

Iceberg B-34 Found in the Amundsen Sea

March 6, 2015, Suitland, MD—On March 6, 2015, the National Ice Center (NIC) discovered a new iceberg that meets the criteria for naming and tracking by the NIC. This particular iceberg is believed to have calved from the Getz Ice Shelf and is named B-34. B-34 is located at 74°12' South, 129°31' West, in the Amundsen Sea. Iceberg B-34 measures 15 nautical miles on its longest axis and 5 nautical miles on its widest axis. Analyst Chris Readinger located B-34 using MODIS imagery shown below.

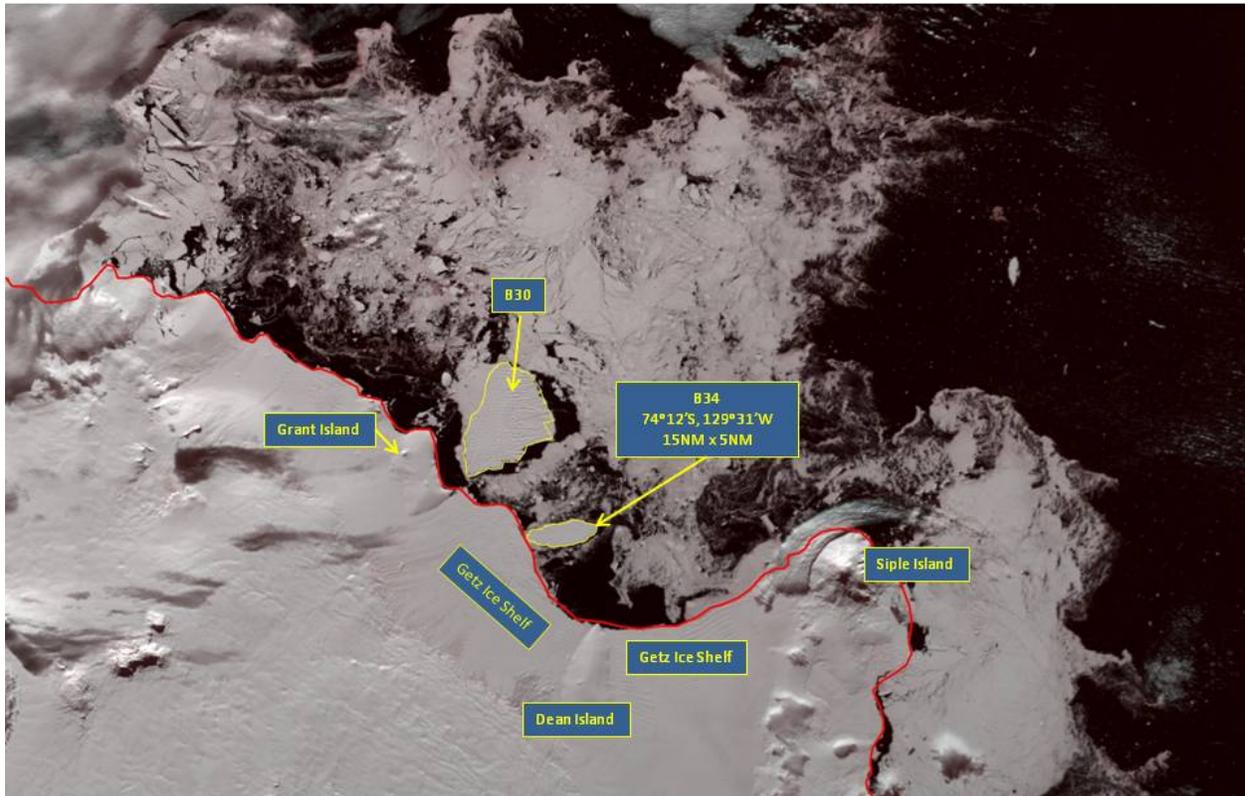
Iceberg names are derived from the Antarctic quadrant in which they were originally sighted. The quadrants are divided counter-clockwise in the following manner:

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-34, March 6, 2015

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