

Alaska Snow Survey Report

May 1, 2012



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Alaska Snow Survey

May 1, 2012

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Snowpack

There are 8 snow courses reporting record high water contents in Alaska and the Yukon Territories for May 1st, 2012. In Alaska the records begin at Moraine and extend to Southeast Alaska along the Gulf coast.

The Moraine SNOTEL site above Eklutna Lake has 27 inches of snow depth with 14.1 inches of water content, 261 percent of average, a new record high snow water content. The previous record high year at Moraine was 1960 with the records beginning in 1951. The Portage Valley snow course has a record high of 64 inches of snow depth with 30.7 inches of water content, the previous being 30.2 inches of water content in 1999.

The SNOTEL site at Mt. Eyak is a record, reporting 84 inches of snow depth an estimated 43.0 inches of snow water content, 186 percent of average. This is a record with a short history, observations began in 2005.

Southeast Alaska continued its record high snow water contents at two sites on Douglas Island across from Juneau. The upper site, Cropley Lake, has 116 inches of snow depth with 59.9 inches of water content, the previous record being in 1985 was 54.5 inches of water content, a significant jump in the record. The Eagle Crest snow course at 1000 ft. elevation has a new record also with 37.2 inches of water content, barely topping the 36.9 inch record set in 2008. The Lake Grace Pass snow course has 177 inches of snow depth with 89.6 inches water content which is a record for this site for May 1st. Lake Grace Pass is 1 of 3 snow courses measured at the Swan Lake Hydropower project, near Ketchikan. There are 2 snow courses with record snow water content for May 1st in the area above Whitehorse/Teslin. The Log Cabin snow course near White Pass has 22.5 inches of snow water content while the previous record was 21.3 inches which occurred in 1993. The Mt. McIntyre B snow course near Whitehorse has 8.9 inches of water content, the former record of 8.7 inches was measured in 1985.

Precipitation

Above average precipitation was recorded at 4 locations for the month of March: these were Healy, Eagle, Northway and Gulkana. Eagle was 138 percent of average. The rest of the NWS reporting stations were less than average.

The Fairbanks SNOTEL site has received 0.0 inches of precipitation in April, 5.0 since October 1st, 98 percent of average. Anchorage Hillside has received 0.4 inches of precipitation in April, 22.3 since October 1st, 155 percent of normal. In Prince William Sound, Mt. Eyak above Cordova received 2.2 inches and 84.0 since October 1st, 114 percent of average. For Southeast Alaska, the Long Lake SNOTEL site has received 3.1 inches of precipitation in March, 108.0 since October 1st, 103 percent of normal.

Temperature

In contrast to March where most portions of the state had below average temperatures, the temperatures for April were above average for all stations that reported ranging from 0 deg F at Annette, Cordova, Seward, Homer and Dillingham (average/normal), up to 9 deg F above normal at Healy.

STREAMFLOW

Streamflow forecasts of snowmelt runoff are as follows:

FORECAST POINT*	Percent of Ave. Flow	Period
Yukon River at Eagle	120	May-Jul
Porcupine River nr International Boundary.....	107	May-Jul
Yukon River near Stevens Village.....	112	May-Jul
Tanana River at Fairbanks.....	107	May-Jul
Tanana River at Nenana.....	101	May-Jul
Little Chena River near Fairbanks.....	97	May-Jul
Chena River near Two Rivers	98	May-Jul
Salcha near Salchaket.....	90	May-Jul
Sagvanirktok River near Pump Station 3	105	May-Jul
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse.....	100	May-Jul
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek.....	110	May-Jun
Gulkana River at Sourdough.....	102	May-Jul
Little Susitna River near Palmer.....	111	May-Jul
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	103	May-Jul
Ship Creek near Anchorage.....	123	May-Jul
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	113	May-Jul
Gold Creek near Juneau.....	135	May-Jul

SNOWMELT RUNOFF INDEX (SRI)

For streams that no longer have stream gauging stations.

FORECAST POINT	INDEX	Index	Key:
Koyukuk River at Hughes.....	+1.3		
MF Koyukuk River near Wiseman.....	+1.1		
Slate Creek at Coldfoot.....	+1.0		
Beaver Creek above Victoria.....	-2.5	-2 to -3	much below average snowmelt runoff
Birch Creek below South Fork.....	-1.8		
Caribou Creek at Chatanika.....	-2.0		
Susitna River near Gold Creek.....	+1.0		
Chulitna River near Talkeetna.....	-1.3	-1 to -2	below average snowmelt runoff
Deshka River at mouth near Willow	-2.0		
Montana Creek at Parks Highway.....	-1.3		
Willow Creek near Willow	1.0	-1 to +1	average snowmelt runoff
Skwentna River at Skwentna.....	-1.1		
Chuitna River near Tyonek.....	-1.0		
Campbell Creek near Spenard.....	+3.0	+1 to +2	above average snowmelt runoff
Indian Creek at Indian.....	+1.0		
Bird Creek at Bird Creek	+0.2		
Glacier Creek nr Girdwood.....	+2.2	+2 to +3	much above average snowmelt runoff
Six Mile Creek near Hope	+1.7		
Resurrection Creek near Hope	+1.7		
Grouse Ck @ Grouse Lake Outlet.....	+1.7		
Anchor River near Anchor Point.....	+1.0		
Deep Creek near Ninilchik	+1.2		
Ninilchik River near Ninilchik.....	+0.9		
Fritz Creek near Homer	+1.5		
Skagway River at Skagway	+2.9		
Municipal Watershed C nr Petersburg.....	+2.8		

* See regional summaries for the forecast period and the actual forecasted flow volumes.

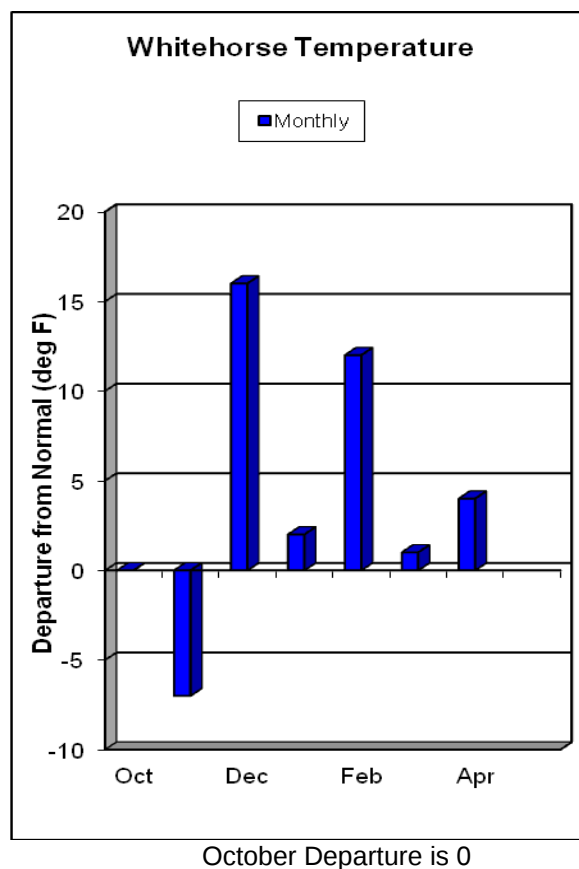
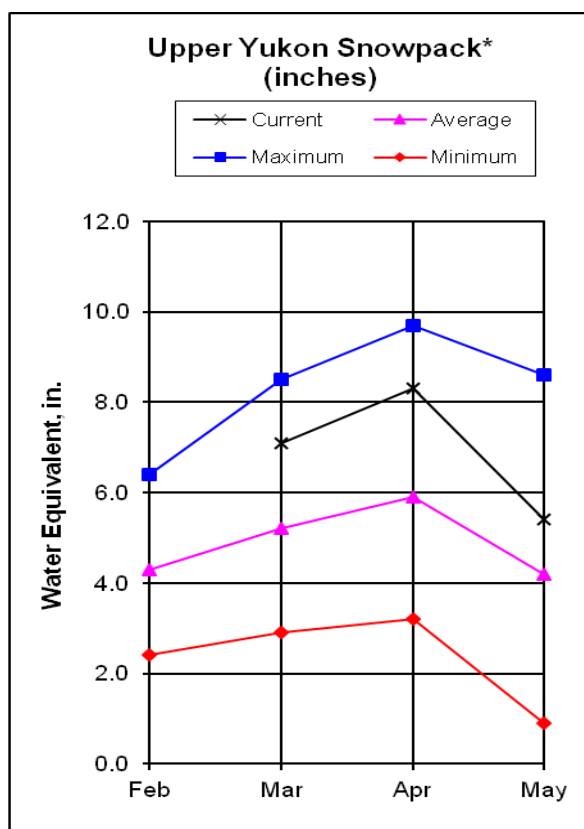
HOW FORECASTS ARE MADE

Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of the water content in the snow at selected manual snow courses and automated SNOTEL sites are used in the runoff estimates. In addition, precipitation, antecedent streamflow, and indices of the El Niño / Southern Oscillation are used in computerized statistical and simulation models to prepare runoff forecasts. These forecasts are coordinated between hydrologists in the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the National Weather Service. Unless otherwise specified, all forecasts are for flows that would occur naturally without any upstream influences.

Forecasts of any kind, of course, are not perfect. Streamflow forecast uncertainty arises from three primary sources: uncertain knowledge of future weather conditions, uncertainty in the forecasting procedure, and errors in the data. The forecast, therefore, must be interpreted not as a single value but rather as a range of values with specific probabilities of occurrence. The middle of the range is expressed by the 50% exceedance probability forecast, for which there is a 50% chance that the actual flow will be above and a 50% chance that the actual flow will be below this value. To describe the expected range around this 50% value, four other forecasts are provided, two smaller flows (90% and 70% exceedance probability) and two larger flows (30%, and 10% exceedance probability). For example, there is a 90% chance that the actual flow will be more than the 90% exceedance probability forecast. The others can be interpreted similarly.

The wider the spread among these values, the more uncertainty there is in the forecast. As the season progresses, forecasts become more accurate, primarily because a greater portion of the future weather conditions become known. This accuracy is reflected by a narrowing of the range around the 50% exceedance probability forecast. Users should take this uncertainty into consideration when making operational decisions by selecting forecasts corresponding to the level of risk they are willing to assume about the amount of water to be expected. If users anticipate receiving a lesser supply of water, or if they wish to increase their chances of having an adequate supply of water for their operations, they may want to base their decisions on the 90% or 70% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. On the other hand, if users are concerned about receiving too much water, such as the threat of flooding, they may want to base their decisions on the 30% or 10% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. Regardless of the forecast value users choose for operations, they should be prepared to deal with either more or less water. Users should remember that even if the 90% exceedance probability forecast is used, there is still a 10% chance of receiving less than this amount. By using the exceedance probability information, users can determine the chances of receiving more or less water for their specific streamflow need.

UPPER YUKON BASIN*



Current Basin Conditions

The Upper Yukon basin snowpack is below to well above average varying from 85 to 152 percent of normal. There are 2 snow courses with record snow water content for May 1st in the area above Whitehorse/Teslin. The Log Cabin snow course near White Pass has 22.5 inches of snow water content while the previous record was 21.3 which occurred in 1993. The Mt. McIntyre B snow course near Whitehorse has 8.9 inches of water content, the former record of 8.7 inches was measured in 1985 and 2011. This area's 8 snow courses average 152 percent of normal.

The Dawson region's 3 snow courses are 85 percent of average. The Stewart/Pelly and White River region's snow courses are in the 130 percent of average range.

The forecasted May through July volume flow for the Yukon River at Eagle is 433 million acre-ft, 120 percent of average.

* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Anchorage.

Upper Yukon Basin

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
					(inches)			
Arrowhead Lake	3675	No Survey					29	7.9
Atlin	2395	5/01/12	0	0.0	---	---	7	2.0
Beaver Creek	2150	4/26/12	4	1.3	13	3.0*	4	1.1
Burns Lake	3650	4/28/12	40	11.3	33	8.9	25	8.3
Burwash Airstrip	2660	4/26/12	0	0.0	11	2.6*	1	0.2
Calumet	4300	4/25/12	36	9.3	24	6.5*	33	7.8
Casino Creek	3495	4/25/12	26	7.0	32	7.2	20	4.6
Chair Mountain	3500	4/26/12	0	0.0	18	4.3	---	---
Duke River	4300	No Survey			---	---	15	3.1
Edwards Lake	2720	4/26/12	34	9.1	29	7.3*	22	6.0
Finlayson Airstrip	3240	4/28/12	9	2.8	13	3.9	9	2.6
Fuller Lake	3695	4/28/12	35	9.8	33	8.3	28	8.1
Grizzly Creek	3200	5/01/12	0	0.0	17	4.0	21	5.2
Hoole River	3400	4/28/12	21	6.1	24	5.5	11	3.0
Jordan Lake	3050	4/29/12	21	4.8	13	3.0*	11	2.9
King Solomon Dome	3540	4/27/12	18	5.2	21	5.5	14	3.8
Log Cabin (B.C.)	2900	4/25/12	50	22.5	44	15.2	38	14.2
MacIntosh	3805	4/25/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	8	1.9
Mayo Airport	1770	4/25/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.6
Meadow Creek	4050	4/25/12	45	15.4	40	11.3*	37	10.6
Midnight Dome	2805	4/27/12	24	6.5	26	6.8	19	4.7
Montana Mountain	3350	No Survey			28	7.5	16	4.2
Morley Lake	2700	4/29/12	15	4.0	15	4.2*	9	2.7
Mount Nansen	3350	No Survey			22	6.2*	2	0.5
Mt. Berdoe	3395	4/25/12	18	5.2	29	7.6*	10	2.4
Mt. McIntyre B	3600	4/27/12	31	8.9	31	8.7	19	4.8
Pelly Farm	1550	4/27/12	5	1.3	---	---	1	0.3
Plata Airstrip	2725	4/26/12	26	8.9	30	8.0*	18	5.5
Rackla Lake	3410	4/26/12	36	9.8	34	8.7	31	8.5
Rose Creek	3550	No Survey			14	3.5		
Russell Lake	3480	4/26/12	39	12.4	42	11.1	25	7.4
Satasha Lake	3530	No Survey			0	0.0	6	1.9
Tagish	3540	4/25/12	18	5.0	29	5.9	15	4.2
Twin Creeks	2950	4/26/12	25	8.2	20	6.0*	20	5.7
White River	2700	No Survey			---	---	---	---
Whitehorse Airport	2300	4/27/12	12	3.7	6	1.6	4	1.0
Williams Creek	3000	No Survey			0	0.0	9	1.9
Withers Lake	3200	4/26/12	38	12.2	42	10.8	30	9.1
estimate*								

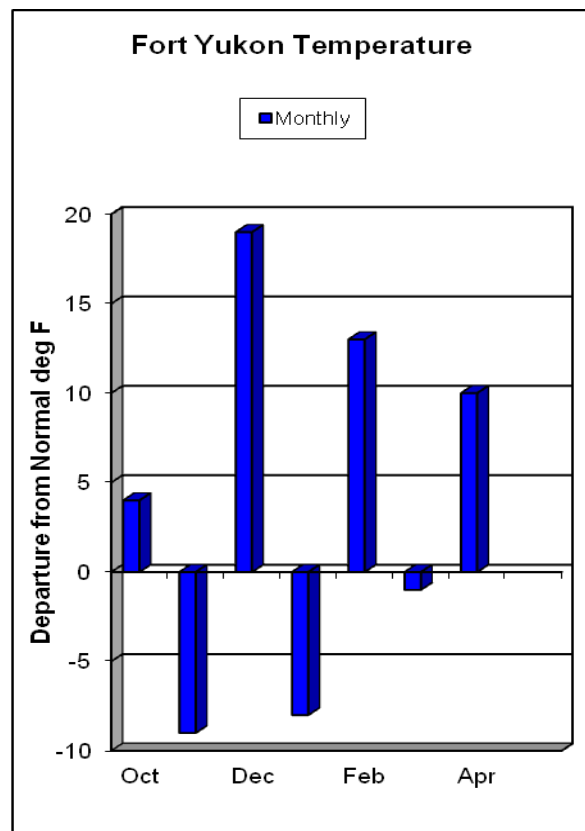
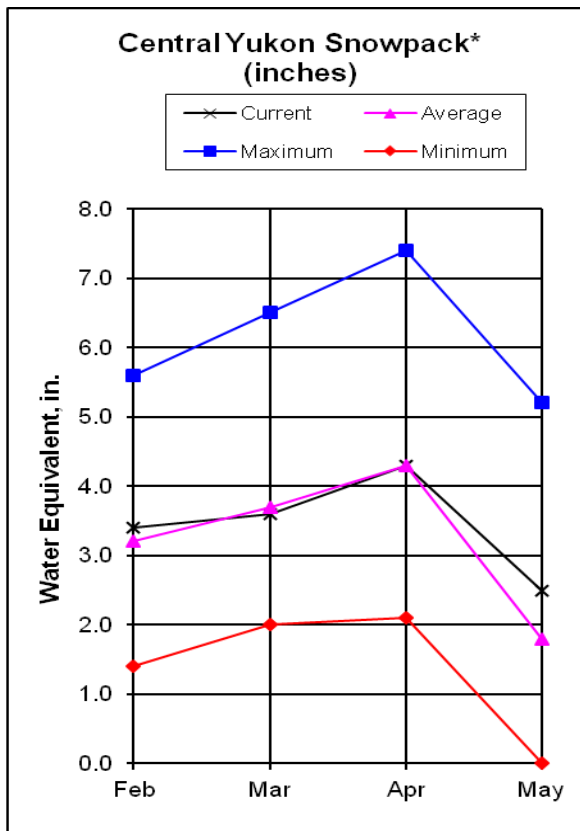
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Yukon River At Eagle	May-Jul	32900	120	39400	43300	35550

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Above Whitehorse/ Tetlin	8	120	152
Dawson	3	71	85
Stewart/ Pelly	13	113	139
White River	5	61	132

CENTRAL YUKON BASIN*



Current Basin Conditions

The Fort Yukon SNOTEL site snow melted out April 27th.

The Upper Nome Creek SNOTEL site has 2 inches of snow with an estimated 0.7 inches of water content.

The snow survey sites measured in the Yukon Charlie showed 2 to 3 inches at most sites with an estimated .7 to 1.1 inches of water content.

The Porcupine River basin in the Yukon Territories is 132 percent of average.

The Snowmelt Runoff Index for the Birch Creek below South Fork is -1.8, much below average.

* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Fairbanks.

Central Yukon Basin

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
					(inches)			
American Creek	1050	4/30/12	8	1.6	---	---	---	---
Cathedral Creek	1800	No Survey			18	5.5	---	---
Coal Creek	1000	No Survey			8	2.1	---	---
Copper Creek	2000	4/27/12	2	0.7	0	0.0	---	---
Crescent Creek	2600	4/27/12	3	1.1	0	0.0	---	---
Eagle Plains	2330	5/01/12	24	5.9	28	6.6	20	4.8
Eagle River	1115	5/01/12	23	5.2	24	5.5	17	4.0
Fort Yukon	430	4/30/12	0	0.0	17	3.5*	---	---
Graphite Lake	600	No Report					---	---
Hess Creek	1000	4/30/12	16	4.2	15	4.5*	9	2.5
Lower Beaver Creek	400	No Report					---	---
Mission Creek	900	No Survey					2	0.5
Old Crow	980	4/25/12	20	5.1			14	3.3
Riff's Ridge	2130	5/01/12	22	5.8	27	6.5	19	4.6
Seven Mile	600	4/30/12	10	3.4	9	2.6	12	3.1
Step Mountain	2850	No Survey			16	4.5	---	---
Thirty Mile	1350	4/30/12	17	6.3	12	3.4*	26	6.7
Three Fingers	3350	No Survey			24	5.7	---	---
Upper Nome Creek	2650	4/30/12	2	0.8*	15	3.5*	---	---
Vunzik Lake	500	No Report					---	---
estimate*								

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Porcupine River nr International Boundary	May-Jul	5600	6000	107	8760	4110
Yukon River near Stevens Village	May-Jul	46800	52200	112	58500	45900

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1st

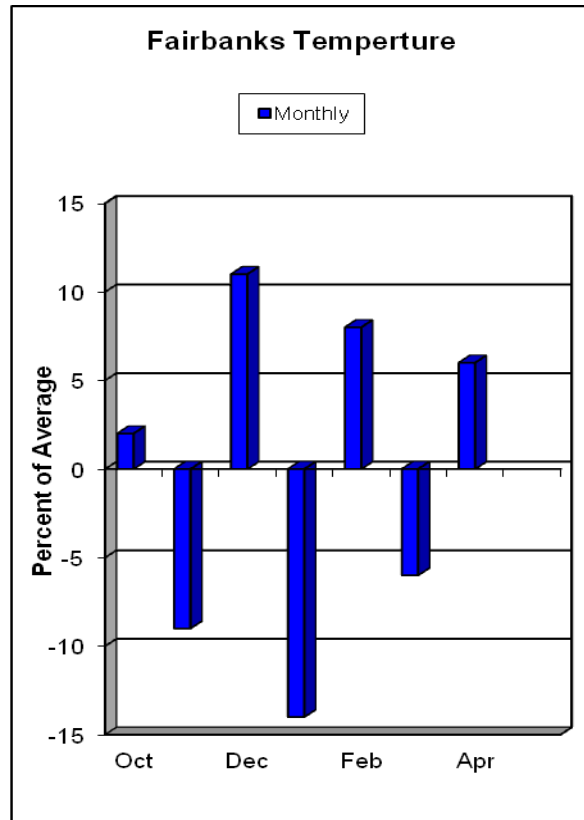
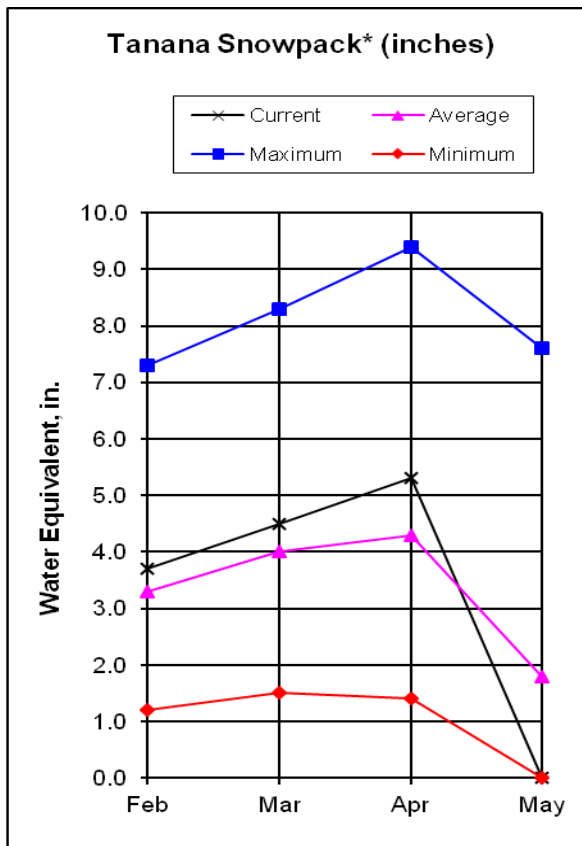
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
American Creek	1050	4/30/12	4.0	---	---	---
Atigun Pass**	4800	4/30/12	7.4	6.9	9.1	81
Chandalar Shelf**	3300	4/30/12	5.7	5.5	6.0	95
Eagle Summit	3650	4/30/12	4.4	5.0	6.4	69
Fort Yukon	430	4/30/12	3.6	3.6	4.5	80
Upper Nome Creek	2650	4/30/12	6.8	9.0	8.1	84

**Wyoming shielded gauge

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Forty Mile	No Report		
Porcupine (Y.T.)	4	91	132
White Mountains	No Report		
Yukon Flats	2	200	136

TANANA BASIN*



Current Basin Conditions

Most of the snow courses below 2000 feet melted out by the 1st of May.

In the Upper Tanana Valley, the Chisana SNOTEL site has 4 inches of snow depth with 1.2 inches of water content, 92 percent of average. The Tok Junction, Paradise Hill and Jatamund Lake snow courses had no snow.

For the mid Tanana Valley/Delta Junction area, the Fielding Lake snow course has 31 inches of snow depth with 9.9 inches of water content, 82 percent of average. The Granite Creek SNOTEL site was snow free April 28th.

The Chena Basin dropped to 52 percent of average and the Chatanika Basin dropped to 51 percent of average snow water content. Most of the Lower Tanana Valley snow courses were snow free by the 1st of May.

South of Fairbanks, on the north side of the Alaska Range the Kantishna SNOTEL site has 5 inches of snow depth with an estimated 2.0 inches of water content, the Kantishna snow course had no snow.

The precipitation gauge at Kantishna has caught 5.2 inches, or 84 percent of average since October 1st. The Caribou Creek at Chatanika Snowmelt Runoff Index is -2.0, much below average.

The forecasted May through July volume flow for the Chena River near Two River is 250 thousand acre-feet, 98 percent of average.

* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Fairbanks or Delta Junction.

Tanana Basin

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev.	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
			(inches)					
Bonanza Creek	1150	4/30/12	0	0.0*	0	0.0*	11	2.8
Caribou Creek	1250	4/30/12	0	0.0*	0	0.0	6	1.7
Caribou Snow Pillow	900	4/30/12	0	0.0*	0	0.0	6	1.7
Chisana	3320	4/30/12	6	1.7	12	4.0	---	---
Cleary Summit	2230	4/30/12	16	5.2	25	6.9	22	5.9
Colorado Creek	700	4/30/12	0	0.0	12	3.4*	9	2.3
Fairbanks FO	450	4/30/12	0	0.0	9	2.4	3	0.8
Faith Creek	1900	4/30/12	3	0.9	16	4.5	11	2.7
Fielding Lake	3000	5/01/12	31	9.9	25	7.8	39	12.0
Fort Greely	1500	4/30/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.9
French Creek	1800	4/30/12	9	2.3	15	4.1	14	4.1
Gerstle River	1200	5/02/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	1.5
Granite Creek	1240	4/30/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	1.8
Jatahmund Lake	2180	5/01/12	0	0.0	15	4.0*	---	---
Kantishna	1550	4/30/12	5	1.7*	13	4.0*	15	3.1
Lake Minchumina	730	4/28/12	0	0.0	10	2.2	5	1.3
Little Chena Bottom	1460	5/01/12	0	0.0	12	3.7*	9	3.0
Little Chena Ridge	2000	4/30/12	0	0.0	9	2.4	16	4.5
Mentasta Pass	2430	5/01/12	8	2.4	13	3.8	16	4.8
Monument Creek	1850	4/30/12	0	0.0	13	4.5	14	3.5
Mt. Ryan	2800	4/30/12	8	2.7	18	4.4	24	6.3
Munson Ridge	3100	4/30/12	22	8.2	30	7.8	36	9.7
Paradise Hill	2200	5/01/12	0	0.0	11	3.0*	0	0.0
Rock Creek Bottom	2250	4/30/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	8	2.2
Rock Creek Ridge	2600	4/30/12	1	0.3	10	3.1	14	4.9
Shaw Creek Flats	980	4/30/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.8
Teuchet Creek	1640	4/30/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	8	2.1
Tok Junction	1650	5/01/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.9
Upper Chena	3000	5/01/12	15	4.8	29	7.8*	25	7.5
Upper Chena Pillow	2850	4/30/12	0	0.0	10	3.4	22	6.9
estimate *								

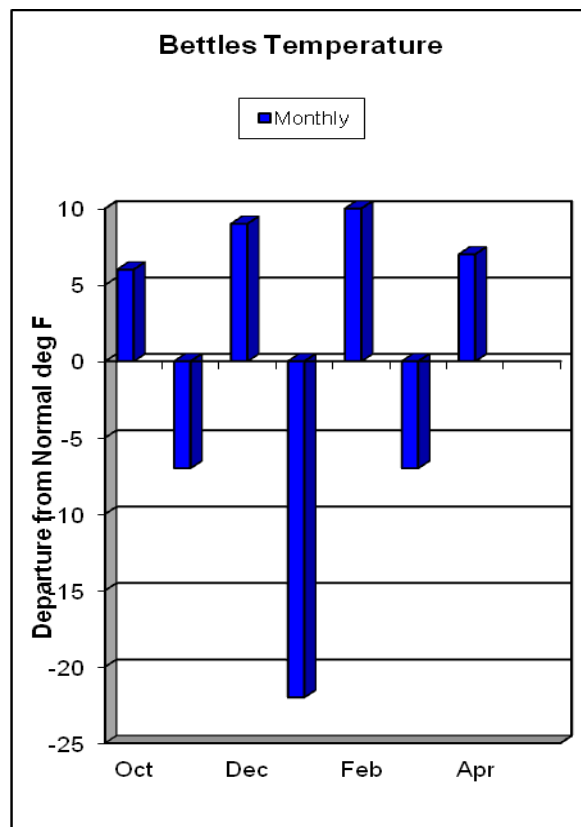
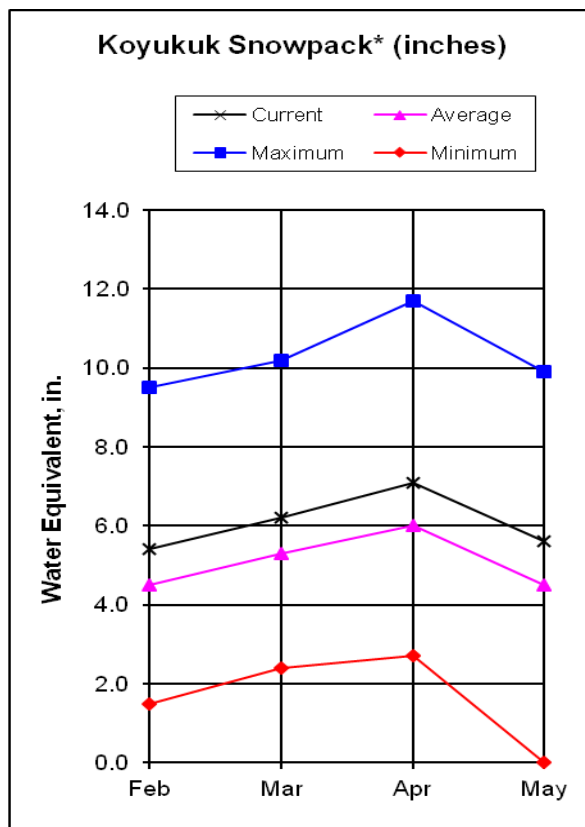
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Tanana River at Fairbanks	May-Jul	6680	107	7160	8140	6190
Little Chena R. near Fairbanks	May-Jul	72	97	70	94	48
Chena River near Two Rivers	May-Jul	255	98	250	348	172
Salcha River near Salchaket	May-Jul	595	90	535	725	375
Tanana River at Nenana	May-Jul	8470	101	8520	9730	7320

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Chatanika	4	54	51
Chena Basin	11	68	56
Lower Tanana Valley	6	19	14
Mid Tanana Valley (Delta Junction)	5	127	65
Upper Tanana Valley (Tok)	6	25	58

WESTERN INTERIOR BASINS*



Current Basin Conditions

Koyukuk

The Bettles SNOTEL site has 19 inches of snow depth with 7.2 inches of water content, 126 percent of average. The precipitation gauge has received 8.5 inches since October 1st, 112 percent of average. The Coldfoot SNOTEL site has 14 inches of snow depth with 5.4 inches of water content, 87 percent of average. North of Coldfoot on the Dalton Highway, the Disaster Creek snow course has 14 inches of snow depth with 4.4 inches of water content, 169 percent of average. Near Galena, the Colville Bend snow course has 21 inches of snow depth with an estimated 7.5 inches of water content. Last year, Colville Bend had 17 inches of depth with 5.5 inches of water content.

The Koyukuk River at Hughes' Snowmelt Runoff Index is +1.3, above average.

Kuskokwim

The Lower Aniak snow course has 14 inches of snow with an estimated 5.0 inches of water content, last year there was no snow.

The expected volume flow for the Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek for the May through June time frame is 10,500,000 acre-ft, 110 percent of average

Lower Yukon

Most of the Lower Yukon snow courses near Galena retained their snow through April with Pike Trap Lake, Little Mud River and Lower Nowitna snow courses reporting no snow. Nine Mile Island snow course has 27 inches with an estimated 9.5 inches of water content.

The snow courses in the Innoko Wildlife Refuge were not measured this year.

* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Anchorage.

Western Interior Basins

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
			(inches)					
Koyukuk								
Bettles Field	640	4/30/12	19	7.2	17	4.9	13	3.4
Bonanza Forks	1200	4/30/12	10	4.0	7	2.2	16	4.1
Cloverleaf	170	5/01/12	15	5.5	15	5.0	---	---
Coldfoot	1040	4/30/12	16	5.6	12	4.7	21	5.3
Colville Bend	170	5/01/12	21	7.5	17	5.5	---	---
Disaster Creek	1550	4/30/12	14	4.4	0	0.0	11	2.6
Huggins Creek	290	5/01/12	9	3.3	15	4.8	---	---
JR Slough	160	5/01/12	21	7.8	21	6.5	---	---
Kaldoyeit	750	5/03/12	12	4.5	22	6.0	---	---
Kanuti-Chalatna	670	5/03/12	0	0.0	16	5.3	---	---
Kanuti-Kilolitna	550	5/03/12	2	0.0	15	5.0	---	---
Minnkokut	580	5/03/12	9	3.6	20	6.5	---	---
Nolitna	560	5/03/12	0	0.0	11	3.7	---	---
Table Mountain	2200	4/30/12	19	4.9	12	3.6	19	4.3
Taiholman	540	5/03/12	0	0.0	7	2.3	---	---
Treat Island	190	5/03/12	9	3.3	19	6.0	---	---
Kuskokwim								
Aniak Farm	80	No Report			0	0.0	---	---
Holitna River	260	No Report			3	1.0	---	---
Holokuk River	370	No Report			0	0.0	---	---
Johnny Slu	180	5/02/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Kogruluk River	490	No Report			14	4.7	---	---
Lake Minchumina	730	4/28/12	0	0.0	10	2.2	5	1.3
Lower Aniak	164	5/02/12	14	5.0	0	0.0	---	---
McGrath	340	No Report			---	---	9	2.8
Middle Kuskokwim	297	5/02/12	14	5.2	3	1.0	---	---
N. Fork Kuskokwim	512	5/02/12	11	4.2	13	4.3	---	---
Nixon Fork Kuskokwim	510	No Report			17	5.5	---	---
Purkeypile Mine	2025	No Report					10	2.5
Upper Aniak estimate *	780	No Report			6	2.0	---	---
Lower Yukon								
Deer Creek	195	5/02/12	21	8.0	9	3.0	---	---
Grouch Creek	220	No Survey			0	0.0	---	---
Holikachuk	100	No Survey			0	0.0	---	---
Horsefly Creek	180	No Survey			0	0.0	---	---
Innoko Cabin	200	No Survey					---	---
Little Mud River	855	5/03/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Lower Nowitna River	205	5/03/12	0	0.0	7	2.3	---	---
Menotl Creek	380	No Survey			0	0.0	---	---
Middle Innoko	150	No Survey			25	8.3	---	---
Nine Mile Island	140	4/30/12	27	9.5	21	6.5	---	---
Pike Trap Lake	130	4/30/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Squirrel Creek	150	4/30/12	15	5.7	15	4.6	---	---
Upper Innoko	180	No Survey			0	0.0	---	---
Wapoo Hills	220	No Survey			26	8.6	---	---
Yankee Slough	100	No Survey			0	0.0	---	---
Yetna River estimate*	120	No Survey			0	0.0*	---	---

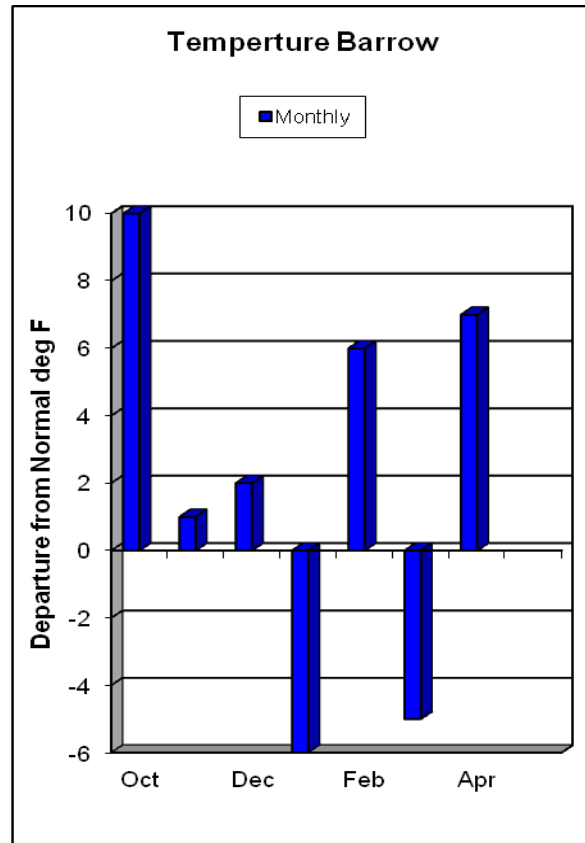
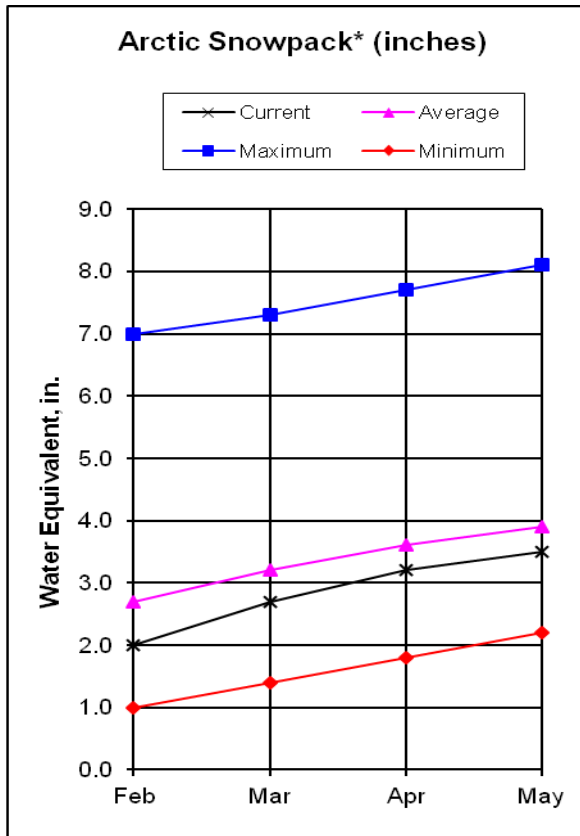
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek	May-Jun	9550	10500	110	15300	5670

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Koyukuk	9	87	69
Upper Kuskokwim	3	192	50
Lower Yukon	1	190	157

ARCTIC AND KOTZEBUE SOUND*



Current Basin Conditions

Arctic

The Atigun Pass SNOTEL site has received 7.3 inches of precipitation since October 1st or 80 percent of average. It has 50 inches of snow on the ground.

The Imnaviat Creek SNOTEL site has recorded 2.7 inches of precipitation this water year which is 63% of average. It has 27 inches of snow on the ground. The Sagwon SNOTEL site has received 2.8 inches of precipitation since October 1st, 76 percent of average and has 17 inches of snow on the ground.

Barrow has received an estimated 3.3 inches of precipitation since October 1st, 97 percent of average.

Kotzebue

The Kelly Station SNOTEL site at the confluence of the Noatak River and Kelly River is reporting 5 inches of snow depth and 1.5 inches of water content.

The Red Dog snow course was measured the 12th of April, it had 19 inches of snow depth with 4.8 inches of water content, 63 percent of average. Last year there was 39 inches with 13.1 inches of water content.

The Kugarak Cabin snow course has 9 inches of snow depth with an estimated 3.0 inches of water content.

* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Anchorage.

Arctic and Kotzebue Sound

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
			(inches)					
Arctic								
Umiat Airport	265	4/16/12	26	5.0	22	4.1	---	---
Kotzebue Sound								
Kelly Station	310	4/30/12	5	1.5*	---	---	---	---
Kagarak Cabin	50	5/01/12	9	3.3	New		---	---
Mauneluk River	360	5/01/12	0	0.0	New		---	---
Red Dog	950	4/12/12	19	4.8	39	13.1	29	7.6
Selawik Hot Springs	462	5/01/12	0	0.0	New		---	---

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Arctic						
Atigun Camp	3400	4/30/12	3.8	4.3	5.5	69
Atigun Pass	4800	4/30/12	7.4	6.9	9.1	81
Barrow	25	4/30/12	3.3*	---	3.4	97
Imnaviat Creek	3050	4/30/12	2.7	5.2	4.3	63
Prudhoe Bay	30	4/30/12	3.6	4.4	4.1	82
Sagwon	1000	4/30/12	2.8	3.5	4.1	68
Kotzebue Sound						
Kelly Station	310	4/30/12	3.7	---	---	---
Kivalina	50	No Report		6.2	---	---
Red Dog**	950	4/30/12	2.9	6.3	7.0	41

** Wyoming Shielded Gauge

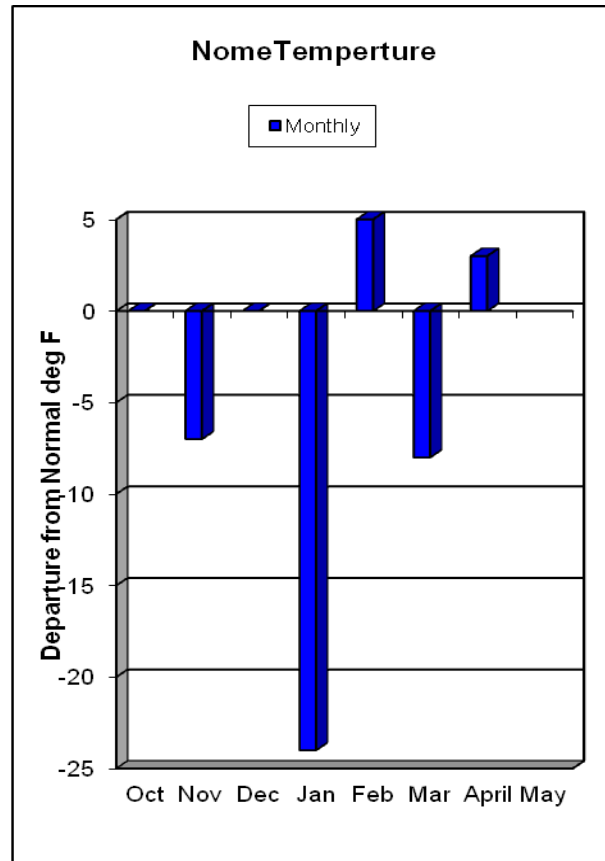
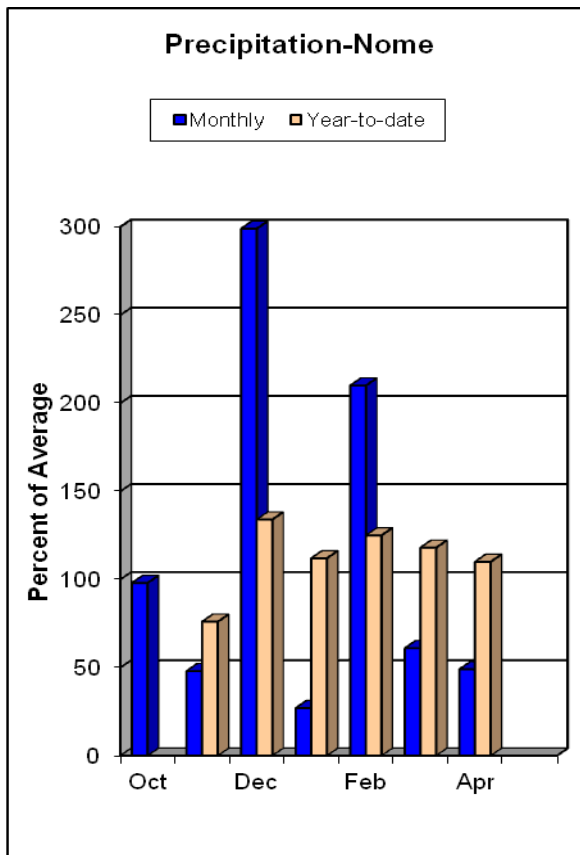
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Sagvanirktok River near Pump Station 3	May- Jul	685	1050	105	1050	485
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse	May- Jul	795	795	100	1130	560

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Arctic Coast	2	85	92
Dalton Highway	4	84	73

NORTON SOUND/SOUTHWEST DELTA/BRISTOL BAY*



October and December Departure is 0

Current Basin Conditions

Norton Sound

The Pargon Creek SNOTEL site, northeast of Nome has received 5.6 inches of precipitation since October 1st, 108 percent of normal. The Johnson Camp SNOTEL site, in the "Blow Hole" east of Nome has 29 inches of snow on the ground.

The central and eastern portion of the Seward Peninsula, the Independence Creek snow course has 6 inches of snow depth with an estimated water content of 2.0 inches and Quartz Creek had 10 inches of snow depth with 3.3 inches of water content. This area is extremely wind blown.

Southwest Delta

The Lower Aniak snow course has 14 inches of snow on the ground with an estimated 5.0 inches of water content.

Bristol Bay

Most of the snow has melted in this region with Brooks Camp reporting no snow. The Three Forks site had a small amount of snow left May 1st.

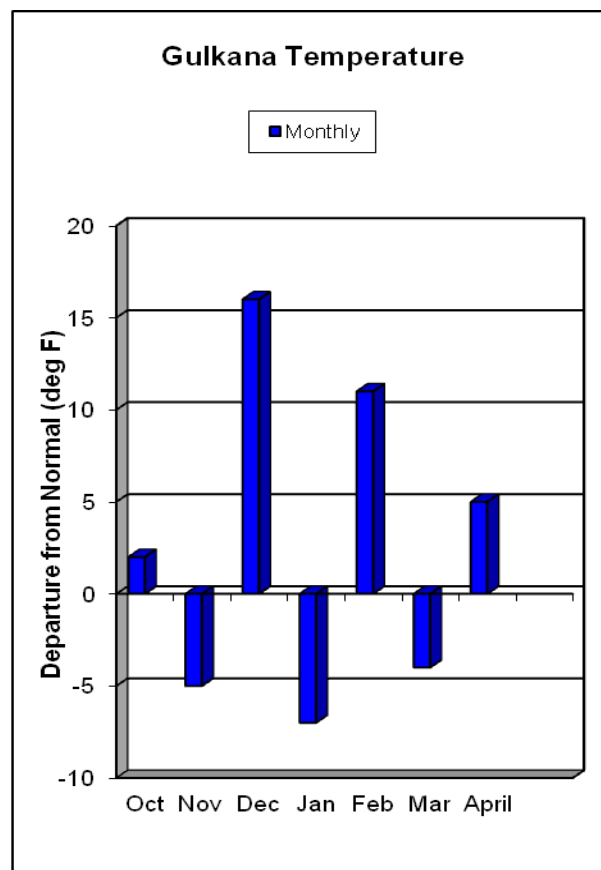
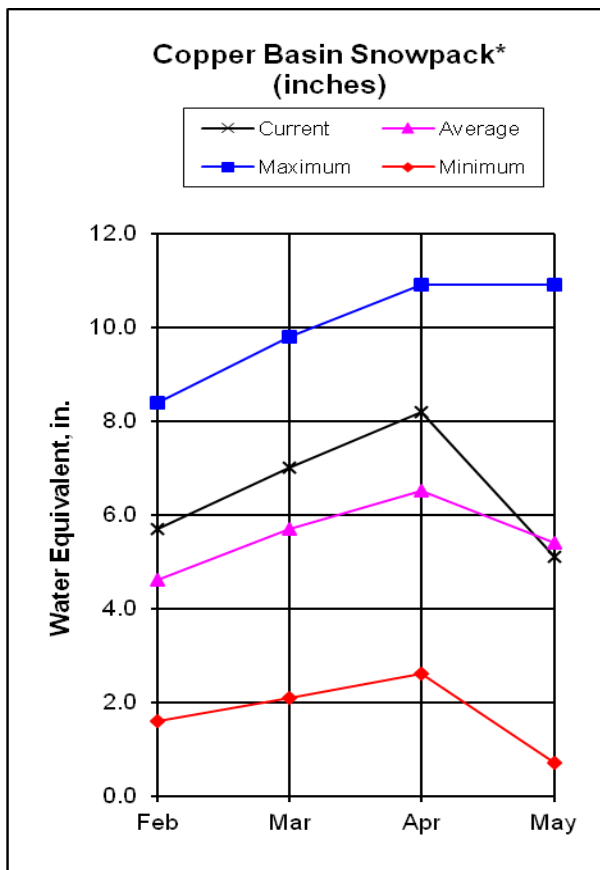
* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Anchorage.

NORTON SOUND/SOUTHWEST DELTA/BRISTOL BAY*

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
			(inches)					
Bristol Bay								
Port Alsworth	270	No Report			0	0.0*	0	0.0
Upper Twin Lakes	2000	No Report			---	---	---	---
Norton Sound								
Akiluk River	205	4/30/12	6	2.0*	New		---	---
Independence Creek	255	4/30/12	6	2.0*	New		---	---
Johnson's Camp	25	4/30/12	29	7.0*	18	4.5*	---	---
Pargon Creek	100	4/30/12	25*	6.0*	22*	5.0*	---	---
Quartz Creek	655	5/01/12	10	3.3*	New		---	---
Rocky Point	500	No Report			24*	5.5*	---	---
Shaktoolik	20	5/01/12	0	0.0	New		---	---
Upper Tag	1415	5/01/12	1	0.3*	New		---	---
Upper Ungalik	1290	5/01/12	7	2.3	New		---	---

COPPER BASIN*



Current Basin Conditions

The snow water contents for the 5 regions of the basin are above average to below average, 125 percent to 78 percent of average.

The four sites measured in Chugach Range are 125 percent of average, with Kenny Lake snow course having no snow. With 33.2 inches of water content, the Worthington Glacier snow course dropped to 4th highest on record with 1977 having the most recorded, 98 inches of snow depth and 44.2 inches of water content.

The 2 sites used to index the Copper Basin on the west side in the Talkeetna Mountains are 136 percent of average. This includes Sheep Mountain at 169 percent and Square Lake at estimated 103 percent of average.

The Basin Floor snow courses are 103 percent of average with the Lake Louise snow course having 13 inches of snow depth with 4.5 inches of water content, 155 percent of average.

On the south side of the Wrangell Mountains, the May Creek SNOTEL site has no snow as of April 28th.

The 3 Alaska Range snow courses are 78 percent of normal with the Mentasta Pass snow course at 50 percent.

The Gulkana River forecasted volume flow for the May through July time period is 102 percent of average, 455,000 acre-feet of water, an acre-ft being 326,000 gallons of water.

* For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Glennallen, Delta Junction or Anchorage.

Copper Basin

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth (inches)	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Chistochina	1950	5/01/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	1.2
Haggard Creek	2540	5/01/12	11	3.5	15	4.5	18	5.2
Kenny Lake School	1300	4/30/12	0	0.0	6	1.3	3	0.9
Lake Louise	2400	5/02/12	13	4.5	12	3.9	12	2.9
Little Nelchina	2650	5/02/12	15	5.2	13	4.5	13	3.6
May Creek	1610	4/30/12	0	0.0	7	1.7	0	0.0
Mentasta Pass	2430	5/01/12	8	2.4	13	3.8	16	4.8
Mt.Eyak	1405	4/30/12	85	42.5*	61	24.9	58	23.1
Paxson	2650	5/01/12	21	6.2	20	5.2	22	6.9
Tazlina	1225	4/30/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Tolsona Creek	2000	4/30/12	6	2.2	9	2.6	5	2.1
Tsaina River	1650	5/01/12	43	18.4	29	9.6	41	14.6
Upper Tsaina	1750	4/30/12	57	25.5	43	14.7	53	21.2
Worthington Glacier	2100	5/01/12	77	38.2*	62	23.2	61	24.6

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Gulkana River at Sourdough	May-Jul	445	455	102	570	335

PRECIPITATION DATA

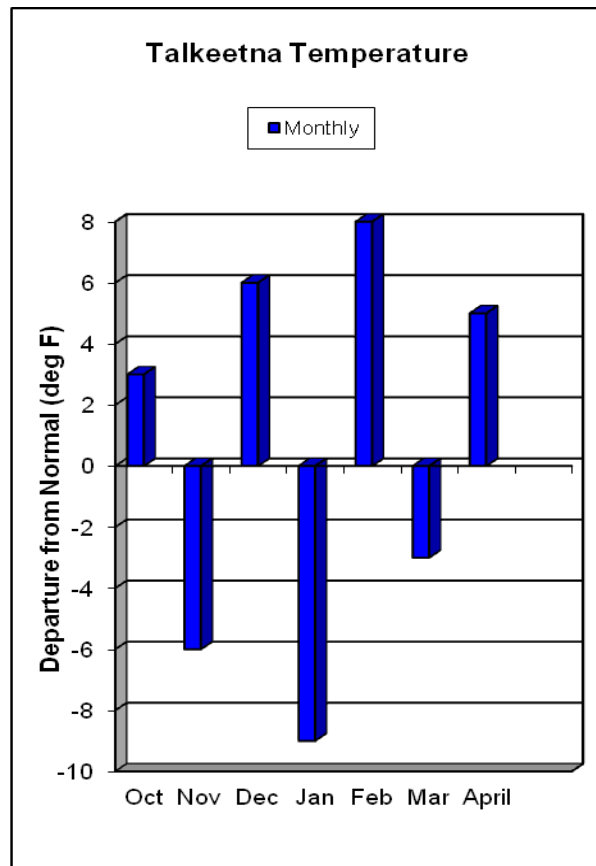
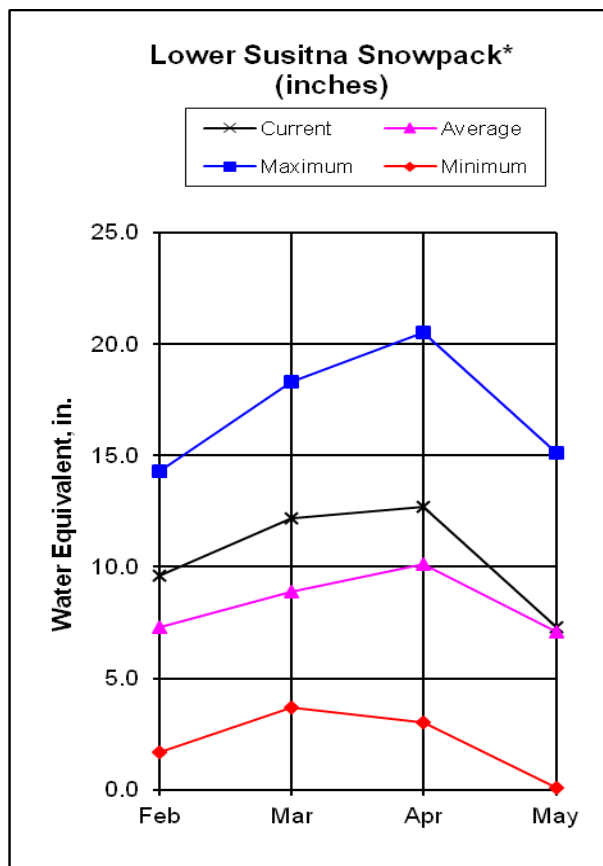
INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (ft.)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
May Creek	1610	4/30/12	5.2	4.3	6.5	80
Strawberry Reef	50	4/30/12	55.8	48.2	51.2	109
Upper Tsaina	1750	4/30/12	28.4	18.8	29.3	97

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Alaska Range	3	110	78
Basin Floor	6	99	103
Chugach Range	4	158	125
Talkeetna Mountains	2	0	136
Wrangle Mountains	1	5	100

MATANUSKA – SUSITNA BASINS*



Current Basin Conditions

The Susitna Basin regions range from below average, 85 percent in the Peters Hills, to above average, 112 percent of average in the Little Susitna basin. On the north side of the Peters Hills, the Tokositna Valley SNOTEL site has 39 inches of snow depth with 14.7 inches of water content, 86 percent of average.

The snow courses at higher elevation in the Little Susitna basin snow water remained essentially the same as last month with the Fishhook Basin snow course, above the A-Frame, at Hatcher Pass having 58 inches of snow depth with 23.6 inches of water content, 107 percent of average.

With 6.6 inches of water content, Sheep Mountain snow course continues this month to be the basin's highest percentage of snow water content with 169 percent of average. This is Sheep Mountain's 4th highest water content measured with the record of 9.5 inches measured in 1980.

The Snowmelt Runoff Indexes for the Susitna Valley are as follows with +3 much above average and -3 much below average: Susitna River near Gold Creek, +1.0, Chulitna River near Talkeetna, -1.3, Deshka River at mouth near Willow, -2.0, Montana Creek at Parks Highway, -1.3, Willow Creek near Willow, +1.0 and Skwentna River at Skwentna, -1.1.

The Little Susitna May through July volume flow forecast is 93,000 acre-ft, 111 percent of average.

* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Wasilla.

Matanuska – Susitna Basins

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
					(inches)			
Archangel Road	2200	5/01/12	39	15.6	31	10.7	37	14.9
Bentalit Lodge	150	4/30/12	8	2.6	13	4.2	---	---
Blueberry Hill	1200	5/01/12	34	13.2	44	14.9	43	17.4
Chelatna Lake	1450	5/02/12	35	13.0	23	8.1	33	10.9
Denali View	700	5/01/12	22	8.7	32	11.1	30	12.3
Dunkle Hills	2700	No Survey			26	8.5	---	---
Dutch Hills	3100	5/02/12	69	27.0	57	17.5	74	28.7
E. Fork Chulitna	1800	5/01/12	35	13.3	43	12.3	44	15.7
Fishhook Basin	3300	5/01/12	58	23.6	47	15.6	61	22.1
Fog Lakes	2120	4/30/12	22*	5.8*	18	4.5	22	5.7
Halfway Slough	350	5/01/12	0	0.0	1	0.3	---	---
Independence Mine	3550	5/01/12	69	28.9	58	18.5	65	27.1
Independence Mine	3550	5/01/12	49	20.5	48	15.2	50	21.1
Lake Louise	2400	5/02/12	13	4.5	13	3.9	12	2.9
Little Susitna	1700	5/01/12	24	9.4	21	6.4	22	9.2
Monahan Flat	2710	4/30/12	37	9.4	30	6.8	34	8.7
Moose Creek Ranch	450	5/02/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Nugget Bench	2010	5/02/12	31	12.0	32	10.5	46	15.3
Point Mackenzie	250	4/30/12	11	4.0	0	0.0	3	0.8
Ramsdyke Creek	2220	5/02/12	45	18.8	44	15.0	57	21.9
Sheep Mountain	2900	5/02/12	16	6.6	0	0.0	14	3.9
Susitna Valley High	375	4/30/12	14	5.2	13	3.2	14	5.7
Talkeetna Airport	350	5/01/12	8	3.1	14	4.1	16	5.4
Tokositna Valley	850	5/02/12	39	14.2	45	14.1	43	17.0
Tokositna Valley	850	4/30/12	39	14.7	44	14.1	---	---
Willow Airstrip	200	5/01/12	19	6.5	14	4.6	13	4.1
Estimate*								

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Little Susitna River near Palmer	May-Jul	84	93	111	112	74
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	May-Jul	1590	1640	103	1890	1390

PRECIPITATION DATA

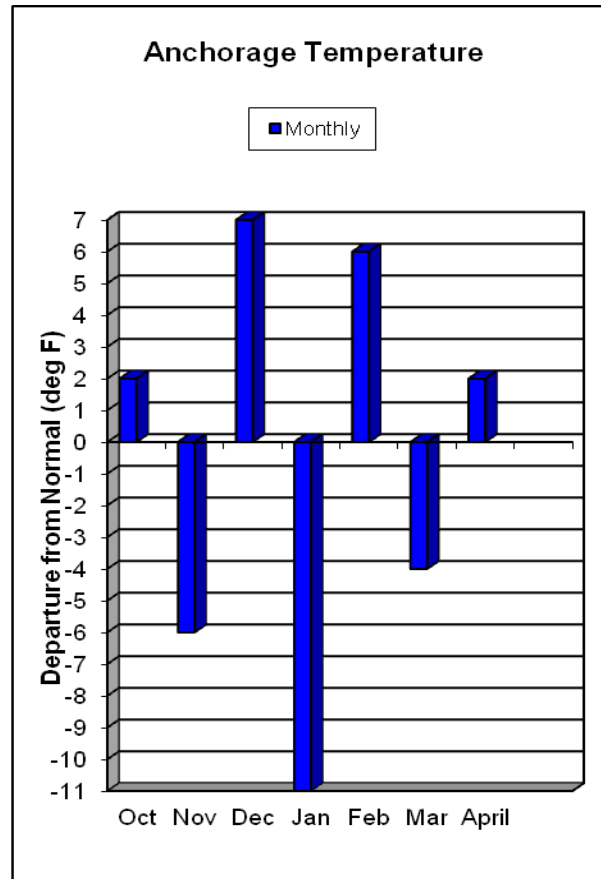
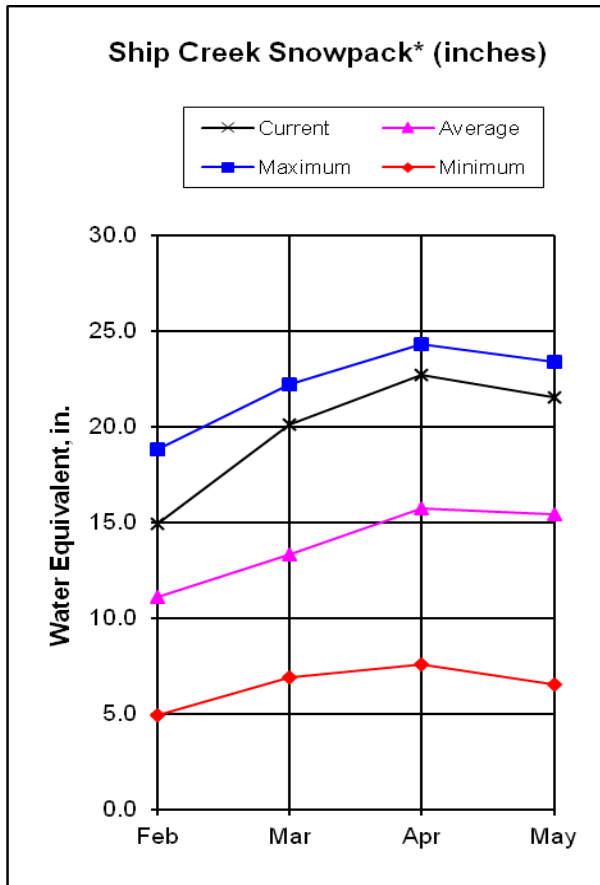
INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (ft.)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Independence Mine	3550	5/01/12	23.6	16.8	29.1	81
Monahan Flat	2710	4/30/12	9.2	6.9	9.3	99
Susitna Valley High	375	4/30/12	13.3	11.8	13.3	100
Tokositna Valley	850	4/30/12	23.4	21.5	22.1	106

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Lower Susitna	4	120	104
Matanuska/Little Susitna	6	171	112
Peters Hills	6	115	85
Upper Susitna	5	109	92

NORTHERN COOK INLET*



Current Basin Conditions

For May, this region has 2 snow courses with record high snow water contents.

The Moraine SNOTEL site above Eklutna Lake has 27 inches of snow depth with 14.1 inches of water content, 261 percent of average, a new record high snow water content. The previous record was in 1960 with 46 inches of snow depth and 12.3 inches of water content. The Moraine snow course record began in 1951 and was discontinued in 1974. The site was re-established in 2003 as a SNOTEL site and has had a continuous record with data being reported hourly.

To the southeast, at the end of Turnagain Arm, the Portage Valley snow course has 64 inches of snow with 30.7 inches of water content, 334 percent of average. This is a record high snow water content with the previous high in 1999 having 30.2 inches. The record began in 1981. The Anchorage Hillside SNOTEL site has 39 inches of snow depth with 15.7 inches of water content, 155 percent of average, 1987 and 1988 exceeded this year's May water content. The Snowmelt Runoff Index for Campbell Creek near Spenard is +3.0 and Glacier Creek near Girdwood is +2.2.

The May-July volume flow forecast for Ship Creek near Anchorage is 69,000 acre-ft, 122 percent of average.

* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Wasilla or Anchorage.

Northern Cook Inlet

SNOW PACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth (inches)	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Anchorage Hillside	2080	4/30/12	39	15.7	22	6.9	29	9.6
Indian Pass	2350	4/30/12	69	33.0	55	17.8	72	26.8
Kincaid Park	250	4/30/12	9	2.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
Moraine	2100	4/30/12	27	14.1	8	3.0	23	7.0
Mt. Alyeska	1540	4/30/12	75	33.6	67	21.7	104	41.3
Point Mackenzie	200	4/30/12	11	4.0	0	0.0	3	0.8
Portage Valley	50	4/30/12	64	30.7	2	1.1	19	9.2
South Campbell Creek estimate*	1200	5/02/12	12	4.3*	7	3.1	13	4.3

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Ship Creek near Anchorage	May-Jul	57	70	123	83	57

PRECIPITATION DATA

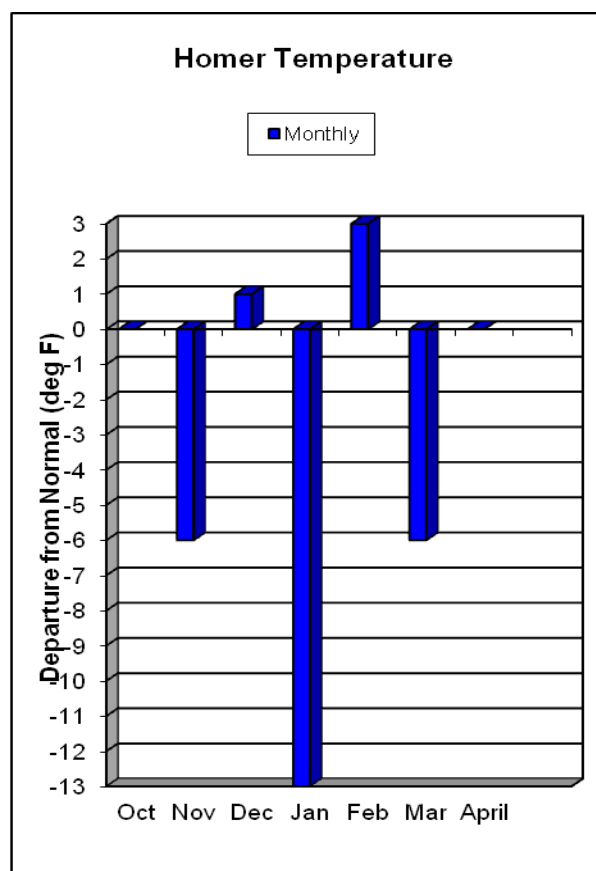
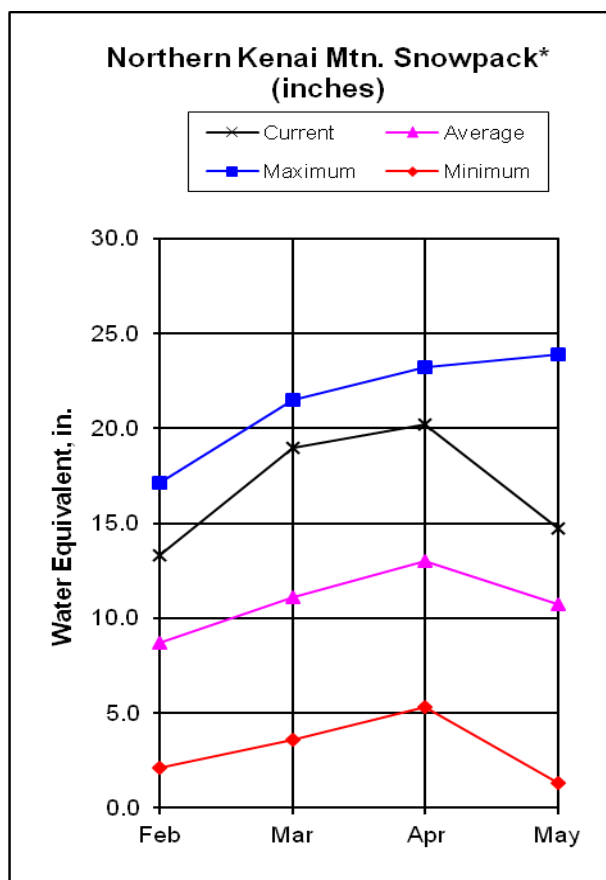
INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Anchorage Hillside	2080	4/30/12	22.3	14.3	14.4	155
Indian Pass	2350	4/30/12	39.0	24.8	27.8	140
Moraine	2100	4/30/12	16.3	9.4	10.7	152
Mt. Alyeska	1540	4/30/12	51.2	46.0	45.3	113
Point Mackenzie	200	4/30/12	10.9	6.7	8.6	127

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Campbell Creek	3	222	164
Ship Creek	3	232	149
Turnagain Arm	3	228	119

KENAI PENINSULA*



October and April Departures are 0

Current Basin Conditions

The 5 snow courses in the Ninilchik Dome area are 115 percent of average with the Anchor River Divide SNOTEL site reporting 36 inches of snow depth with 12.9 inches of water content, 115 percent of average.

Across Kachemak Bay the Port Graham SNOTEL site has continued its winter long high snow record with 35 inches of snow depth and 15.7 inches of water content. The maximum water content for the year was the 10th of April where the snow depth was 56 inches with 21.5 inches of water content.

The Snowmelt Runoff Indexes for the streams on the north end of the Peninsula are as follows: Six Mile Creek near Hope, +1.7, Resurrection Creek near Hope, +1.7, Grouse Creek near Seward, +1.7. For the streams near Homer: Anchor River near Anchor Point, +1.0, Deep Creek near Ninilchik, +1.2, Ninilchik near Ninilchik, +0.9 and Fritz Creek near Homer, +1.5.

The May-July volume flow forecast for Kenai River is 113 percent of average, 1,010,000 acre-ft.

* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Homer.

Kenai Peninsula

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
					(inches)			
Anchor River Divide	1650	4/30/12	36	12.9	25	8.5	29	10.9
Bertha Creek	950	5/03/02	56	23.8	38	13.4*	49	18.2
Bridge Creek	1300	5/01/12	28	11.4	20	6.0	37	12.3
Cooper Lake	1200	4/30/12	45	18.4	33	11.0	34	12.3
Demonstration Forest	780	5/01/02	20	7.5	0	0.0	21	7.4
Eagle Lake	1400	4/30/12	34	14.1	16	6.4	31	11.3
Exit Glacier	400	4/30/12	53	20.4	24	8.5	32	13.3
Grandview	1100	4/30/12	72	37.5	68	22.7	77	30.8
Grouse Creek Divide	700	4/30/12	56	20.8	26	10.0	44	16.6
Jean Lake	620	4/30/12	2	0.8	0	0.0	2	0.5
Kachemak Creek	1660	4/30/12	52	32.3*	22	9.4*	---	---
Kenai Moose Pens	300	4/30/12	12	5.2	1	0.3	1	0.3
Kenai Summit	1390	5/03/12	31	13.2	24	8.2*	30	11.4
McNeil Canyon	1320	4/30/12	26	12.9	10	4.4	21	8.2
Moose Pass	700	5/03/12	20	7.2	0	0.0	7	2.5
Nuka Glacier	1250	4/30/12	113	53.0*	72	22.1*	93	42.4
Port Graham	300	4/30/12	35	15.7	0	0.0	10	4.0
Snug Harbor Road	500	4/30/12	11	3.8	0	0.0	12	2.5
Summit Creek	1400	4/30/12	37	15.1	19	7.0	18	7.3
Turnagain Pass	1880	4/30/12	89	45.9	77	29.5	95	40.1

estimate *

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	May-Jul	890	1010	113	1130	895

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

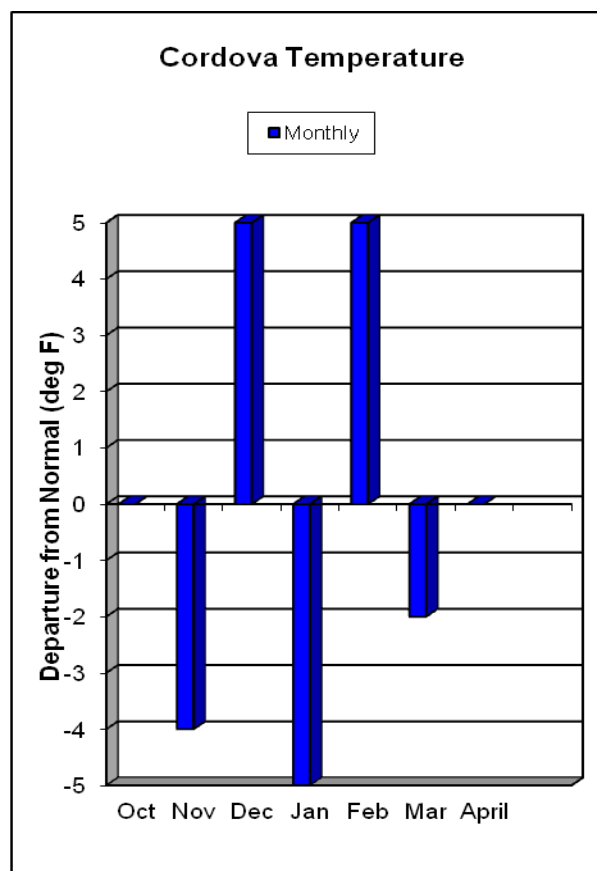
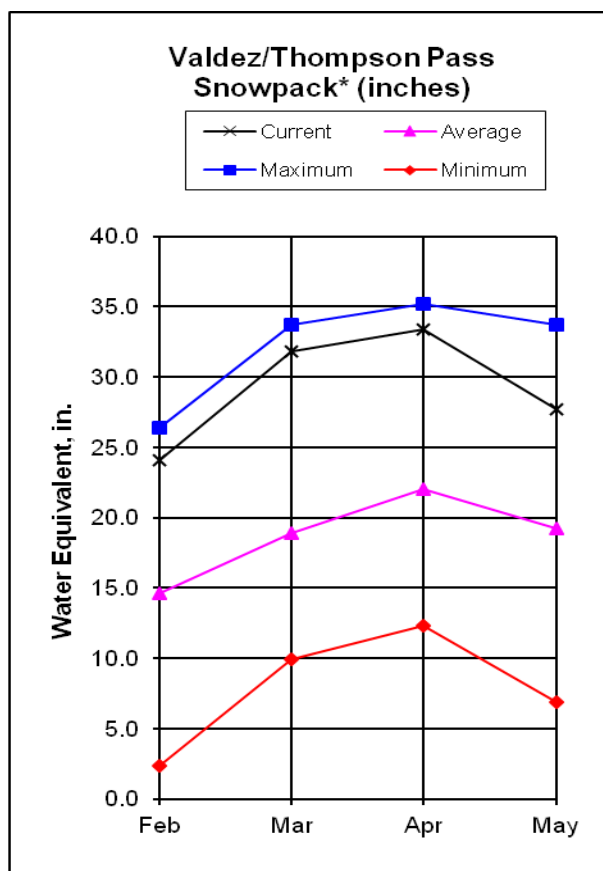
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Anchor River Divide	1650	4/30/12	18.2	19.8	20.4	92
Cooper Lake	1200	4/30/12	29.8	24.8	25.1	119
Grandview	1100	4/30/12	51.0	46.0	43.1	118
Grouse Creek Divide	700	4/30/12	43.8	33.6	39.8	110
Kachemak Creek	1660	4/30/12	41.1	38.3	43.8	94
Kenai Moose Pens	300	4/30/12	10.2	7.5	9.2	111
McNeil Canyon	1320	4/30/12	17.0	15.6	17.2	99
Middle Fork Bradley**	2300	4/30/12	35.6	28.1	37.3	95
Nuka Glacier**	1250	4/30/12	55.7	44.9	61.1	91
Port Graham	300	4/30/12	53.2	40.0	44.6	119
Summit Creek	1400	4/30/12	25.6	15.8	17.7	145
Turnagain Pass	1880	4/30/12	47.8	42.7	45.8	104

**Wyoming shielded gauge

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Bradley Lake/Southern Kenai Peninsula	3	320	186
Ninilchik Dome	5	224	115
Northern Kenai Mountains	10	200	122
Northern Kenai Flats	1	250	250

WESTERN GULF*



October and April Departures are 0

Current Basin Conditions

The Worthington Glacier snow course has an estimated 38.2 inches of snow water content, this has been exceeded 3 previous years with 42.2 inches of water content measured in 1977. Low River had significant melt and now has the 5th highest on record with 1977 having 24.3 inches of water content.

The SNOTEL site at Mt. Eyak reports 85 inches of snow depth with an estimated 43.0 inches of snow water content, 186 percent of average. This is a record high with a short site history, beginning only in 2005.

Sugarloaf Mountain SNOTEL site, perched above the Solomon Gulch Hydroelectric across from the town of Valdez at 550 ft of elevation, reported 88 inches of snow depth and 37.0 inches of water content, 134% of average.

The Strawberry Reef SNOTEL site just east of the mouth of the Copper River has received 55.8 inches of precipitation since October 1st 109% of average.

* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Glennallen.

Western Gulf

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
						(inches)		
Exit Glacier	400	4/30/12	53	20.4	24	8.5	32	13.3
Grouse Creek Divide	700	4/30/12	56	20.8	26	10.0	44	16.6
Lowe River	425	5/01/12	39	16.9	14	4.7	30	12.0
Mt. Eyak	1405	4/30/12	85	42.5*	61	24.9	58	23.1
Nuka Glacier	1250	4/30/12	113	53.0*	72	22.1*	93	42.4
Sugarloaf Mountain	550	5/01/12	88	37.0	45	15.4	67	27.6
Tsaina River	1650	5/01/12	43	18.4	29	9.6	41	14.6
Upper Tsaina River	1750	4/30/12	57	25.5	43	14.7	53	21.2
Valdez	50	5/01/12	42	18.7	12	3.9	33	12.6
Worthington Glacier estimate *	2100	5/01/12	77	38.2*	62	23.2	61	24.6

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Esther Island	50	4/30/12	104.2	90.8	91.1	114
Grouse Creek Divide	700	4/30/12	43.8	33.6	39.8	110
Mt. Eyak	1405	4/30/12	84.0	77.4	74.0	114
Nuka Glacier**	1250	4/30/12	55.7	44.9	61.1	91
Port San Juan	50	4/30/12	89.7	80.8	84.3	106
Seal Island	30	No Report			44.4	
Strawberry Reef	50	4/30/12	55.8	49.7	51.2	109
Sugarloaf Mountain	550	4/30/12	57.5	39.3	44.4	130
Tatitlek	50	4/30/12	54.5	45.9	42.2	129
Upper Tsaina River	1750	4/30/12	28.4	18.8	29.3	97

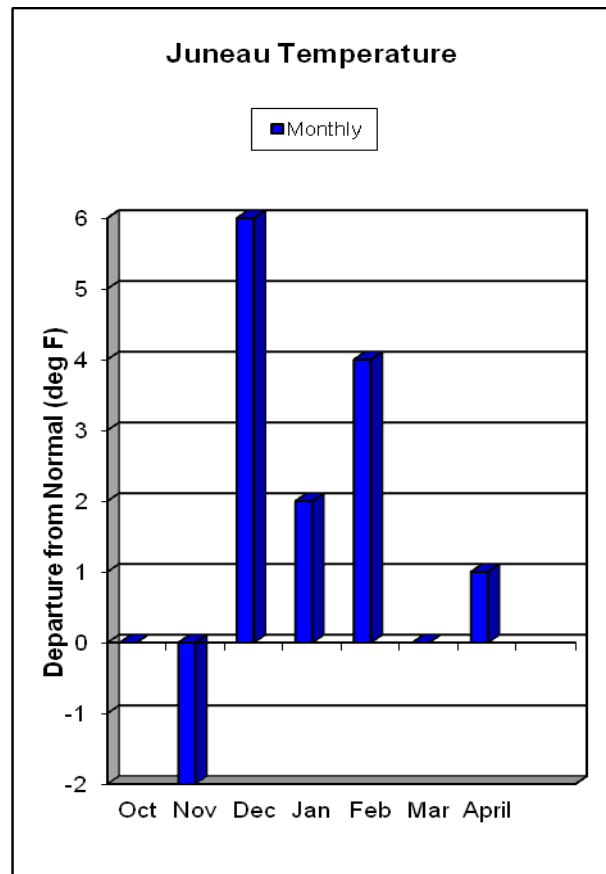
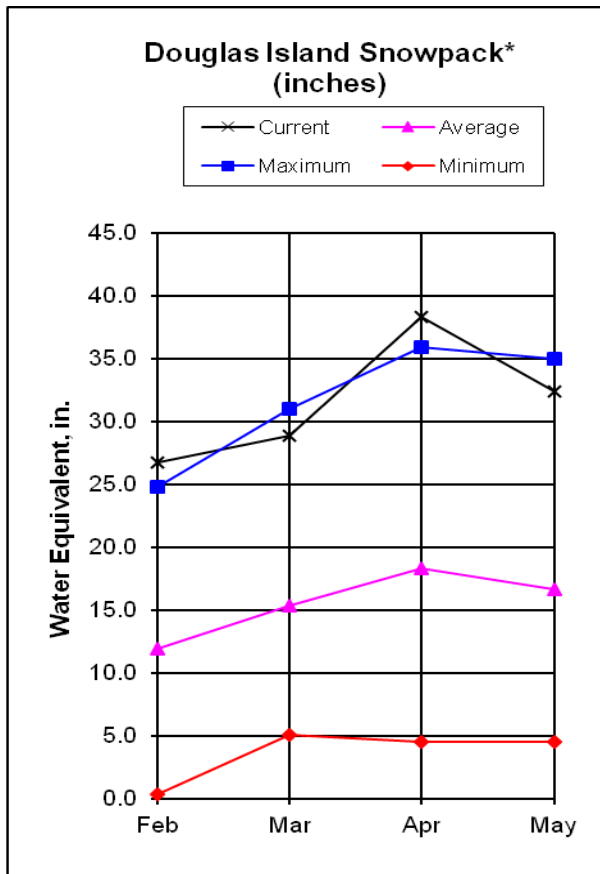
**Wyoming shielded gauge

*Copper Valley Electric Association

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Lowe River (Valdez)	5	206	149
Eyak Lake	1	171	184

SOUTHEAST*



October and March Departures are 0

Snowcover:

Southeast Alaska continued its record high snow water contents at two sites on Douglas Island across from Juneau. The upper site, Cropley Lake, has 116 inches of snow depth with 59.9 inches of water content, the previous record being in 1985 was 54.5 inches of water content, a significant jump in the record. The Eagle Crest snow course at 1000 ft. elevation has a new record also with 37.2 inches of water content, barely topping the 36.9 inch record set in 2008.

The Petersburg Ridge water content of 48.1 inches was topped in 1985 with 54.2 inches of water content, 2007 and 2008 also had higher water contents.

The Speel River snow course has 78 inches of snow depth with 39.0 inches of water content, 149 percent of average. This is the 6th highest water content while the record of 49.0 inches was set in 1972, the Speel River record began in 1965.

The Lake Grace Pass snow course has 177 inches of snow depth with 89.6 inches water content which is a record for this site for May 1st. Lake Grace Pass is 1 of 3 snow courses measured at the Swan Lake Hydropower project, near Ketchikan.

In the Wrangell area, the Institute Creek snow course had 67 inches of snow depth with 30.7 inches of water content and there are 3 new snow courses in the Tyee Hydropower project which will more than a likely have record high contents for this date that will last for many years. The data will be available at a later date.

* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Anchorage.

Southeast

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth (inches)	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Cropley Lake	1650	5/01/12	116	59.9	80	36.6	73	32.8
Eagle Crest	1200	5/01/12	85	37.2	50	22.4	37	15.7
Fish Creek	500	5/01/12	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	1.3
Institute Creek	1350	5/01/12	67	30.7	---	---	---	---
Lake Grace Pass	1900	5/01/12	177	89.6	115	51.6	---	---
Long Lake	850	4/30/12	102	46.2	58*	25.9	100	47.9
Lost Lake	425	5/01/12	55	24.0	34	11.2	25	11.1
Mint Creek Ridge	2250	5/01/12	153	75.0*	111	50.8	---	---
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	4/30/12	39	16.0	50	17.8	46	18.9
Petersburg Reservoir	550	4/29/12	26	9.4	0	0.0	6	2.3
Petersburg Ridge	1650	4/27/12	106	48.1	62	26.0	51	22.1
Rainbow Falls	500	5/01/12	0	0.0	---	---	---	---
Speel River	280	4/30/12	78	39.0	34	13.4	59	26.1
Upper Swan Lake	1700	No Report			108	48.8	---	---
West Creek		4/30/12	3	1.1	---	---	---	---

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX (kaf)	MIN (kaf)
Gold Creek near Juneau	May-Jul	31	42	135	50	35

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Long Lake	850	4/30/12	108.0	99.4	104.6	103
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	4/30/12	29.6	27.7	26.6	107
Snettisham	25	4/30/12	137.0	107.8	112.5	122
Swan Lake	50	No Report		---	98.8	

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Douglas Island	3	165	195
Petersburg	2	221	238
Skagway	1	96	84
Snettisham	2	210	115
Swan Lake	3	189	161
Wrangell Island	2	---	---

For further information contact:

NRCS Alaska web site: ***www.ak.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/***

Alaska Meteor Burst Communication System (AMBCS) web site: ***www.ambcs.org***

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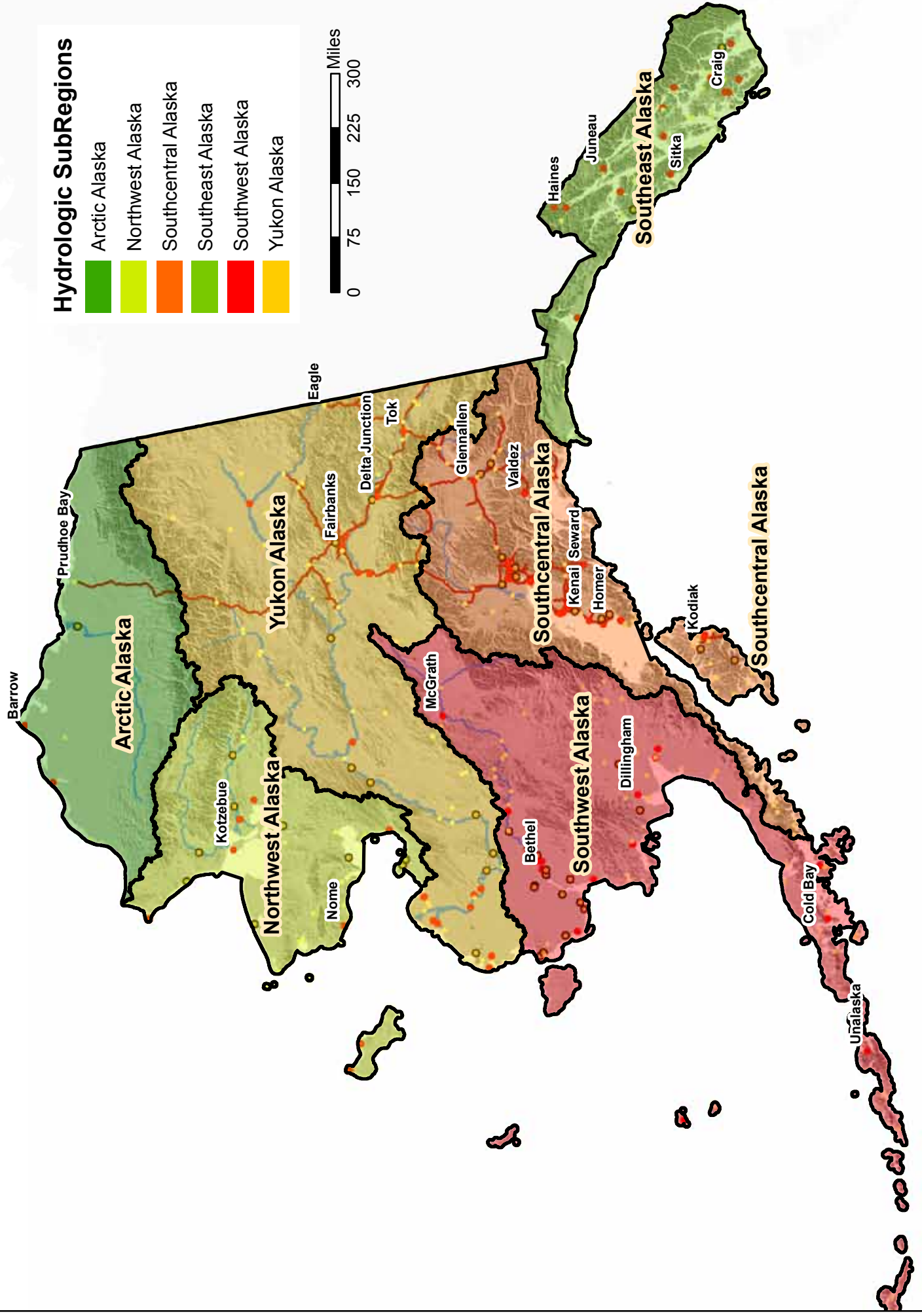
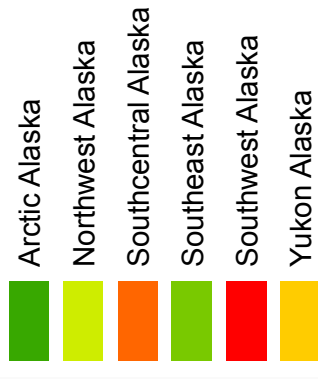
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Hydrologic SubRegions



Alaska Snow Survey Report

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**United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service**