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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Icebergs A-68E and A68-F Calve from Iceberg A-68A in the South Atlantic Ocean

December 22, 2020, SUITLAND, MD —In what was expected to be a busy December from A-68A's close approach to South Georgia Island and its eventual breakup, the U.S. National Ice Center (USNIC) has confirmed two new icebergs calved from A-68A in the South Atlantic Ocean. These new icebergs come just three days after A-68D was calved. The new iceberg named A-68E is located at 56° 45' South and 36° 34' West. A-68E measures 33 nautical miles on its longest axis and 8 nautical miles on its widest axis. The new iceberg A-68F is located at 56° 32' South and 36° 51' West. A-68F measures 14 nautical miles on its longest axis and 7 nautical miles on its widest axis.

A-68E and A68-F were first spotted by USNIC Ice Analyst Michael Lowe and confirmed by USNIC Ice Analyst Chris 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.

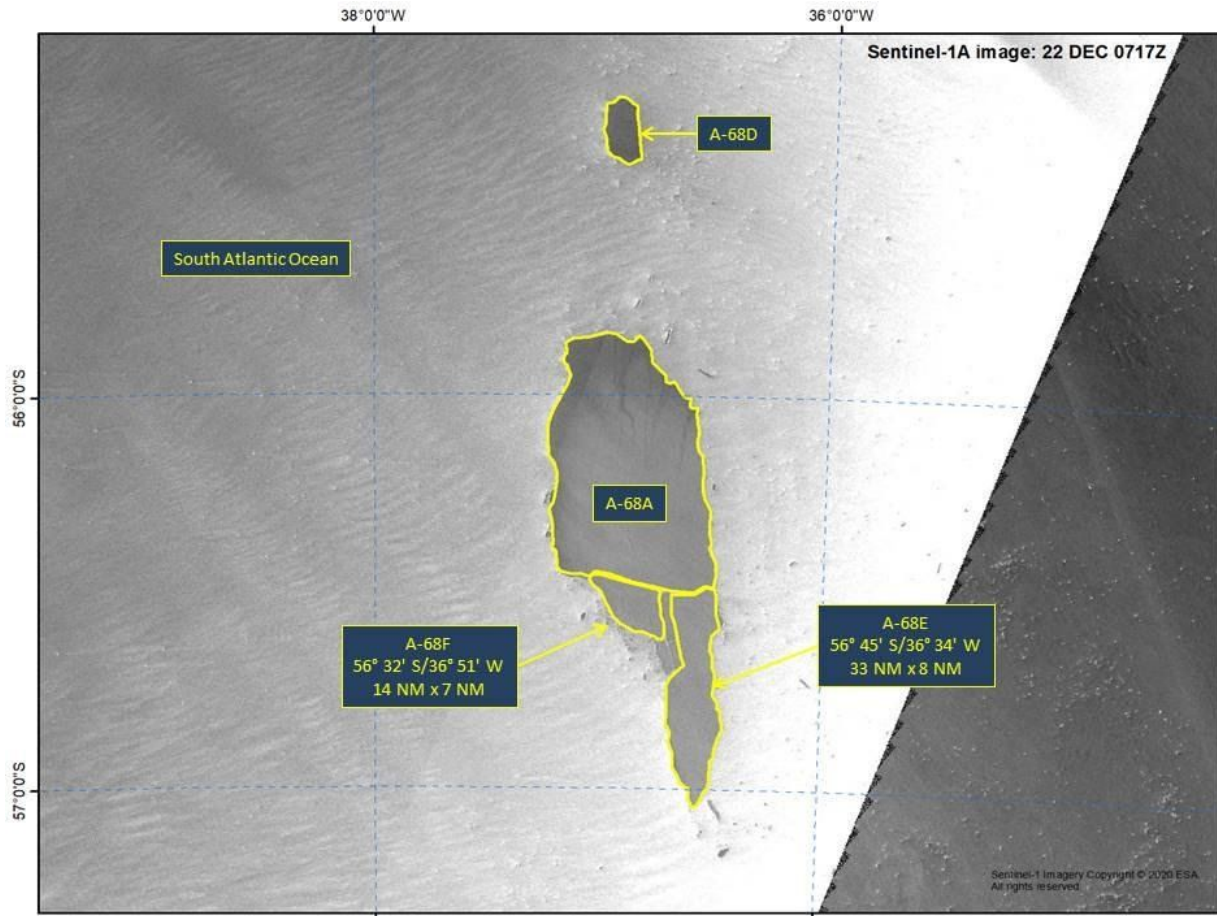


Figure 1: Sentinel-1A image of A-68A, A-68D, A-68E, and A-68F, December 22, 2020

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