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Mitsuaki Iwago. Seeking out the Digital Future.



The effects of global warming are already apparent in Canada's Hudson Bay. Representing the southern limit of the polar bears' habitat, Hudson Bay has been experiencing increasingly shorter winters, leading to earlier ice melt and forcing the bears onshore before they can fully replenish their reserves of fat by feeding on the seals which live on the ice. Typically, a polar bear will stake out a seal's breathing hole, attacking the animal when it sticks its head up for air. A shorter hunting season limits the ability of females to feed their cubs, reducing their survival rate. As of 2006, polar bears have been designated a vulnerable species.

Visit the "Global Warming Witness - Iwago Mitsuaki" website at:
<http://www.olympus.co.jp/gww/>

On Canada's Hudson Bay in November, the boundary between land and water vanishes beneath a monolithic covering of ice that stretches as far as the eye can see. Here, in the frozen north, the sun never reaches its zenith and every day, the sun's passage across the sky grows shorter. Photographer Mitsuaki Iwago spotted a polar bear heading offshore in search of seals, rubbing its nose against the frozen ocean to sniff out its prey. Polar bears travel thousands of miles across the icy waters where the only sound is that of the wind. Thanks to Olympus digital technology, impressive scenes like this can now be frozen literally forever.

Shot at Cape Churchill on the west shore of Hudson Bay, on November 14, 2002, at 8:23 a.m., with the Olympus CAMEDIA E-20 digital camera, f6.3, 1/80 sec.

Digital SLR
Camera
OLYMPUS E-1



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