

# U.S. National Ice Center

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Iceberg A-76A Split in Half, Creating A-76M

06JUN2023, SUITLAND, MD — The U.S. National Ice Center (USNIC) has confirmed that iceberg A-76A has split in half, creating A-76M in the northern Weddell Sea. The calving event was first spotted on MODIS imagery on June 03. As of June 04, A-76A was centered at 55° 32' S and 37° 22' W and measured 31 nautical miles on its longest axis and 4 nautical miles on its widest axis. A-76M was centered at 55° 26' S and 37° 21' W and measured 35 nautical miles on its longest axis and 4 nautical miles on its widest axis. A-76 first calved from the Ronne Ice Shelf in May 2021. The locations of A-76A through A-76L are still being tracked by the USNIC, while A-76I broke up and became too small to track on May 16.

The new icebergs were first spotted by Dr Jan Lieser of Australia's Bureau of Meteorology and confirmed by USNIC Analyst Katherine Quinn using the MODIS image in Figure 1 below.

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

- A = 0-90W (Bellingshausen/Weddell Sea)
- B = 90W-180 (Amundsen/Eastern Ross Sea)
- C = 180-90E (Western Ross Sea/Wilkesland)
- 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.

Iceberg positions are analyzed weekly and are available on the USNIC webpage at:  
<https://usicecenter.gov/Products/AntarcIcebergs>

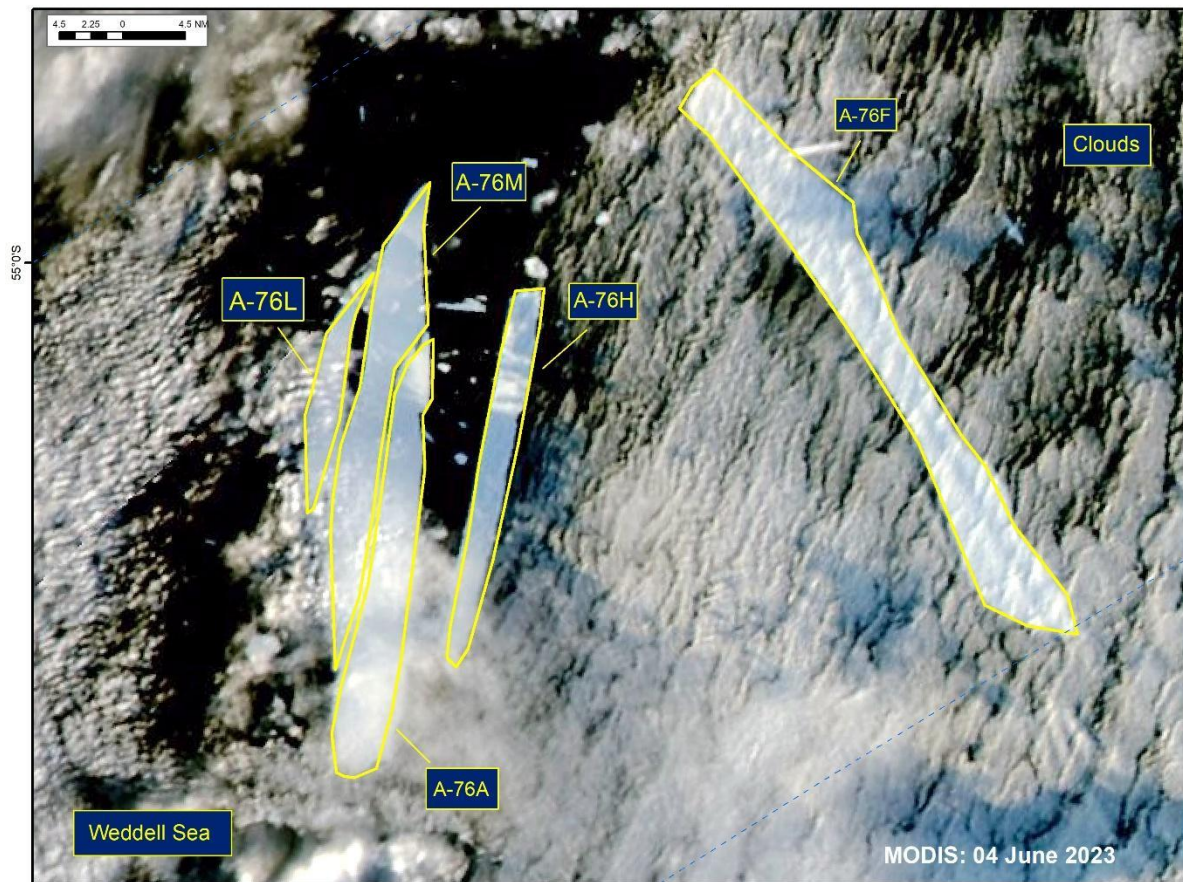


Figure 1: MODIS image of A-76A, A-76F, A-76H, A-76L, and A-76M from June 04, 2023.

USNIC is a multi-agency center—subordinate to Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command—operated by the Navy, NOAA, and Coast Guard which provides global to tactical scale ice and snow products, ice forecasting, and related environmental intelligence services for the United States government.

Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command directs and oversees more than 2,500 globally-distributed military and civilian personnel who collect, process, and exploit environmental information to assist Fleet and Joint Commanders in all warfare areas to make better decisions faster than the adversary.

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