



## National Science Foundation News From the Field

### CU-Boulder Researchers Forecast 3-in-5 Chance of Record Low Arctic Sea Ice in 2008

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**April 30, 2008** New University of Colorado at Boulder calculations indicate the record low minimum extent of sea ice across the Arctic last September has a three-in-five chance of being shattered again in 2008, because of continued warming temperatures and a preponderance of younger, thinner ice.

**Source:** University of Colorado at Boulder

### Scientists Head to Warming Alaska on Ice Core Expedition

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**April 29, 2008** In an effort to better understand how the Pacific Northwest fits into the larger climate-change picture, scientists from the University of New Hampshire and the University of Maine are heading to Denali National Park on the second leg of a multi-year mission to recover ice cores from glaciers in the Alaskan wilderness. **Source:** University of New Hampshire

### Lakes of Meltwater Can Crack Greenland's Ice and Contribute to Faster Ice Sheet Flow

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**April 17, 2008** Researchers have for the first time documented the sudden and complete drainage of a lake of meltwater from the top of the Greenland ice sheet to its base. From those observations, scientists have uncovered a plumbing system for the ice sheet, where meltwater can penetrate thick, cold ice and accelerate some of the large-scale summer movements of the ice

sheet. **Source:** Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

### Baffin Island Ice Caps Have Shrunk 50 Percent Since the 1950s

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**January 28, 2008** A new University of Colorado at Boulder study has shown that ice caps on the northern plateau of Baffin Island in the Canadian Arctic have shrunk by more than 50 percent in the last half century as a result of warming, and are expected to disappear by the middle of the century. The study may also provide insight into the so-called 'Little Ice Age,' a period of

Northern Hemisphere cooling that lasted from roughly 1250 to 1850.

**Source:** University of Colorado at Boulder