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THE VANCOUVER ISLAND MARMOT is so near extinction that we could find no pictures of it. It closely resembles its cousin, the hoary marmot, pictured here. Found only on the rocky mountainsides of western Vancouver Island, it is extremely vulnerable to sudden changes in its environment. There are fewer than one hundred left.

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If there is open water, the situation is not very different from that which one would find in other offshore drilling situations, except that in the Arctic there is greater probability of finding calm seas than, for example, in the Gulf of Mexico or the North Sea. . . . If there is firm ice cover, not moving much and from which one can work, we learned from studies in the Beaufort Sea Project that a very large proportion of oil may be dealt with. . . . The particularly messy situation, for which we have virtually no answers at all right now, is that of moving, badly fractured ice with many open regions.

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