6.1: Observing ice from shore.

### 6.1 Shore Ice Report Format

```
ISCNI XXXX YYGGgg  
(XXX) YYGGgg X visibility X fast ice X drift ice X openings X  
development stage X topography X remarks X END
```

The tables on the following page describe which information to include and how to encode it. Please note that all groups are mandatory. When no information is available, report **NIL**.



**Table 6.1: Shore Ice Report Header**

	DESCRIPTION
<b>ISCN1</b>	Message designator
<b>XXXX</b>	Transmission station identifier (or station name)
<b>YY</b>	Day of month the report is transmitted
<b>GG</b>	Time the report is transmitted in hours (UTC)
<b>gg</b>	Time the report is transmitted in minutes (UTC)

**Table 6.2: Shore Ice Report Body**

	DESCRIPTION
<b>XXX</b>	Reporting station identifier (or station name)
<b>YY</b>	Day of month of observation
<b>GG</b>	Time of observation in hours (UTC)
<b>gg</b>	Time of observation in minutes (UTC)
<b>visibility</b>	Visibility in kilometres
<b>fast ice</b>	Percentage of shore blocked by shore fast ice and average width (in metres or kilometres)
<b>drift ice</b>	General coverage of drift sea ice in tenths and predominant form (floe size)
<b>openings</b>	Significant openings in the ice (cracks, fractures and leads)
<b>development stage</b>	Stage of development (slush, ice rind, grey, first-year, etc.)
<b>topography</b>	Ice surface topography (smooth, rafted, hummocked, ridged)
<b>remarks</b>	Remarks (ice of land origin, changes evident or occurring in ice conditions, etc.)

## 6.2 Dissemination of Reports

The reports shall be forwarded to a designated collection station on the meteorological communication system. The collection station is responsible for forwarding the message, with the collection station's identifier, to the Canadian Ice Service in a timely manner. MANTRANS (cf. 3) gives a listing of the ISCN1 bulletin headings—including the stations contained in the bulletins—and prescribes the relays which accomplish the desired distribution. When transmitted by a collection station, the shore station identifier is added before the date/time group in the body of the message

## 6.3 Example Of Report

```
ISCN1 CYCB 261534
YUX X 261200 X NINE X TEN 100 METRES WIDE X NINE
SMALL FLOE X LEADS X GREY X SMOOTH SURFACE X GREASE
ICE IN LEADS X END
```

### Header:

This shore ice report (**ISCN1**) was transmitted by Cambridge Bay (**CYCB**) on the twenty-sixth day of the month at 1534 UTC.

### Body:

<b>YUX</b>	= Observation was made at the Hall Beach station
<b>261200</b>	= Observation occurred on the twenty-sixth day of the month at 1200 UTC
<b>NINE</b>	= Visibility was 9 kilometres
<b>TEN</b>	= The shore was 10 percent blocked by shore fast ice in a 100 m wide band
<b>NINE</b>	= Drift ice coverage was 9/10ths in mostly small floes
<b>LEADS</b>	= There are leads in the drift ice
<b>GREY</b>	= The stage of development was predominantly grey ice
<b>SMOOTH SURFACE</b>	= The ice surface was smooth
<b>GREASE ICE IN LEADS</b>	= Remark about grease ice forming in leads
<b>END</b>	= End of message indicator