

Iceberg B-33 Calves near Pine Island Glacier

February 17, 2015, Suitland, MD — On February 16th 2015, the National Ice Center (NIC) named a new iceberg that calved from an ice-shelf near Pine Island Glacier in Pine Island Bay.

B-33 is located at 75°01'11" South, 104°48'38" West, in the Amundsen Sea. The iceberg measures 11 nautical miles on its longest axis and 2 nautical miles on its widest axis. Analyst MST1 Tyson confirmed B-33 using the Radarsat-2 image shown below.

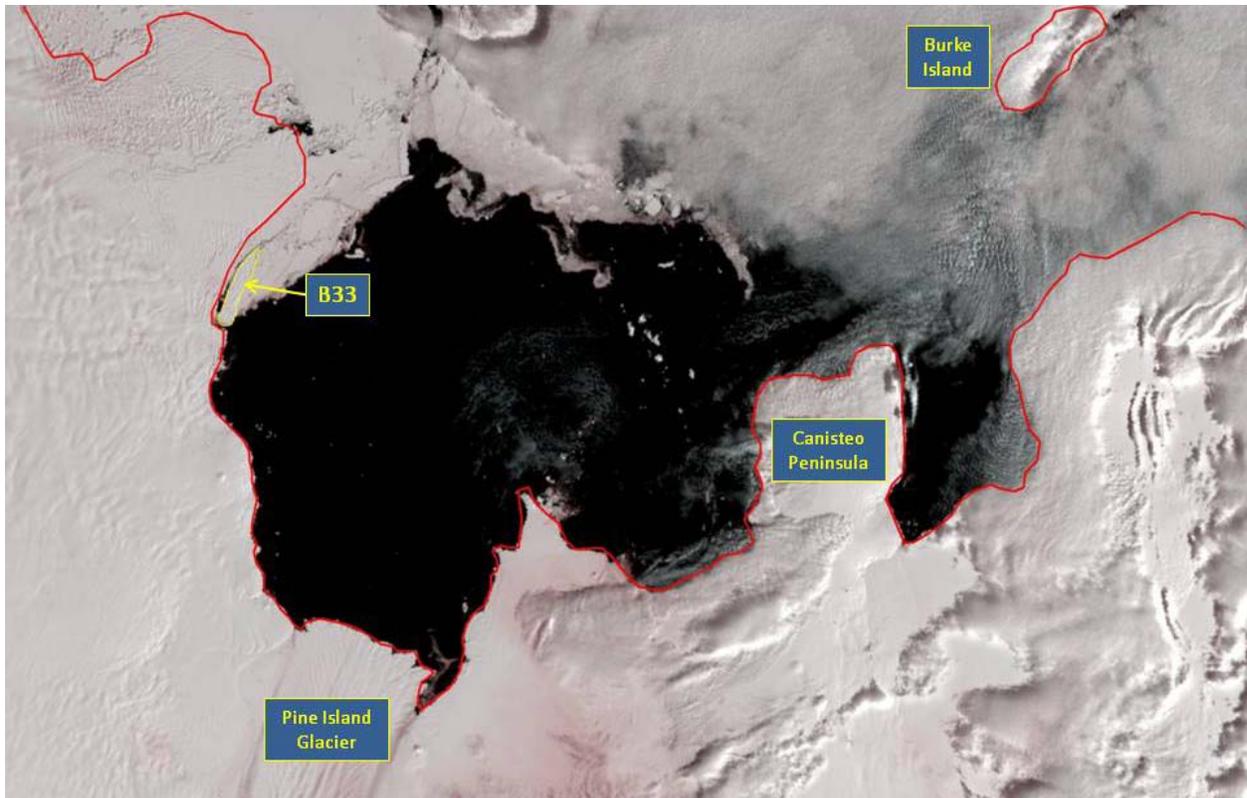
Iceberg names are derived from the Antarctic quadrant in which they were originally sighted. The quadrants are divided counter-clockwise in the following manner:

A = 0-90W (Bellingshausen/Weddell Sea)
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 the NIC. 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 the NIC in Antarctica between 180-90E (Quadrant C).

The National Ice Center is a tri-agency operational center represented by the United States Navy (Department of Defense), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Department of Commerce), and the United States Coast Guard (Department of Homeland Security). The National Ice Center mission is to provide the highest quality strategic and tactical ice services tailored to meet the operational requirements of U.S. national interests and to provide specialized meteorological and oceanographic services to United States government agencies.

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MODIS image of B-33 dated February 23rd, 2015

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