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Composite coastal zone color scanner image of the Western Ross Sea on 10 December 1978. An intense
phytoplankton bloom (red shows the highest concentra-
tion of pigment and purple the lowest) is bounded by
the Ross Ice Shelf (bottom, gray) and by annual sea ice
along the Victoria Land coast (left, gray). This image
begins a time series revealing that significant produc-
tivity begins in the late spring within the Ross Sea
polynya and is thus likely greater than previously esti-
imated. See page 261. (Image: Kevin Arrigo)