



**U.S. National Ice Center**  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Iceberg A-76 calves from the western side of the Ronne Ice Shelf in the Weddell Sea and is currently the largest iceberg in the world.**

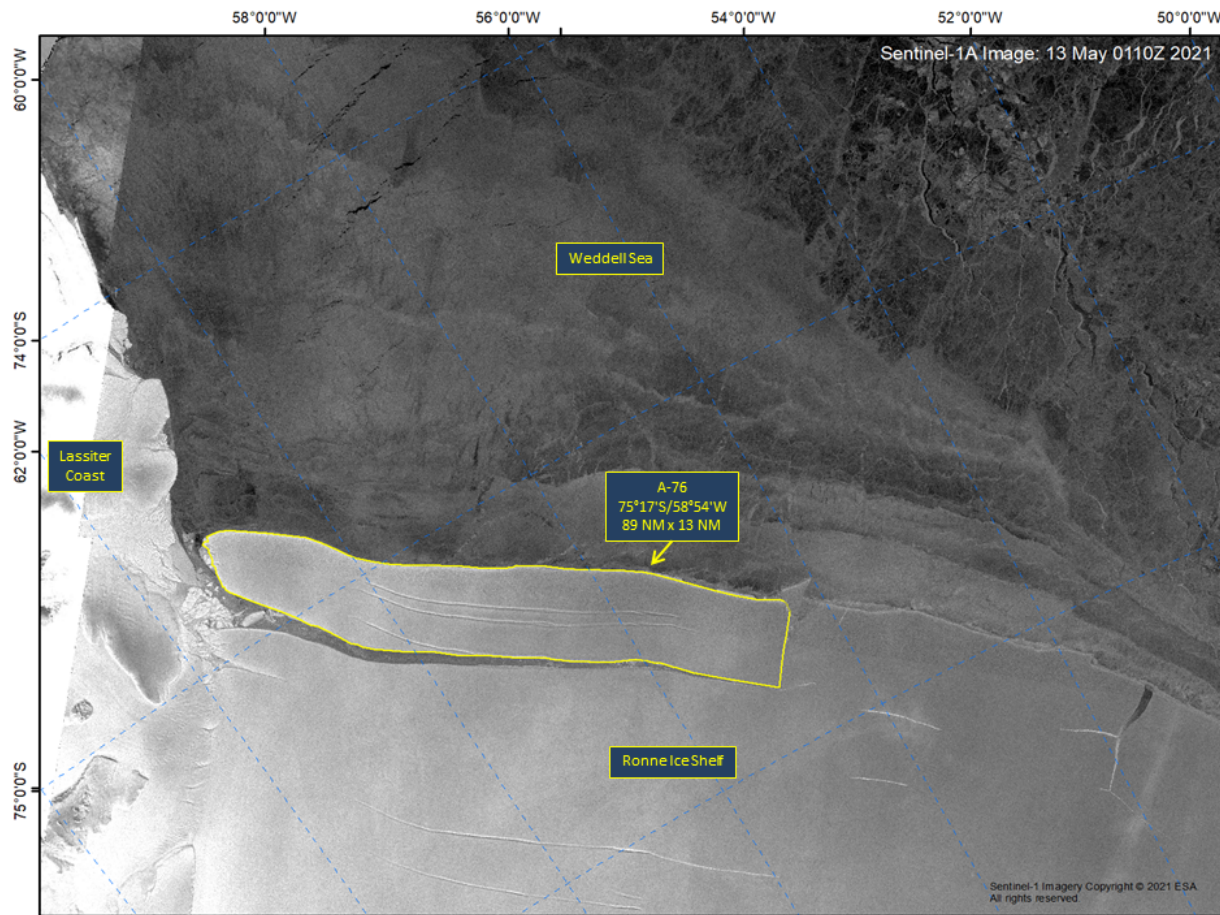
14MAY2021, Suitland, MD — The U.S. National Ice Center (USNIC) has confirmed A-76 has calved from the Ronne Ice Shelf. On May 13th, the new iceberg A-76 was located at 75° 17' South, 58° 54' West, measuring 89 nautical miles on its longest axis and 14 nautical miles on its widest axis.

A-76 was first spotted by Dr. Keith Makinson of the British Antarctic Survey, and confirmed by USNIC Ice Analyst Christopher Readinger using the Sentinel-1A image 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/Wilkesland)
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 of A-76, May 13, 2021*

To access daily products, weekly products, archival data and much more of USNIC data in various formats, visit the USNIC webpage at: <https://usicecenter.gov/Products>

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**The U.S. National Ice Center is a multi-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.**