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Recent ice sheet and glacier elevation changes in Greenland from aircraft laser altimetry.

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The Arctic Ice Mapping group (Project AIM) at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Wallops Flight Facility has been conducting systematic topographic surveys of the Greenland Ice Sheet (GIS) since 1993, using scanning airborne laser altimeters combined with Global Positioning System (GPS) technology. Earlier surveys showed the ice sheet above 2000-m elevation to be in balance, but with localized regions of thickening or thinning. Thinning predominates at lower elevations and thinning rates have recently increased, resulting in a negative mass balance for the entire ice sheet. Recently critical segments of near-coastal flight lines in Greenland were re-surveyed. Results from the new data will be presented.