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SIKU: Knowing Our Ice

Documenting Inuit Sea Ice Knowledge and Use

- First-ever overview of indigenous knowledge of ice on a broad pan-Arctic scale
- Ice is changing rapidly and so is indigenous knowledge and use of sea ice
- Science of modern climate change is strengthened by use of local knowledge
- Comparative stories of ice use and knowledge across four Arctic nations
- Unique resource for anyone interested in indigenous visions of Arctic life

By exploring indigenous people's knowledge and use of sea ice, the SIKU project has demonstrated the power of multiple perspectives and introduced a new field of interdisciplinary research, the study of social (socio-cultural) aspects of the natural world, or what we call the social life of sea ice. It incorporates local terminologies and classifications, place names, personal stories, teachings, safety rules, historic narratives, and explanations of the empirical and spiritual connections that people create with the natural world. In opening the social life of sea ice and the value of indigenous perspectives we make a novel contribution to IPY, to science, and to the public

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