
NASA's Ice, Cloud and land Elevation Satellite-2,
or ICESat-2, launched on September 15, 2018.

1
00:00:00,020 --> 00:00:04,030
[music]

2
00:00:04,050 --> 00:00:08,070
NASA's Ice, Cloud and land Elevation Satellite-2, or ICESat-2,
launched on September 15, 2018.

3
00:00:11,090 --> 00:00:17,120
Using a rapid-firing laser, ICESat-2 has begun mapping the height of sea ice, ice sheets and forest canopies.

4
00:00:17,140 --> 00:00:26,210
Data collected over Arctic and Antarctic sea ice reveal thin ice, thick ice and ice ridges.

5
00:00:27,140 --> 00:00:36,210
Comparing the height of sea ice with the height of open water in the cracks between ice floes (leads) gives an

6
00:00:38,140 --> 00:00:43,210
Beyond ice, photons returning from over the ocean trace individual waves.

7
00:00:45,140 --> 00:00:49,210
Over forests, ICESat-2 can distinguish the tops of trees, inner canopies and forest floors.