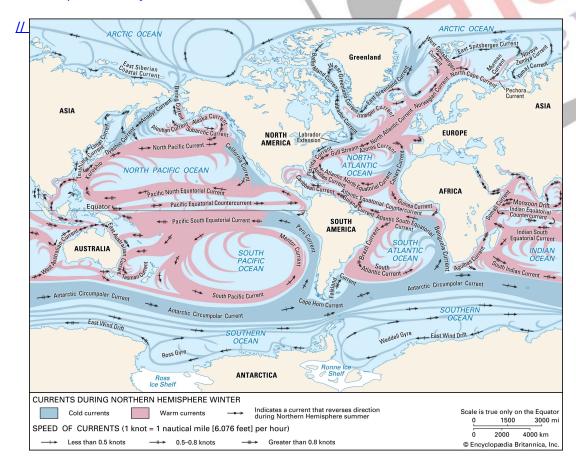


Antarctic Circumpolar Current (ACC)

Scientists have discovered an **ancient underwater mountain range** hidden within the world's strongest ocean current, the **Antarctic Circumpolar Current**.

- The <u>ACC</u> flows from west to east around <u>Antarctica</u>, connecting the <u>Atlantic</u>, <u>Indian</u>, and <u>Pacific Oceans</u>. It is the only current that flows completely around the globe.
- It is exceptionally wide, with a width of about 1250 kilometers, making it the widest of all ocean currents.
- It plays a crucial role in **global ocean circulation** and **climate regulation.** It redistributes heat and influences the global climate system.
- The ACC is also known as the <u>West Wind Drift</u> because it is primarily driven by the strong westerly winds that circle Antarctica in the Southern Hemisphere.
- It forms the Antarctic Convergence, where the cold Antarctic waters meet the warmer waters of the subantarctic, creating a zone of <u>upwelling nutrients</u> and <u>high biological</u> <u>productivity.</u>



Read More: Southern Ocean

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