"The Friendly Arctic"

-Icelandic reflections

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Vilhjalmur Stefansson 1879-1962
THE FRIENDLY ARCTIC
THE STORY OF FIVE YEARS
IN POLAR REGIONS

BY
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"MY LIFE WITH THE INUIT"

ILLUSTRATED

NEW YORK
THE MACMILLAN COMPANY
1921
New Arctic / High North horizons...
Today a polar bear came to Iceland again. In 2008, 2 or 3 came to the northern part of Iceland and now we have a small one in the north eastern part of Iceland. Most likely it will be shot so that it will not kill any people...
The funny thing is that last time, it was no crisis on Iceland and a lot of people wanted to spend a lot of money saving the animals, but now that we are in the middle of a crisis it is not...
The Arctic Council: a success...
Changing ideas:
The ecosystem approach...
Ocean currents

E-Greenland Current (cold)

E-Iceland Current (cold)

Gulf-Stream (warm)

Source: Marine Res.Inst.
Temperature at the coast of Iceland in summer: -1-10+ °C

Great variability in temperature range

Source: Marine Res.Institute
Sea Surface Temperature (SST) north of Iceland
Warming up in recent years similar to mid 20th century

A new North Icelandic sea-surface temperature series (Hanna et al. 2006)

SST estimated from available data (Hanna et al. 2006)
Capelin - migration and distribution

Before 2000

After 2000

After Hjálmar Vilhjálmsson
Haddock: Changed distribution due to ocean climate variability

Source: Marine Res. Institute
Mackerel – northernmore distribution during the last decade
Mackerel distribution in earlier years and **NOW**

Sea Surface temperature July 2012
Deviation from 20 year mean

Predicted ice coverage and sailing routes now and in the year 2080

Ice in summer

ACIA Report, 2007
In closing...