

FECN07 CWIS 181800

THIRTY DAY FORECAST FOR EASTERN ARCTIC WATERS FROM MID-OCTOBER TO MID-NOVEMBER ISSUED BY THE NORTH AMERICAN ICE SERVICE ON 18 OCTOBER 2006. THIS IS THE LAST 30 DAY FORECAST OF THE SEASON.

Mean air temperatures were above normal during the first two weeks of October. Freeze-up is expected to be 1 to 2 weeks later than normal.

Forecast ice conditions for October 17th to October 31st.

An area of high pressure developing over the Central Arctic combined with weak low pressure systems forming over Baffin Bay will result in light and variable winds over most locations during the second half of October. Mean air temperatures are expected to remain above normal values during the period. Patches of very open to open drift multi-year and grey ice will continue to drift into the eastern entrance to Lancaster Sound during the last two weeks of October. An area of new with some grey ice will form over the extreme northwestern portion of Baffin Bay, in the eastern entrance to Lancaster Sound, along the shores of Bylot Island and in Melville Bay at the end of the third week of October. The ice will slowly spread southward to cover the extreme northwestern portion of Baffin Bay as far south as Pond Inlet and most of Melville Bay during the last week of October. At that time, new with some grey ice will form in shallow bays and inlets along Baffin Island between Pond Inlet and Cape Dyer. The ice over the extreme northwestern portion of Baffin Bay and Melville Bay will have thickened to grey with some greywhite ice by the end of October. New with some grey ice will form in shallow water areas over northern Foxe Basin during the last week of October. At that time, new ice will develop in shallow bays and inlets over southern Foxe Basin and along the shore of Southampton Island. Open drift to close pack grey and new ice with some multi-year ice will prevail over Fury and Hecla Strait and north of Igloodik. Bergy water will prevail over the rest of Davis Strait and most of Baffin Bay, while open water will persist over the rest of Foxe Basin.

Forecast ice conditions for November 01st to mid-November.

Mean air temperatures are expected to remain near to above normal values for most locations during the first half of November. The ice will continue its slow southward progression over Baffin Bay and Foxe Basin during the first two weeks of November. An area of new and grey ice will spread southeastward along Baffin Island to reach Clyde River by mid-November. At that time, the northwestern section of Baffin Bay and Melville Bay will be covered with an area of grey greywhite ice. In addition, the ice will have thickened to thin first year ice in the entrance to Lancaster Sound. New and grey ice will develop along the coast south of Clyde River. During the first two weeks of November, the ice will continue to develop over northern Foxe Basin and thicken to grey and greywhite ice.

During the same period, an area of grey ice will dominate along the shores of southern Foxe Basin and along Southampton Island. Bergy water will prevail over the rest of Baffin Bay and Davis Strait, while open water will persist over the remaining area of Foxe Basin.

Figure 1: Ice forecast - 15 November 2006

