

# The Melting of glaciers and sea ice.



**The melting of glaciers and ice caps have been happening for years now. Many people believe it is because of humans. “Most believe that human activity, in particular the burning of fossil fuels and the resulting buildup of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, have influenced this warming trend.”** (Glick, Daniel. “Global Climate Change, Melting

*Glaciers.”* *Global Climate Change, Melting Glaciers*, 18 Jan. 2017, [https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/big-thaw/.](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/big-thaw/))

**It’s affecting many places that need polar ice caps and glaciers, such as Antarctica. Places like Antarctica need these ice caps to maintain life and prevent oceans from rising.**

**The melting ice caps are affecting many animal lives. Many animals are dependent on the ice caps. It will affect penguins, whales, seals, and even small life such as Krill.**

(“Antarctic Animals A List of Antarctic Wildlife Arctic Animals Here - North Polar.” *Animals in Antarctica - South Polar*,

[https://www.coolantarctica.com/Antarctica fact file/antarctica\\_animal.php](https://www.coolantarctica.com/Antarctica%20fact%20file/antarctica_animal.php).)

**“Antarctica is having a range of impacts, from ocean acidification, warming temperatures (the Western Antarctic Peninsula is one of the fastest warming places on the planet), and loss of sea ice.”** (Abbate, Anthony, and Lisa Carter. “Antarctica's Wildlife in a Changing Climate.” *State of the Planet*, 25 July 2019, <https://blogs.ei.columbia.edu/2015/10/26/antarctic-wildlife-in-a-changing-climate/>.)



**The effect this is having, due to the melting of these ice caps and glaciers, it is causing sea levels to rise. With this, it creates coastal erosion. Coastal erosion is basically the loss of land, with sea levels rising the land will start to submerge in the ocean. This is not only hazardous to animal life in Antarctica, but also disastrous for people living in coastal areas. Also, it is causing global temperatures to rise. In Greenland alone, it had one of the largest contributors of global sea level rise. (“Why Are Glaciers and Sea Ice Melting?” *WWF*, World Wildlife Fund, <https://www.worldwildlife.org/pages/why-are-glaciers-and-sea-ice-melting#>.) “Right now, the Greenland ice sheet is disappearing four times faster than in 2003 and already contributes 20% of current sea level rise.” This is**

harzardous to Greenland because they're experiencing coastal erosion, land mass decreasing while seas levels increase.

**What is being done to prevent this? At the moment, not much. World leaders have barely struck up the conversation about climate change. "Countries around the world acknowledged the imperative to act on climate change with the Paris Agreement in 2015, making pledges to reduce greenhouse gas pollution"** (Nunez, Christina. "Global Warming Solutions." *Global Warming Solutions, Facts and Information*, 25 Feb. 2019, <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/global-warming-solutions/>.)  
**We can do so much more! Not only Paris alone can reduce greenhouse gases, everyone can try to prevent to wide spread of these harmful gases.**

**Personally, we can do so much more to try and prevent the rising of gloabl temperatures. We need to come together and first address the cause of these rising temperatures. What can we do together to prevent more harm? I believe that certain people choose to remain in the dark about these issues, its a serious and real issue.**

### Cites

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