

Reporting of Crevasses at Coastal Landing Sites

Background

As average temperatures increase in the Antarctic Peninsula in particular, crevasses are becoming exposed and activity at tidewater glaciers is increasing. Due to this warming phenomena, field staff have reported an increase in the occurrence of crevasses, often very early in the season.

Below are the coastal landing sites where crevasses have been noted - these should be taken as examples only. **Nonetheless, extreme caution should be taken and when in doubt don't go.**

- **Base Brown**, (previously known as Almirante Brown) on the slope where many ships have snow sliding activities.
- **Neko Harbour**, on the slope where sliding activities sometimes occur, and the area above the upper penguin colony on the way to the lookout.
- **Damoy Point**, where the hiking takes place to the top of the hill, directly up the slope from the historic hut.
- **Portal Point** – beyond the first slope, including the narrow section and upper slopes.
- **Hovgaard Island**
- **Orne Harbour**, along the SW side of the ridge, and at the top of the pass.
- **Port Charcot**, along the higher slopes.
- **Cuerville Island**, on the southern part of the snow cone.
- **Danco Island**, top of the dome directly above the hut.
- **Petermann Island**, crevasses caused by snow and ice pulling away at ice/snow cliff, looking south along ridge from the col below Megalisteris Peak.

Communicating 'New' Crevasses

If you notice crevasses at these, or any other, coastal landing sites:

- Record GPS co-ordinates and take photographs (if safe to do so).
- Email the information to the Ship Scheduler (shipscheduler@iaato.org).
- Alert any other operators in the vicinity.

Please remember that 'visible' crevasses are not the only crevasses and **extreme caution should be taken** when walking on glaciers or permanent snow slopes.

*IAATO requests that the dangers of walking onto glaciers or permanent ice slopes be emphasized. At any time of year, but particularly from mid summer onwards, these activities should be done with the **utmost caution and only with the appropriate equipment and skills.***