German Ice Report - No. 30

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Further ice retreat at the North Sea coast, else ice conditions have not changed very much since yesterday.

North Sea coast

In the Northfrisian Wadden Sea there is 15-30 cm thick fast ice in the harbour of Tönning and open to close 5-20cm thick ice in some other harbours. Further out mostly very open to open 5-15 cm thick drift ice. Up to more then 50 cm thick floes, being formed on the Wadden, can drift around. On the Elbe there is 10-20cm thick very open to close ice out till Brunsbüttel and then open water till Cuxhaven, in some sheltered areas also 10-15cm compact ice. On the Kiel Channel there is mostly very open to very close 5-15 cm thick ice. On the Weser in places near Bremerhaven 10-15cm thick very open ice. The Eastfrisian Wadden Sea is mostly ice free. On the river Ems mostly open water, in some sheltered places also 10-15cm compact ice.

Western Baltic Sea

In the harbour of Flensburg and in the Innenförde there is 10-15 cm thick very close ice. On the Schlei 10-15 cm thick open to very open ice. Open new ice in the harbour of Eckernförde, open water in the Bight. In the harbour of Heiligenhafen 10-15cm thick close ice. Fehmarnsund is mostly ice free. Open thin ice occurs in the harbour of Neustadt and open water to very open 10-15 cm thick ice from Lübeck to Travemünde. In the harbour of Wismar there is close 15-20 cm thick ice, farther out past Walfisch about 20 cm thick fast ice with a lead, finally very close ice and new ice to Timmendorf. In Rostock there is 5-20 compact ice with a broken lead in the city harbour, very close 10-15 cm thick ice on Unterwarnow and then open to close thin ice in the sea channel of Warnemünde. The Bodden waters south of Darß and Zingst are covered with 10-20 cm thick ice.

Southern Baltic Sea

Along the outer coast of Hiddensee there is compact ice in places. In the northern approach to Stralsund and on the fairway to Hiddensee there is 15-30 cm thick compact ice and fast ice. In the eastern approach to Stralsund there is compact 10-20 cm thick ice to Freesendorfer Haken, in the Landtiefrinne 5-15cm compact ice and in Osttief there is open 5-10 cm thick ice. Along the shores of the Greifswalder Bodden there is 15-30 cm thick fast ice. On the northern Peenestrom there is close 5-10 cm thick ice out to Ruden. The southern Peenestrom and the Kleines Haff are covered with 10-30 cm thick fast ice. In the Pomeranian Bay there is open water with 10-15cm ice in places.

Outlook

Although some new ice may form in the inner coastal waters tonight, during the next days there will be a general ice decrease due to higher temperatures and rain.

Restrictions to navigation

To Stralsund, Wolgast and the harbours in the southern Greifswalder Bodden (Lubmin, Vierow, Ladebow) assistance is given only to ships with minimum ice class 1C and engine power not less than 1000 kW, also only daytime navigation is allowed and use of pilot and convoy formation are mandatory.

The northern approach to Stralsund, southern Peenestrom, Kleines Haff and river Peene are closed for navigation.

Icebreaker: In Hamburg port assistance is given if necessary.

Ice breaking vessels are present in the fairways to Stralsund, Wolgast and Greifswald as well as in Wismar.

BSH - Ice Service