



International Ice Patrol (IIP) Iceberg Sightings Database, Version 1

USER GUIDE

How to Cite These Data

As a condition of using these data, you must include a citation:

International Ice Patrol. 1995, updated 2020. *International Ice Patrol (IIP) Iceberg Sightings Database, Version 1*. [Indicate subset used]. Boulder, Colorado USA. NSIDC: National Snow and Ice Data Center. <https://doi.org/10.7265/N56Q1V5R>. [Date Accessed].

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FOR CURRENT INFORMATION, VISIT <https://nsidc.org/data/G00807>



National Snow and Ice Data Center

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1 DATA DESCRIPTION

1.1 Summary

The International Ice Patrol (IIP) has been collecting information on iceberg activity in the North Atlantic since 1913. This database contains the data from these sightings from 1960 through the most current processing.

The IIP data files include latitude and longitude of sighted icebergs, coded iceberg size and shape class, and date and time of the sighting. The IIP area of responsibility is 40° N to 60° N (along the coast of Labrador) and 40° W to 60° W. Note, the IIP area of responsibility prior to 2006 was 40° N to 52° N and 39° W to 57° W. The data set begins in 1960, and files are in different formats based on the time period in which they were collected as described in the Format section below.

Ships transiting between Europe and east coast ports of Canada and the US traverse a great circle route that brings them into the vicinity of icebergs carried south by the cold Labrador Current near the Grand Banks. It was here that the RMS Titanic sank in 1912, after it struck an iceberg. This disaster resulted in the loss of 1,517 lives and led directly to the founding of the IIP in 1914. The mission of the IIP is to monitor iceberg danger near the Grand Banks of Newfoundland and provide relevant warning products to the maritime community. The IIP does this by sighting icebergs, primarily through airborne Coast Guard reconnaissance missions; plotting and predicting iceberg drift using a model; and generating the daily Iceberg Limit to encapsulate the iceberg danger to ships operating in the North Atlantic. This limit is broadcast by radio stations and made available online as a text bulletin, graphical product, shapefile, and keyhole markup language file.

IIP actively patrols during the period when icebergs threaten the Transatlantic Shipping lanes, typically from February through July. Prior to 2011, if icebergs were not impacting the shipping lanes, IIP did not produce daily warning products. Since 2011, IIP, in partnership with the Canadian Ice Service (CIS), has produced Iceberg Warning Products daily, even if icebergs are not below 48° N. The product formats are identical regardless of which agency is producing them, providing greater consistency for the mariner and supporting continuity of operations for this critical maritime safety information. IIP has primary responsibility for producing products from February through August; CIS takes primary responsibility from September to January.

NSIDC archives these data for the IIP. Other products, including a scientific bibliography and iceberg limit climatology, are available on the [IIP Web site](#).

In 2010, a data user had questions about the data. NSIDC contacted B. Lis at the IIP for answers. For the convenience of other users, we are including the questions and answers here. (provided by B. Lis, IIP, Jan 2010)

Question 1:

Is there a way to track an iceberg from one year to the next? Each year's data re-numbers icebergs starting from 1.

Answer:

The icebergs that IIP tracks near the Grand Banks of Newfoundland do not last to the next year; they melt due to the warmer waters of the North Atlantic current, the warmer air temperatures of spring and summer, and destructive wave action over time.

Question 2:

Can you give me a hint, pointer, heuristic, or something that would allow me to: (a) estimate volume in cubic meters from your general size descriptors and (b) estimate volume below the surface versus above the surface?

Answer:

The iceberg size and shape information in the IIP iceberg-sighting database is very coarse and not useful for accurate calculation of the submerged shape or mass of an iceberg. For a discussion of iceberg size and shape, see the paper Determination of Iceberg Draft, Mass and Cross-Sectional Areas (Barker, Sayed, and Carrieres 2004).

There are several other reports on iceberg size and shape at the National Research Council Canada (NRC) [Ocean, Coastal, and River Engineering](#) web site.

1.2 File Information

1.2.1 Format

In addition to visual observations from ships and aircraft, the IIP makes use of information from drifting buoys, radar, inverse synthetic aperture radar, and satellite observations as well as model output. In 2006, the IIP began synchronizing its database with the Canadian Ice Center's (CIS) iceberg database so that it contains icebergs seen and tracked by CIS as well as by the IIP. This accounts for an increase in icebergs to 65 degrees N beginning in 2006 in this data set. (Greg Wright, IIP, personal communication 8 Nov. 2006). Over the period of record, the IIP's seasonal iceberg database has changed format several times. These format changes have included the addition and/or deletion of varying fields. Each format is described in the Format section below.

The IIP database is provided in several different formats with slight variations in the formatting for five different time periods that are described further below:

- Format A: 2020 to Present
- Format B: 1998 to 2001

- Format C: 1993 to 1997
- Format D: 1992
- Format E: 1960 to 1991

1.2.1.1 Format A: 2002 to Present

Format A data are provided in comma separate value (.csv) format. The columns of the Format A data files are described in Table 1.

Table 1. Format A Column Descriptions

Column	Name	Description
1	ICEBERG_YEAR	4-digit year of the iceberg season
2	ICEBERG_NUMBER	A unique identifier given to each iceberg. Numbers are repeated when an iceberg is "resighted" to a new position. Numbers are in the range 2 to NNNN and 20001 to NNNNN. Numbers are not always sequential by date.
3	SIGHTING_DATE	Date of the sighting of the form MM/DD/YYYY where MM: 2-digit month, DD: 2-digit day of month, YYYY: 4-digit year
4	SIGHTING_TIME	Time of the sighting in UTC of the form HHmm where HH: 2-digit hour and mm: 2-digit minute
5	SIGHTING_LATITUDE	Latitude in decimal degrees North of the sighting
6	SIGHTING_LONGITUDE	Longitude in decimal degrees West of the sighting
7	SIGHTING_METHOD	Method used to make the iceberg sighting (RAD: radar, R/V: radar/visual, VIS: visual, SAT-HIGH:satellite high-confidence, SAT-LOW: satellite low-confidence)
8	SIZE	Size of the iceberg sighted (GR: growler, BB: bergy bit, SM: small, MED: medium, LG: large, VLG: very large, RAD: radar berg/undetermined size). For a description of these sizes, see Canadian Ice Service (2005) page 2-16, Figure 2.3.
9	SHAPE	Shape of the iceberg sighted (TAB: tabular, NTB: nontabular, BLK: blocky, DD: dry dock, DOM: domed, GEN: general, PIN: pinnacled, RAD: radar berg/undermined shape, WDG: wedge). For a description of these shapes, see Canadian Ice Service (2005) page 2-17, Figure 2.4.
10	SOURCE	4-character call sign or abbreviation of the source that reported the iceberg sighting. See Table 2 for a list of these.

Table 2. Format A Reporting Source Description

Reporting Source Abbreviation	Reporting Source Name
15xx, 17xx, 20xx	US Coast Guard fixed wing aircraft
CGxx	Canadian Coast Guard asset
Gxxx	Canadian aircraft (commercial or government)
SHIP	Generic Ship
9HA3	Merchant ship call sign example
C6TN	Merchant ship call sign example
OOCL	Merchant ship call sign example
VRVQ	Merchant ship call sign example
ENVI	Satellite: Envisat
RSA1	Satellite: RADARSAT-1
RSA2	Satellite: RADARSAT-2
RCM1,2,3	Satellite: RADARSAT Constellation Mission 1, 2, or 3
SNL1	Satellite: Sentinel-1, analysis by third party (not IIP)
S1A, B	Satellite: Sentinel-1 A or B, analysis by IIP
SN2A, B	Satellite: Sentinel-2 A or B
TSX	Satellite: TerraSAR-X

1.2.1.2 Format B: 1998 to 2001

Format B is provided in space-delimited ASCII text format. Table 3 describes the data in the IIP's annual iceberg listings for Format B.

Table 3. Format B Column Description

Column	Description
1	The iceberg number for that sighting, re-sighting, or deletion.
2	The calendar date of that sighting, re-sighting, or deletion.
3	The Julian date of that sighting, re-sighting, or deletion.
4	The time of that sighting, re-sighting, or deletion.
5	The latitude (North) of the sighting, re-sighting, or deletion.
6	The longitude (negative sign means W) of the sighting, re-sighting, or deletion.
7	The confidence level or means of sighting of the iceberg (VIS=visible, RAD=radar, and R/V=both radar and visible).
8	The sighted size of the iceberg; Table 4. Format B Size
9	The sighted shape of the iceberg; Table 5. Format B Shape

Column	Description
10	The mobility of the iceberg when sighted (DFT=drifting, GND=grounded, and TOW=under tow).
11	The sighting source by call sign; Table 6. Format B Source
12*	The calendar date of the last position of the iceberg before it was either deleted or re-sighted.
13*	The Julian date of the last position of the iceberg before it was either deleted or re-sighted.
14*	The time of the last position of the iceberg before it was either deleted or re-sighted.
15/16*	The latitude and longitude of the last position of the iceberg before it was either deleted or re-sighted.
17*	The percentage melt of the iceberg at the last position of the iceberg before it was either deleted or re-sighted.
18	The number of days drifted before it was it was either deleted or re-sighted.
19	For the years 1998-2004, the field 19 "size" refers to the estimated size of the last analysis (modeled) position for the iceberg entry. (B. Lis, personal communication, 1/2010)
20	Flag indicating if the iceberg was Deleted (DELETED), Active (ACTIVE), or Re-sighted (DELHIST).

Note that for the years 1998-present, fields 12-17 (date, Julian date, time, latitude, longitude, and percent melt) refer to the last analysis (modeled) position of the iceberg entry, not merely the last position. However, the IIP has determined that for the years 2006-present, the data in fields 12-17 (analysis date, time, position and melt) are not reliable. There is a problem with the way the data are being captured for this report. Since this is an "iceberg sighting" database, the IIP plans to report the relevant fields 1-11 and 18 (duration of tracking) (B. Lis, personal communication, 1/2010).

Table 4. Format B Size

Code	Description
NUL	nul
GBL	garbled
GEN	general
TAR	unidentified target
GR	growler
BB	bergy bit
SM	small
MED	medium
LG	large
VLG	very large
RND	randomized

Table 5. Format B Shape

Code	Description
NUL	nul
GBL	garbled
N/A	not applicable
U/D	undetermined
TAB	tabular
NTB	non-tabular
DOM	domed
PIN	pinnacled
DDK	drydock
FRG	fragment
BLK	blocky
RND	randomized

Table 6. Format B Source

Code	Description
IBCNn	Canada
IBUSn	USA
1	aircraft
2	icebreaker
3	other ship
4	offshore industry
5	miscellaneous

1.2.1.3 Format C: 1993 to 1997

Format C is provided in space-delimited ASCII text format. Table 7 describes the data in the IIP's annual iceberg listings for Format C.

Table 7. Format C Column Description

Column	Description
1	Sequential iceberg numbers used by IIP's computer model label each iceberg. Many numbers are listed more than once. The first listing of an iceberg gives the initial sighting information. Subsequent lines give the times and positions where the iceberg was resighted. "Resighted" is defined as an IIP update of the iceberg position based on new sighting information.
2	The Julian date of the sighted/resighted position for this iceberg entry.
3	The calendar date of the sighted/resighted position for this iceberg entry (YY/MM/DD).
4	The time (UTC) for the sighted/resighted position for this iceberg entry.
5/6	The sighted or resighted position for this sighted/resighted iceberg entry (in degrees and minutes).
7	Reported size of the iceberg. Table 8. Format C Size decodes the abbreviations.
8	Reported shape of the iceberg. Table 9. Format C Shape decodes the abbreviations.
9	Reported confidence of the sighting data. This represents the means used by the reporting source for identifying the iceberg and its characteristics. Table 10. Format C Confidence decodes the abbreviations.
10	This column indicates the type of reporting source. Table 11. Format C Source decodes the abbreviations.
11	The call sign of the reporting source.
12	Julian date of the last analysis (i.e. computer model forecast) position for this sighting before it is either deleted or resighted.
13	Calendar date of the last analysis position for this sighting.

Column	Description
14	The time (UTC) of the last analysis position for this sighting.
15/16	The last analysis position for this sighting before it was deleted or resighted (in degrees and minutes).

Table 8. Format C Size

Code	Description
NUL	nul
GBL	garbled
GEN	general
TAR	unidentified target
GR	growler
BB	bergy bit
SM	small
MED	medium
LG	large
VLG	very large
RND	randomized

Table 9. Format C Shape

Code	Description
NUL	nul
GBL	garbled
N/A	not applicable
U/D	undetermined
TAB	tabular
NTB	non-tabular
DOM	domed
PIN	pinnacled
DDK	drydock
FRG	fragment
BLK	blocky
RND	randomized

Table 10. Format C Confidence

Code	Description
NUL	nul
GBL	garbled
R/V	radar and visual
R	radar only
V	visual only
MEA	measured
EST	estimated
SYN	synthetic

Table 11. Format C Source

Code	Description
IBCNn	Canada
IBUSn	USA
1	aircraft
2	icebreaker
3	other ship
4	offshore industry
5	miscellaneous

1.2.1.4 Format D: 1992

Format D is provided in space-delimited ASCII text format. Table 12 describes the data in the IIP's annual iceberg listings for Format D.

Table 12. Format D File Description

Code	Description
BERG	Iceberg number "+", "D", or "X" following iceberg number indicates iceberg record was a re-sight or the information has been updated. "D" or "X" indicates the last resighted information for that iceberg in the file.
SCD	Source of the sighting information, based on Table 13. Format D Source of the Sighting Information
SITED POSITION	Latitude and longitude (degrees, minutes to hundredths) of iceberg sighting
SITED TIME	Date (MMM DD/HHMM) of iceberg sighting; times are GMT.
DESC	Size and type of iceberg, based on Table 14. Format D Size and Type of Iceberg

Code	Description
LAST ANAL POS	Last position provided by IIP iceberg prediction model for this iceberg
PREDICTED POSITION	This field is not defined in the documentation
DOP	Number of days-on-plot for the iceberg before deletion or resighting
OFF PLOT	Date the iceberg was taken off plot or resighted
Note: DOP and OFF PLOT are described in the documentation but may not appear in the 1992 data file.	

Table 13. Format D Source of the Sighting Information

Code	Description
1	USCG SLAR
2	USCG VISUAL
3	CANADIAN AES SLAR
4	CANADIAN AES VISUAL
5	COMMERCIAL AIR RECONNAISSANCE
6	SHIP REPORT
7	LIGHTHOUSE/SHORE
8	NAVPOLAR (U.S. NAVY)
9	OTHER
0	BAPS BERG

Table 14. Format D Size and Type of Iceberg

Code	Description
1	GROWLER
2	SMALL, PINNACLE
3	SMALL, TABULAR
4	MEDIUM, PINNACLE
6	MEDIUM, TABULAR
7	LARGE, PINNACLE
8	LARGE, TABULAR
9	RADAR CONTACT

1.2.1.5 Format E: 1960 to 1991

Format E is provided in space-delimited ASCII text format. Table 15 describes the data in the IIP's annual iceberg listings for Format E.

Table 15. Format E Column Descriptions

Columns	Description
Iceberg number	This field contains a sequential number for each iceberg sighted within each iceberg season which runs from 1 October of one year to 30 September of the next year. For example, iceberg season 2017 runs from 1 October 2016 through 30 September 2017.
Sighting Index	This is a symbol used by the model to indicate whether the iceberg is a resight of a previous sighting. A "+" is used to indicate the iceberg is an earlier sighting of a resighted iceberg. A "D" is used to indicate the last sighting of an iceberg. In some cases, the first and last sighting of an iceberg are the same.
Resight	A "Y" (for yes) or "N" (for no) is entered in this field to indicate whether or not the sighting was considered a resight of a previously sighted iceberg.
Sighting Source	This column is used to describe the source that reported the iceberg to Ice Patrol. This column was first recorded digitally in 1984 and the code was modified in 1989. See Table 16. Format E Sighting Source below for the code used to describe the sighting source.
Sighting Position	The latitude and longitude of the sighted position of the iceberg.
Sighting Date	The date the iceberg was sighted (MMM DD,YYYY/HHMM)
Sighting Time	The time (in Universal Coordinated Time) of the iceberg
Iceberg Description	Ice Patrol uses a simplified code to describe the sighted icebergs. The code is tied to generalized sizes and shapes used by the iceberg drift model. See Table 17. Format E Iceberg Description below for the code used to describe the iceberg description.
Last Model Analysis Position	The last model predicted position for the iceberg produced using analysis winds before the iceberg was removed from the active list. (An iceberg report can be removed from the active model list by being resighted or deleted by the operator.)
Number of Icebergs represented by sighting record	In areas of heavy concentrations, groups of icebergs may be reported together. The number of icebergs in each sighting report is represented in this field.
Days on Plot	This field indicates the number of days the iceberg sighting was drifted by the model before being removed from the list of active icebergs.
Date of Last Model Position	The date of the position of the last model analysis position.

Table 16. Format E Sighting Source

Number	1984-1988	1989 to Present
1	Ice Patrol Aircraft Radar/SLAR	Ice Patrol Aircraft/SLAR
2	Ice Patrol Aircraft Visual	Ice Patrol Aircraft Visual
3	AES Aircraft Radar/SLAR	AES Aircraft Radar/SLAR
4	AES Aircraft Visual	AES Aircraft Visual
5	Ship Report - Radar	Other Air reconnaissance*
6	Ship Report - Visual	Ship Reports
7	Oil Industry Sources	Lighthouse/Shore
8	Lighthouse/Shore	Defense Department Sources
9	Defense Department Sources	Other
0	Other	BAPS Iceberg**
X	Unknown	Unknown
<p>* This category includes iceberg sighting reports received from aircraft flying support for the hydrocarbon industry operating on the Grand Banks.</p>		
<p>** The Canadian Atmospheric Environment Service (AES) operates an iceberg drift prediction model called BAPS. When icebergs drift south of 52 North they will report the predicted positions to Ice Patrol and Ice Patrol will enter the sighting in the IIP iceberg drift model.</p>		

Table 17. Format E Iceberg Description

Code	Description
1	Growler (less than 15 meters in length)
3	Small Non-Tabular (between 15 and 60 meters in length)
4	Small Tabular (between 15 and 60 meters in length)
5	Medium Non-Tabular (between 60 and 122 meters in length)
6	Medium Tabular (between 60 and 122 meters in length)
7	Large Non-Tabular (greater than 122 meters in length)
8	Large Tabular (greater that 122 meters in length)
9	Radar Target
<p>If Ice Patrol receives a visual iceberg sighting report without a size, medium is used. If Ice Patrol receives a visual iceberg sighting report without a description, non-tabular is used. Non-tabular includes all iceberg shapes (examples; pinnacle, dry-dock, domed) except tabular.</p>	

1.2.1.6 The Pre-Model Season File Years Portion of the database

This portion of the database covers the years 1960 to 1981. The below comments for each data field apply to this portion of the database.

Table 18. Pre-Model Season File

Code	Description
Iceberg Number	Although this number is intended to be unique for each ice season, some numbers were duplicated within the same season. All of the duplicate numbers which represent sightings of different icebergs were retained in the database.
Sighting Index	This field was left blank.
Resight	Prior to about the late 1970s, Ice Patrol made little to no distinction between resights and new iceberg sightings.
Sighting source	When this portion of the database was originally placed in computerized format, three source choices were used; USCG Aircraft, USCG Ship, or other. In merging this portion of the data set, USCG ship reports were encoded as "6" (ship reports). If the iceberg description was recorded as a radar target and the sighting source was a USCG aircraft, the sighting source was set to "1" (USCG Aircraft Radar/SLAR). If the iceberg description was "non-radar" and the sighting source was a USCG aircraft, the sighting source was encoded as "2" (USCG Aircraft Visual). The "other" category could include lighthouse reports, shipping reports, and reports from commercial aviation.
Sighting Time	No sighting times were originally recorded for this portion of the database and the sighting time field was set to 0000.
Last Model Analysis Position	The iceberg drift model was not in use and this position was set to 0 North 0 West.
Number of Icebergs	Original sightings during this period were classified in different manners with respect to the number of icebergs represented by each sighting. The following code was used when the data for this period was computerized and the code can be found in Table 19. Number of Icebergs
Days on Plot	Set to zero
Date of Last Model Position	Set to xxxxxx
Model Years Portion of the database	During the early years of the model, not all of the data fields were used. The below comments for the data field refer to the years in parenthesis.
Iceberg Index (1982-1984)	During this period, a problem in the computer program logic occasionally allowed a "D" to be placed where a "+" belonged. The error was carried forward into the database and is not considered critical because of the proper use of the resight data field.

Code	Description
Sighting Source (1982-1983)	This field was not used by the model during this period. In creating the database, the sighting source was set to "X" (Unknown) for these records.
Number of Icebergs (1982-1985)	This field was not used in the model during this period. In creating the database, this field was set to 1 for these records.

Table 19. Number of Icebergs

Code	Description
1	Unknown
2	Numerous
3	Many. If the actual number of icebergs the record represented was known, that number was entered. This number could be 1, 2, or 3. After about the mid-1970s, one record generally represented a single iceberg. When this portion of the database was being entered, the original entry for the number of icebergs represented by the record was carried forward unless the number was greater than 20. In that case, the number of icebergs for the record was questionable and the number was set to one.

1.2.2 Naming Convention

1.2.2.1 Format A: 2002 to Present

Files in Format A are named according to the following conventions:

IIP_YYYYIcebergSeason.csv

Where YYYY is the 4-digit year of the sightings.

1.2.2.2 Format B, C, D, and E: 2001 and earlier

Files in Formats B, C, D, and E are named according to the following convention:

IIP_YYYY.txt, IIP_YY.txt, IIP_YY_YY.txt, or IIP_YY_YYYY.txt

Where YYYY is the 4-digit year of the sightings. Note: Some files use just a 2-digit year to express the date. Files with two different years in the file name contain the range of years indicated in the name.

1.2.2.3 File Size

Files range in size from 40 KB to 6.3 MB. The total volume is approximately 22 MB.

1.3 Spatial and Temporal Information

These data span 1960 through most current processing.

The spatial coverage changed over time:

- Prior to 2006 - North Atlantic: 40° N to 52° N, 39° W to 57° W
- 2006 and forward - North Atlantic: 40° N to 60° N, 40° W to 60° W

2 DATA ACQUISITION AND PROCESSING

2.1 Acquisition

Iceberg sightings are reported by US Coast Guard aerial reconnaissance, by Canadian Coast Guard ships, by merchant ships, by US and Canadian satellite sources, by commercial aerial reconnaissance and even lighthouse keepers. The sighting source coded in the iceberg database may be an aircraft tail number, a ship call sign, or just an abbreviation (Table 2).

Note: Where data files say the sighting method was radar, the sighting was observed by a shipboard or airborne radar system and not satellite. If the sighting method says SAT-HIGH, then the iceberg was sighted by Satellite, with high confidence that sighting is an iceberg whereas SAT-LOW means the iceberg was sighted by Satellite, with low confidence that sighting is an iceberg.

3 VERSION HISTORY

Table 20. Version History Summary

Version	Release Date	Description of Changes
1.0	March 2021	IIP released the 2020 iceberg season data file.
1.0	January 2020	IIP released the 2019 iceberg season data file.
1.0	September 2019	IIP released the 2018 iceberg season data file.
1.0	April 2018	IIP released the 2016 and 2017 iceberg season data files.
1.0	February 2016	IIP released the 2015 iceberg season data file.
1.0	February 2015	IIP released the 2014 iceberg season data file.

Version	Release Date	Description of Changes
1.0	October 2014	IIP has decided to update their format of these files to make them more user friendly and understandable. IIP sent new 2012 and 2013 data in this new format as well as new 2010 and 2011 to replace the old formatted files. This new format (Format A) will be used to reprocess the data prior to 2010 in the near future to bring the whole data set into one consistent format.
1.0	October 2012	Data set updated with 2010 and 2011 files.
1.0	1995	Initial release

4 RELATED DATA SETS AND WEBSITES

- [International Ice Patrol Iceberg Drift Tracks](#): Data set containing information on iceberg tracks from drifting buoys from 1977, 1978, 1980, 1983, and 1989.
- [Iceberg Sightings in the North Atlantic](#): This data set is a collection of over 105,000 iceberg records in the North Atlantic from 1880 to 1959 transcribed from a number of contemporary sources.
- [Ice Data Canada's Iceberg Sightings Database](#): A collection of over 105,000 iceberg records in the North Atlantic from the early 1800s to 1959.

5 CONTACTS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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6 REFERENCES

Barker, A., M. Sayed, T. Carrieres. 2004. Determination of Iceberg Draft, Mass and Cross-Sectional Areas. In *The fourteenth international offshore and polar engineering conference*. International Society of Offshore and Polar Engineers, 2004.

Canadian Ice Service. 2005. [MANICE: Manual of Standard Procedures for Observing and Reporting Ice Conditions, revised 9th ed.](#) Environment Canada Canadian Ice Service: Ottawa.

Refer to the [International Ice Patrol Scientific Bibliography](#) Web page for more references.

7 DOCUMENT INFORMATION

7.1 Author

Documentation is based on material provided prior to 1996 by IIP, Groton, CT. The original author is unknown.

7.2 Publication Date

In October 2001, R. Welch published the online documentation.

7.3 Revision History

March 2021: A. Windnagel updated Table 2. Format A Reporting Source Description with information from M. Hicks.

February 2020: A. Windnagel updated the document based on feedback from D. Rudnickas. Specifically, text in the Summary was updated and the lat/lon coordinates for the data from 2006 to present in the Spatial and Temporal Coverage section were corrected.

April 2018: A. Windnagel updated Table 1 to more accurately reflect the names of the columns in the Format A data files and updated the Format section to more accurately represent the different formats of the data. In addition, the Update History section was also updated with the most recent data release of 2016 and 2017 data.

February 2016: A. Windnagel updated documentation with the 2015 data update.

February 2015: A. Windnagel updated documentation with the 2014 data update.

October 2014: A. Windnagel updated the documentation with the 2010-2013 data update and removed the WDC version. Also, put the information into the new guide doc template.

October 2012: F. Fetterer and A. Windnagel made edits and added a question and answer section in response to a user inquiry using information provided by Barbara Lis (IIP) in 2011 and added information about the 2010 and 2011 data files.

December 2011: A. Windnagel changed the investigator contact.

November 2011: A. Windnagel made some minor formatting and text updates.

July 2006: This document was reformatted and information from earlier "read me" files (iip_fmt.txt and wdc_fmt.txt) was incorporated. The "read me" files were then removed from the FTP site. F. Fetterer oversaw these changes. In December, 2006, minor edits were made.