Iñupiatun Uqaluit Taniktun Sivunniuġutinjiŋit
North Slope Iñupiaq to English Dictionary

Compiled by Edna Ahgeak MacLean

Alaska Native Languages Archives
University of Alaska Fairbanks
2012
Dedicated
To
Dr. Michael Krauss
In Recognition of his Leadership in the Retention, Maintenance and Preservation of Alaska’s Native Languages

Also Dedicated To
All Iñupiat
For Keeping the Iñupiaq Culture Alive and Vibrant

And to my Inspiration and Tutaaluuraq

Gwendolyn Sirrouna MacLean
Sağvait
Ocean currents

Kanaŋŋaiññaq
North

Ikagnamiñ
Northeast

Piruŋgannaq
East

Piruŋgagnamiñ qatchiguraaqtaq
Southeast

Atchaŋnaq
South

Qaisaŋnamiñ iłumuktuuraaqtaq
Northwest

Qaisaŋnaq
West

Kiluagnamiñ atchagnuraaqtaq
Southwest
AnuGIT
Winds

Kanagnaq
North

Uagnaagruk
Northwest

Ikagnaq
Northeast

Ujalaq
West

Nigiqpaq
East

Ujalaq qatchiksug
Southwest

Nigiq qatchiksug
Southeast

Kiluagnaq
South
Sikukun Taggisit
Ice Terms

Sixty-five (65) terms for ice are in this list. Sixteen (16) of which are based on the term siku “ice”.

agiukpak or (Ti) agiuppak wall of sheared ice along the edge of the open lead that has been formed by the grinding action of the free ice against the shore-locked ice
alliviniq ice under another piece of ice which may surface due to ocean currents or wake of boat
apuqtinniq ice which has been pushed onto shore
arguqtagniq or arguqtinniq newly formed thin ice on the downwind side of a ploynya or lead
asitaq cracked ice made by force of moving ice when it attaches to free floating ice
ataitchuaq shore ice not anchored to ocean floor
atigniqaq new ice which forms along pre-existing ice
aulaniq moving lead ice
unniq or aupkagniq rotten ice
augniqsraq patch of ground from which the snow has melted while the surrounding area still has snow; area where sea ice has become dangerous due to melting
avarraullaktuaq large ice floe which breaks off from the landlocked ice and begins to move in a circular motion
ayaaqtinniq ice trapped in a narrow part of a river or lead
ayiuqaq ice chipped off by ocean waves
ayuksraq piece of ice that does not freeze to shore-fast ice and goes out with ocean current
I
ignigluq crushed, thin, young ice found in ice cracks
ignignaq stretch of smooth ice parallel to shore between pressure ice ridges and beach
ikugaagniq ice adhering to ice that has been added to shore ice
ikugaaq(-) depression on ice full of water; to become full of depressions full of water (of ice on ocean)
illagauraq ice which has begun to melt and although solid is spongy and dangerous
imigniq mound of earth or ice that makes an echoing sound when stamped on
imuniq young ice which has been crushed by moving ice
irriquitiq diamond dust or ice crystals in the air (indicating that a cold spell is imminent)
isaananiq narrow piece of ice that juts out from the main piece of ice
ivunigauraq small ice pressure ridge
ivuniq ice pressure ridge
ivuniqpaaluk or ivuniqpait big ice pile, pressure ridge
K
kangilaq or (Nu) kangutailaq smooth ice with no frost on top
kaniqtaq ice formed by frost; fragile, refrozen ice
kanjiqluk bay, inlet; indentation in sea ice where whales often surface
kiapku solid pancake ice
kiisaq1 or kisitchaq grounded pile (which keeps landlocked ice from floating away); grounded iceberg
kukulquaq chunk of ice in house placed over water bucket to melt, drip, providing drinking water

M
mauraq(-) small ice floe used as stepping stone
mayuqinniq ice on the beach
mayuqitaq(-) slush ice pushed onto to shore
mi{|aliq(-) (Ti) slush ice; slush and small chunks of new sea ice which wash up on shore in fall; to be covered by small chunks of sea ice in fall (of beach)
mitik1 (Nu) slush ice (in a fishing hole)
mitu(-) (Nu) first chunks of ice which form in ocean in the fall (clings to nets)
mugaliq or (Ti) mi{|aliq or mugaliq slush ice, waterlogged snow (on ocean) (foam-like in appearance), snow and thin ice on water when freeze-up begins, slushy ice which forms on shore at the first freeze
mu|grak slush ice

N
napaayuq upright ice cake
nilak layer of granular snow found under another layer (can be melted for potable water); moist crushed ice
nutaqun fresh snow on ice-free water; refrozen crack less than ten feet wide
nutaqliq smooth ice covered by snow with moisture between the ice and the snow

P
paqiiq ice propelled by the wind and ocean current simultaneously in opposite directions, making it appear to move
paq(-) ice that serves as an anchor to shore-fast ice
pi|u isolated ice mound; knoll, dome; isolated hill; pimple, swelling on skin; swell (crestless wave or succession of waves); (i) to develop a pimple; to swell (of ocean)
pi|aluak large chunk of freshwater ice from river, good for drinking water; multiyear sea ice that has become fresh due to multiyear thawing
pi|uniq mound formed by pressure from below; place where river ice over deep water is pushed up so that it cracks and water flows through
pi|uqiq flat, secure ice at edge of ocean lead (where whaling camp can be set up at the end of the trail that’s been made)
pu|grak (Ti) slush ice
puktaaq floating mass of ice; iceberg, large piece of ice
puktaatat ice floe attached to another ice floe

Q
qaatchi|iq (Ti) depression on ice filled with water
qaigi|u ice with irregular surface features, partly rough and partly smooth
qaigii|uq (Nu) ripple on ice
qaigm|uq first shore ice in fall
qaimg|uq white frozen edge of water; frozen foam on beach; (Ti) smooth ice parallel to shore, a cake of ice smoothed by spray
qaigsuaqtat smooth ice between areas of rough ice
qaivañiq flat round cakes of ice frozen together
qanaiañtauaq pack ice moving directly toward shore fast ice
qañatchiniq (Ti) ice with hollow space beneath it (easy to fall through)
qañattaaq ice or snow which has one edge partly off the ground; hollow area (as from erosion); hollow area between the ice and the water
qimaktinniq shore fast ice left behind when the ice is carried away by an ocean current
qinu(-) layer of slush ice which forms on ocean at freeze up and clings to shore; to form a thin layer of slush ice (of ocean at freeze-up)
quasa or quasiraq(-) or quasiraq(-) bare, smooth ice on lake or pond which one can slide on; (i) to slide along swiftly on a slippery surface; to skate
qukhiaq (Nu) small cracks which fan out through ice or glass
S
sagrat assembled pieces of ice traveling with the current in ocean
sarri or (Ti) sarrik floating ice pack away from shore-fast ice
siqmiqu or (Ti) siqmiqu(-) substance that hardens and can be used for patching; patch for sled runners of water and snow to improve their sliding; (Ti) ice which forms on boat or sled; (i) for it=boat or sled to get covered with ice; icêglacier
siqsinniq water flowing through crack in ice; underground springs, water flowing out of the ground; frozen overflow on top of river ice; glaciated stream (melts in summer)
siku(-)¹ ice; to freeze over; to become icy
sikuauq(-) thin ice on body of water; (Ti) ice on boat or sled; to become covered with thin ice (of water); (Ti) to ice over (of boat or sled)
sikuatchiaq(-) newly formed thin ice
sikuayaaq(-) new ice, young ice on water; to have new ice, young ice (of water)
sikuq (Nu) small chunk of floating ice
sikuqlak(-) or sikuqlalaaq frozen rain and snow on ground; hailstone; (Ti) icicle; (Ti) old packed snow good for drinking water; to freeze over ground or snow (of rain); to start forming (of ice); to hail; (Ti) (i) to form (of icicle); to get packed hard so that it is good for drinking water (of snow)
sikuqliniq ice formed from water spilled on something
sikuqlauraq (Nu) new thin ice
sikuqlaqruaq ice which is about one and a half feet thick
sikuqlaq young ice formed around edge of old solid ice on open lead
sikuqluraq newly formed ice
sikuqlutaq freshwater ice
sikuquanq(-) ice fog; ice crystals which settle out of the air; for there to be ice fog, ice crystals in the air
sikuqqaq (Ti) block of ice
sikuqqat small iceflees
sikuqtaq new ice
suqaiñtuqrtuaq very large mass of pack ice
T
tuvaq(-) or (Ti) tugaq or tuvaqraaq shore-fast ice; to come in to shore (of ice); (Ti) shore ice
tuvaqtaq shore fast ice covering only a portion of the beach
tuuniq cracked ice made by force of main pack ice
Utuqqaviñiq piece of old shore-fast ice which has broken off; chunk of thick shore ice
There are seventy-six (76) terms listed for snow and frost in this dictionary. Six (6) terms are based on the stem:

api- to become snow-covered from snowfall (of landscape, ground); (t) for it to become snow-covered from snowfall”

Many of the terms are based on the shape, quality, and condition of the snow.

A
agniq(-) or aŋniq(-) blizzard, snowstorm, blowing snow; (i) for there to be a blizzard
aluktinniq snow cliff
ą̈gviuraq snowdrift in the shape of a whale back (usually about 30 feet in length)
ani packed snow
aniuvak mound of hard packed snow; snowbank
aniuvauraq a snowdrift with a sharp downwind side and a more inclined upwind side
apiqqaağun first snowfall
apiqqammiaq(-) or apir̂gammmiaq new snow
apĩchiq snowdrift; female polar bear which bears young in a hollow snowdrift
apivaalluqqağniq first lasting snowfall of the year
apun snow (lying on a surface); fallen snow
apuyyaq or aputyaq (Nu) snow block shelter; snow patch
aq̂il̂uk a bank of deep soft snow
aq̂iljuq (Nu) soft snow
aq̂iluqqaq soft snow
auksalaq or auksallak rapidly melting snow
I
ik̂siaksraq snow to be melted for drinking water
iḷu(-)¹ frost in house; (t) to form frost on it
K
kaataq (Ti) maktaq which has thick blubber sliced off; block of hard snow for building a snow house
kaniq(-) frost; (i) to be covered with light frost; (t) to have light frost cover it = ground, house or any object
kan̂guraq (Nu) light or spotty frost
kan̂ičaagruk(-) (Nu) frost, rime; to form a layer of frost
kan̂ičr̂uaq(-) heavy frost; (i) to form a thick layer of frost
LATĜrugniq (Ti) snowdrift
M
manũgli(-) (Ti) frost from breath; (i) to form frost from breath (e.g. of parka ruff)
masak(-) or matchak(-) slush, waterlogged snow; to be damp of ground
masallak(-) damp snow; (i) to be damp snow (damp enough for making snowballs)

mauya or mauyaq soft dirt or deep snow into which one may sink as one walks
mauyaqisaaq soft deep snow
mavsa or mapsa overhanging snowdrift, ready to fall; snow cornice; overhang; spleen
mavsaq(-) (ti) or (nu) mavsat- deep soft snow; (i) to fall into deep soft snow; (i) to fall down, creating a snowslide (of snow cornice)
miğaliq(-) (Ti) slush ice; slush and small chunks of new sea ice which wash up on shore in fall; to be covered by small chunks of sea ice in fall (of beach
mijik very soft snow
misak(-) wet ground, slush, swamp; waterlogged snow; (i) to be slushy (of snow), be wet (of ground)
misalhak slushy surface of young saltwater ice; water-soaked ground, swamp
misulik sleet, wet snow
mitik1 (Nu) slush ice (in a fishing hole)
muğalliq or (ti) miğaliq or muğaliq slush ice, waterlogged snow (on ocean) (foam-like in appearance), snow and thin ice on water when freeze-up begins, slushy ice which forms on shore at the first freeze

N
natıgvik(-) snow swiftly drifting along the ground (usually blowing not above the knee); (i) to blow, drift low along the ground (of snow or dust)
natıqlit(-) snow swiftly blowing along the ground (with drifts no higher than the ankle); (i) to be at the bottom (of it); to be as far down as one can go
nikuvlalaaq(-) (Ti) corn snow, good for drinking water; (i) to be good, as frozen meat that has been frozen then thawed, then frozen again, and it has ice crystals
nilak layer of granular snow found under another layer (can be melted for potable water); moist crushed ice
niŋnuq3 soft snow packed on top of sod house (to provide extra insulation for the house)
niviluk(-) wet snow; (i) to be unkempt, slovenly (of a person); to be damp, slushy (of snowy and rainy weather
nivviğiksi- to become wet enough to stick together (of snow)
nutaŋaq young person; fresh powder snow
nuturuk packed snow (good for making snow house)

P
patuk(-) frost of breath on ruff; to be wet or foggy; to form on the parka ruff (of frost)
piagnaq snow condition good for sled travel
piqsiq(-) wet snow storm; (i) to be stormy with wet blowing snow in the air
pukak granular snow found under hard packed snow, good for melting into water
pukarraaq (-) (Ti) old packed snow good for drinking water; (i) to get packed hard so that it is good for drinking water

Q
qakuak frost on ground
qanni(-) snowflake; falling snow; (i) to snow
qannialaaq(-) light snowfall; (i) to snow lightly
qaŋattaaq ice or snow which has one edge partly off the ground; hollow area (as from erosion); hollow area between the ice and the water
qaquq(-) (Ti) frost on ground; (i) to become frosted over (of land
qayuq- (Ti) frost on ground; (i) to become frosted over (of land
qiğuviaq refrozen slush
qikaaluk- (i) for it (usu., snow or ice) to be crunchy when walked upon
qikigqaq creaking noise made by walking, running, crawling on frozen snow
qikkuaq(-) (Ti) frost on ground; (t) to get frosted over (of land
qimuagruk snowdrift blocking trail or in lee of high building; high snowdrift
qiqsruqqaq(-) hardened glazed snow in spring time especially during the night after a
thaw; for it to be frozen again so one can travel without sinking into the wet snow
qivliñnaq small frost crystal
quvyuqagnaq white-out snow weather condition
S
saggutyaq (Nu) snowhouse made of soft, new snow
sikuqlak(-) or sikuqlalaaq frozen rain and snow on ground; hailstone; (Ti) icicle; (Ti) old
packed snow good for drinking water; to freeze over ground or snow (of rain); to start
forming (of ice); to hail; (Ti) (i) to form (of icicle); to get packed hard so that it is good
for drinking water (of snow)
siljiq snow made crusty and hard by strong winds (most suitable for making snow houses)
siljigruaaq hard and shiny surface snow
siljiqsruq super hard, often icy snow
sitliq (Nu) hard snow, windpacked snow
sisuuk(-) snowslide (esp. of snow over a creek); avalanche; (i) to slide (esp. of snow over
creek)
sisuuksrarq (Nu) snow cornice; snow build up as a potential avalanche
U
upkağananak snow with hard top and soft underneath
uupkaagnaq (Nu) snow with hard top and soft underneath
The Meaning of Ice

People and sea ice in three Arctic communities
Editors

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Cover photo:

Hunters at the floe edge
off Pond Inlet, Nunavut, 2008.
Gretchen Freund.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taqium sikua</td>
<td>sea ice (&quot;the ocean's ice&quot;); &quot;siku&quot; = ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qinuatsialisuaq</td>
<td>first stage of ice formation; looks like ice-fog inside the water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikuliuraq</td>
<td>very young, soft ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikulialaq</td>
<td>thin ice, but one is able to walk on it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikulialgruaq</td>
<td>sea ice formed and considered thick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvagraq</td>
<td>land fast ice; grounded ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piqaluyak</td>
<td>multi-year ice; sea ice with no salt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puktaaq</td>
<td>floating chunk of sea ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alliviniq</td>
<td>large, thick ice from under water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagvak</td>
<td>when two different currents collide into each other; very dangerous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigayuq</td>
<td>small water hole; polynya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikuqquamaq</td>
<td>recently formed sea ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augniq/Aunniq</td>
<td>melted hole or pond in the spring time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagvacquruq</td>
<td>an area that has a strong current</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Killaq</td>
<td>melt hole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilautinaruq</td>
<td>has a hole through the ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allu</td>
<td>seal breathing hole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immaktininniq</td>
<td>melted water on top of ice in the springtime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isuqtuq</td>
<td>murky water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Killiniqsinniq</td>
<td>meltwater along the edge of a lake or bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qaaaminniq</td>
<td>overflow on the ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aputaiñiq</td>
<td>free of snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qaiqsuaq</td>
<td>flat area of sea ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qaiqjilluraq</td>
<td>small area of sea ice with rough spots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qaiqjiliaq</td>
<td>rough area of sea ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iglaunaqtuq</td>
<td>possible to go forward or travel on the sea ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivuniq/ivunigich</td>
<td>rubble field of sea ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Igniqnaq</td>
<td>pressure ridge or piled up sea ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piquniq</td>
<td>grounded pressure ridge closest to shore; creates a safe zone for whalers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutaqun</td>
<td>buckle in the ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutaqtuaq</td>
<td>refrozen lead or a fresh crack that has refrozen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uiniq</td>
<td>young crack in shorefast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aiyygaq</td>
<td>open lead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quppaq</td>
<td>crack or pressure ridge across bay or large lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qimmiaqruqauraq — qimmiaqayaq</td>
<td>sound created from sides of crack in sea ice rubbing together; sounds like a small puppy calling for mom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inuit Word</td>
<td>English Translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikumniq</td>
<td>loose ice floes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qulurqaq</td>
<td>is all cracked up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aulaniq</td>
<td>ice pack movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siŋaani</td>
<td>floe edge or shore line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qaimgiq</td>
<td>shore ice formed by waves or frozen ocean spray; different in Barrow from year to year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nunam sininga, taŋium siŋa</td>
<td>shoreline that meets land fast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suŋaiŋnuq</td>
<td>large ice floe (not broken ice); multi year ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puktaaŋruaq</td>
<td>large piece of floating ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugaiŋnuqpaq</td>
<td>larger ice floe that is one piece, not broken up; multi year ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaglu</td>
<td>dirty or dark chunk of floating sea ice, caused by scouring sea bed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Napaayaq</td>
<td>tall ice feature used as a landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uupkkaaŋtuq</td>
<td>breaks off, as an overhang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikummaŋniq</td>
<td>broken ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puktallaktuk</td>
<td>the process of floating to the surface; in the context of sea ice, a chunk of sea ice that breaks off from underneath and floats to the surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miŋialaaŋtuq</td>
<td>to break apart, as an unfrozen pressure ridge would</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angurraktuq</td>
<td>to turn around 180 degrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muŋaliq</td>
<td>soft ice, slush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitkiniq</td>
<td>large iceberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarri</td>
<td>pack ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvaiq</td>
<td>shorefast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siktaq</td>
<td>ice pick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isuq</td>
<td>dirty, cloudy water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injuliit</td>
<td>large waves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikpaq</td>
<td>to wait expectantly for (verb stem)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irri</td>
<td>cold weather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uli</td>
<td>high tide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taŋiuqsiŋiŋtikut</td>
<td>“our ocean vessel,” ocean traveller; chunk of sea ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palusungnak</td>
<td>warm southeast wind meets ice; means sea ice will be coming in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uyuayuk</td>
<td>when ocean current and wind are in opposite directions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagraq</td>
<td>small piece of floating ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigayuqaq</td>
<td>large water hole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurriŋiŋ</td>
<td>channel connecting one hole to another</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qaisaŋnaq</td>
<td>westerly current</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piruŋaŋnaq</td>
<td>easterly current</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palusagnaq</td>
<td>current that flows toward shore (only in summer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atchaŋnaq</td>
<td>current that flows away from shore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ilumuktutquaq</td>
<td>current that flows toward shore at an angle (year round)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aulaniq</td>
<td>moving ice that stops and goes again</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atuagnaq</td>
<td>wind from SW that runs parallel with shorefast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuvujaq</td>
<td>a point of land or ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuvujaaurapak</td>
<td>a long slender point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iluliaq</td>
<td>the far side of a bay or cove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pituqqiq</td>
<td>place along the ice where the whales like to surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanjqjuk</td>
<td>bay or cove on the shorefast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manilliuq</td>
<td>A whale camp with a good view of the whales traveling; situated opposite &quot;iluliaq&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puktaaŋrugaq</td>
<td>large floating ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigayuq</td>
<td>small water hole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uivraluktaq</td>
<td>to do a somersault (verb stem); can be used for an ice flow overturning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ALASKA SHOREFAST ICE: INTERFACING GEOPHYSICS WITH LOCAL SEA ICE

KNOWLEDGE AND USE

A

THESIS

Presented to the Faculty
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in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
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By

Matthew L. Druckenmiller

Fairbanks, Alaska

August 2011
Appendix B. List of Iñupiaq sea ice terminology from Barrow

The sources for the Iñupiaq sea ice terminology used throughout this thesis were the many interviews and informal discussions I had with Barrow whalers between 2007 and 2011. Accordingly, these terms are specific to Barrow and may vary considerably when compared to similar terminology lists that originated from other Iñupiaq speaking coastal communities, such as the lists compiled for Wainwright (Nelson 1969) and Wales (Weyapuk and Krupnik, in press). The following alphabetical listing offers explanations according to how the terms were used throughout the individual chapters. Ronald Brower, Sr., an Iñupiat language teacher at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and Barrow native, assisted in determining the most appropriate spelling for this list. Exceptions are indicated in the footnotes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agiuppak</td>
<td>Ridge formed through shear motion of the ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akilinaaq</td>
<td>Ocean current from east of Nuvuk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amuaq</td>
<td>Ramp cut at the ice edge to launch a boat or pull a whale from the water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atchaŋnaq</td>
<td>Offshore ocean current that pushes the ice open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Igniŋnaq</td>
<td>Zone of flat ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>liawwaqtuk</td>
<td>When rough water acts to chip away the ice edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iguaq</td>
<td>Ice that weakly attaches to the outer edge of the shorefast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ikalgusak</td>
<td>Shoal north of Nuvuk where ice ridges typically ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iluliaq</td>
<td>A location at the ice edge where you generally have only a view of whales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivuniq</td>
<td>Pressure ridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanaŋaiŋnaq</td>
<td>Current from Northwest that pushes ice toward shore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanjiŋkuq</td>
<td>Embayment along ice edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kisitchat</td>
<td>Anchored (grounded) ridge; means “anchor”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kasruq</td>
<td>When a whaling crew is finished whaling and pulls their skin boat off the ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katak</td>
<td>A sudden drop in sea level; means “to fall”; may cause floating ice near grounded ridges to crack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manilinaaq</td>
<td>A good place along the ice edge to watch whales coming toward you; camping on the north side an embayment in the ice edge and facing south</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muɡaala</td>
<td>When pieces of submerged ice detach or become free and emerge in the open water of the lead; means “to throw-up”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muɡaliq</td>
<td>Piled up slush ice or brash ice that forms through shear and the incorporation of snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nanjaqtuɡvik</td>
<td>Safe place on shorefast ice where hunters store their whaling equipment and camp when waiting for the lead to open or for other favorable conditions to develop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nipaaq</td>
<td>To be along the edge of the ice observing the environment, watching the water, and looking for whales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutaqqutaq</td>
<td>Cracks which are kept from freezing by repeatedly being opened by either currents or tides; often get covered with snow and can’t be seen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuvuɡaq</td>
<td>Promontory of ice extending out from the ice edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuvuɡaqpuk</td>
<td>Large promontory of ice extending out from the ice edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palusaqniq²</td>
<td>Weather system that begins with winds out of the Southeast that continue to swing around to the Southwest where the wind direction leads to dangerous increases in sea level and tends to bring pack ice in toward the coast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamiuqtak</td>
<td>To launch a boat from the ice edge and travel toward a whale’s path</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piqaluyuk</td>
<td>Old ice that is fresh enough to drink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piruɡāɡnaq</td>
<td>Current from Northeast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qiɡsuaq³</td>
<td>Flat pan of ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qaisagnaq</td>
<td>Current from the Southwest; current that brings the animals in spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qinu¹</td>
<td>Slush ice that piles up during the early stages of freeze-up in late fall or early winter, and, due to cold temperatures, develops into ice that is considered stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagrat⁴</td>
<td>Moving ice floes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikuliaq</td>
<td>Young ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuuq</td>
<td>When pack ice impacts shorefast ice and acts as a chisel; means “to chisel”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvaɡruaq</td>
<td>Stable ice; ice that will not break-up or shatter when impacted by pack ice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tuvaq        Shorefast sea ice
Tuvaqtaq     Bottom-fast ice along the coast; ice frozen to seafloor
Uiñiq       Open lead
Uisauniq     A shorefast ice separation or break-out event resulting in people adrift amongst the pack ice
Yuayuk $^2$ A place where currents meet (for example, north of Point Barrow)

Notes
1. Term, definition, and spelling provided by Lewis Brower.
2. Term, definition, and spelling provided by Joe Leavitt.
3. Term and definition provided by Lewis Brower. The correct spelling was unknown.
4. This spelling was provided by Ronald Brower, Sr., however it differs significantly from that provided by George et al. 2004, who published the term as Sarri.

References
SNOW AND ICE TERMINOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS
Source: NSB Inupiat History and Language Commission

ALUKTINNIQ = nature caused hollow area

ANIU = packed snow

ANIUVAK = snow bank; snow patch

APIQQAAGUN / APIQQAMMIAQ / APPUTIQQAAL = first snow

APITCHIQ-/APITCHIQSUQ = when female polar bear which bears young allows herself to get snowed under

APUN = snow

AQILLUQ = light snow, deep for walking

AQILLUQQAQ (MAUYA) = soft snow

UUEŁUKKUU = snow melts instantly

ILLUK = snow-blind

KAATCHI = to slice into layers

KAATTIQ/KAATCHIRUAQ = to cut blocks of hard packed snow for house

KANIQ = to be covered with light frost in early autumn when frost collects indoors

MASAK / MISAK = slush snow/waterlogged/swamp

SAGVAQ = current (ocean, water)

MASALLAK - /MASAYYAK = to be damp enough for making snowballs of snow/watery snow (inland)

MAVSA = overhanging snowdrift/ready to fall

MINIK = mist

MILIK = very soft snow/Roxy allayuaqtuaq uqalugmiq

MISULIK = sleet

MUGALIQU = slush ice on land

MUGALIQ = slush ice on sea

NATATQUGNAT = hailstones

NATIVIK = (low) drifting snow

NUTAQAQ = fresh snow/powder snow

PIAGNAQ = snow condition good for sled travel

PIQSIQ/AGNIQ = snowstorm

PIUKAK (MILAK) = crystallized snow found under soft snow/good for melting into drinking water

QANIKULA- = to snow intermittently

QANNIK = snowflake

QANNIK- = fresh falling snow without wind

NUNAGVAQ = ice once used by walrus

PUINIQ = hole on ice made by seal or other sea mammal

AISITAQ = cracked ice made by force of moving ice/a part of ayukaq

TUUNIQ = cracked ice made by force of main pack ice

AYIUPAQ = ice chipped off by waves

ISAAMANIQ = ice formed as a long peninsula

ATAITCHUAQ = shore ice cut close to the coast

QANAINAQTAQ = main pack moving in directly toward sea ice

UMIAGLU = ice used for raft/bottom ice

MAURAGAQ = ice used for stepping to cross wide crack
IQUGAAQ = west wind opening ice at leeward ice of point

IMUNIQ = young ice crushing

ALUQSRAQ = young ice punched by seals forming a seal blowhole

AVAAQTINNIQ = ice caught in a narrow part of river or lead

IGNIGNAQ = strip of smooth ice between shore and ice ridges

UINIQ = "open lead", the edge of the ice?

AGIUPPAK = a smooth wall of ice along the edge of fast ice formed by other moving ice

KUSULUKKAT = icicles on ice or ice caked on structures

QIMAKTINNIQ = ice between anchor and shore (usually with open water on either side)

AUQUPARAN = shingle ice (dinner plate size)

AUQUPARAUQ = shingle ice but larger than kaspik

MAYUQTITAQ = slush ice pushed onto the shore with warps frozen into waves

QAIVAGNIQ = round cakes frozen together (flat ice)

SIKULIAGRUQAQ = thick ice (greater than 3 feet)

TUVAIYAGAAQ = once shorefast ice/snow is floating due to high winds (mostly in waters)

TUVAIQ = once shorefast ice/snow floating due to gradual breakup

SIKUAQ = freezing hole/confined area

TUVAGRUAQ = old ice

QANIQTAAQ = slightly refrozen ice pieces but fragile, this ice will quickly spread out when it is stepped on

QANIGNIQ = uulsugnaq after it has spread out

PUKTAAQAT = a small cake of ice

PUKTAAQ = ice cakes

IMAIQ = ice broken up but pressed together so that there is no leads

PUKTAAT = scattered floes (navigable)

SIKULIAQ = ice that is not thick (approx. 1 foot deep), the first ice to arrive near Barrow in the fall, may be smooth or broken, not formed locally, able to hold a walrus/already thick ice, of no danger to walk on, one of the first types of ice to arrive at Gambell in the fall

QAIMNJUQ = a cake of ice smoothed by sea spray

QAIMNJUGNIQ = Kulusig type ice over a large area, a type of ice seen at Gambell early in the fall

SIKUAQ = thin ice, dangerous to walk on

MAPSA = cornice (overhanging formation of ice, snow or rock usually along a ridge), overhanging snow

IVUNIQ = pressure ridge (rough ice blocking passage)

PIQALUYAK = salt-free ice or old ice gone thru several seasons, perhaps glacial ice

AAYUGAQ = ice ridging, or long crack across the shallow lagoon or bay

PIQUNIQ = ice mounting that has bottom air, also used by sea mammals
SEA ICE TERMINOLOGY

SIKU = ice
QINU = slush ice
QAAPAAQ = slush ice piled up on the beach ice ridging
PUKTAAT = small chunks or cakes of ice apart from others
NAPAAYUQ = an upright ice cake
AUGANARUAQ = ice thrust up at an angle (approx. 45°)
ANAQLU = black ice
IGNIGLUQ = crushed refrozen ice, as found in cracks
PAAGIIQ = ice pushed by the wind and current one way and then the other making it appear to move
QAISSUTAT = smooth ice lying between areas of rough ice
NULAGUN = refrozen cracks (less than 10 feet wide)
QAIQIITCHUQ = rough ice
QAIQILU = ice not rough nor smooth but with some irregularity
QUVLUNARUAQ = ice with small ripples (bouncy)
AUNIQ = spring ice with melt holes
ATIGNIQ = new ice forming a smooth apron around pre-existing ice (which may be thin or may be thick enough to walk on)
IGUAQ = ice that is added or pressed onto shore ice
ARGUQTAGNIQ = newly formed thin ice collecting on the downwind side of a polynya (a large area of open water surrounded by sea ice) or lead
SAGMAT = a few cakes of ice in mostly open water or lead
ALLIVINIQ = ice that was under other ice but resurfaces smooth and dirty
NUTAQIQ (?!) = smooth ice covered by snow with wetness between snow and ice
TUVAQ = shore ice
TUVAQTAQ = shore ice covering only a portion of the beach
KISITCHAT = anchor ice, fast ice touching the ocean floor
SARRI = good, thick ice from the north (pack ice), floating pack ice (across from land-locked ice)
NUVUGAQ = a pointed portion of ice, peninsula or corner surrounded by water
KALIQLUK = a bay or cove in the ice
KANIQLUK = frost on sea water
QUGRAQ = where ice pinches off a lead or crack either against other ice or the shore
NUTAGUN = when snow covers a water hole (with no ice), snow on water with no ice
QANATTAAQ = snow or ice which one end partly off the ground
QAYUQI = snow formation caused by prevailing wind
QIMUAGRUK = high snowdrift
QIQSRUQQAQ = glazed snow in thaw time (upingaksragman)
SILLIQ = hard crusty snow
SISUUK = snowslide, avalanche
HUNTERS OF THE NORTHERN ICE

RICHARD K. NELSON

The University of Chicago Press

CHICAGO AND LONDON

1969
APPENDIX 2

Eskimo Sea-Ice Terminology

Because so many of their activities are carried out on the sea ice, Eskimos have elaborated their vocabulary relating to it. There are many separate terms dealing with the various types of ice and ice formations, some of which do not have equivalents in the English language. The writer is not a linguist, and does not speak the Eskimo language. This list is included for its general ethnographic value, though it may not meet the standards for accuracy and completeness set by linguists and ethno-scientists.

Ice Age or Thickness

Imaːk: water.
Taːgːoːk: salt water.
Teshaːk: salt-water lagoon.
Ugurugirizaːk: grease ice; the earliest stage of freezing, causes wind ripples to disappear from patches of the water surface.
Mautliːk: slush ice or ice rind; heavy development of grease ice, almost to the point of being nilas.
Isiːgoañazuk: slush ice or ice rind; similar in meaning to the preceding term.
Pogazak: slush or mush ice formed by grinding along the edges of ice pans, floes, or cracks.
Mogazak: similar in meaning to the preceding term.
Igiːnik: similar in meaning to the preceding terms, except ice may be solidly frozen. Eskimos sometimes refer to this as “file ice,” because it is formed by the ice “filing” itself.
Migalik: pancake ice; circular pieces of young ice, 1 to 6 feet in diameter, with raised rims; the shape and appearance result from rotation and collision with other cakes.

Puktellhaːk: similar in meaning to "sea ice".
Salolgoːk: nilas, or black young ice; ice which will not support a man and break through it with their heads.
Mikaxit: one firm thrust of the umaːk.
Sikuːkwaːizak: similar in meaning to "sea ice".
Sikuːk maŋtizoːak: gray or blue young ice; grey enough in the water to be gray enough to support a man. Seals are often found on the surface of this thickness, but open breaks often form in it. One firm thrust of the umaːk.
Sikuːk and isiloːgazuk: slush ice.
Ugurulizak: heavy or thick young ice.
Tayuːkwaːizak: water.
Tayuːk maŋtizoːak: gray or blue young ice; grey enough in the water to be gray enough to support a man. Seals are often found on the surface of this thickness, but open breaks often form in it. One firm thrust of the umaːk.

Terminology IX

Siku: winter ice; young ice, less than 6 feet thick, not modified by piling or rafting. This term is used to refer to so wide a range of thickness and condition that it is difficult to say when there is a break in its use. Though there is no English equivalent for this term, there is such a term in the Inupiaq language. Aukaga: winter ice.

Various Conditions and Development

Aulaaḵiːwicoːk: literally, “no motion” of the ice.
Igiliktaːk: the ice being moved.
Siummiŋkutkuːtk: the ice is being carried by the wind.
Ziiummiŋkutkuːtk: the ice is coming.
Tuwaːgaːtikutkuːk: the ice is being carried to the landfast ice.
Tuwaːyagaːtikutkuːk: the ice is being carried to the landfast ice.

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Puktellhaːk: similar in meaning to "sea ice".
Salolgoːk: nilas, or black young ice; ice which will not support a man and break through it with their heads.
Mikaxit: one firm thrust of the umaːk.
Sikuːkwaːizak: similar in meaning to "sea ice".
Sikuːk maŋtizoːak: gray or blue young ice; grey enough in the water to be gray enough to support a man. Seals are often found on the surface of this thickness, but open breaks often form in it. One firm thrust of the umaːk.
Sikuːk and isiloːgazuk: slush ice.
Ugurulizak: heavy or thick young ice.
Tayuːkwaːizak: water.
Tayuːk maŋtizoːak: gray or blue young ice; grey enough in the water to be gray enough to support a man. Seals are often found on the surface of this thickness, but open breaks often form in it. One firm thrust of the umaːk.

Terminology IX

Siku: winter ice; young ice, less than 6 feet thick, not modified by piling or rafting. This term is used to refer to so wide a range of thickness and condition that it is difficult to say when there is a break in its use. Though there is no English equivalent for this term, there is such a term in the Inupiaq language. Aukaga: winter ice.

Various Conditions and Development

Aulaaḵiːwicoːk: literally, “no motion” of the ice.
Igiliktaːk: the ice being moved.
Siummiŋkutkuːtk: the ice is being carried by the wind.
Ziiummiŋkutkuːtk: the ice is coming.
Tuwaːgaːtikutkuːk: the ice is being carried to the landfast ice.
Tuwaːyagaːtikutkuːk: the ice is being carried to the landfast ice.
Appendixes

Pukteillak: similar in meaning to the preceding term.
Salogok: nilas, or black young ice; a thin flexible sheet of newly formed ice which will not support a man, is weak enough to enable seals to break through it with their heads to breathe, and breaks through with one firm thrust of the umaak.
Sikuliwak: similar in meaning to the preceding term.
Sikuliak matpizoolak: gray young ice; young ice which rides high enough in the water to be grayish in color, and has become thick enough to support a man. Seals probably cannot break through ice of this thickness, but open breathing holes by scratching and gnawing. One firm thrust of the umaak, or ice tester, will not break through ice of this thickness.
Sikulialgeezoolak: heavy or thick young ice; according to the Eskimo informant this is ice about 1 foot thick.
Sikuliak: young ice; general term including all ice which is newly formed, from the time it becomes a cohesive mass until it has been modified by piling or rafting. This is a rather abstract term because it is used to refer to so wide a range of ice thickness.
Tokayaitek siku: winter ice; probably refers to ice which is about 5 feet thick, has not been modified by piling, and is still in its first season of growth.
Utokayaitek siku: “old ice”; probably refers to polar ice; ice which has not melted during one or more summers and has become fresh. This type of ice differs from winter ice in its topography, its dark-blue coloration, its thickness and height above the sea surface, and its occurrence along the northwest Alaskan coast.
Pakaliak: polar ice; synonymous with the preceding term.
Aakayaka siku: “mother ice”; heavy floe ice; probably a general term for the Arctic ice pack.
Ataman: synonymous with the preceding term.
Aumayatuk: rotten ice.

Various Conditions and States of Ice Movement
Aulaakvitok: literally, “no motion”; the sea ice is not moving.
Igiktaq: the sea ice is moving.
Simmuktuk: the ice is being carried away from the land.
Nanimmuktuk: the ice is coming in toward the land.
Turagaagaituq siku: the floe ice “comes ashore” and becomes attached to the landfast ice.
Turayagaituq siku: the floe ice breaks away from the landfast ice.

IX 2

Terminology

The work of measurement of ice carried out on the sea ice, especially relating to it. There are many types of ice and ice formations, but none are used in the English language. The Eskimos have a very graphic language. This is not a comprehensive set by linguists and scholars of the English language. The Eskimos have a very graphic language. This is not a comprehensive set by linguists and scholars of the English language.
**APPENDIXES**

*Siku sukunmitkaksiga*: the sea ice is breaking up.
*Eyecektok*: opening crack.
*Eyecektaktok*: a crack which is pulsating or opening and closing.
*Apuktok*: ice coming together or hitting together; probably refers to the convergence of large floes.
*Kaloaqasito*: the process of rafting, where one layer of ice is thrust over another, forming two thicknesses of ice.
*Ikuszuk*: the process of ice piling.
*Isoaqitsuzuk*: the condition of ice which is about to begin piling.
*Ikaluktaktok*: the noise of piling ice.
*Agiaktok*: shearing or parallel crack movement, such as would commonly occur when an ice floe is drifting parallel to the edge of the landfast ice.
*Ikolissaak*: a floe or floeberg which is grounded firmly.

### Sea-Ice Topography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Kupak</em></td>
<td>a crack in sea ice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Kupagaluwaak</em></td>
<td>a small crack in sea ice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Kupagpak</em></td>
<td>a large crack in sea ice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Kupaguguzuk</em></td>
<td>similar in meaning to the preceding term.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Kupaqagastra</em></td>
<td>similar in meaning to the preceding terms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Namaq kupaq</em></td>
<td>a newly formed crack.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Imaq kupaq</em></td>
<td>a crack with open water in it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Sikuuchak kupaq</em></td>
<td>a crack without ice (with open water) in it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Kupak aputatlik</em></td>
<td>a crack with snow blown over it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Pitu</em></td>
<td>a hole in the ice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Imaarraq</em></td>
<td>a small polynya or open spot in the sea ice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Imaqaq</em></td>
<td>a large polynya or open spot in the sea ice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Killiqetaq</em></td>
<td>shore lead; open water along the coast between the beach and the ice offshore; formed in the spring and summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Imagriinaq</em></td>
<td>a freshwater puddle on sea ice; formed during spring and summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Iauuik</em></td>
<td>a pressure crack which has folded or &quot;buckled&quot; downward, the resultant basin having filled with water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Iiquaq</em></td>
<td>and open lead; refers to a wide lane of open water, usually between the landfast ice and pack ice, from 50 yards to several miles wide.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Kaanqitluk</em></td>
<td>a bay or bight along the edge of a lead; also refers to the water on either side of a point along the lead edge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Niuuvik</em></td>
<td>a point, either in the sea ice along a lead or on the land.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tuwak**: landfast ice; an expanding out ward for one-hour or longer by large piles of ice within the bottom.

**Kukulugunik**: a crack or pressure ridge formed out ward to form a "roof" with a large crack both side and small holes, or if the formation is younger than the other crack.

**Tutuqugunik**: young ice which is not formed in a "wrinkled" or formed undu beneath. Also favored for sea ice; implies a polynya or similar.

**Pikunik**: similar in meaning to *Kaaqchuk*: rough ice.

**Kaaqalaak**: rough ice; probably caused by crushing of the edge and surf.

**Sikuqazzaak**: a piece or block of ice which is conspicuous piece.

**Napaiikut**: one large piece of ice or polynya is created to form a conspicuous landfast ice pile.

**Ivunik* napaiqoq*: similar in meaning to *Ivunik* napaiqoq*: a piece or block of ice; implies a term of the preceding term.

**Ivunikpak**: a large ice pile or ridge.

**Agayuq**: "file ice"; flat wall of ice; implies a pressure ridge and caused by ice piling followed by crushing of the ice pile. This creates a very rough ice which has been pushed off by abrasion of landfast ice, because such pressure ridge has been formed.

**Agaiqpak**: similar in meaning to *Agaiqpak*: a small flat wall of ice.

**Agaiqpaarq**: an unusually large flat wall of ice.

**Agaiqpaark**: a small "file ice" which is not formed in a "wrinkled" or formed undu beneath. Also favored for sea ice; implies a polynya or similar.

**Kaaqinaq**: rafting of young ice where the coast becomes safe when it becomes thick.
Appendixes

Tuwak: landfast ice; an expanse of ice which parallels the coast, extending outward for one-half mile to several miles, held stationary by large piles of ice within it which are grounded solidly on the bottom.

Kukulugunik: a crack or pressure area where the ice has buckled upward to form a "roof" with open space beneath. The water underneath soon freezes, but such places are favored by seals for breathing holes, or if the formation is large, for dens where seals rest and give birth to young.

Tuburtugunik: young ice which has been subjected to pressure and has "wrinkled" or formed undulations in its surface, leaving open spaces beneath. Also favored for seal breathing holes and dens.

Pikunik: similar in meaning to the preceding term.

Kaiçebuk: rough ice.

Kayaloak: rough ice; probably refers to large areas with rough ice caused by crushing of the edges of ice pans and floes.

Sikuqsaq: a piece or block of ice; probably refers to a large conspicuous piece.

Napaink: one large piece of ice which has been pushed up vertically to form a conspicuous landmark.

Iauunik: napaisoaq: similar in meaning to the preceding term, but refers specifically to an unusually large vertical block, perhaps 20 to 30 feet high.

Napasiuk: rough ice area which consists largely of pieces of ice which have been pushed into a vertical position.

Iauunik: ice pile, ridge, or hummock.

Iuunikich: rough ice; implies an area with many ice piles. Plural form of the preceding term.

Iuunik: a large ice pile or ridge.

Agayagnik: "file ice"; flat walls of ice, from 1 foot to 30 feet high, caused by ice piling followed by shear (parallel) movement along the ice pile. This creates a very steep vertical wall of ice which has been planed off by abrasiion of ice surfaces. May indicate the edge of landfast ice, because such parallel movement often takes place there.

Agaiq: similar in meaning to the preceding term.

Agiiupak: similar in meaning to the preceding term.

Agiiuppak: an unusually large "file ice" wall, 10 or more feet high.

Kalaqsik: rafting of young ice which is too thin to support a man, but which becomes safe wherever it has rafted and doubled its thickness.
**APPENDIXES**

**Iqunik kalligaich:** areas where the ice has rafted; one layer of ice is thrust up over another.

**Kaiaksuk:** flat area in sea ice; may be surrounded by rough ice, forming an "island" of flat ice, or may be a huge flat expanse; general term.

**Kaiaksuakpak:** a very large area of flat ice.

**Kaiaksuak:** a small area of flat ice.

**Kaimmuq:** a flat "ice foot" along the beach, created by building up of ice from the splashing of storm waves. (Differs from the tidal ice foot which is formed along cliffs in the eastern Arctic.)

**Ateqinaeq:** "ice apron" or fringe of young ice built out by freezing from the edge of open leads; important for travel while hunting because it is smooth.

**Analaktu:** an ice pile which has sand, stones, and other bottom debris incorporated into it, because it has been forced solidly into the bottom by ice piling and later being carried back to the surface.

**Alliveq:** a piece of sea ice which rises to the ocean surface after having been buried and held in the bottom by earlier ice piling. This happens during the spring and summer.

**Kissik:** a large grounded ice pile or floeberg; may become frozen into the new ice in the fall.

**Aulaylik:** a large floe or floeberg, of sufficient size that current prevails over wind in determining its direction of movement.

**Puktaq:** an ice pan or floe which is sufficiently small so that wind prevails over current in determining its direction of movement.

**Kapetaq:** a ledge of ice overhanging the edge of an open pond or lead, caused by undercutting by warm currents and waves during the summer.

**Itcheq:** a shelf of ice extending outward from the edge of an ice floe or pan beneath the water surface; probably caused by erosion of the ice above the water.

**Phenomena Related to Sea Ice and Its Movement**

**Kissik:** water sky; reflection of the dark color of open water in the clouds.

**Puguzaq:** "steam fog"; steam which rises from the water surface of cracks and leads during cold weather.

**Inniq:** a refraction phenomenon or mirage, which causes the ice, water or land surface that is over the horizon to "loom" above it; usually appears as a white curtain along the horizon, resembling low clouds or a fog bank.

**Kanik:** frost crystals which develop. Scattered frost crystals that form during cold weather. Scattered frost crystals that have developed on the ice surface.

**Masallhok:** moisture on young leads; open water icy condition for ice travelers.

**Pilaqagnik:** a sinuous line of open water, probably caused by flowing currents.

**Terms for Winds**

**Kysenegok:** south wind.

**Uyghal:** southwest wind.

**Kanagnak:** west wind.

**Ikagnak:** north wind.

**Nigik:** northeast wind.

**Nigikpak:** similar in meaning to east wind.

**Kiloagnak:** east wind.
areas where the ice has rafted; one layer of ice is
other.

In sea ice, may be surrounded by rough ice, for-
flat ice, or may be a huge flat expanse; general term.
by large area of flat ice.

• A "foot" along the beach, created by building up of
washing of storm waves. (Differs from the tidal ice
ited along cliffs in the eastern Arctic.)

• An "edge" or fringe of young ice built out by freezing
open leads; important for travel while hunting be-
which has sand, stones, and other bottom debris
it, because it has been forced solidly into the
g and later being carried back to the surface.

Sea ice which rises to the ocean surface after hav-
held in the bottom by earlier ice piling. This
spring and summer.

• A reded ice pile or floeberg; may become frozen in
fall.

• A floeberg, of sufficient size that current prevails
ming its direction of movement.

• A floe which is sufficiently small so that wind pre-
determining its direction of movement.

• Ice overhanging the edge of an open pond or
vercutting by warm currents and waves during

extending outward from the edge of an ice floe
water surface; probably caused by erosion of the

Related to Sea Ice and Its Movement

dication of the dark color of open water in the

• Steam which rises from the water surface of
ing cold weather.

• Phenomenon or mirage, which causes the ice,
that is over the horizon to "loom" above it;
white curtain along the horizon, resembling low

Appendixes

Kanik: frost crystals which form on young ice as soon as it begins to
develop. Scattered frost crystals become more and more dense as the
ice thickens until, on gray young ice, they completely cover the
surface.

Masitboq: moisture on young ice, which causes slush to form in foot-
prints or sled tracks.

Mafisbatq: an open hole or crack which has been covered by storm-
blown snow; open water lies beneath the snow, creating a dangerous
condition for ice travelers.

Pilagagnik: a sinuous line of ripples or wavelets which forms on the
ocean surface; probably caused by the meeting of two differently
flowing currents.

Terms for Wind Directions

Kyseneqek: south wind.

Uynyalaq: southwest wind.

Kanagnak: west wind.

Mkagnak: north wind.

Niqig: northeast wind.

Niqigpaq: similar in meaning to the preceding term.

Kiloagnak: east wind.
"Harvest of the Sea: Coastal Subsistence in Modern Wainwright"

A Report for the North Slope Borough's Coastal Management Program

Richard K. Nelson
December 1981

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APPENDIX: INUPIAT SEA ICE TERMINOLOGY

The Inupiat have developed an elaborate and comprehensive vocabulary for sea ice. These terms describe the development stages, topographic features, patterns of movement, and other phenomena associated with ice on the northern ocean. I must emphasize that the list here is incomplete (though it contains well over 100 ice terms); and it probably contains errors of spelling and definition, since I am neither a linguist nor a speaker of Inupiat. Despite these shortcomings, the list gives another indication of the ways that Inupiat hunters have elaborated their knowledge of the sea ice environment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Imaq</td>
<td>water (undrinkable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tałłuq</td>
<td>salt water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasiq</td>
<td>salt water lagoon or estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oluviruq</td>
<td>water freezes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oqitkāa</td>
<td>water in the process of freezing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uqṣrugliqeq</td>
<td>grease ice (literally “seal oil” ice)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mūqāx</td>
<td>slush ice, heavier than above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isigualaruq</td>
<td>slush ice covering water in a thin layer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qinu</td>
<td>slush ice that comes ashore with wind or current in fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauqāk</td>
<td>slush ice formed by freezing beneath the water surface, often kept under by the currents; later rises to freeze more thickly on the surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saattuq</td>
<td>thin ice, not thick enough to walk on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migalik</td>
<td>slushy ice caused by grinding between floes; formed at any season but most dangerous in spring, when it does not freeze but looks like solid ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qinut</td>
<td>young slushy ice that is broken by wind, often abraded to form circular pans 1 to 6 feet in diameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pukthagqaq</td>
<td>similar in meaning to the preceding term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saalguaq</td>
<td>thin, black-colored young ice covering an open place amid heavier ice; one thrust with an unaaq will penetrate it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikuliiraq</td>
<td>ice the same thickness as above, but in a larger field, not necessarily surrounded by thicker ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikuliłaq map-turuaq</td>
<td>gray young ice, thick enough to support a person; one unaaq thrust will not penetrate it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikuliłaq grauq</td>
<td>heavy ice-of-the-year, from one to ten or more feet thick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikuliłaq</td>
<td>general term for young ice, from the time of formation through the winter or until it is modified by rafting or piling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvaagruaq</td>
<td>very thick ice-of-the-year, but still in its first season of growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utuqavlīq siku</td>
<td>old ice that has lasted through one or two summers, but not as old as the following type</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Piqaluyaq | very old ice that has lasted through several or many

Ice Age or Thickness
summers; identified by its rounded topography, blue color, and great thickness.

The ice pack itself, the mass of heavy ice that is usually well offshore and separated from landfast and near shore ice.

Same as above; literally "Mother Ice," because it stays out in the sea at all times and is the place where animals always live.

Rotten ice.

Same as the preceding term.

Sea ice with many rotten places in it.

A layer of fresh water beneath melting sea ice after mid-June, formed by the thaw not mixing with salt water below; this often refreezes due to the higher freezing temperature of fresh water, but it later thaws and mixes with the sea water (seal nets must be removed so they do not freeze into this fresh ice).

A crack in the ice.

An old crack in the ice.

A newly-formed crack.

A narrow crack (up to a foot or so) with open water or thin ice, but hidden by snow that has drifted over it; easy to fall through.

Same as preceding term.

A hole in the ice.

A patch of open water surrounded by ice.

A small open pond in the ice.

A pond or puddle (in the ice or on land).

A large open pond in the ice.

Small streams in summer ice.

Shore lead, opened along the beach during spring thaw.

Shore lead that stretches along a whole stretch of coast.

A crack in spring ice that is widened by melt water running into it.

A large, wide crack.

Open water or lead that opens on the north side of a large point (such as Icy Cape) and curves in to make a bight close to the land.

Open lead, a wide lane of open water, usually between the landfast ice and the pack.

A bay in the lead edge.

A point of ice along the lead edge; also a point of land along the coast.

An apron or fringe of young ice that extends out from the lead edge; allows easy travel along the lead.

A large puddle on the ice in spring.

Ice with many puddles on it.

Holes or perforations in the rotten ice beneath ponds.

A crack running perpendicular to the coast, often caused by the pack moving parallel to the landfast edge.
and striking it with much force; such cracks create no
danger of drifting away

Uitqayaun: a crack running parallel to the coast, about a foot wide;
refers to the ice almost opening but then not doing so
(cracks that parallel the coast are considered
dangerous, because they may allow the ice to drift
away)

Tuvaq: landfast ice
Ulguuaq: ice that becomes attached to the landfast ice, adding to
its seaward extent
Tuqsruliñiq: wrinkled young ice (about an inch thick); may be a short
“bubble” or long ridge
Piquniq: young ice (usually several inches or more thick) buckled
upward to form a rooflike ridge, cracked down the
center; seals often make breathing holes or dens under
such ridges

Qaigjitchuq: rough ice
Qaigjilaq: large area of rough ice
Sikuqpak: a large piece or block of ice pushed up by piling
Napaayuk: one large piece of ice pushed up vertically, forming a
conspicuous landmark

Ivuniq naparuq: similar to above, but usually large
Napasaılık: rough ice area with many pieces pushed up vertically
Ivuniq qaanaaq: a large slab of ice that forms an overhang from the edge
of a ridge or pile; could serve as an emergency shelter
Ivuniq: general term for an ice pile, hummock, or ridge
Ivunigich: an area with many ice piles or ridges
Ivuniqruaq: small ridge or hummock
Ivuniqpak: a large hummock or ridge; or a large grounded ice pile
in open water during summer
Kisisaq: a large grounded ice pile or a grounded floeberg in the
summer
Ikkağisitaq: a grounded ice ridge or pile; similar to the preceding
term

Agiuppak: a ridge with a shear face caused by mobile ice grinding
against it; usually seen at outer edge of the landfast ice
Agiuppasugruk: a large shear-faced ridge, ten or more feet high
Agiagniq: “fled ice” caused by floes grinding against each other
Anâglu: an ice pile that has been ground into the bottom and incor-
porated sand, stones, and other bottom debris into
itself

Qaligiksinniq: rafted young ice, otherwise too thin to support a person
but made safe by doubling its thickness
Ivuniq qaligilch: a large area of rafting ice
Ignignaq: a long stretch of smooth ice running parallel to shore;
usually part of the landfast ice; makes for easy travel
along the coast

Qaiqsuaq: general term for a flat ice area; may be surrounded by
rough ice or a huge flat expanse
Qaiqsuuraq: a small flat area surrounded by rough ice
Qaiqsuuaqpak: a very large area of flat ice, or a large flat ice floe in
summer
Qaimunnuuq: ice that builds up on the beach in fall, either by slush
being pushed in or by water splashing up during storms;
can be a ridge, a wide bumpy area, or a wide smooth
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aulailaq</td>
<td>area that makes an ideal trail along the shore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvaaq</td>
<td>a large flat ice floe, a mile or more long, drifting in or near the summer pack ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puktaaq</td>
<td>same as above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saqvaqtat</td>
<td>a large pan of ice floating in open water or frozen into the pack; like the types above, this ice moves with the current even against an opposing breeze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikuqqaich</td>
<td>loose ice pans, about twenty feet in diameter, floating in the ocean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alliviniq</td>
<td>small bits of ice floating in open water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qalattaaq</td>
<td>a loose mass of ice bits that suddenly flushes out from beneath the ice edge and spreads on the surface; usually seen in April or May when the ice is moving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Itchiaq</td>
<td>ledge of ice overhanging the edge of an open pond or lead, caused by warm water undercutting the ice in summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aulaalgiaitchuq</td>
<td>a shelf of ice extending outward from the edge of a floe or pan beneath the water surface; apparently caused by wave erosion or thawing above the water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aulalaitchuq</td>
<td>the sea ice is not moving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Igliqtuq</td>
<td>the sea ice is moving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uttkaa</td>
<td>the ice is opening (like an eye opening), to form a lead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Itiqtusigaa</td>
<td>a crack or lead is opening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunmuktuqtuq</td>
<td>the ice is moving away from land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nunamuktuqtuq</td>
<td>the ice is moving toward land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvaagaatigut</td>
<td>ice floe comes in and attaches to the landfast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvayagaatigut</td>
<td>ice breaks away from the outer edge of the landfast ice, diminishing its seaward dimensions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siku</td>
<td>the sea ice is fracturing or breaking up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikuqumitkaaqsigaa</td>
<td>the sea ice is opening (like an eye opening), to form a lead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qalaalksittuq</td>
<td>a crack pulsates, or opens and closes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qaapaaktuq</td>
<td>ice coming together or colliding; probably refers to large fioes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivuruq</td>
<td>the process of ice piling or crushing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivaugasiruq</td>
<td>the conditions of ice about to begin piling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivaullaktuq</td>
<td>ice beginning to pile or crush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivaupalaktuq</td>
<td>the sound of piling ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auraniq</td>
<td>ice moving along in a lead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agiaktuq</td>
<td>sheer or parallel movement of the ice along a crack, as happens frequently at the edge of landfast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saqvaqtuaq</td>
<td>moving ice hits the landfast ice and becomes stopped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qisuk</td>
<td>water sky, the reflection of the dark color of open water in low clouds; often used to locate open leads or large ponds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sea Ice Movement**

**Miscellaneous Terms Related to Sea Ice**

122
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sikum</td>
<td>ice blink, the white reflection of ice in clouds near the horizon in summer, revealing the pack's location from afar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qilagaugunaq</td>
<td>refraction or “mirage” which causes the ice, water, or land to loom above the horizon; usually a white curtain along the ice horizon, resembling low clouds or fog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Īnipqaq</td>
<td>steam fog that rises from open water in the winter clouds that form above steam fog; often used to locate an open lead or pond in winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puyugruaq</td>
<td>frost crystals that form on young ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iqqaqtaq</td>
<td>moisture on young sea ice, present at any temperature because of the salt content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaniq</td>
<td>icicles that hang from the bottom edges of piled ice (or elsewhere)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misuthaq</td>
<td>shoal; shallow water area offshore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Itiruq</td>
<td>deep water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilagagniq</td>
<td>a line in the open water marking the juncture of two different currents; often a sinuous line of ripples or wavelets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qaisagagniqsuq</td>
<td>current or ice coming from the south</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pirugagagniqsuq</td>
<td>current or ice coming from the north</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aunmuktutquq</td>
<td>same as the above term (a less sophisticated word)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kivamun</td>
<td>current or ice coming from south (flowing northward)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanangamin</td>
<td>current or ice coming from west</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iļutaktutquq</td>
<td>current trending onshore, “edging in” or flowing under the edge of landfast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atechagagniqsuq</td>
<td>current running seaward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Itchagagniqsuq</td>
<td>current trending offshore, “edging out” from under the landfast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ulmiłuktutquq</td>
<td>rising tide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imigaqsiiruq</td>
<td>falling tide</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Current and Tide Conditions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uŋalaq</td>
<td>south wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ugalapak</td>
<td>heavy southerly storm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ugalasraaq</td>
<td>the condition of warm weather, and possibly light southerly breeze, that precedes a southerly storm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uagnagruq</td>
<td>southwest wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanagnaq</td>
<td>west to west north/west wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kivagnaq</td>
<td>northwest wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ikagnaq</td>
<td>north wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atuagnaq</td>
<td>north, north/east wind, slightly from the ocean at Wainwright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigiq</td>
<td>northeast wind, approximately parallel to the Wainwright coast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigiqpakuq</td>
<td>same as above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilaqnaq</td>
<td>east to southeast wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilaqnaqiaq</td>
<td>southeast wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kivagnaqiaq</td>
<td>south, southeast wind</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Richard Nelson, Hunters of the Northern Ice, 1969
Appendix 2: Eskimo Sea Ice Terminology (Wainwright):
As corrected by: Ronald H. Brower Sr. and Wainwright Elder Rossman Peetook, 2009

Ice Age or Thickness:
Ugurugiizaq: [Ugsruġiisaq] grease ice; the earliest stage of freezing, causes wind ripples to disappear from patches of the water surface.

Maullik: [Muġaliq] slush ice or ice rind; heavy development of grease ice, almost to the point of being nilas

Isigoangazuq: [Sikuliaruq] slush ice or ice rind; similar in meaning to the preceding term.

Pogazaq: [Agiaŋniq] slush or mush ice formed by grinding along the edges of ice pans, floes, or cracks

Mogazaq: [Muġaliq] similar in meaning to the proceeding term after grinding stops.

Iginik: [Agiŋniq] similar in meaning to the proceeding term, except ice may be solidly frozen. Inupiat sometimes refer to this as “file ice,” because it is formed by the ice “filing” itself.

Migalik: [Sagsraq] pancake ice; circular pieces of young ice, 1 to 6 feet in diameter, with raised rims; the shape and appearance result from rotation and collision with other ice cakes.

Puktellhaq: [Puktaaŋruat] similar in meaning to the preceding term but bigger.

Salogoq: [Sikuliaq] nilas, or black young ice; a thin flexible sheet of newly formed ice, which will not support a man, [but] is weak enough to enable seals to break through it with their heads to breathe, and breaks through with one firm thrust of the umiaq[unaaq]

Sikuliwzaq: [Sikuliuraq] similar in meaning to the preceding term but it is thinner in composition.

Sikuliaq maptizoaq: [Sikuliaq Mapturuaq] gray young ice; young ice which rides high enough in the water to be grayish in color, and has become thick enough to support a man. Seals probably cannot break through ice of this thickness, but open breathing holes by scratching and gnawing. One firm thrust of the umiaq[unaaq] or ice tester, will not break through ice of this thickness.

Sikuliagezoaq: [Sikuliaŋruaq] heavy or thick young ice; according to the Eskimo informant this is ice about 1 foot thick.

Sikuliaq: [also Sikuliraq] young ice; general term including all ice which is newly formed from the time it becomes a cohesive mass until it has been modified by piling or rafting. This is a rather abstract term because it is used to refer to so wide a range of ice thickness.
Toqaviñeq siku: [Tuvaq] winter ice; probably refers to ice which is about 5 feet thick, has not been modified by piling, and is still in its first season of growth.

Utoqagaviñeq siku: [Tuvaŋruaq] “old ice”; probably refers to polar ice; ice which has not melted during one or more summers and has become fresh. This type of ice differs from winter ice in topography, its dark-blue coloration, its thickness and height above the sea surface, and its occurrence along the northwest Alaskan coast.

Paqaliaq: [Satchiŋruaq] polar ice; synonymous with the preceding term.

Aaqanga siku: [Sarri] “mother ice” heavy floe ice; probably a general term for the Arctic ice pack.

Atangan: synonymous with the preceding form.

Aunngazuq: [Aunniq] rotten ice.

**Various Conditions and States of Ice Movement:**

Aulaalwichoq: [Aulaŋitchuq] literally, “no motion”; the sea ice is not moving

Igiliktaq: [Igliktuq] the sea ice is moving

Sunmuktuqtuq: [Sanmuktuqtuq] the ice is being carried away from the land

Nunamuktuqtuq: [Nunanmuktuqtuq] the ice is coming in toward the land

Tuwagaatigut siku: [Tuvagaatigut] the floe ice “comes ashore” and becomes attached to the landfast ice

Tuwayagaatigut siku: [Tuvaigaatigut] the floe breaks away from the landfast ice

Siku sukumitkaksigaa: [Siku siqumitkaksigaa or Tuvaïqsuq] the sea ice is breaking up

Eyecheqtoq: [Aitchaqtuq] Opening crack3

Eycheqtaktqoq: [Aitchaktaqtuq] A crack which is pulsating or opening and closing

Apukaqtqoq: [Apuqtaq] ice coming together or hitting together; probably refers to the convergence of large floes

Kaloagasitoq: [Qaluaŋaqsituq] the process of rafting, where one layer of ice is thrust over another, forming two thicknesses of ice.

Ivuzuq: [Ivuruq] the process of ice piling

Ivoaqsizuq: [Ivuatsiruq] the condition of ice which is about to begin piling
Ivaluqtaktoq: [Ivuvalukaq] the noise of piling ice

Agiaqtaq: [Agiaqtaq] shear or parallel crack movement, such as would commonly occur when an ice floe is drifting parallel to the edge of the landfast ice.

Ikolivsaaq: [Ikalgisaaq] a floe or a floeberg which is grounded firmly.

**Sea Ice Topography:**
Qupaq: [Quppaq] A crack in sea ice

Qupaghaluuaqaq: [Quppaqhuuraq] A small crack in sea ice

Qupaqpaq: [Quppagaqruaq] A large crack in the ice

Qupasuguzuq: [Quppiniq] Similar in meaning to the preceding term [one which can become a large crack]

Qupaghazzoaq: [Quppahuauruaq] Similar in meaning to the preceding terms [shattered ice, when a large ice floe hits shore fast ice]

Nutaq qupaq: [Nutaaq quppaq] A newly formed crack

Imaq qupaq: [Quqluagaqtaq] A crack with open water in it

Sikuichaq qupaq: [Aayuqqaq] crack without ice (with open water in it

Qupaq aputilik: [Nutaqun] a crack with snow blown over it

Putu: A hole in the ice

Imauraq [Nakanauraq] A small polynya or open spot in sea ice

Imaqpaq: A large polynya or open spot in sea ice

Qilliqisnigeq: [Qilliqinisnig] A shore lead; open water between the shore and the ice offshore

Imaqtiniq: [Immaktiniq] a freshwater puddle on sea ice, formed during spring and summer

Ivuuk: [Quvlugaaq] Pressure crack, which has folded or “buckled” downward, the resultant basin having filled with water

Uiñeq: [Uiñiq] An open lead, usually between the fast ice and pack ice, from 50 yards to several miles
Qangelluk: [Kaŋiqłuk] A Bay or bight along the edge of a lead: also refers to the water on either side of a point along the lead edge.

Nuwuk: [Nuvuk] a point, either in the sea ice along a lead or on the land.

Tuwak: [Tuvaq] landfast ice; and expense[expanse] of ice which parallels the coast, extending outward for one-half-mile to several miles, held stationary by large piles of ice within it which are grounded solidly on the bottom.

Kuquluginik: [Ququluṅniq] a crack or pressure area where the ice has “buckled” upward to form a “roof” with open space beneath. The water underneath soon freezes, but such places are favored by seals for breathing holes, or if the formation is large, for dens where seals rest and give birth to young.

Tuhuzuginik: [Tuuġniq] young ice which has been subjected to pressure and has “wrinkled” or formed undulations in its surface, leaving open spaces beneath. Also favored for seal breathing holes and dens.

Piquniq: similar in meaning to the preceding term.[ice mounting that has bottom air]

Kaigechuq: [Qaiġiitchuaq] rough ice.

Kayagalaaq: [Qaiġiilaq] rough ice; probably refers to large areas with rough ice caused by crushing of the edges of ice pans and floes.

Sikukazzaq: [Puktaaq] a piece or block of ice: probably refers to a large conspicuous piece.

Napaiuk: [Napaayuq] one large piece of ice which has been pushed vertically to form a conspicuous landmark.

Ivunniq napaizoaq:[Kiŋik] similar in meaning to the preceding term, but refers specifically to an unusually large vertical block, perhaps 20 to 30 feet high.5

Napasalik: [Ivuniŋruaqpait] rough ice area which consists largely of pieces of ice which have been pushed into a vertical position.

Ivuuniq: [Ivuuŋniq] ice pile, ridge, or hummock

Ivunnigich: [Ivuuniŋigich] rough ice; implies an area with many ice piles. Plural form of the preceding term.

Ivuuniqpak: a large ice pile or ridge.

Ivuuniq qalligaich:[Qaligiisittat] areas where ice has rafted; one layer of ice is thrust up over another.
Agayagnik: [Agiagniq] “file ice”; flat walls of ice, from 1 foot to 30 feet high, caused by ice piling followed by shear (parallel) movement along the ice pile. This creates a very steep vertical wall of ice, which has been planed off by abrasion or ice surfaces. May indicate the edge of landfast ice, because such parallel movement often takes place there.

Agaiupak: [Agiupak] similar in meaning to the preceding form

Agaiupak: [Agiuqpak] similar in meaning to the preceding form

Agaiupapkak: [Agiuŋniŋruaq] an unusually large “file ice” wall, 10 or more feet high.

Agaiupauraq: [Agiuŋniuraq] a small “file ice” wall, less than 2 feet high.

Qalagsinik: [Qaligiiksink] rafting of young ice which is too thin to support a man, but which becomes safe wherever it has rafted and doubled its thickness.

Qaiqsuaq: [Qaiqsuaq] flat area in sea ice; may be surrounded by rough ice, forming an “island” of flat ice, or may be a huge flat expanse; general term.

Qaiqsuakpak: [Qaiqsuqpak] a very large area of flat ice.

Qaiqsuzaq: [Qaiqsuaguraq] a small area of flat ice.

Qaimuguq: [Qaimġuq] a flat “ice foot” along the beach, created by building up of ice from splashing of storm waves (Differs from the tidal ice foot which is formed along cliffs in the eastern Arctic).

Ategineqaq: [Atiŋniġaq] “ice apron” or fringe of young ice built out by freezing from the edge of open leads; important for travel while hunting because it is smooth.

Amagalu: [Anaġlu] an ice pile which has sand, stones, and other bottom debris incorporated into it, because it has been forced solidly into the bottom by ice piling and later being carried back to the surface.

Alliviņeq: [Alliviņiq] a piece of sea ice, which rises to the ocean surface after having been buried and held in the bottom by earlier ice piling. This happens during the spring and summer.

Kisissaq: [also Kisitchaq] a large grounded ice pile or floeberg; may become frozen into the new ice in the fall.

Aulaylik: [Aulaiḷak or Sugaiñŋuq] a large floe or floeberg, of sufficient size that current prevails over wind in determining its direction of movement.

Puktaaq: an ice pan or floe, which is sufficiently small, so that winds prevails over current in determining its direction of movement.
Kangattaaq: [Qaŋattaaq] a ledge of ice overhanging the edge of an open pond or lead; caused by undercutting by warm currents and waves during the summer.

Itcheaq: [Itchiaq] a shelf of ice extending outward from the edge of an ice floe or pan beneath the water surface; probably caused by erosion of the ice above the water.

**Phenomena Related to Sea Ice and Its Movement:**

Kissuk: [Qisuk] water sky; reflection of the dark color of open water in the clouds.

Puguzoaq: [Puyuġruaq] “steam fog”; steam which rises from the water surface of cracks and leads during cold weather.

Iññipqaq: [Iñirraq] a refraction phenomenon or mirage, which causes the ice, water or land surface that is over the horizon to “loom” above it; usually appears as a white curtain along the horizon, resembling low clouds or a fog bank.

Kanik: [also Kanigruaq] frost crystals, which form on young ice as soon as it begins to develop. Scattered frost crystals become more and more dense as the ice thickens until, on gray young ice, they completely cover the surface.

Masallhoq: [Masalhak] moisture on young ice, which causes slush to form in footprints or sled tracks.

Mafshaaq: [Mavsaq also Nutaġun] an open hole or crack which has been covered by storm-blown snow; open water lies beneath the snow, creating a dangerous condition.
Barrow Iñupiaq Sea Ice Terminology

Alphabetical List, with English Explanations
Compiled by Ronald H. Brower, Sr. ANLC; shared February 2008, updated 2015

Aayuġaaq  Crack in sea or lake ice kept open by shifting currents so that it never freezes solid.
Agiuppak  Wall of shared ice along the edge of the open lead that has been formed by the grinding action of the free ice against the shore-locked ice
Aisitaq  Cracked ice made by force of moving ice mass that attaches to Ayuksraq and moves with it.
Alliviñiq  Ice that is under other ice that could at any moment come out from below, due to current or boat wake
Aluksraq  Young ice punched by seals forming a seal blowhole
Anağlu  Black sediment of ice, which becomes visible in spring as the ice melts
Arguqtagniq  Newly formed thin ice collecting on the downwind side of a polynya or lead. Other term is arguqtinniq
Ataiq  To become loose, detached; when pack ice breaks off from shore ice
Ataitchuaq  Shore ice that does not have kisitchat- icebergs, anchoring it
Atchaqtu  To be wide, whether land, ice or water
Atchik  Far and wide open water
Atignigaq  New ice forming a smooth apron around pre-existing ice which may be thin or may be thick enough to walk on
Atitu  for there to be a wide open lead in the ice
Aułłak  to melt almost instantly like snow or suddenly on ice
Augañaruaq  Ice thrust up at an angle
Augniqsraq  Area where sea ice has become dangerous due to melting
Auniq  Melting ice which become unsafe shards of ice
Aunniq  Rotten ice
Aupkaṛniq  Melted spot on the ice
Aupkaq  To melt through, leaving a hole in ice during spring
Ayaaqtinniq  Ice caught up in a narrow part of a river or lead
Alliviñiq  Ice buried and frozen to the ocean bed and surfaces during summer time.
Atiṅgiāq  Fringe of young ice built out from freezing along open leads and used for travel while hunting
Ayiupaq  Ice chipped off by waves.
Ayukṣraq  Piece of ice that does not freeze to shore fast ice and goes out with current
Iṅgniqluk  Thin young ice broken up or crushed and refrozen as found in cracks
Igniṅnaq  Strip of smooth ice parallel to shore between pressure ridges and beach
Iigungaq  Ice that is added or pressed onto shore ice
Iiktigli or Ikigli  To become narrow; to close up (of ocean ice)
Ikuṅaṅgniq  Ice added onto iigungaq that can go anytime even with no wind or current that one should not go beyond
Imaiq  When the ice closes up, so that there is no water, no leads
Imaqqpiaq  Wide expanse of open water started from the edge of landlocked shore ice
Imauraq  Hole in ice where whales breathe
Imiṅniq  Mound of ice that makes an echoing sound when stamped on
Immiq  For a channel of water to open as in a field of flow of ice
Imuniq  Crushed young ice caused by moving ice
Igugaaq  West wind opening ice at leeward side of ice point
Isaamaniq  Ice formed as a long peninsula
Itchiaq  Under water ice shelf extending outward from ice edge or ice floe.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ivsaiguti</td>
<td>To be icebound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivu</td>
<td>To form ice pressure ridges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivuaqpaluk or ivuvaaluk</td>
<td>The sound of ice pressure ridge forming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivuniqauraq</td>
<td>Small ice pressure ridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivuniq</td>
<td>Ice pressure ridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivuniqpaaluk</td>
<td>Big ice pile; large ice pressure ridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanġilaq</td>
<td>Smooth ice with no frost on top</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanġuraq</td>
<td>Light or spotty frost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanigruaq</td>
<td>Heavy frost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaniq</td>
<td>Frost; to be covered with light frost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaniqtaq</td>
<td>Slightly refrozen ice pieces but fragile; this ice will quickly spread out when it is stepped on; Ice formed by frost.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaniqluaq</td>
<td>To surface in an inlet in a lead along ice like a whale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaniqluck</td>
<td>Bay, inlet, indentation in sea ice where whales often surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanįniņiq</td>
<td>Inlet along the shore; small bay in edge of ice, which is a good spot for whaling because whales breathe in such places</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapigli</td>
<td>Ice coming together. Can be large or small ice floes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiniqtit</td>
<td>When surface water percolates through ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinik</td>
<td>Pressure ridges that are high in elevation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kisitchat</td>
<td>Anchored icebergs; fast ice scouring the ocean floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kisitchiq</td>
<td>To form anchored fast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mągguti</td>
<td>To be unable to move in slush ice (of boat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maniilaq</td>
<td>Surface that is not smooth or even</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maniit</td>
<td>To be rough, uneven, especially ice when there are ice piles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Inuktitut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manik</td>
<td>Smooth area of ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maut</td>
<td>To walk in the direction of open water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayuqtiitaq</td>
<td>Slush ice pushed onto the shore with wraps frozen into waves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miñiquitipkaq</td>
<td>To become icebound while boating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misalhak</td>
<td>Slushy surface of young salt water ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muğaliq; muğałlíq</td>
<td>Slush ice on sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muğrak</td>
<td>Slush ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muquqtipkaq</td>
<td>For a boat to become ice bound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Napaayuq</td>
<td>An upright ice cake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natuğaaq</td>
<td>For ice to crack or shatter or both at once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niguaaq</td>
<td>Open water surrounded by ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutağun</td>
<td>Snow on water with no ice below it; refrozen crack less than ten feet wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutaqiiq</td>
<td>Smooth ice covered by snow with dampness between snow and ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuvuğaq</td>
<td>A pointed portion of ice; ice peninsula or floe corner surrounded by water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paağiiq</td>
<td>Ice pushed by the wind and current one way and then the other making it appear to move</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pauk</td>
<td>Ice that is anchors to shore fast ice to shore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piqaluyak</td>
<td>Old salt free multi-year ice gone through several seasons; glacial ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piquniq</td>
<td>Ice mount formation that has bottom air</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pituqqich</td>
<td>A path or trail leading to an open lead on rough shore ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puktaaq</td>
<td>Ice floe of various size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puktaaqat</td>
<td>Small ice floe attached to another ice floe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qaiğiitchuaq</td>
<td>Rough ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qaiğilu</td>
<td>Ice that is not rough nor smooth but with some irregularity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Qaimġuq  A flat ice surface along the beach formed from splashing of storm waves.
Qaiqsuaq  Smooth ice lying between areas of rough ice
Qaiqsuaqpak  Smooth flat ice covering a very large area.
Qaivaŋniq  Flat round cakes of ice frozen together.
Qaligiiksinŋiŋ  Rafting of young ice which become safe to support a man walking.
Qanaiņaqtuaq  Main pack ice moving in directly toward shore-fast ice
Qanattaaq  Snow or ice jutting out over water caused by undercutting.
Qimaktinniŋ  When the old ice is carried away, this ice is what is left behind
Qugluŋniŋ  Pressure area where ice has buckled upward with open space in between and water below freezes. Favoring by seals for pupping or breathing den.
Quņraq  Where ice pinches off a lead or crack either against other ice or the shore
Quppaŋruaq  Refrozen crack in ice
Quppaŋ  Crack in ice
Quviuŋgaŋ  Ice that buckled downward under pressure of ice then fills with water
Sagrat  A few small cakes of ice in mostly open water or lead that originate as a result of miŋiaŋllak; (loose submerged ice surfacing pushed by currents)
Sarri  Good thick floating pack ice from the north and some distance from the land locked ice
Satchik  To be far out in front or in ocean
Sikuaŋ  Thin ice, dangerous to walk on
Sikuliaŋruaq  Thick ice approximately a meter thick and can be thicker
Sikuliaŋ  Young ice formed around edge of old solid ice on open lead
Suŋaiŋŋuŋ  A large mass of ice moved by current prevailing over wind direction.
Suŋaiŋŋuŋruaq  A larger mass of ice like above.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuuniq</td>
<td>Buckled undulations on ice made by pressure of main pack ice on young ice leaving the ice in a wrinkled state. Favored by seals for dens and breathing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvağruaq</td>
<td>Old ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvaïq</td>
<td>Once (former) shorefast ice now floating, due to breakup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvaïyagaaq</td>
<td>Once shore fast ice now loose and floating due to high winds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvaïyaq</td>
<td>To break off inside the lead of land locked ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvaïyauti</td>
<td>When shore fast ice breaks free to her/his disadvantage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvaq</td>
<td>Shore fast ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvaqtaq</td>
<td>Shore ice covering only a portion of the beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uiñiq</td>
<td>Lead, open water between shore ice and pack ice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>