GLOBE Freshwater Ice Phenology Protocols Kim Morris, Martin Jeffries and Elena Sparrow

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Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE)







Freshwater Ice Phenology



The **phenology** of an ice cover is the freeze-up date, break-up date and ice cover duration.

Freeze-up (FU) defines the period between initial ice formation and the establishment of a complete ice cover. The FU date is the day that the pond is completely ice covered.

Break-up (BU) defines the period between the onset of snow melt and the complete disappearance of the ice. The BU date is the day when the lake is completely ice free.

Taken together freeze-up and break-up denote the endpoints of the **ice cover duration**.



Border ice formation – begins freeze-up



Moat formation- begins break-up

29 July - 3 August 2007 Prepared by



Freshwater Ice Phenology Protocols, I





Purpose

To monitor the freeze-up and breakup processes on a selected pond/lake or large creek/river to determine the duration of the annual ice cover.

Overview

Students will select an easily accessible pond/lake or large creek/river close to their school that is *known to develop an ice cover* in the winter and observe and document its freeze-up and break-up.



Freshwater Ice Phenology Protocols, II



Time

Selection and preparation of site (not including times to and from the site): *up to several hours*.

Daily visits (not including times to and from the site): about 15-20 minutes.

Frequency

Observations will be made daily at the same time of day ± 1 hour during the freeze-up and break-up processes (beginning to end). The recommended time of day is solar noon as this is the time of the maximum of sunlight even as the length of the day decreases.

Material and Tools

GPS (for site set-up) GPS Datasheet (for site set-up) Survey stakes/tape or other markers to identify the photo sites and viewing points Digital camera Computer and internet connection Ice type identification glossary (provided) Ice Phenology Datasheets (provided)

Preparation

Select and mark the observation site. Familiarize students with the ice types in the Ice Glossary



Break-up at 31.6 Mile Pond, AK in 2005

17 days documented. Break-up may have been as long as 20 days.







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River Site Selection





QuickTime™ and a TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor are needed to see this picture. The point of access on a large creek/river may have a view of a long stretch of the water to either side (upstream and downstream or to the left and right) as well as easy access to an "across" view. An outer limit of the view to be documented should be chosen and marked.

In some cases, a viewing point must be chosen that allows a good view of a substantial but limited portion of the river.





River Ice Protocol



- 1) Take the set of digital photographs (upstream, downstream, across);
- 2) Complete the datasheet (estimating the % of the channel width that is covered by <u>border</u> ice; description of changes in the border ice (fractures, flooding, movement); description of other ice present; and completing the "Environmental Conditions" observations.
- 3) Submit the data (photographs and datasheet).



Note: There are separate datasheets for river freeze-up and break-up.







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Daily River Ice Observations Datasheet, Freeze-up SHAGELUK, ALASKA



LOCATION: Shageli DATE: <u>3-Nov-(</u> TIME: <u>1000</u>	k 7			
GENERAL FU ICE OBSERVATIONS	ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS	DAILY PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE RIVER ICE FREEZE UP CONDITIONS		
Upstream % Borderl ice extent 0 Border ice change Fractured Flooding Movement	Select (X) one from each catagory: Sky: 5%) x (can subsititute cloud few (5-25%) protocol here) scattered (26-50%) broken (51-90%) overcast (>90%)	1) Across water body photo: 2) Upstream water body photo: 3) Downstream water body photo: Image: Construction of the second		
Downstream % Borderl ice extent Border ice change Fractured Flooding Movement	Wind: calm x light wind windy Precipitation: none x snow flurries snowing drizzle rain	Comments:		
Across stream Channel ice type Frazil Pancakes, small Pancakes, large X	Snow on none bank/shore: new x stable/no change wind redistributed melting/wet	4) Additional photo: 5) Additional photo: 6) Additional photo:		
OTHER COMMENTS Text entered here.	Snow on ice: none (bare, cold) x new - patchy new - continuous stable/no change wind redistributed melting/wet none (bare - warm)			
	Ice surface: smooth (may choose rough blocky/broken/jumbled blocky/broken/jumbled wet/flooded bare (melting) ice jam starting to look like freezeup!	Comments: Across the river Comments: Not exactly the same upriver shot, but almost. Comments: Down river by the bank		

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	Daily River Ice C	Observations Da Break-up	atasheet	SEASONS & BIOMI
	ered here. ered here. ered here.		RAPHS OF THE RIVER ICE BREA	
OBSERVATIONS	Select (X) one from each catagory:	1) Across water body photo:	2) Upstream water body photo:	3) Downstream water body photo:
Ice present Y/N Static ice Upstream Upstream Y/N Ice fractured Y/N Water on ice Y/N Holes in ice Y/N Channel through ice Y/N Downstream Y/N Water on ice Y/N Water on ice Y/N Water on ice Y/N Holes in ice Y/N Channel through ice Y/N	Sky: clear (0-5%) (can substitute cloud few (5-25%) protocol here) scattered (26-50%) broken (51-90%) overcast (>90%) Wind: calm light wind windy Precipitation: none snowing drizzle	DIGITAL IMAGE (jpg)	DIGITAL IMAGE (jpg)	DIGITAL IMAGE (jpg)
Moving ice Upstream Y/N Downstream Y/N	rain freezing rain Ice surface: smooth (may choose rough more than 1) blocky/broken/jumbled melt ponds	Comments: Text entered here.	Comments: Text entered here.	Comments: Text entered here.
Text entered here.	Additional Comments: Text entered here.	DIGITAL IMAGE (jpg)	DIGITAL IMAGE (jpg)	DIGITAL IMAGE (jpg)
		Comments: Text entered here.	Comments: Text entered here.	Comments: Text entered here.



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Site Seasonal Summary Datasheet



LOCATION: Text entered nere.						
		1				
Rough schematic of your photo sampling scena	rio:					
DIGITAL IMAGES (jpg) (show the standard views of the site and describe the image naming conventions.) This information only has to be sumbitted once (except in the event of a change in sampling strategy or site).		*				
Basic description of the site: Text entered here.	Latitude, Longitude, Altitude Area, Mean length/width Mean depth, etc.	*				
Ice Phenology Milestones:						
FREEZE-UP Date of first overnight air temperature below freezing: Date of mean daily air temperature below freezing: Date of first maximum daily air temperature below freezing: Date of first snow:	Text entered here. Text entered here. Text entered here. Text entered here.					
Date of first appearance of ice: Date of 100% ice cover:	Text entered here. Text entered here.					
BREAK-UP Date of first daytime air temperature above freezing: Date of mean daily air temperature above freezing: Date of first minimum daily air temperature above freezing: Date of complete disappearance of snow on ice: Date of 0% ice cover:	Text entered here. Text entered here. Text entered here. Text entered here. Text entered here.	*				
Thumbnail galiery of freeze-up images (1 per day) - linked to	daily observations.	+				
Thumbnail gallery of break-up images (1 per day) - linked to	daily observations.	•				
		J				

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This form is filled out during the course of the ice growth and decay season.

The first part of this form is completed as part of the site set up.

This information is derived from the *GPS protocol* found in the GLOBE Teacher's Guide.

This portion of the form is completed during the freeze-up period.

- This portion of the form is completed during the break-up period.
- This portion is filled in during the freeze-up season.
 - This portion is filled in during the break-up season.

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Environmental Factors Influencing Freshwater Ice Phenology



The freshwater ice growth and decay model CLiMO uses the meteorological variables air temperature, precipitation, cloud cover, wind speed and relative humidity as forcing variables.

It has been shown that air temperature and precipitation are the primary factors determining the ice growth and decay history.

Cloud cover takes on a prominent role during the spring break-up.

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Complementary GLOBE Protocols, I

SEASONS & BIOMES



In order for the students to fully appreciate the relationships between the ice conditions and the forcing environmental conditions, we suggest the following GLOBE protocols:

- 1) Cloud protocols, Atmosphere;
- 2) <u>Temperature</u> protocols, Atmosphere maximum, minimum and current air temperature protocol,
- OR digital multi-day max/min/current air and soil temperatures protocol
- OR Automated soil and air temperature monitoring protocol; and
- 3) <u>Solid Precipitation</u> protocol, Atmosphere -(measuring snow depth only - Precipitation Protocols/Solid Precipitation Protocol).



Complementary GLOBE Protocols, II





In order for the students to obtain an integrated understanding of the fallwinter and winter-spring seasonal transitions, we suggest the following GLOBE protocols:

 Snow and soil surface temperature protocol (based on the Surface Temperature Protocol), Atmosphere;
Budburst, Green-Up and Green-Down protocols, Earth (lake/river side vegetation); and
Arctic bird migration monitoring protocol, Earth

(focusing on water fowl).

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Find Out More on the World Wide Web





http://www.globe.gov/fsl/html/templ.cgi?seasons&lang=en&nav=1

GLOBE Teacher's Guide

View Teacher's Guide Table of Contents

Browse the Teachers Guide via the Table of Contents. Each chapter and the individual protocols, learning activities, data sheets and field guides are available in PDF format for online viewing, printing, or downloading.

Search By Concept and Grade Level

Do you have a specific educational concept you are trying to teach? Now you can search for protocols and learning activities by educational concept and grade level.

1997 Guía de Educadores GLOBE

La Guía de Educadores (Spanish Teacher's Guide) online está basada en una copia del programa original GLOBE 1997.

to view content.

Search Teacher's Guide for:

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Contact Us





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