



• Breidamerkurjökull

# Our Changing Climate

## Shrinking Iceland Glacier - Breidamerkurjökull

During much of the 20th century, Iceland's Breidamerkurjökull Glacier has been shrinking. It has been studied extensively since 1903, when researchers drew up detailed maps that showed its base just a few hundred metres from the ocean edge. Over time, the glacier has receded so that its base is now several kilometres from the coast. As the huge river of ice has pulled back across the Icelandic landscape,

thousands of hectares of fertile farmland have been exposed and people are populating the area that was until recently buried under tonnes of ice. Some researchers attribute the shrinkage to climate change and global warming. In this pair of satellite images, notice how the glacier has receded and the glacial lake at its tip has enlarged over time.