



Ice-Covered Delta Canada

In the Mackenzie River Delta of far northern Canada, snow- and ice-covered waterways stand out amid green, pine-covered land. Those frozen tributaries also become ice roads for trucks carrying supplies between the remote outposts of Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk.

The Mackenzie River system is Canada's largest watershed, and the 10th largest water basin in the world. The river runs 4,200 kilometers (2,600 miles) from the Columbia Icefield in the Canadian Rockies to the Arctic Ocean.

Every so often, flooding from the Mackenzie River replenishes the surrounding lakes and ponds, some of which sit atop permafrost. This landscape is home to caribou, waterfowl, and a number of fish species. Also, thousands of reindeer travel through this area each year on the way to their calving grounds.