

For Immediate Release  
July 12, 2017

**7th biennial Symposium on the Impacts of an Ice-Diminishing Arctic on Naval and Maritime Operations**

Naval Heritage Center, 701 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20004

July 18-20, 2017, 8:00 am until 5:00 pm daily

**Press conference:** Tuesday, July 18, 10:45 am, moderated by Hon. Fran Ulmer, Chair of the US Arctic Research Commission, with:

Dr. **Lawson Brigham**, Distinguished Fellow and Faculty Member, Univ. AK Fairbanks  
Dr. **Frank Herr**, Head, Ocean Battlespace Sensing Dept., Office of Naval Research  
Hon. **Chris Hladick**, Commissioner, State of Alaska Dept. of Commerce  
Mr. **David Jackson**, Special Project Advisor, Canadian Ice Service  
Mr. **Craig McLean**, Acting Chief Scientist and Assistant Administrator for Oceanic and Atmospheric Research Office, NOAA  
ADM **Paul Zukunft**, Commandant of the US Coast Guard

More information: <https://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/Ice2017/index.php>

Live webcast: <https://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/Ice2017/webcast.php>

How are we responding to an increasingly “open” Arctic, as sea ice melts, technology increases access, and global economic demand spurs new options for marine transportation, the search and production of marine resources, and tourism? Come hear over 50 leading experts from governments, academia, and industry, and non-profit organizations explain the current situation, future plans, and possible scenarios.

Senior federal leaders in the US Coast Guard, the US Navy, and NOAA will give keynote talks. Congressional and State leaders from Alaska (Senators Lisa **Murkowski** and Dan **Sullivan**, Representative Don **Young**, and Alaska Commissioner Chris **Hladick**) and Maine (Sen. Angus **King**) will provide key insights. Government representatives from Canada, Denmark, and Russia will provide an international perspective. Leading scientists will share their latest finding and insights on Arctic sea ice, oceanography, marine mammals, meteorology, satellite imagery, seafloor charting, marine ecosystems, and more.

Topics span the gamut from basic scientific research, to the practical demand for improved Arctic weather and climate forecasting, to the use of satellites, to ship traffic and the implications of implementing the International Maritime Organization’s “Polar Code,” to marine tourism, fiber optic cables across the top of the world, to the evolving nature of marine ecosystems, and perspectives of Arctic residents.

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