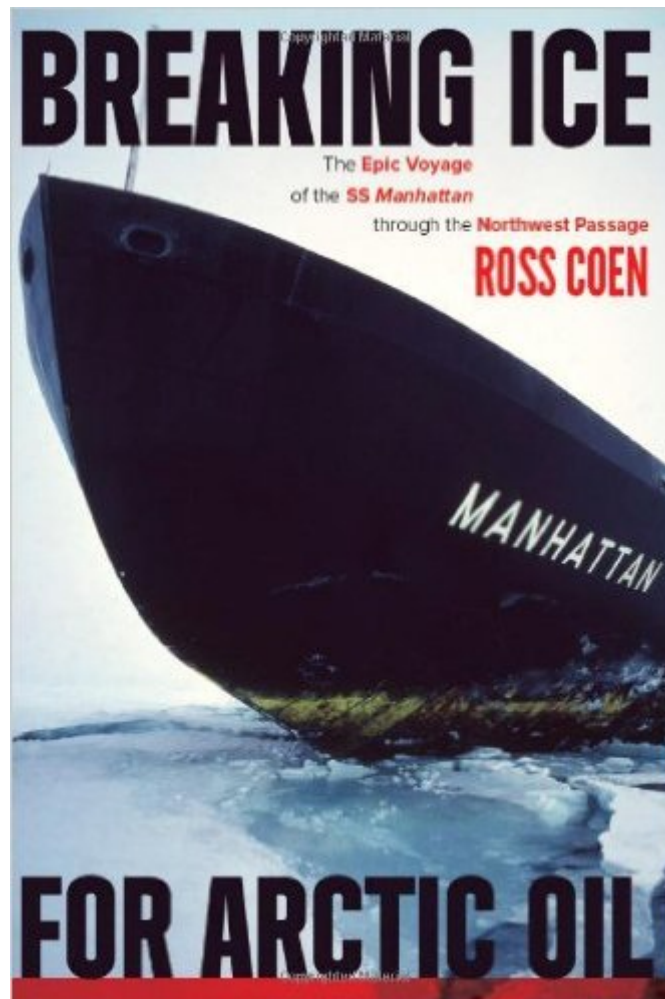


The book was found

# Breaking Ice For Arctic Oil: The Epic Voyage Of The SS Manhattan Through The Northwest Passage



## Synopsis

In 1969, an icebreaking tanker, the SS Manhattan, was commissioned by Humble Oil to transit the Northwest Passage in order to test the logistical and economic feasibility of an all-marine transportation system for Alaska North Slope crude oil. Proposed as an alternative to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, the Manhattan made two voyages to the North American Arctic and collected volumes of scientific data on ice conditions and the behavior of ships in ice. Although the Manhattan successfully navigated the Northwest Passageâclosing a five-hundred-year chapter of Arctic exploration by becoming the first commercial vessel to do soâthe expedition ultimately demonstrated the impracticality of moving crude oil using icebreaking ships. *Breaking Ice for Arctic Oil* details this historic voyage, establishing its significant impact on the future of marine traffic and resource development in the Arctic and setting the stage for the current oil crisis.

## Book Information

Paperback: 215 pages

Publisher: University of Alaska Press (April 15, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1602231699

ISBN-13: 978-1602231696

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂÂ See all reviewsÂ (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,457,733 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 inÂ Books > History > Americas > Canada > Exploration #401 inÂ Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Energy Production & Extraction > Fossil Fuels > Petroleum #475 inÂ Books > History > Arctic & Antarctica

## Customer Reviews

I purchased this book because I was interested in both the Arctic and large ships. Having visited remote Alaska during the heyday of building the trans Alaska pipeline, I found but did not expect a larger story than just about the SS Manhattan. The author takes a long walk 'all the way around the block' to discuss almost every possible aspect of the tanker story. As a result, there were times when I was keenly interested in this larger than a ship story. The details regarding the ship itself were worth the price of admission. However, the title has a dual meaning, in retrospect. Having to do with the politics, commerce, and culture of the arctic North, this story is more of a case study of the

exploration for and exploitation of Alaskan north fields and the Canadian waters of the North Passage. I give it four stars for an excellent tale of the creation, voyage, and ultimate fate of one of the world's largest tanker vessels. The author also provides us something of a glimpse into the oil industry from a time when 'Exxon-Mobil' was not yet conceived of. In fact I grew up with the smaller oil companies and even worked briefly for a Phillips service station. Somehow, I lost track as the conglomerate big oil companies were formed and suddenly there was an Exxon-Mobil in our world. If you have been reading about big oil, the arctic, and transoceanic shipping, then you may just enjoy this story about how an ambitious Humble Oil placed a wager on the Northwest Passage.

The author shows how the 1968 discovery of oil in Prudhoe Bay changed the commercial shipping dynamics of the Arctic. Oil companies quickly latched onto a pipeline as the best way to get the oil out of the frozen north, but Humble Oil, now Exxon, thought that a fleet of tankers could get the oil to east coast markets more cheaply, and thus more profitably. It refitted one of the world's first super-tankers, the SS Manhattan, as an icebreaker, and sent it north in 1969. At first glance, the venture seems audacious, even foolhardy, but Coen successfully shows that the voyage was strictly business. Though he does an excellent job of laying out the political and economic context of the voyage, Coen's story shines as he describes the incredible natural barriers that literally held the huge ship back and the determination of her crew to get her to Prudhoe Bay. If the predictions of climate change come to pass, the Arctic will no longer be choked with ice in the next few decades, and ships may follow the trail blazed by the tanker through the Northwest Passage as easily as they pass through the Panama Canal.

I enjoyed very much reading this book. It puts together subjects such as oil exploration, business decisions, technology, maritime challenges, project management.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Breaking Ice for Arctic Oil: The Epic Voyage of the SS Manhattan through the Northwest Passage  
Cooking With Coconut Oil Vol. 1 - 50 Coconut Oil Recipes Promoting Health, Wellness, & Beauty -  
Coconut Oil Cookbook - Coconut Oil Uses - Coconut Oil (Coconut Oil Diet And Recipes) Essential  
Oils: 50 Essential Oil Dog & Cat Recipes From My Essential Oil Private Collection: Proven Essential  
Oil Recipes That Work! (Essential Oil Pet Private Collection Book 1) Diffuser Recipes: Essential Oil  
Diffuser Recipes For Weight Loss, Better Sleep & Fat Loss (Aromatherapy, Essential Oils, Detox,  
Cleanse, Healthy Living, ... Lavender Oil, Coconut Oil, Tea Tree Oil) The The New Northwest  
Passage: A Voyage to the Front Line of Climate Change Arctic Explorers: In Search of the

Northwest Passage (Amazing Stories (Heritage House)) The Arctic Grail: The Quest for the Northwest Passage and the North Pole, 1818-1909 Ordeal by Ice: The Search for the Northwest Passage (Top of the World Trilogy, Vol 1) Resolute: The Epic Search for the Northwest Passage and John Franklin, and the Discovery of the Queen's Ghost Ship Oil & Ice: A Story of Arctic Disaster and the Rise and Fall of America's Last Whaling Dynasty Streetwise Manhattan Bus Subway Map - Laminated Metro Map of Manhattan, New York - Pocket Size (Streetwise Maps) No-Churn Ice Cream: 50 Delicious Ice Cream Recipes WITHOUT ICE CREAM MAKER (Recipe Top 50's Book 25) Ice Ice Babies: Ice Planet Barbarians: A Slice of Life Short Story Coconut Oil and Apple Cider Vinegar: 28 Mind Blowing Uses for Coconut Oil and Apple Cider Vinegar (The Apple Cider Vinegar and Coconut Oil Bible - Amazing Benefits, Many Uses, and Natural Cures) Olive Oil: (Free Gift eBook Inside!) How it Heals and Mends the Body, Beauty and Health Tips of Olive Oil (55 Beneficial Tips on How Olive Oil can Help You Today) World Voyage Planner: Planning a voyage from anywhere in the world to anywhere in the world (World Cruising Series Book 2) Arctic Hell-Ship: The Voyage of HMS Enterprise 1850-1855 Fatal Passage: The True Story of John Rae, the Arctic Hero Time Forgot Fatal Passage: The Story of John Rae, the Arctic Hero Time Forgot The Ice Master: The Doomed 1913 Voyage of the Karluk

[Dmca](#)