



Under the Ice in the Arctic


The USS Annapolis submarine surfaces through three feet of ice in the Arctic Ocean during Ice Exercise 2009 (ICEX 2009). With support from the University of Washington's Applied Physics Laboratory, ICEX 2009 enables the Submarine Force to operate and train in the challenging and unique environment of the Arctic region.

(Tiffini M. Jones/U.S. Navy)



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Under the Ice in the Arctic

A lookout aboard the USS Annapolis stands watch from the bridge after the sub broke through three feet of ice.

(Tiffini M. Jones/U.S. Navy)



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Under the Ice in the Arctic

Crewmembers of the USS Annapolis man the bridge watch.

(Tiffini M. Jones/U.S. Navy)



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Under the Ice in the Arctic

The Los Angeles-class submarine USS Annapolis breaks through three feet of ice in the Arctic Ocean.
(Tiffini M. Jones/U.S. Navy)



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Under the Ice in the Arctic

Personnel from the Applied Physics Lab Ice Station, which was established by the University of Washington on an ice floe in the Beaufort Sea to support the Navy exercise, watch the aurora borealis light up the night sky over the camp on the Arctic Ocean ice cap. (Tiffini M. Jones/U.S. Navy)



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Under the Ice in the Arctic

Members of the Applied Physics Laboratory Ice Station help clear ice from the USS Annapolis, after it broke through the surface in the Arctic Ocean.

(Tiffini M. Jones/U.S. Navy)




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Under the Ice in the Arctic


After the USS Annapolis surfaced from 350 feet below the ice, members of the Applied Physics Laboratory Ice Station clear the sub's hatch.

(Tiffini M. Jones/U.S. Navy)



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Under the Ice in the Arctic


The view of the Arctic Ice Cap from the sky. For the first time, the Navy has allowed a network news crew to view its ICEX exercises on the Arctic Ice Cap.

(David Kerley/ABC News)




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Under the Ice in the Arctic

The sun sets over the Arctic. Every two years the Navy comes here, but the mission is becoming more critical because of climate change. The ice is thinning and receding, which could open up waterways and provide access to the seabed, which may contain one quarter of the world's undiscovered oil. A number of countries are making competing claims, and the Navy wants to protect U.S. national interests. (David Kerley/ABC News)



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