**“Global Warming Means More Sea Ice”… Is That True?**

Fox News recently reported that “Global Warming Means More Sea Ice” in an article written for the online FoxNation. A summary of the article is shown below:



***WASHINGTON (AP) —*** *The ice goes on seemingly forever in a white pancake-flat landscape, stretching farther than ever before. And yet in this confounding region of the world, that spreading ice may be a cockeyed signal of man-made climate change, scientists say.*

*This is Antarctica, the polar opposite of the Arctic.*

*While the North Pole has been losing sea ice over the years, the water nearest the South Pole has been gaining it. Antarctic sea ice hit a record 7.51 million square miles in September. That happened just days after reports of the biggest loss of Arctic sea ice on record.*

*Climate change skeptics have seized on the Antarctic ice to argue that the globe isn't warming and that scientists are ignoring the southern continent because it's not convenient. But scientists say the skeptics are misinterpreting what's happening and why.*

*Shifts in wind patterns and the giant ozone hole over the Antarctic this time of year — both related to human activity — are probably behind the increase in ice, experts say. This subtle growth in winter sea ice since scientists began measuring it in 1979 was initially surprising, they say, but makes sense the more it is studied.*

*"A warming world can have complex and sometimes surprising consequences," researcher Ted Maksym said this week from an Australian research vessel surrounded by Antarctic sea ice. He is with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts.*

*Many experts agree. Ted Scambos of the National Snow and Ice Data Center in Colorado adds: "It sounds counterintuitive, but the Antarctic is part of the warming as well."*

*And on a third continent, David Vaughan of the British Antarctic Survey says that yes, what's happening in Antarctica bears the fingerprints of man-made climate change.*

Source: <http://nation.foxnews.com/global-warming/2012/10/11/ap-global-warming-means-more-arctic-ice?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+FoxNation+%28Fox+Nation%29#ixzz2UsbypWLT>

And… what do YOU think?

Is that true? Will global warming result in more sea ice? Research this issue using scientific articles about ice growth/decay then provide a brief 1-2pg summary (typewritten) about the evidence to support this claim and evidence that exists to deny it. Find data to show sea-ice extent vs time (whatever time period you feel is appropriate to address this question) and construct an excel plot of these data to be turned in with your summary. What data is this claim based upon (provide reference)? Does it provide enough information to address the question? If not, what’s missing? Should we be aware of other issues related to ice growth/decay and global climate change? Be sure to include a list of sources used in this assignment.

Students may work in pairs to research this project, but all written summaries must be completed individually.