# **Challenges from a Changing Arctic**

# PTC 2013

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02 April 2013









#### ADM Jon Greenert Chief of Naval Operations (CNO)



# **ARCTIC Outlook**

#### 2012

2003

2005

# **CNO's Tenets**

Warfighting First

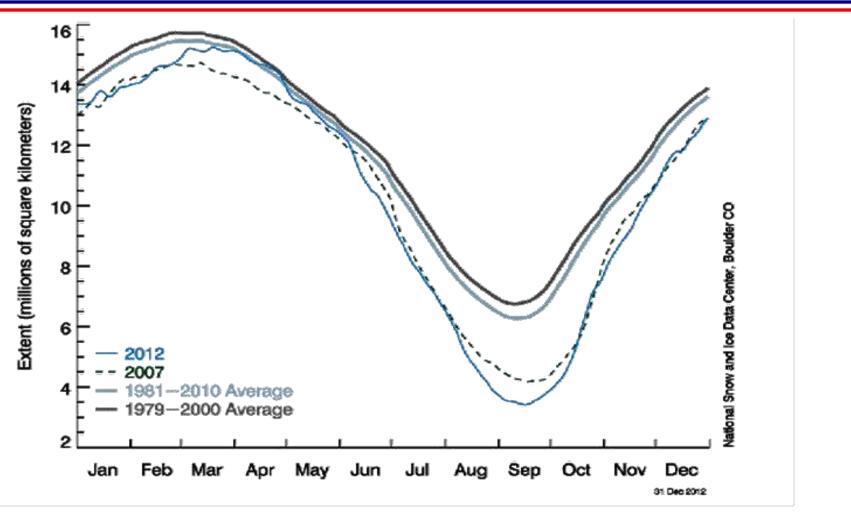
Operate Forward
 Be Ready





# **Arctic Sea Ice Extent - 2012**

Area with at least 15% ice coverage



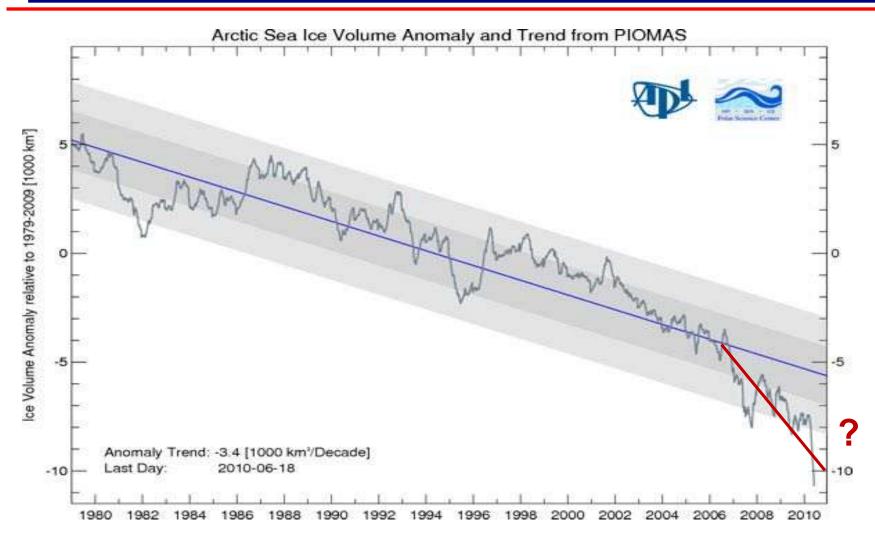
Arctic sea ice <u>extent</u> – record low in Sep 2012 (previous record 2007)

- New minimum was anticipated
- Decrease is expected to oscillate over time



# Arctic Sea Ice Volume



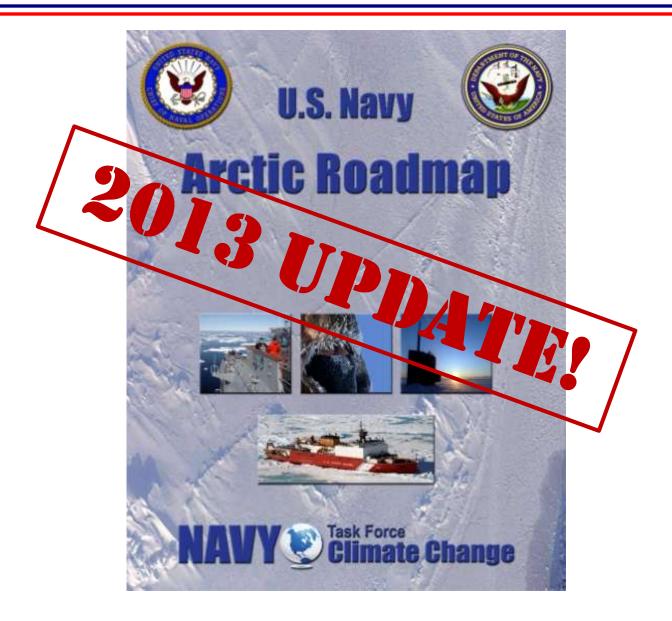


#### Rate of volumetric decrease – potentially faster than predicted



# Navy Arctic Strategy









- > Will address:
  - National and Regional Security
  - Responsible Stewardship
  - International Cooperation
- > Arctic changes are creating new opportunities and threats to our strategic interests.



# **Arctic Considerations**



#### Future Scenario?

#### Greater access means increased...



#### Arctic shipping



#### Oil and gas extraction



**Commercial fishing** 



Arctic tourism



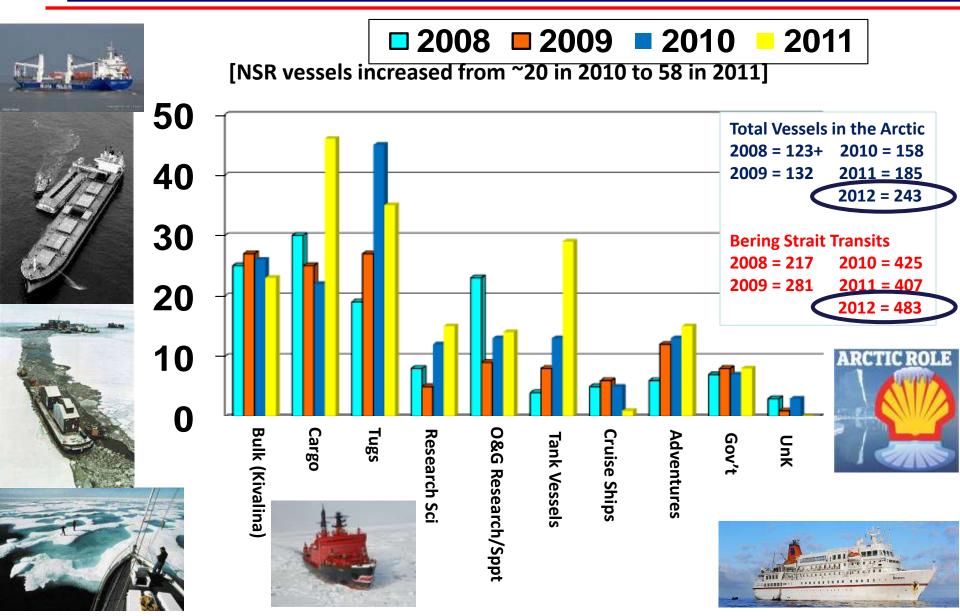




Great Potential/Great Opportunity → Great Cost/Great Risk









# **Arctic Shipping Routes**

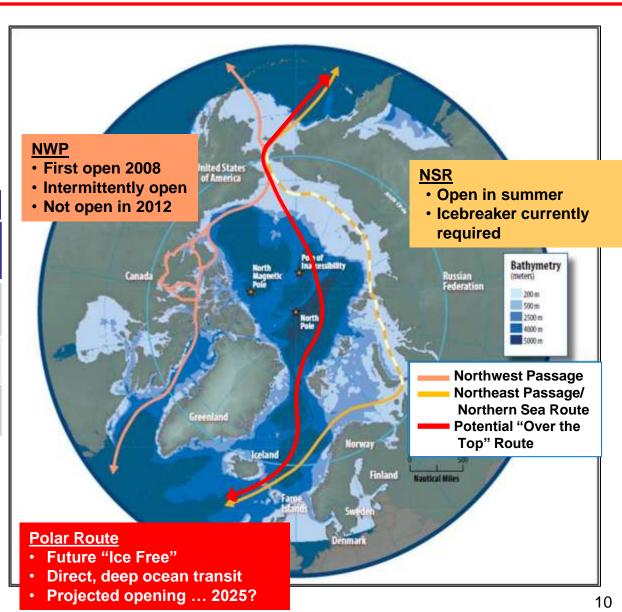


Shipping across the Arctic cuts significant time off traditional Europe-to-Asia routes.

	Transit in Days		
Bergen, Norway	via Suez	via NSR	via Pole
Hong Kong, China	36	29	26
Shanghai, China	39	27	24
Yokohama, Japan	41	24	21

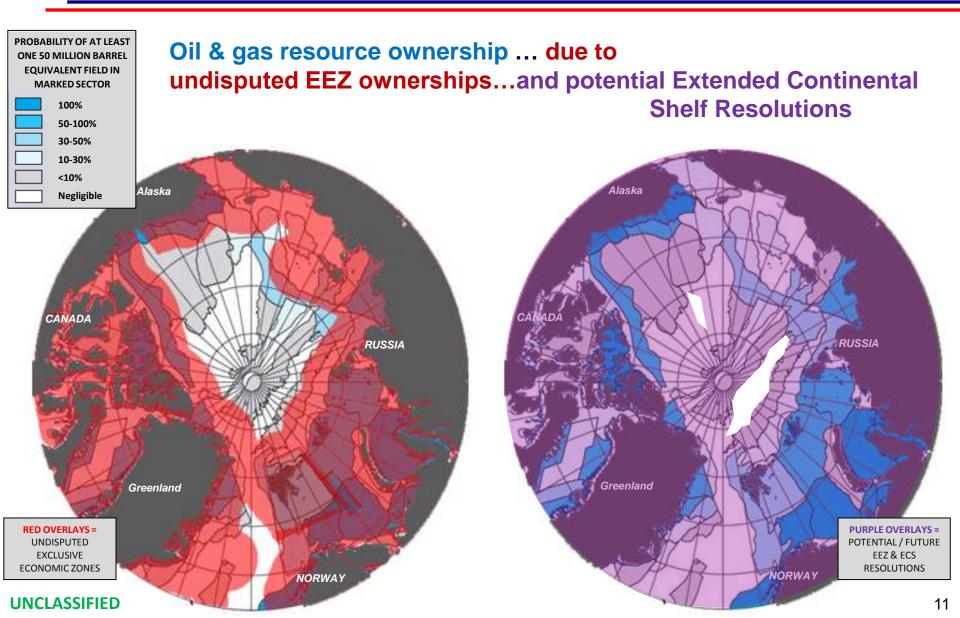
\*Assumes time-distance at 12kts. No other considerations (ice, NSR Delays, weather, insurance, ...).

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Contribute to safety, stability, & security in the region

Signed 21 May 2010





Safeguard U.S. maritime interests in the region



Strengthen existing & foster new cooperative relationships in the region



Protect the American people, our critical infrastructure, & key resources



Ensure Navy forces are capable and ready

Towards the desired end state  $\rightarrow$  a safe, stable, and secure Arctic



# Navy's Arctic Mission Analysis



#### ➢ 6 Mission Areas:

- 1. Regional Security Cooperation
- 2. Maritime Security / SAR / MDA
- 3. Preventing Conflict / Deterrence
- 4. HA/DR / DSCA
- 5. Freedom of the Seas / Sea Control
- 6. Force Projection



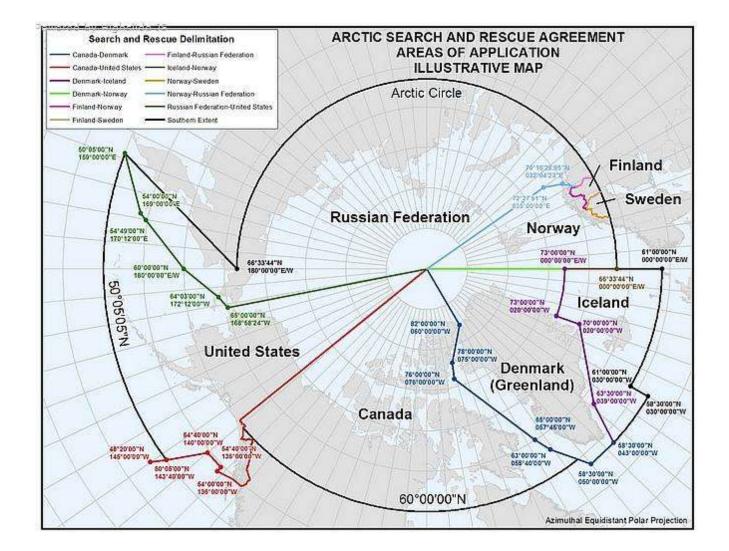
#### Roadmap update will consider accelerated timelines.

Timeframe	Conditions
2020	<ul> <li>Ice cover spans &lt; 10% of Arctic Basin during summer</li> <li>Major waterways open 50-60 days/yr; easy passage 20-30 days</li> <li>Trans-Arctic navigation is limited and difficult</li> </ul>
2030	<ul> <li>Major waterways open 110 days/yr; easy passage 45 days</li> <li>NWP has multi-yr drifting ice; NSR shipping capacity limited by shallow straits</li> <li>Transit over North Pole possible but limited</li> </ul>
2040	<ul> <li>Major waterways are consistently open; increasingly busy in summer</li> <li>NSR/NWP transits possible 130 days/yr; 75 days easily navigable</li> <li>Transit over North Pole viable</li> </ul>



# Search and Rescue Responsibilities







# **U.S. Arctic Region Challenges**





Limited infrastructure to support operations



Harsh operating environment



Limited comms and satellite sensors



Limited ice- breaking capabilities



Incomplete charting



High cost of operations



Limited Search and Rescue assets



Limited Arctic experience

For the U.S. Navy, the Arctic is a challenge, not a crisis





#### 

- Provide Environmental Information → Environmental CBA = 11 Gaps
- Maneuver Safely on the Sea Surface
- Conduct Training, Exercises, & Education
- Maneuver Safely in the Air
- Sustain the Force
- Establish Line of Communication
- Provide Reliable High Data Rate Comms
- Provide Accurate Navigation Information
- Maneuver Safely or Quickly on Ground
- Operate Kinetic Weapons
- Collect Required Intelligence
- Disrupt Enemy Weapon Systems

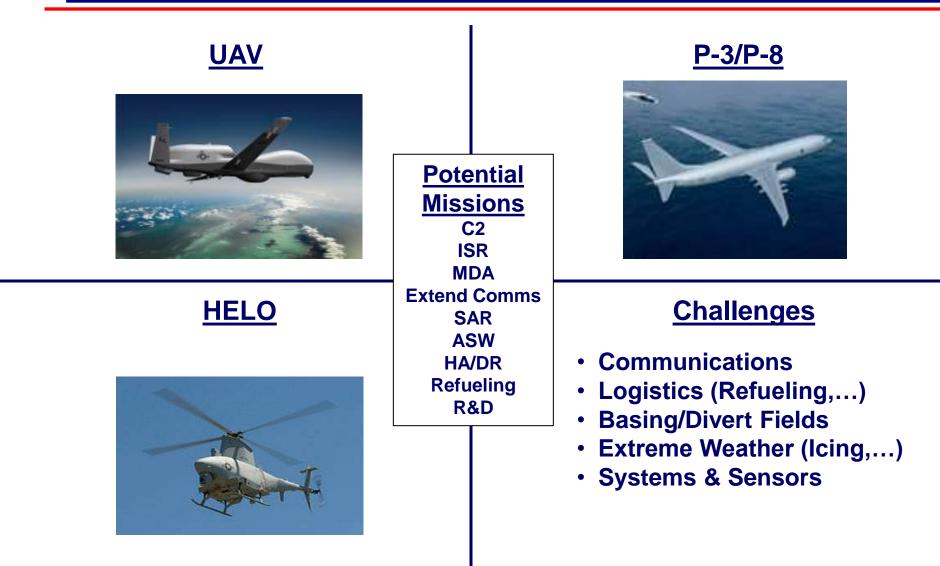
#### **CBA Recommended Near-term**

- Actions:
- Coordinate with COCOMs
- Assess effectiveness of Navy platforms, systems, and design standards for Arctic
- Act as a contributing stakeholder in studying the Arctic
- Strengthen partnerships
- Develop DoD scenarios

Roadmap update will focus on resolving gaps & near term actions

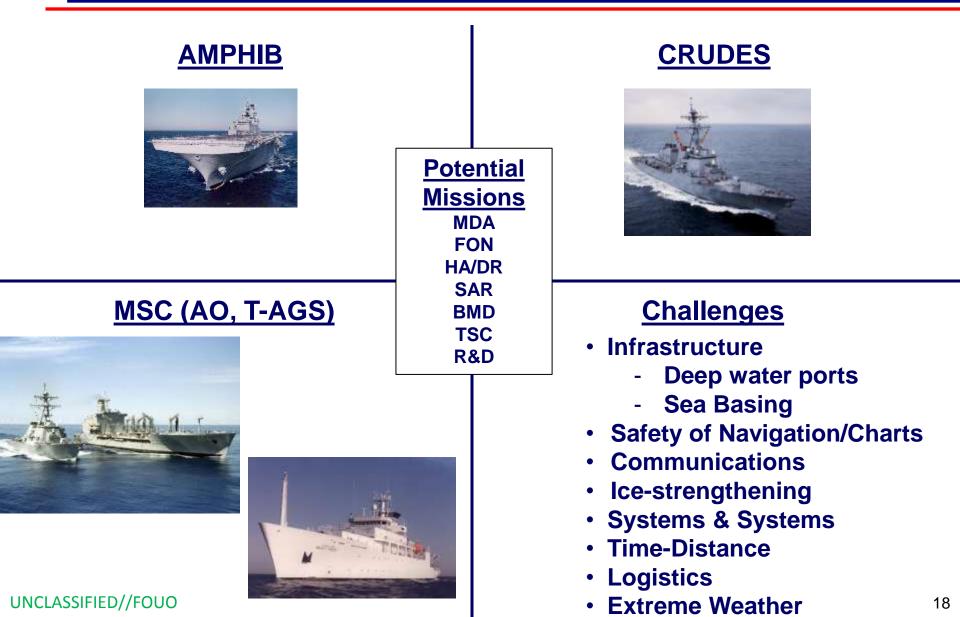








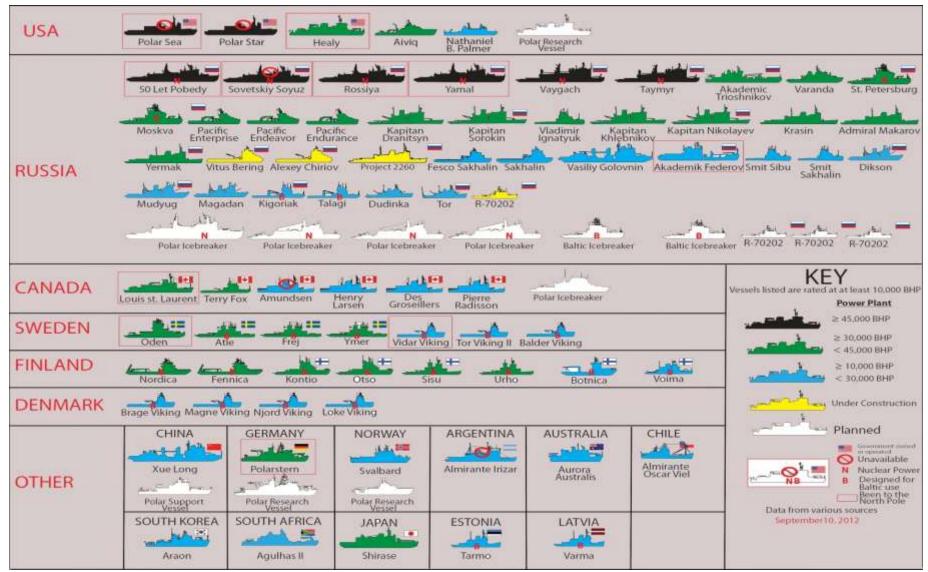






# **Global Ice Breaker Picture**



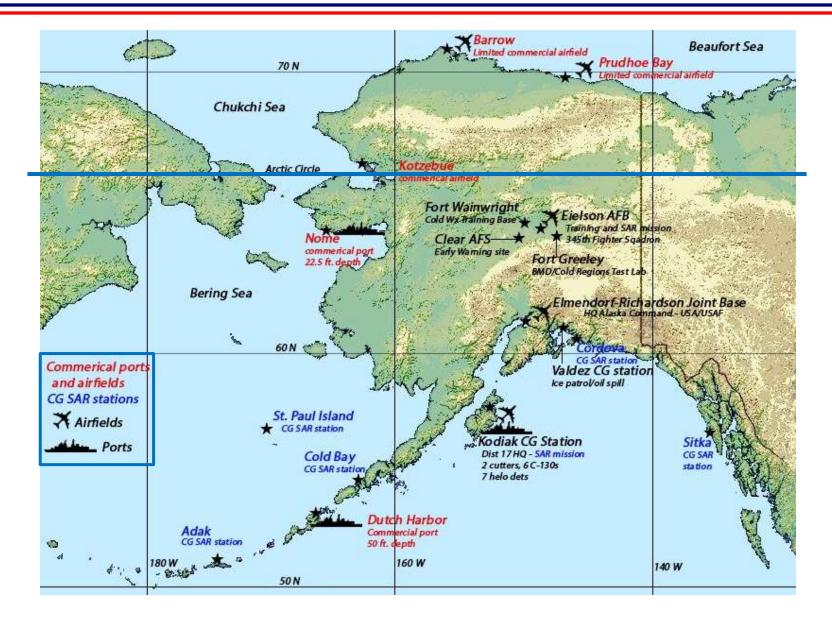


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# 🧐 Geography – Infrastructure Analysis







# International Engagement Priorities



#### Arctic Council



(Prohibited by Charter from dealing with military security issues)

<u>Member States</u>: Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, United States

Accredited Observer States: France, Germany, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom Pending Observer Applicant States: China, India, Italy, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, (EU also an applicant)

<u>Chairmanship</u>: Current – Sweden May 2013-15 – Canada May 2015-17 – United States

#### **Military Forums**

#### Arctic Security Forces Roundtable

- ASFR11 Ops, Infrastructure, MDA, T&E
- ASFR12 MDA, Comms
- ASFR13 Aug 2013

Northern CHOD

- 2012 (Canada) Theme: DSCA
- 2013 (Denmark)



### U.S. Navy Task Force Climate Change





#### Science-based approach, cooperative partnerships, risk assessments

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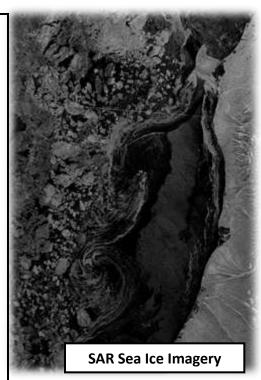
### **ONR Arctic Research Program**

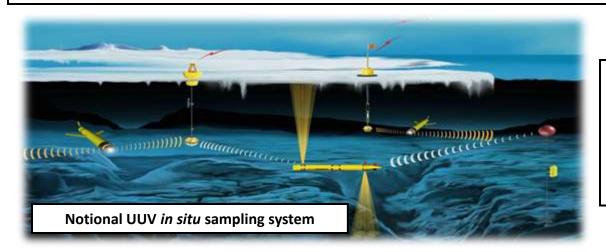
To Better Understand and Predict the Arctic Environment

Coordinated research activities between NRL and ONR

#### **Primary Thrusts:**

- Exploration of **new technologies and methodologies** (platforms, sensors, communications) that will enable persistent observation and operation in the Arctic ocean environment
- Improved basic physical understanding of the Arctic environment and important coupled processes operating in the Arctic region
- Development **fully-integrated Arctic System Models** incorporating the ocean, sea ice, waves and atmosphere for improved prediction at longer lead times, including the use of **satellite SAR data** for assimilation into integrated models





Advances in technology will be required to enable an interagency Arctic Observing Network that will support scientific exploration and be able to initialize predictive models of the environment



#### NRL's DISTANCE: Determining the Impact of Sea Ice Thickness on the Arctic's Naturally Changing Environment



#### Combined LiDAR/Radar Airborne Instrumentation for Ice Field Mapping and Thickness Determination

#### **10 GHz High-Power, Pulse-Limited Radar Altimeter**

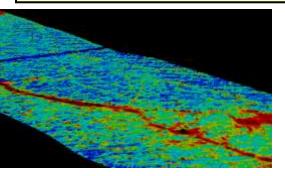
- ~3nsec pulse-width => 32m diameter footprint @300m altitude
- Wave-form digitization for mixed (lead & ice) returns < 1 cm vertical resolution of features @ 10 kHz
- Updated for 2012 field season to be fully coherent
   Scanning Topographic LiDAR
- < 1 cm range resolution</p>
- Wave-form digitization for mixed (lead & ice) returns

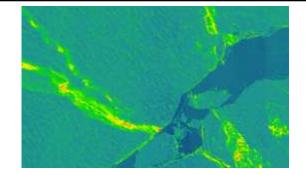
#### **Digital True Color Photogrammetry**

Lead discrimination

#### <u>Webcam</u>

- Lead discrimination and possible ice velocity for 2013 field season







#### Previous Campaigns

 Skagit Bay, Afghanistan, Arctic, Greenland, etc

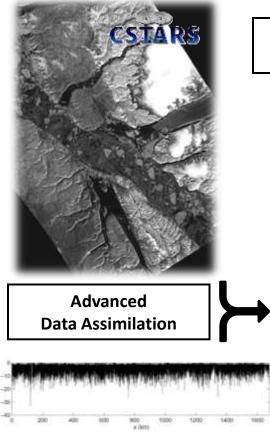




### FY13/14 NOPP Topic: Arctic Modeling and Prediction

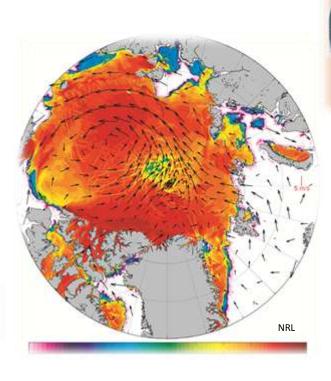
#### Develop an improved modeling capability for the Arctic for both basic understanding and prediction

- Coupling ocean models with ice, wave, and atmospheric models in the Arctic
- Data assimilation techniques for the Arctic Ocean
- Building tools to help optimize the Arctic observing system
- Role of remote sensing and in situ data in constraining Arctic models
- Improved models and methods for prediction of sea ice (nowcast to 6+ months)



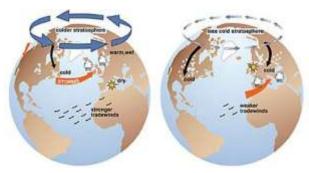
Ice thickness measured from below

Integrated Arctic System Models ocean – ice – wave – atmosphere





Coupling with Global Earth System Models



J. Wallace, University of Washington

# **Toward Improved Arctic System Prediction**



### NRL's Arctic Cap Nowcast/Forecast System (ACNFS)

#### ACNFS consists of 3 components:

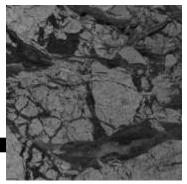
- Ice Model : Community Ice CodE
   (CICE) (DOE/LANL)
- Ocean Model: HYbrid Coordinate
   Ocean Model (HYCOM)
- Data assimilation: Navy Coupled
   Ocean Data Assimilation (NCODA)

Currently, ACNFS uses boundary conditions from GOFS 3.0

The Arctic Cap model will be integrated into the fully-coupled Navy **ESPC** model in coming years Model grid resolution ~ 3.5 km

Black line denotes independent ice edge analysis from National Ice Center (NIC). Animation spans Nov 2011 – Nov 2012.

Models will require high-resolution observations for initial conditions



ARCc0.08-03.5 Ice Concentration: 20111109



### **ONR/NRL Major Arctic S&T Efforts**

MAJOR FIELD EXPERIMENT

INDIVIDUAL OR PILOT EXPERIMENT

**ONR DRI: Emerging Dynamics of the Marginal Ice Zone -**Understand the air-ice-ocean-wave processes governing the evolution of the new marginal ice zone (MIZ) in the Beaufort Sea north of Alaska (FY12-FY16)

**ONR DRI: Sea State and Boundary Layer Physics of the Emerging Arctic Ocean -** Understand the impact of open water in the Arctic Ocean on sea state, waves, surface fluxes into the atmosphere on the retreat of sea ice.

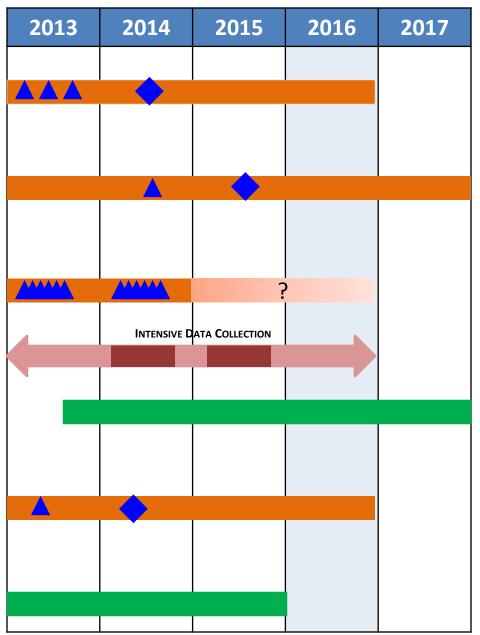
**ONR SIZRS: Seasonal Ice Zone Reconnaissance Surveys** -Repeated ocean, ice, and atmospheric measurements over the Beaufort/Chukchi Sea seasonal ice zone utilizing US Coast Guard Arctic Domain Awareness flights.

#### **ONR High-Resolution SAR Data Collection**

**NOPP Project for Arctic System Model Development** Interagency effort to develop data assimilative Arctic System Models to improve forecasts of the environment

NRL - DISTANCE: Determining the Impact of Sea Ice Thickness on the Arctic's Naturally Changing Environment Develop new techniques to derive snow depth and ice thickness from multiple sensors, and to use the new data types in the Navy's coupled ice-ocean model.

NRL - Coupled Relocatable High-Resolution Arctic Modeling System - Develop coupled relocatable oceanice-atmosphere model for high-resolution prediction

















### > To a Stable and Secure Region

Limited transparency of non-Arctic States activities and intentions in the region

### > To U.S. National Interests

Establishing precedents for freedom of access and navigation

### > To U.S Homeland Security

- Major or mass search and rescue response
- Large-scale environmental catastrophe
- Vessel catastrophes





### > To a Stable and Secure Region

- Misperceptions regarding the natural increase in Arctic military activities ("Militarization")
  - An Arctic Force for Good … Presence → Security → Stability
- Unwanted alliances and limited transparency of Arctic nation's relationships with outside players
- Uncertain dynamics in the development of regional governance

### > To U.S. National Interests

- Not being positioned to leverage opportunities
- Past activities substantiate maritime claims that spillover to other strategic waterways and chokepoints

### > To U.S Homeland Security

- Resilience to impacts of climate change or natural disasters
- Random or rogue acts by state or non-state actors





### **Policy Challenges**

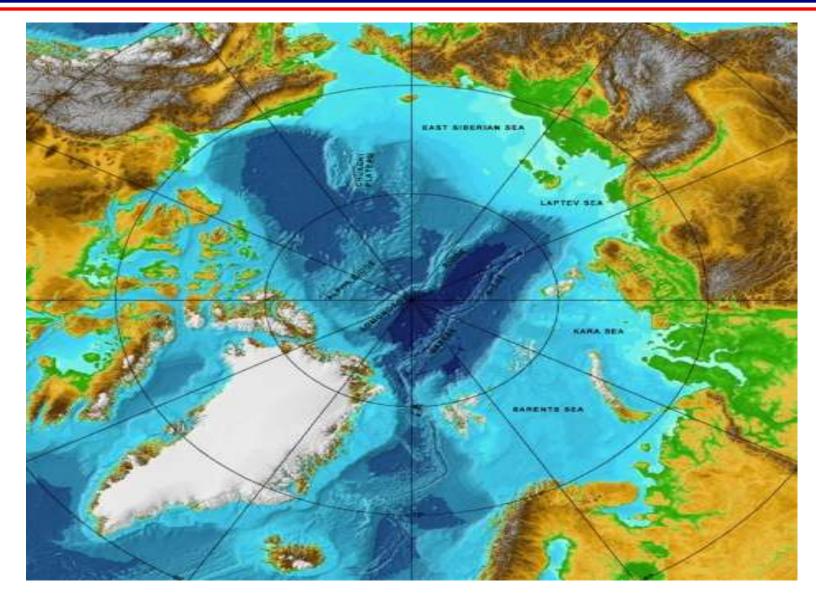
- Accession to UNCLOS
- National Strategy
- Fiscal constraints
- ➢ International synergy → Arctic Council

# **Physical Challenges**

- Limited Arctic basing and infrastructure availability
- > MDA, communications, weather and ice forecasting resources
- Limited proven ability to conduct persistent Arctic surface or Air ops, especially in the presence of surface ice
- Lack of national icebreaking assets to exercise freedom of navigation in this region













### > Primary

- Secondary
  - Tertiary
    - Quaternary