German Ice Report - No. 16

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The ice at the North Sea coast is decreasing, in the Pomeranian Bay the ice has drifted towards Usedom.

North Sea coast

In the Northfrisian Wadden Sea there is mostly open to very close 10-20 cm thick ice, in harbours up to 30cm thick, floebits occur. There is up to 30cm thick very close ice in the port of Hamburg. Farther out on the Elbe 10-15cm thick close ice to Brunsbüttel, with somewhat thicker and compact ice at Glückstadt. Open water out to Großer Vogelsand. On the Weser there is mostly open water, but 10-20cm open ice at Bremerhaven. On the Jade open water and thin very open ice in places. On the Ems there is 5-10cm thick very open to open ice. In the Eastfrisian Wadden Sea there is 5-15cm thick very open to open ice. In the entrance to Kiel Canal at Brunsbüttel there is 10-15cm thick close ice.

Western Baltic Sea

In the inner fjord of Flensburg there is 10-15cm thick compact ice, further out 10-15cm thick close ice to lighthouse Kalkgrund. The Schlei is covered with 10-20 cm thick ice. In the harbour of Eckernförde and in the bay there is very open new ice. Open water at the inner Kiel harbour. In Heiligenhafen there is open 10-15 cm thick ice. In Neustadt port open thin ice and open water in the bay. On the Trave there is very open 5-10cm thick ice, at Travemünde port open water. In the harbour of Wismar 10-20cm thick open ice, farther out to Walfisch 10-15cm thick fast ice, then 5-10cm thick very close ice to Timmendorf and open newice to the approach buoy. In Rostock the Unterwarnow is covered with up to 20 cm thick ice, in the overseas ports there is 10-15cm open ice and at Warnemünde open water. The Bodden waters south of Darß and Zingst are covered with 10-20cm thick ice. Outside Hiddensee very open thin ice.

Southern Baltic Sea

The Bodden waters between Rügen and Hiddensee and the northern approach to Stralsund are covered with 10-20 cm thick ice. In the harbour of Stralsund and on the eastern approach to Stralsund there is 10-20 cm thick compact ice. At the coasts of the Greifswalder Bodden there is 10-20 cm thick fast ice, farther out compact 10-15 cm thick ice. On the northern Peenestrom there is compact 10-20 cm thick ice. Southern Peenestrom and Kleines Haff are covered with 10-20 cm thick fast ice. In and around the harbour Mukran there is open new ice. At Sassnitz port 5-10cm thick close ice, further out open water. Along the outer coast of Usedom and in the Pomeranian Bight there is 5-15cm thick open ice and newice.

Outlook

No ice formation is expected. At the North Sea coast the ice will continue to decrease. On Wednesday stronger northwesterly winds will push the ice towards the southeast.

Restrictions

The northern approach to Stralsund and Bodden waters south of Darß and Zingst are closed for navigation.

Only daytime navigation is allowed in the eastern approach to Stralsund and in approaches to Wolgast as well as to the harbours in Greifswalder Bodden and Kleines Haff.

To Stralsund port, to Wolgast port and to ports in Greifswalder Bodden use of pilot are mandatory.

Only ships with minimum ice class 1C and engine power not less than 1000 kW are assisted to Stralsund, Wolgast and the harbours in the southern Greifswalder Bodden (Lubmin, Vierow, Ladebow).

Icebreakers

There is 24h ice breaking assistance in the port of Hamburg. ARKONA and some icebreaking vessels are working in the eastern waters.

BSH - Ice Service