

Statement

GREENPEACE

Arctic winter sea ice hits record low while oil drillers seek to profit from the melt

19 March 2015 (Toronto) – Following today's [announcement from the National Snow and Ice Data Centre](#) that the Arctic winter sea ice extent has reached a new record low (bottoming out at 14.54 million square kilometers – a shocking 130,000 km² below the record low set in 2011), Greenpeace Arctic Campaigner Farrah Khan said:

“The Arctic Ocean’s winter sea ice has hit a new record low — the lowest since satellite recording began. This news comes as a glaring reminder that our climate is changed and we need to take immediate action to alter this course.

“Offshore oil drilling will only aggravate the already fragile Arctic environment and lead to inevitable oil spills that could destroy Arctic coastlines while at the same time expediting climate change.

“Such grim news will only be welcomed by the Harper government and Big Oil executives who are eyeing this delicate region with dollar signs in their eyes.”

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For more information:

Diego Creimer, Communications officer, 514-999-6743 diego.creimer@greenpeace.org