**Table S1**. BC concentration (unit: ng g<sup>-1</sup>) observed in the ice layer and its overlying snow and in the surface melting snow. Snow sampling were carried out over the Elson Lagoon, Chukchi Sea and Canada Basin. The sampling locations and dates are also shown.

Sampling area	Lat	Lon (°W)	BC (Ice layer)	BC (The overlying snow)	Sampling date	BC (Surface melting snow)	Sampling date	Expedition
Canada Basin	75.03	159.48	0.39	2.93	July 22 <sup>st</sup> , 2010			1 <sup>st</sup> South Korean  Arctic Expedition
Canada Basin	77.98	159.64	0.54	3.81	July 26 <sup>st</sup> , 2010			1 <sup>st</sup> South Korean  Arctic Expedition
Canada Basin	79.51	160.02	0.45	3.32	August 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2010			1 <sup>st</sup> South Korean  Arctic Expedition
Elson Lagoon	71.32	156.37	0.36	1.72	May 18 <sup>th</sup> ,	14.9	May 31 <sup>th</sup> ,	Barrow Expedition
Elson Lagoon	71.32	156.37	0.31	1.70	May 22 <sup>th</sup> ,	15.3	May 31 <sup>th</sup> ,	Barrow Expedition
Elson Lagoon	71.32	156.38	0.41	1.98	May 22 <sup>th</sup> ,	17.9	May 31 <sup>th</sup> ,	Barrow Expedition
Chukchi Sea	71.37	156.54	0.48	2.11	May 25 <sup>th</sup> ,	16.1	June 5 <sup>th</sup> ,	Barrow  Expedition
Chukchi Sea	71.37	156.54	0.34	1.82	May 27 <sup>th</sup> ,	16.1	June 5 <sup>th</sup> ,	Barrow  Expedition
Chukchi Sea	71.37	156.54	0.55	2.91	May 28 <sup>th</sup> ,	17	June 5 <sup>th</sup> ,	Barrow  Expedition
Chukchi Sea	71.37	156.55	0.50	2.43	May 30 <sup>th</sup> ,	14.2	June 10 <sup>th</sup> ,	Barrow Expedition
Chukchi Sea	71.37	156.55	0.36	2.11	May 30 <sup>th</sup> ,	15.9	June 10 <sup>th</sup> ,	Barrow  Expedition
Chukchi	71.37	156.55	0.41	2.33	May 30 <sup>th</sup> ,	14.8	June 10 <sup>th</sup> ,	Barrow

Sea				2018		2018	Expedition	
Chukchi	71.37	156.55	0.43	2.52	May 31 <sup>th</sup> ,	17.3	June 10 <sup>th</sup> ,	Barrow
Sea	/1.5/	130.33	0.43	2.32	2018	17.3	2018	Expedition
Chukchi	71 27	156.55	0.21	2.14	May 31 <sup>th</sup> ,	17.5	June 10 <sup>th</sup> ,	Barrow
Sea	71.37	156.55	0.31	2.14	2018	17.5	2018	Expedition

**Table S2.** Snow thickness, snow density and BC concentrations before and after the ablation event, and the thickness of ice layer is also shown. BC values of ice layers have been presented in Table 1.

Area	Site	lat (°N)	lon (°W)	$h_I$ (cm)	$\rho_I(\text{g cm}^{-3})$	$C_{bl}$ (ng g <sup>-1</sup> )	$h_2$ (cm)	$\rho_2(\mathrm{g~cm}^{-3})$	$h_i(cm)$
Elson Lagoon	1	71.32	156.37	5.5	0.32	1.22	3.0	0.36	0.7
Elson Lagoon	2	71.32	156.37	5.4	0.30	1.07	2.5	0.35	0.8
Elson Lagoon	3	71.32	156.38	10.9	0.32	1.11	5.0	0.35	1.7
Chukchi Sea	4	71.38	156.55	11.3	0.31	1.34	5.0	0.36	1.8
Chukchi Sea	5	71.38	156.55	13.2	0.29	0.91	4.0	0.35	2.5
Chukchi Sea	6	71.38	156.55	8.5	0.25	1.84	3.0	0.36	1.0

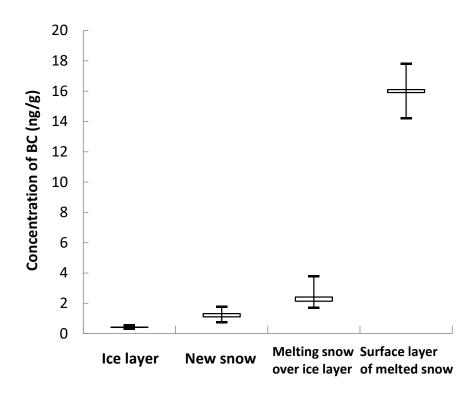
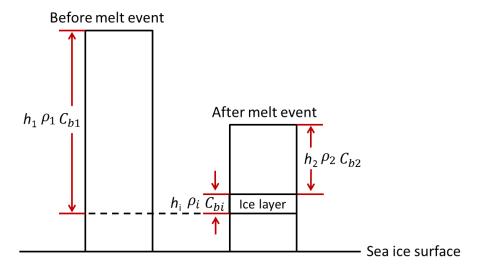


Figure S1. The BC concentrations in the ice layer and melting snow, and its concentrations in the new snow and in the surface layer of melting snow are also shown as a comparison.

New-snow samples were only collected in Elson Lagoon and Chukchi Sea during the measurement period. The box indicates the mean (upper) and median (bottom) values of the observations, and the whiskers constrain the full extent of the observations.



**Figure S2.** Conceptual sketch of snow overlying sea ice before and after the melt event. Variables relating to the snow and ice layer mentioned in Eq. (1) and Eq. (2) are shown.