



**MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF
SINGAPORE
SHIPPING CIRCULAR TO SHIPOWNERS
NO. 7 OF 2012**

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24 FEBRUARY 2012

Applicable to: This circular should be brought to the attention of shipowners, managers, operators and masters of Singapore-registered ships.

NORTH AMERICAN ICE SERVICE: ICEBERG INFORMATION AND SERVICES

1 SOLAS chapter V regulation 6 refers to the Ice Patrol Service in the North Atlantic, which contributes to safety of life at sea, safety and efficiency of navigation and protection of the marine environment in a dangerous region of the North Atlantic Ocean in the vicinity of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland and along the east coast of Labrador, Canada. Two Contracting Governments, Canada and the USA, undertake to provide an ice patrol to inform passing ships of the extent of this dangerous region and to afford assistance to ships and crews requiring aid within the limits of operation of the patrol ships and aircraft. The rules for the management of the service is given in the Appendix to SOLAS chapter V (see attached).

2 The IMO has issued circular SN.1/Circ.305 to announce the North American Ice Service – Iceberg Information and Services. The purpose of the announcement is to encourage shipowners, shipmasters and other parties to immediately report any sightings of ice when near or within the “estimated limits of all known ice”¹ and advise them to be guided by the attached announcement. Ships are also encouraged to make reports even if “no ice” is sighted as this information is also very important.

3 Reports of sightings are important as the information gathered by the Ice Patrol Service would enable it to define the extent of the iceberg danger for the region. The information is updated regularly as ice conditions change. MPA encourages masters of all Singapore-flag vessels transiting the region to provide

¹ The “iceberg limit” is not a static line. It will change throughout the year to reflect the delineation between waters with icebergs and those without.

the reports as requested. Such reports contribute to the success and efficiency of the Ice Patrol Service, thereby in turn contributing to the safety of ships in the region.

North American Ice Service: Iceberg Information & Services (IIS)

4 The IIS produces two products daily: a chart and a bulletin (see SN.1/Circ.305) that contains the lat/lon points of the iceberg limit. There are a variety of ways to receive this information. The second page of the Iceberg Information and Services document contains a table detailing all of the methods to receive the products. There are instructions at the bottom of the table to sign up for the Service's daily listserver email that contains both the chart and the bulletin.

5 Ships are encouraged to make reports of any iceberg sightings or radar targets detections that may likely be icebergs when transiting the North Atlantic in the vicinity of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland and the coast of Labrador. Instructions for reporting are given in the second table of the IIS.

6 Any queries relating to this circular should be directed to Mr Ong Hua Siong (Tel: 6375 6210; email: shipping@mpa.gov.sg).

CHEONG KENG SOON
DIRECTOR OF MARINE
MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

Attachments

1. **Appendix to SOLAS chapter V** – Rules for the management, operation and financing of the North Atlantic Ice Patrol
2. **SN.1/Circ.305** – North American Ice Service – Iceberg Information and Services
3. North American Ice Service (NAIS) – **Iceberg Chart Information sheet** (sample)

APPENDIX TO SOLAS CHAPTER V **RULES FOR THE MANAGEMENT, OPERATION AND FINANCING OF THE** **NORTH ATLANTIC ICE PATROL**

1 In these Rules:

.1 *Ice season* means the annual period between February 15 and July 1.

.2 *Region of icebergs guarded by the ice patrol* means the south-eastern, southern and south-western limits of the region of icebergs in the vicinity of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland.

.3 *Routes passing through regions of icebergs guarded by the Ice Patrol* means:

.3.1 routes between Atlantic Coast ports of Canada (including inland ports approached from the North Atlantic through the Gut of Canso and Cabot Straits) and ports of Europe, Asia or Africa approached from the North Atlantic through or north of the Straits of Gibraltar (except routes which pass south of the extreme limits of ice of all types).

.3.2 routes via Cape Race, Newfoundland between Atlantic Coast ports of Canada (including inland ports approached from the North Atlantic through the Gut of Canso and Cabot Straits) west of Cape Race, Newfoundland and Atlantic Coast ports of Canada north of Cape Race, Newfoundland.

.3.3 routes between Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports of the United States of America (including inland ports approached from the North Atlantic through the Gut of Canso and Cabot Straits) and ports of Europe, Asia or Africa approached from the North Atlantic through or north of the Straits of Gibraltar (except routes which pass south of the extreme limits of ice of all types).

.3.4 routes via Cape Race, Newfoundland between Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports of the United States of America (including inland ports approached from the North Atlantic through the Gut of Canso and Cabot Straits) and Atlantic Coast ports of Canada north of Cape Race, Newfoundland.

.4 *Extreme limits of ice of all types in the North Atlantic Ocean* is defined by a line connecting the following points:

A - 42°23' 00N, 59°25' 00W	J - 39°49' 00N, 41°00' 00W
B - 41°23' 00N, 57°00' 00W	K - 40°39' 00N, 39°00' 00W
C - 40°47' 00N, 55°00' 00W	L - 41°19' 00N, 38°00' 00W
D - 40°07' 00N, 53°00' 00W	M - 43°00' 00N, 37°27' 00W
E - 39°18' 00N, 49°39' 00W	N - 44°00' 00N, 37°29' 00W
F - 38°00' 00N, 47°36' 00W	O - 46°00' 00N, 37°55' 00W
G - 37°41' 00N, 46°40' 00W	P - 48°00' 00N, 38°28' 00W
H - 38°00' 00N, 45°33' 00W	Q - 50°00' 00N, 39°07' 00W
I - 39°05' 00N, 43°00' 00W	R - 51°25' 00N, 39°45' 00W

.5 *Managing and operating* means maintaining, administering and operating the Ice Patrol, including the dissemination of information received therefrom.

.6 Contributing Government means a Contracting Government undertaking to contribute to the costs of the ice patrol service pursuant to these Rules.

2 Each Contracting Government specially interested in these services whose ships pass through the region of icebergs during the ice season undertakes to contribute to the Government of the United States of America its proportionate share of the costs for the management and operation of the ice patrol service. The contribution to the Government of the United States of America shall be based on the ratio which the average annual gross tonnage of that contributing Government's ships passing through the region of icebergs guarded by the Ice Patrol during the previous three ice seasons bears to the combined average annual gross tonnage of all ships that passed through the region of icebergs guarded by the Ice Patrol during the previous three ice seasons.

3 All contributions shall be calculated by multiplying the ratio described in paragraph 2 by the average actual annual cost incurred by the Governments of the United States of America and Canada of managing and operating ice patrol services during the previous three years. This ratio shall be computed annually, and shall be expressed in terms of a lump sum per-annual fee.

4 Each of the contributing Governments has the right to alter or discontinue its contribution, and other interested Governments may undertake to contribute to the expense. The contributing Government which avails itself of this right will continue to be responsible for its current contribution up to 1 September following the date of giving notice of intention to alter or discontinue its contribution. To take advantage of the said right it must give notice to the managing Government at least six months before the said 1 September.

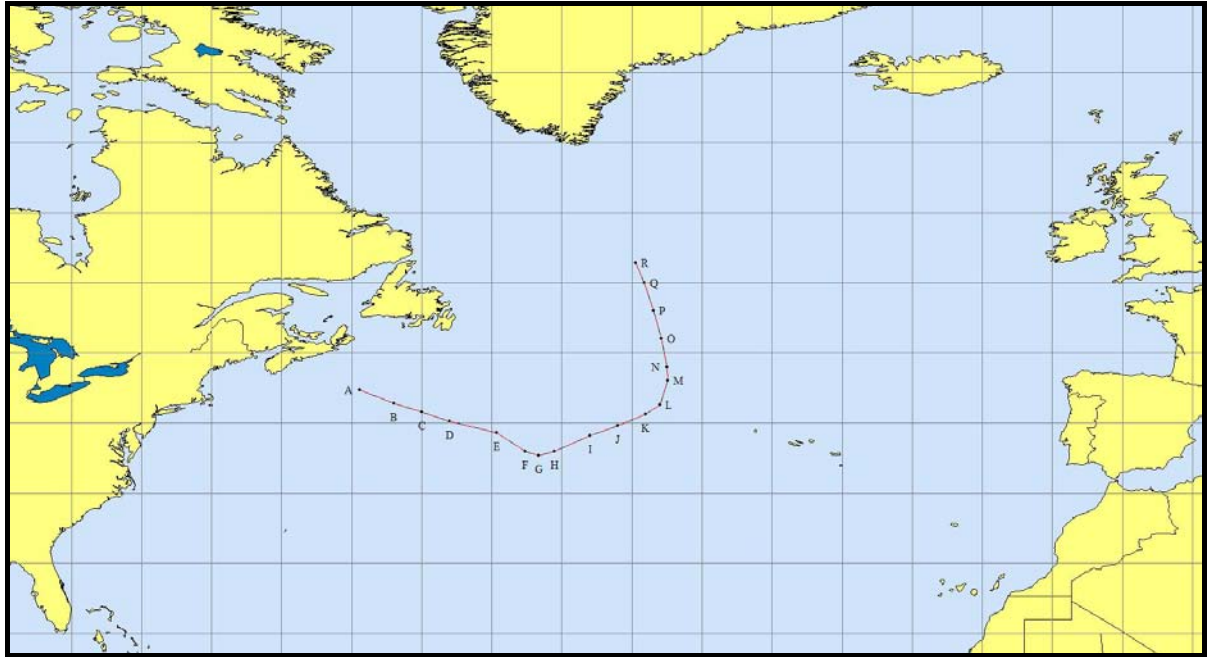
5 Each contributing Government shall notify the Secretary-General of its undertaking pursuant to paragraph 2, who shall notify all Contracting Governments.

6 The Government of the United States of America shall furnish annually to each contributing Government a statement of the total cost incurred by the Governments of the United States of America and Canada of managing and operating the Ice Patrol for that year and of the average percentage share for the past three years of each contributing Government.

7 The managing government shall publish annual accounts including a statement of costs incurred by the governments providing the services for the past three years and the total gross tonnage using the service for the past three years. The accounts shall be publicly available. Within three months after having received the cost statement, contributing Governments may request more detailed information regarding the costs incurred in managing and operating the Ice Patrol.

8 These Rules shall be operative beginning with the ice season of 2002.

Chartlet: Extreme limits of ice of all types in the North Atlantic Ocean



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Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

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/NMF	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/NMF	0438, 1039 1600, 2239
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/PIEA88.gif
		Email On Demand*		ftpmail@ftpmail.nws.noaa.gov
FICM10	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 PIEA88.gif --or-- get PIEA88.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.

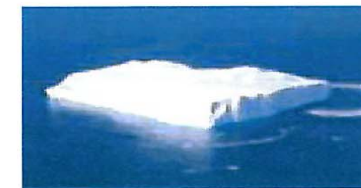
St. Johns NL (VON) Email: ECAREGSNF@INNAV.GC.CA Phone: 709-772-2106	St. Anthony NL (VCM) Email: ECASNY@INNAV.GC.CA Phone: 709-454-3852
Labrador NL (VOK) Email: ECAGOY@INNAV.GC.CA Phone: 709-896-2252	Placentia NL (VCP) Email: ECAPLA@INNAV.GC.CA Phone: 709-227-2181
Port aux Basques NL (VOJ) Email: PAXTFC@INNAV.GC.CA 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.

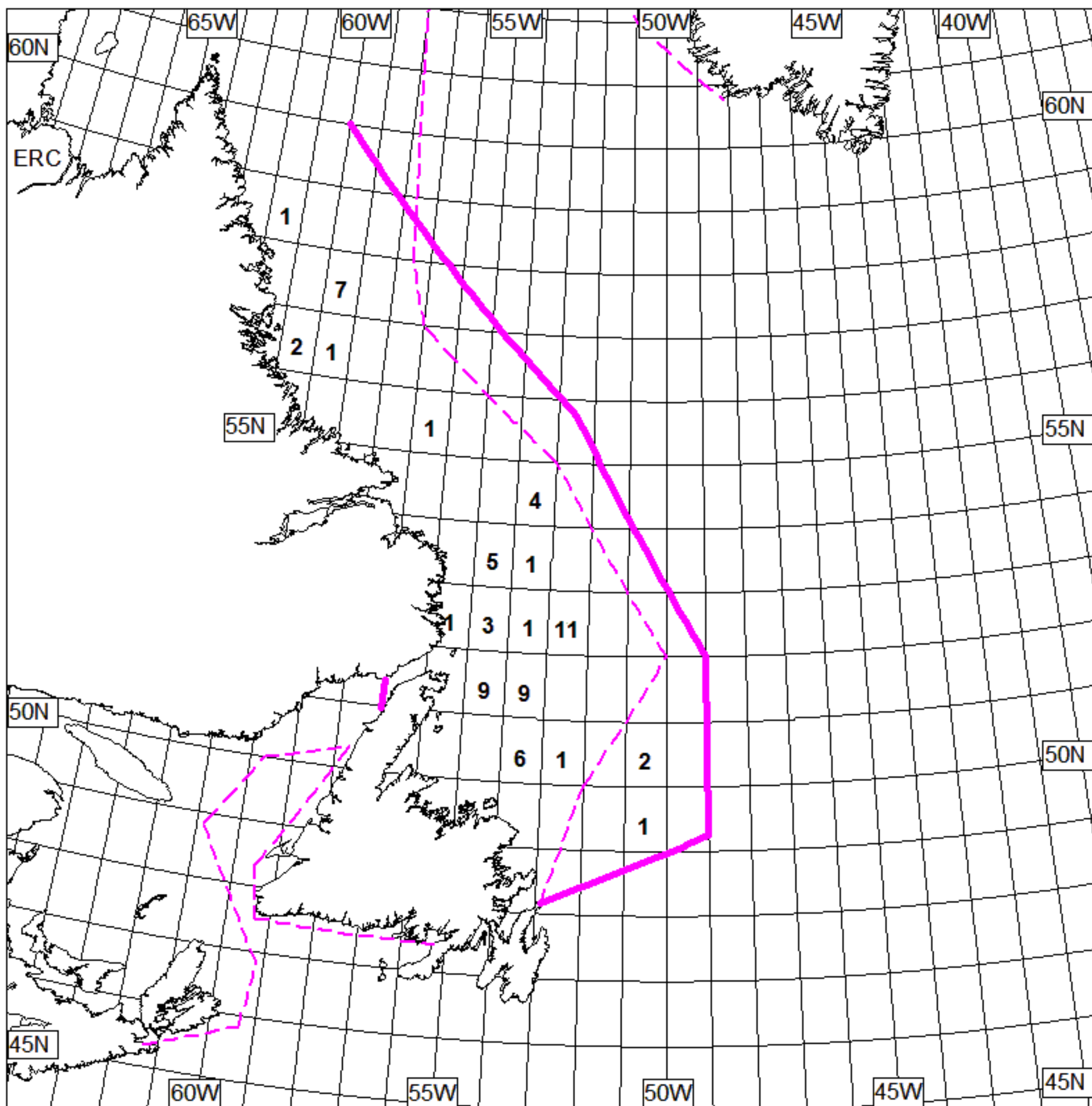
TABLE 3: ICEBERG SHAPES



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.



NORTH AMERICAN ICE SERVICE
SERVICE DES GLACES
DE L'AMERIQUE DU NORD

ICEBERG ANALYSIS / ANALYSE D'ICEBERGS
 FOR / POUR 0000 UTC

23 FEB / FEV 2012

- ICEBERG LIMIT / LIMITE DES ICEBERGS
- - - - SEA ICE LIMIT / LIMITE DES GLACES
- # ICEBERGS PER DEGREE SQUARE
ICEBERGS PAR DEGRE CARRE
- X RADAR TARGET OUTSIDE ICEBERG LIMIT
CIBLE RADAR A L'EXTERIEUR DE LA
LIMITE DES ICEBERGS

NOTE / NOTER:

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
 POUR PLUS DE RENSEIGNEMENT:

WWW.USCG-IIP.ORG OR/OU
HTTP://ICE-GLACES.EC.GC.CA