

German Ice Report - No. 24

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The ice decay in the German coastal areas continues.

North Sea coast

The Northfrisian Wadden Sea is ice-free, but in the port of Tönning there is still rotten ice. On the Elbe, there is open water from the port of Hamburg to Glückstadt, in the harbour of Glückstadt compact 5-20 cm thick ice occurs.

Western Baltic Sea

The inner fjord of Flensburg is mostly ice-free. On the inner most Schlei there is broken 5-10 cm thick ice, else ice-free. On the Trave there is open water. In the harbour of Wismar there is very open 5 cm thick ice, farther out close to open thin ice occurs east of the fairway, else ice-free. On the Unterwarnow there is open water. The Bodden waters south of Darß and Zingst are partly covered with 5-10 cm thick rotten ice.

Southern Baltic Sea

In the Bodden waters between Rügen and Hiddensee and in the northern approach to Stralsund there is 5-15 cm open to compact ice with large open areas in-between. The harbour of Stralsund is ice-free, on the eastern approach to Stralsund there is close to compact, partly ridged, 10-20 cm thick ice at Palmer Ort, Ruden and Osttief. At the coasts of the Greifswalder Bodden there is about 10 cm thick close to very close, rotting ice, else close to compact 10-20 cm thick ice occurs in the eastern half and a large area of open water in the central part. On the northern Peenestrom, there is open water between Wolgast and Peenemünde and very close 10-20 cm thick ice farther out to Ruden. On southern Peenestrom and Kleines Haff there is 10-15 cm thick, rotting fast ice with some thaw holes on the ice.

Outlook

The ice decrease will continue and accelerate due to increasing air temperatures and temporary rain. With freshening westerly and southwesterly winds the ice will drift in the easterly directions.

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

ARKONA and some icebreaking vessels are working in the eastern waters.

BSH - Ice Service