



U.S. National Ice Center

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Iceberg A-68P Calves from A-68J in the South Atlantic Ocean

10FEB21, Suitland, MD — The U.S. National Ice Center (USNIC) has confirmed fracturing of A-68J prompting the naming of A-68P. As the A-68 family grows larger, the icebergs are getting smaller but there is enough iceberg left for at least several more named icebergs in the coming days and weeks. As of February 10th, the new iceberg A-68P was located at 56° 22' South, 33° 13' West, and measures 15 nautical miles on its longest axis and two nautical miles on its widest axis.

A-68P was first spotted by Jan Lieser of Australia's Bureau of Meteorology and confirmed by USNIC Ice Analyst Christopher Readinger using the MODIS 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 fourth iceberg to calve off the original C-19 iceberg.

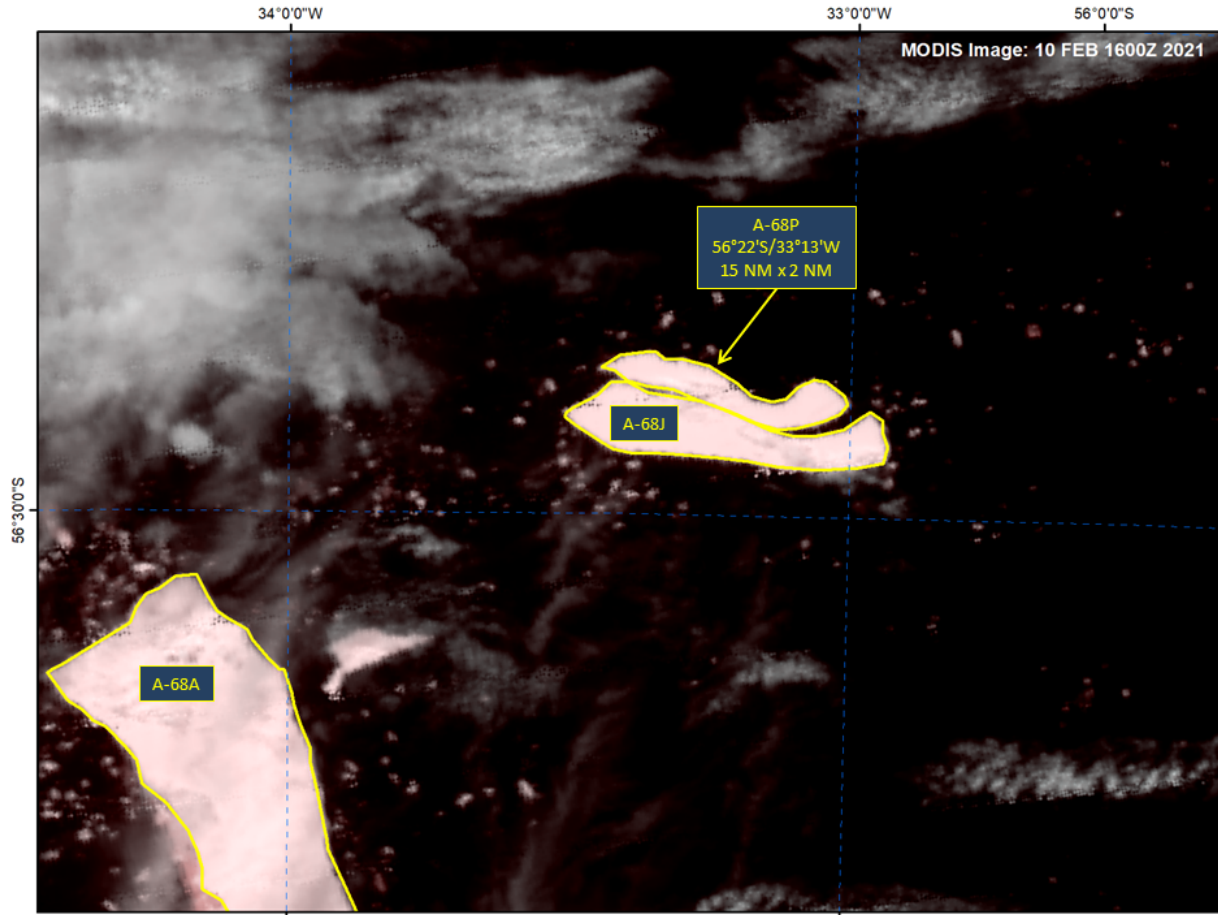


Figure 1: MODIS image of A-68A, A-68J, and A-68P February 10, 2021

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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.