

Giant Antarctic iceberg poised to break away

A massive iceberg ten times the size of Manhattan Island is about to break away from Antarctica. A rift in the Larsen C ice shelf grew suddenly in December and now just 20km of ice is preventing the 5,000 sq km piece from floating away

DISINTEGRATION OF LARSEN ICE SHELF

Antarctic Peninsula

ANTARCTICA

1995: *Larsen A* collapses

2002: *Larsen B* breaks apart

Remnant of *Larsen B*

2017: Loss of piece will leave whole *Larsen C* shelf vulnerable to future collapse, which would raise global sea levels by 10cm

Rift grew abruptly by 18km in Dec 2016

Jan 2017

Jun 2016

Aug 2014

Nov 2010

Larsen C ice shelf

Rift is about 100m wide and estimated to be 500m deep

500km

310 miles

Rift likely due to climate warming but scientists say they have no direct evidence to support this

