



U.S. National Ice Center
NOAA Satellite Operations Facility
4231 Suitland Road
Suitland, MD 20746

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: LT Falon M. Essary, USN
NIC.PAO@noaa.gov
301-817-3934

Iceberg A69 breaks becoming Icebergs A-69A and A-69B in the Weddell Sea

07JUL20, Suitland, MD — The U.S National Ice Center (USNIC) confirmed that the newly named iceberg A-69 has broken into two nameable icebergs. A-69A is located at 69°01' South, 60°34' West, in the Weddell Sea, it measures 10 nautical miles on its longest axis and 9 nautical miles on its widest axis. Iceberg A-69B is located at 68°52' South, 60°41' West, in the Weddell Sea, it measures 10 nautical miles on its longest axis and 7 nautical miles on its widest axis. A-69A and A-69B were confirmed by USNIC Master Ice Analyst Chris Readinger using the Sentinel-1A images (shown below).

Iceberg names are derived from the Antarctic quadrant in which they were originally sighted. The quadrants are divided counter-clockwise in the following manner:

A = 0-90W (Bellingshausen/Weddell Sea) C = 180-90E (Western Ross Sea/Wilkes land)
B = 90W-180 (Amundsen/Eastern Ross Sea) D = 90E-0 (Amery/Eastern Weddell Sea)

When first sighted, an iceberg's point of origin is documented by USNIC. The letter of the quadrant, along with a sequential number, is assigned to the iceberg. For example, C-19 is

sequentially the 19th iceberg tracked by USNIC in Antarctica between 180-90E (Quadrant C). Icebergs with letter suffixes have calved from already named icebergs, where the letters are added in sequential order. For example, C-19D is the 4th iceberg to calve off the original C-19 iceberg.

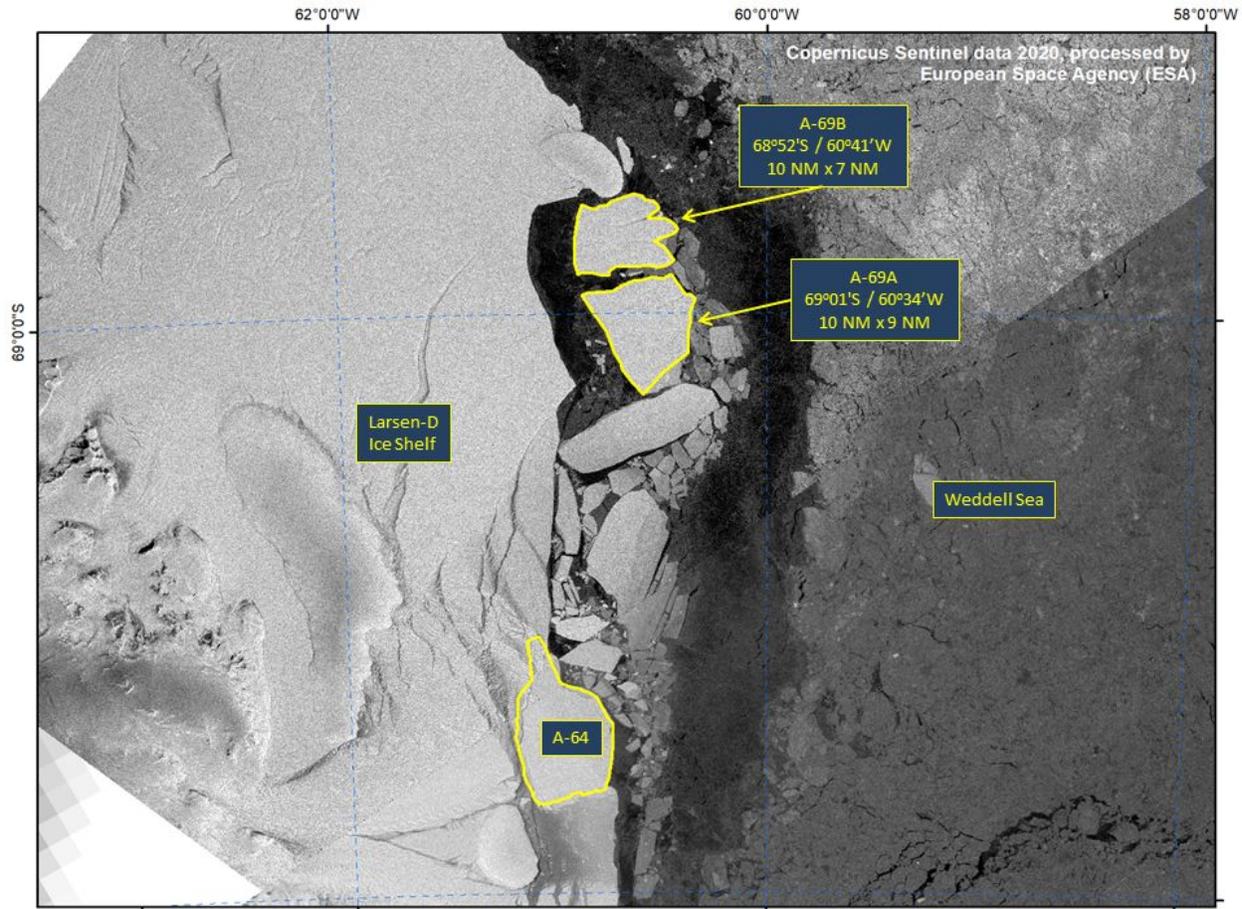


Figure 1: SENTINEL-1A image from 05 July (2359Z) showing both A-69A and A-69B. (Sentinel-1 Imagery courtesy of European Space Agency)

To access daily products, weekly products, archival data and much more of USNIC data in various formats, visit the USNIC webpage at: http://www.natice.noaa.gov/Main_Products.htm

For more information, please contact:
 U.S. National Ice Center
 Command Duty Officer
 E-mail: nic.cdo@noaa.gov
 Voice: (301) 943-6977

Facebook: @usnatice
 Twitter: @usnatice



The U.S. National Ice Center is a tri-agency center operated by the Navy, NOAA, and Coast Guard and provides global to tactical scale ice and snow products, ice forecasting, and related environmental intelligence services for the United States government.