German Ice Report - No. 22

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The ice decay in the German coastal areas continues.

North Sea coast

The Northfrisian Wadden Sea is mostly ice-free, but in the port of Tönning there is still compact, partly rotten, 10-15 cm thick ice, and at Eiderdamm open water occurs. On the Elbe, there is very close to close up to 20 cm thick ice from the port of Hamburg to Glückstadt.

Western Baltic Sea

In the inner fjord of Flensburg there is close 5-10 cm thick ice. On the inner most Schlei there is 5-10 cm thick ice, farther out to Kappeln open water. On the Trave there is open water. In the harbour of Wismar there is very open 10 cm thick ice, farther out first to Walfisch very close about 10 cm thick ice, then open thin ice to Timmendorf. In Rostock, the Unterwarnow is covered with 5-15 cm thick rotten ice, in the overseas ports there is open ice. The Bodden waters south of Darß and Zingst are partly covered with 10 cm thick rottening ice.

Southern Baltic Sea

The Bodden waters between Rügen and Hiddensee and the northern approach to Stralsund are mostly covered by 10 cm thick ice with large open areas in-between. In the harbour of Stralsund and on the eastern approach to Stralsund there is in places compact, partly ridged, 10-20 cm thick ice to Ruden. At the coasts of the Greifswalder Bodden there is 10-18 cm thick very close ice, else compact 10-20 cm thick ice with a large area of open water in the central part occurs. On the northern Peenestrom, there is open water between Wolgast and Peenemünde as well as compact, partly ridged, 10-20 cm thick ice farther out to Ruden. Southern Peenestrom and Kleines Haff are covered with 10-15 cm thick, slowly rottening fast ice. Off the outer coast of Usedom there is ice-free.

Outlook

Ice decrease will accelerate within this week, especially at the North Sea coast and in the western part of the Baltic Sea coast. Due to freshening westerly and southwesterly winds an easterly ice drift is expected.

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