

Alaska Snow Survey Report



March 1, 2015

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Cover photo: Ramsdyke Creek Aerial Marker, on the northern side of the Peters Hills, February 25, 2015. Heavy rain in mid-February formed gully-like runnels on the snow surface. Ramsdyke had 40" of snow with an estimated 11..7" of water content, about 60% of normal. Photo by Pam Sousanes/National Park Service.

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General Overview

SnowPack

Snowpack across the southern and western parts of Alaska remain below normal, much of it well below normal. Precipitation which came during February came as rain across the much of the state. However, a substantial snowstorm hit parts of the eastern Seward Peninsula and the western Brooks Range.

Parts of Alaska do have normal to above normal snowpack. These snowpacks are in the eastern part of the state and increase to the north. They include the Arctic, middle Copper Valley, middle Tanana Valley and the Central Yukon Basin. The upper Porcupine basin is 170% of normal with record setting snowpack. Much of the upper Yukon Valley is above normal.

Southwest Alaska, Southeast Alaska, and portions of Southcentral Alaska are experiencing anemic snowpacks. Fifteen of the nineteen snow courses on the Kenai Peninsula set new or tied record lows.

Precipitation

Precipitation was variable across the state during February. It was variable in amount. It was variable in being solid or liquid. More liquid than solid though as a large, warm storm system brought rain to a significant part of the state in the second half of February.

Generally, however, most of the state received below normal amounts of precipitation for the month. Southeast Alaska was 70% of normal as characterized by Long Lake SNOTEL which received 8.6" of its average 10.9" for the month. Cook Inlet was even drier. The southern Kenai Peninsula averaged 66% of normal precipitation ranging from 107% of normal at Kachemak Creek SNOTEL to 32% of normal at McNeil Canyon SNOTEL site just east of Homer. The northern part of the peninsula and north Cook Inlet averaged around 55% of normal February precipitation. Here sites varied from 69% of normal at Anchorage Hillside to 31% of normal at Moraine SNOTEL, above Eklutna Reservoir. Further north, in the Mat-Su basin, February precipitation was 70% of normal.

Some areas of the state received above normal precipitation. These include Prince William Sound, the mid Tanana Basin and the Central Yukon Basin. Nestled across the bay from Valdez, Sugarloaf Mountain SNOTEL site received 7.7" of precipitation, 148% more than its average 5.2". The seven stations in the Chena Basin averaged 129% of normal as represented by Munson Ridge SNOTEL which received 1.3" for the month, 130% of its average 1.0".

However, further north, Koyukuk Basin received below normal precipitation for the month, around 65% of normal.

Temperature

Despite a cold snap during the second week of February which brought temperatures in some parts of the Interior to below -50°F, temperatures across Alaska continued to be above normal for the month of February.

In fact, several locations were quite a bit above normal for the month. Barrow, Nome, Bethel and Bettles were all 11°F above normal for February. Fort Yukon was 6° above normal for the month. Fairbanks was the closest to normal in the Interior, only 3° above normal during February. Southcentral Alaska maintained overall warm temperatures: Homer was 8°F above normal, Talkeetna was 7°F above normal while Anchorage 5°F above normal and Cordova 4°F above normal. Gulkana was only 1°F above normal for the month. In Southeast Alaska, Juneau was 2°F above normal for February.

Streamflow Forecasts

FORECAST POINT*	Percent of Ave. Flow	Period
Yukon River at Eagle	106	April - July
Porcupine River nr Int'l Boundary.....	122	April - July
Yukon River near Stevens Village	113	April - July
Tanana River at Fairbanks	92	April - July
Tanana River at Nenana	91	April - July
Little Chena River near Fairbanks	86	April - July
Chena River near Two Rivers	93	April - July
Salcha near Salchaket	86	April - July
Sagvanirktok River near Pump Station 3	99	April - July
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse	88	April - July
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek	65	April - June
Gulkana River at Sourdough	90	April - July
Little Susitna River near Palmer	76	April - July
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	80	April - July
Ship Creek near Anchorage	57	April - July
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	74	April - July
Gold Creek near Juneau	71	April - July

Snowmelt Runoff Index (SRI): for streams which no longer have stream gauging stations

FORECAST POINT	INDEX	Index	Key:
Koyukuk River at Hughes.....	-1.4		
MF Koyukuk R near Wiseman	-1.2		
Slate Creek at Coldfoot.....	-1.7		
Beaver Creek above Victoria Creek.....	—		
Birch Creek below South Fork.....	+0.3		
Caribou Creek at Chatanika.....	-1.1	-2 to -3	much below average snow-melt runoff
Susitna River near Gold Creek.....	-2.1		
Chulitna River near Talkeetna.....	-3.0		
Deshka River at mouth near Willow.....	-2.9		
Montana Creek at Parks Highway.....	-2.5		
Willow Creek near Willow.....	-2.4	-1 to -2	below average snowmelt runoff
Skwentna River at Skwentna.....	-2.9		
Chuitna River near Tyonek.....	-3.0		
Campbell Creek near Spenard.....	-3.0		
Indian Creek at Indian.....	-3.0	-1 to +1	average snow-melt runoff
Bird Creek at Bird Creek	-3.0		
Glacier Creek nr Girdwood	-3.0		
Six Mile Creek near Hope.....	-3.0		
Resurrection Creek near Hope.....	-3.0	+1 to +2	above average snowmelt runoff
Grouse Ck at Grouse Lake Outlet nr Seward	-3.0		
Anchor River near Anchor Point	-3.0		
Deep Creek near Ninilchik.....	-3.0		
Ninilchik River near Ninilchik.....	-3.0	+2 to +3	much above average snow-melt runoff
Fritz Creek near Homer.....	-3.0		
Skagway River at Skagway.....	-1.9		
Municipal Watershed C nr Petersburg	-2.8		

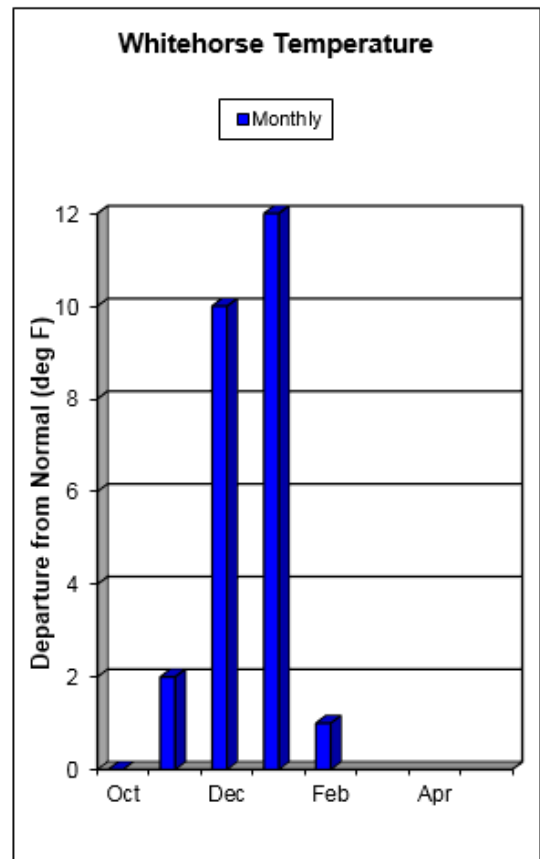
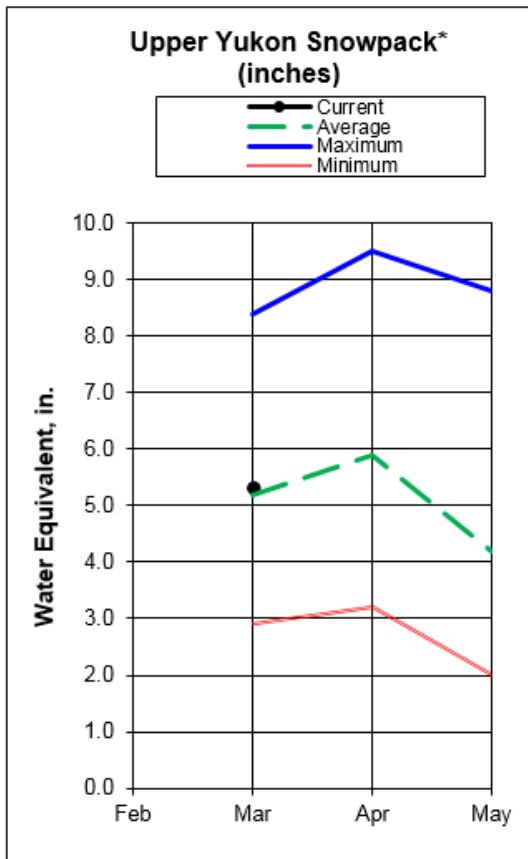
HOW FORECASTS ARE MADE

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 snow water equivalent at selected manual snow courses and automated SNOTEL sites, along with 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: (1) uncertain knowledge of future weather conditions, (2) uncertainty in the forecasting procedure, and (3) 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 values (90% and 70% exceedance probability) and two larger values (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 uncertain the forecast. As the season progresses, forecasts become more accurate, primarily because a greater portion of the future weather conditions become known; this 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 (for example, 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 easily determine the chances of receiving more or less water.

Upper Yukon Basin



Snow pack

The upper Yukon basin was generally above normal.

The White River basin, south of Dawson, has the lowest snowpacks. The nine snow courses in the basin average 91% of normal. Further north, near Dawson the snowpack is above normal. The snowpack jumps to 119% of normal for the basin. Midnight Dome exemplifies this with 29" of snow and 6.1" of water content, 122% of normal.

Further up the Yukon, the Pelly Basin is close to normal. The 12 sites measured in this basin are 105% of normal ranging from 79% at Mayo Airport to 123% of Normal at Plata Airstrip. This basin has very similar snowpack to last year.

Down in the Whitehorse area, the snowpack continues to be near normal. The nine sites in this basin average 101% of normal. The Whitehorse Airport snow course had 15" of snow and 3.2" of water content, 89% of normal.

Upper Yukon Basin

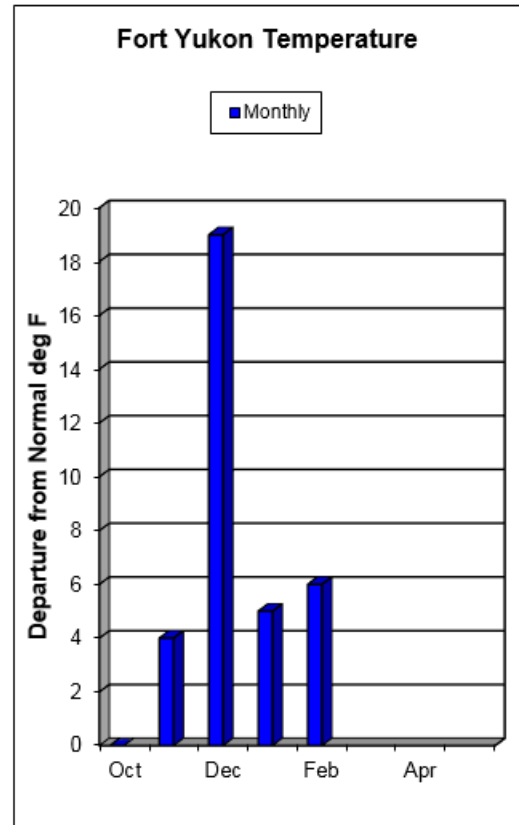
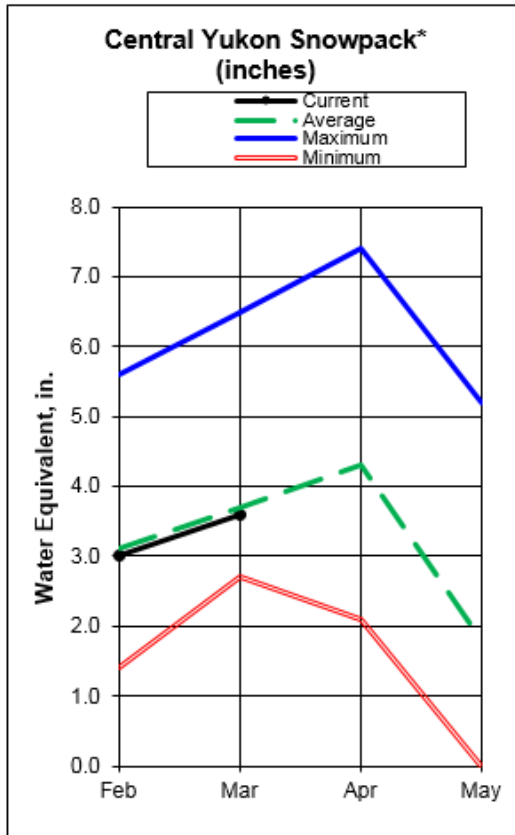
Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Arrowhead Lake	3675	No Survey	---	---	---	---	30	5.7
Atlin	2395	3/1/2015	11	2.7	---	---	20	4.4
Beaver Creek	2150	2/25/2015	15	2.6	21	2.9	16	2.4
Burns Lake	3650	2/25/2015	36	7.6	41	10.0	33	7.4
Burwash Airstrip	2660	2/25/2015	6	1.0	4	0.4	10	1.7
Calumet	4300	2/25/2015	34	7.2	32	7.5	34	6.8
Casino Creek	3495	2/26/2015	22	4.2	27	5.8	24	4.0
Chair Mountain	3500	2/25/2015	21	3.1	24	4.8	20	3.0
Duke River	4300	No Survey	---	---	---	---	20	3.5
Eagle Plains	2330	2/27/2015	36	8.4	26	4.6	28	5.6
Eagle River	1115	2/27/2015	32	7.2	26	4.0	25	4.1
Edwards Lake	2720	2/24/2015	29	6.0	24	3.7	30	5.4
Finlayson Airstrip	3240	2/25/2015	17	3.0	23	3.9	20	3.6
Fuller Lake	3695	No Survey	---	---	32	7.1	31	6.7
Grizzly Creek	3200	2/25/2015	35	7.3	32	5.3	28	5.9
Hoole River	3400	2/25/2015	25	5.4	31	5.8	24	4.6
Jordan Lake	3050	2/25/2015	23	4.6	30	7.0	24	4.8
King Solomon Dome	3540	2/24/2015	32	6.2	33	6.6	29	5.6
Log Cabin (B.C.)	2900	2/23/2015	39	11.3	39	14.0	48	13.3
Macintosh	3805	2/26/2015	14	2.3	17	2.6	19	3.3
Mayo Airport	1770	2/26/2015	19	3.0	21	4.1	20	3.8
Meadow Creek	4050	2/25/2015	40	10.8	46	13.0	40	9.4
Midnight Dome	2805	2/24/2015	29	6.1	30	4.5	26	5.0
Montana Mtn.	3350	2/24/2015	25	6.6	22	5.5	24	5.2
Morley Lake	2700	2/25/2015	19	5.1	29	7.6	24	5.1
Mt. Berdoe	3395	2/26/2015	19	3.7	20	4.9	22	3.8
Mt. McIntyre B	3600	2/26/2015	26	5.4	26	6.7	26	5.2
Mt. Nansen	3350	2/26/2015	14	2.3	18	4.2	17	2.6
Old Crow	980	2/27/2015	34	6.4	28	4.5	24	3.8
Pelly Farm	1550	2/26/2015	14	3.3	16	3.2	16	2.8
Plata Airstrip	2725	2/24/2015	36	7.6	32	6.9	30	6.2
Rackla Lake	3410	2/24/2015	31	5.9	28	4.7	31	6.4
Riffs Ridge	2130	2/27/2015	36	8.9	26	4.5	28	4.7
Russell Lake	3480	2/24/2015	40	8.2	37	7.7	35	7.0
Satasha Lake	3630	2/26/2015	14	2.6	18	3.3	18	3.1
Summit	985	2/26/2015	25	5.8	23	4.4	34	9.2
Tagish	3540	2/24/2015	23	4.9	23	5.7	25	5.1
Twin Creeks	2950	2/24/2015	30	6.7	34	7.2	30	6.3
Whitehorse Airport	2300	2/26/2015	15	3.2	21	4.7	19	3.6
Williams Creek	3000	2/26/2015	18	3.2	19	4.7	18	3.1
Withers Lake	3200	2/24/2015	34	7.4	32	7.4	34	7.4

Streamflow Forecasts

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Yukon River At Eagle	Apr- Jul	106	121	90	35135	33300

Central Yukon Basin



Snow pack

The Central Yukon Basin snow pack ranges from slightly below normal to much above normal.

The two measured snow courses on the north side of the White Mountains average 101% of normal. The Upper Nome SNOTEL site caught 0.7" of precipitation during February and has 23" of snow. Further south-west in the Fortymile country, the snowpack diminishes, but only down to 92% of normal. American Creek SNOTEL caught 0.4" of precipitation during February.

The Yukon Flats snow courses average 104% of normal. Circle Hot Springs snow course has 24" of snow with 4.1" of water content which is 114% of normal. Further downstream, Hess Creek, near Yukon Crossing, had 22" of snow and 5.0" of water content, slightly less than last year.

Following the Porcupine northwest the snowpack starts increasing until in the Yukon Territory snowcourses of Old Crow and Eagle River we see record high snow packs. The 4 porcupine snowcourses average to be 170% of normal. Both Eagle River and Riffs Ridge snow courses saw new record highs. Eagle River snow course which was established in 1983 had 32" of snow with 7.2" of water content or 176% of normal. Riffs Ridge snow course was established in 1987 and had 36" of snow with 8.9" of water content for 189% of normal.

Snowpack Data

Central Yukon Basin

Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
American Creek	1050	3/1/2015	20	3.7	16	3.5	---	---
Atigun Pass	4800	3/1/2015	31	---	34	---	---	---
Borealis	1330	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	25	6.2	23	4.0
Boundary	3500	3/3/2015	20	4.4	---	---	22	4.3
Cathedral Creek	1800	3/1/2015	34	6.4	33	6.9	---	---
Chicken Airstrip	1650	3/3/2015	12	2.3	---	---	16	2.8
Circle Hot Springs	860	3/2/2015	24	4.1	18	3.0	22	3.6
Coal Creek	1000	3/1/2015	26	4.4	24	4.9*	---	---
Copper Creek	2000	3/1/2015	36	8.5*	29	5.9	---	---
Crescent Creek	2600	3/1/2015	22	3.7	21	4.1	---	---
Eagle Summit	3650	3/1/2015	16	---	11	---	---	---
Fort Yukon SNOTEL	430	3/1/2015	15	---	21	---	---	---
Fort Yukon	430	2/27/2015	19	2.9	24	4.1	18	3.0
Fossil	1400	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	25	6.2	22	3.8
Graphite Lake	600	3/2/2015	18	3.1*	---	---	---	---
Hess Creek	1000	2/27/2015	22	5*	25	5.2	24	4.5
Lost Chicken Hill	2150	3/3/2015	15	2.6	---	---	18	3.1
Lower Beaver Creek	400	3/2/2015	26	4.4*	31	6.7	---	---
Mission Creek	900	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	12	3.0	17	3.5
Mt. Fairplay	3100	3/4/2015	17	3.9	---	---	20	3.8
Old Crow	980	2/27/2015	34	6.4	28	4.5	24	3.8
Ptarmigan Creek	2270	3/2/2015	22	3.5	26	5.0	23	3.6
Seven Mile	600	2/27/2015	22	4.4	27	5.2	26	4.6
Stack Pup Creek	1620	3/2/2015	26	3.9	19	3.3	23	3.7
Step Mountain	2850	3/1/2015	34	6.6*	30	6.2	---	---
Thirty Mile	1350	2/27/2015	26	5.5	34	7.7	34	7.0
Three Fingers	3350	3/1/2015	33	7.3*	38	7.8	---	---
Upper Nome Creek	2520	<i>No Survey</i>	23	---	24	---	---	---
Vunzik Lake	500	3/2/2015	18	3.1*	24	4.9	---	---
Windy Gap	1900	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	25	6.2	24	4.8
Wolf	1200	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	22	5.2	21	3.6

Streamflow Forecasts

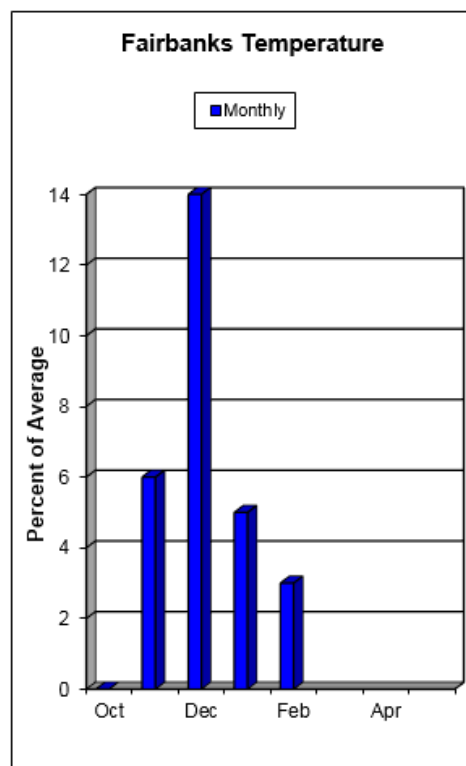
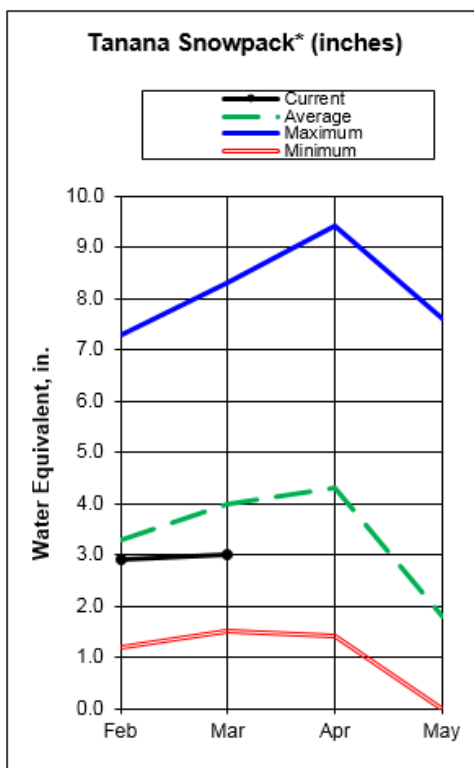
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Porcupine River near Intl Boundary	Apr-Jul	122	180	82	6857	5640
Yukon River near Stevens Village	Apr- Jul	113	128	97	54242	48100

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
American Creek	1050	3.7	3.9	---	---
Atigun Pass	4800	2.9	4.5	4.8	60%
Chandalar Camp	3300	4.0	3.4	4.5	89%
Eagle Summit	3650	4.4	5.7	4.7	94%
Fort Yukon	430	2.7	5.5	3.1	87%
Upper Nome Creek	2520	3	8.7	3.7	81%

Tanana Basin



Snow pack

The Tanana Valley had near normal precipitation for February. The Tanana Valley snowpack remains slightly below or near normal.

The upper Tanana Valley above Tok averages 75% of normal ranging from 56% at Chisana SNOTEL to 108% of normal at Beaver Creek in the Yukon. Tok Junction Snow Course has 16" of snow with 2.6" of water content or 87% of normal.

The snow course near Delta Junction averaged 90% of normal, down from 101% last month because of below normal hit-or-miss precipitation during the month.

The snowpack diminishes towards the south. Fairbanks itself is only 65% of normal with 15" of snow with 2.0" of water content. Lake Minchumina has 13" of snow with 2.3" of water content 68% of normal.

Snowpack Data

Tanana Basin

Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Bonanza Creek	1150	3/2/2015	19	3.7	20	4.6	20	3.9
Caribou Creek	1250	3/3/2015	16	2.9	23	5.6	20	3.6
Caribou Snow Pillow	900	3/3/2015	17	3.0	23	5.0	21	3.6
Chisana	3320	3/1/2015	12	2.3	17	4.0	---	4.1
Cleary Summit	2230	3/2/2015	28	4.7	29	6.0	26	4.6
Colorado Creek	700	2/26/2015	19	2.7	26	5.1	20	3.4
Fairbanks F.O.	450	3/1/2015	15	2.0	19	3.6	---	3.1
Faith Creek	1750	3/2/2015	24	3.9	24	4.8	24	4.2
Fielding Lake	3000	2/27/2015	32	7.2	41	11.3	37	8.6
Fort Greely	1500	2/27/2015	16	3.1	16	3.0	17	3.0
French Creek	1800	2/26/2015	22	4.6	23	4.8	24	4.6
Gerstle River	1200	2/27/2015	15	2.4	18	3.2	18	2.9
Granite Crk	1240	3/1/2015	17	3.8	15	3.2	---	3.5
Jatahmund Lake	2180	2/26/2015	13	1.7	---	---	16	2.8
Kantishna	1550	2/26/2015	21	3.8*	21	4.5	24	4.4
Lake Minchumina	730	2/26/2015	13	2.3*	13	2.4	19	3.4
Little Chena Ridge	2000	3/1/2015	16	3.4	18	4.5	---	4.3
Lost Creek	3030	2/26/2015	13	2.5*	18	3.8	17	3.0
Mentasta Pass	2430	2/27/2015	17	3.6	30	7.5	24	5.1
Monument Creek	1850	3/1/2015	24	4.5	19	5.4	---	4.0
Mt. Ryan	2800	3/1/2015	27	4.3	25	5.5	---	4.4
Munson Ridge	3100	3/1/2015	34	6.5	38	9.3	---	5.9
Paradise Hill	2200	2/27/2015	10	1.8	14	2.3	16	2.8
Rock Creek Bottom	2250	No Survey	---	---	18	3.8	20	3.7
Rock Creek Ridge	2600	No Survey	---	---	15	4.2	18	3.6
Shaw Creek Flats	980	2/26/2015	12	1.9	19	3.2	14	2.5
Teuchet Creek	1640	3/1/2015	20	4.2	18	4.2	---	3.3
Tok Junction	1650	2/27/2015	16	2.6	26	5.0	18	3.0
Upper Chena	2850	No Survey	35	---	38	---	---	5.5
Upper Wood River	2990	No Survey	---	---	---	---	21	4.0

*Estimate

Streamflow Forecasts

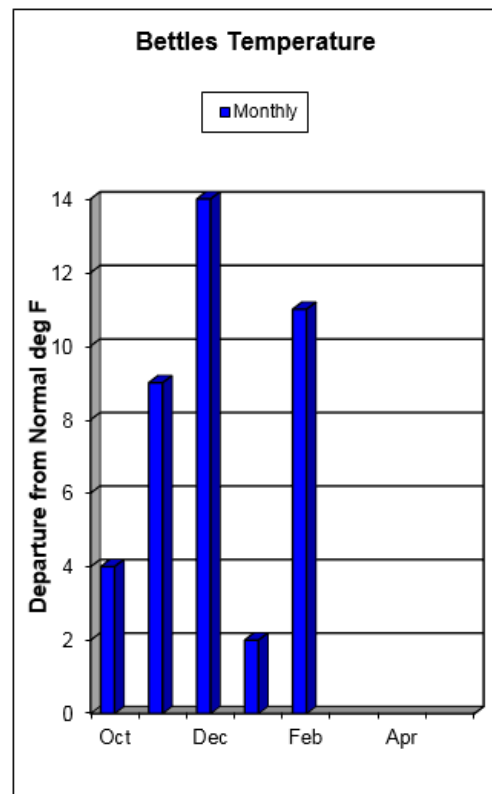
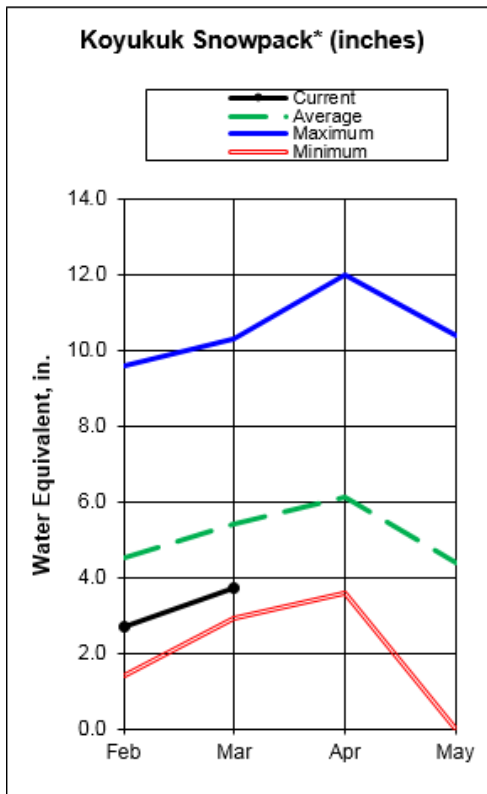
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Salcha River near Salchaket	Apr- Jul	86	122	56	535	625
Tanana River at Fairbanks	Apr- Jul	92	106	79	6897	7460
Chena River near Two Rivers	Apr-Jul	93	136	50	251	270
Little Chena River near Fairbanks	Apr-Jul	86	123	50	67	78
Tanana River at Nenana	Apr- Jul	91	105	78	8210	9000

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Chisana	3320	2.3	4.7	---	---
Fairbanks F.O.	450	2.8	4.4	4.0	70%
Granite Crk	1240	3.0	4.0	3.6	83%
Kantishna	1550	3.8	5.7	3.8	100%
Little Chena Ridge	2000	3.0	3.7	4.8	63%
Nenana	415	2.9	3.5	---	---
Tok	1630	3.0	4.9	---	---
Upper Chena	2850	3.9	9.3	4.8	81%

Western Interior Basins



Snow pack

Koyukuk

The Koyukuk Basin continues to have below normal precipitation for the water year and to have below normal snow pack as well. Snow pack ranges from 65% normal at Bettles to near normal at Disaster Creek and Table Mountain snow courses north of Coldfoot.

The four SNOTEL sites in this basin averaged 64% of normal precipitation for the month.

Kuskokwim

The Kuskokwim Basin snowpack continues to be lackluster this year. Telaquana Lake snowcourse has more snow than last year, but with only 4 inches of depth and 1.1" of water content it remains 25% of normal. The new SNOTEL site at Telaquana Lake received 0.6" of precipitation during February and a total of 2.8" of precipitation since October 1st.

Lower Yukon

The Aerial Markers near the Nowitna National Wildlife Refuge generally lost depth since last month. It is probable that most of these sites were rained on during the month. Deer Creek and Lower Nowitna Aerial Markers which are the easternmost markers both gained in depth. Six new aerial markers measured by ADF&G further down the Yukon River near Anvik lost significant depth during the month.

Snowpack Data

Western Interior Basins

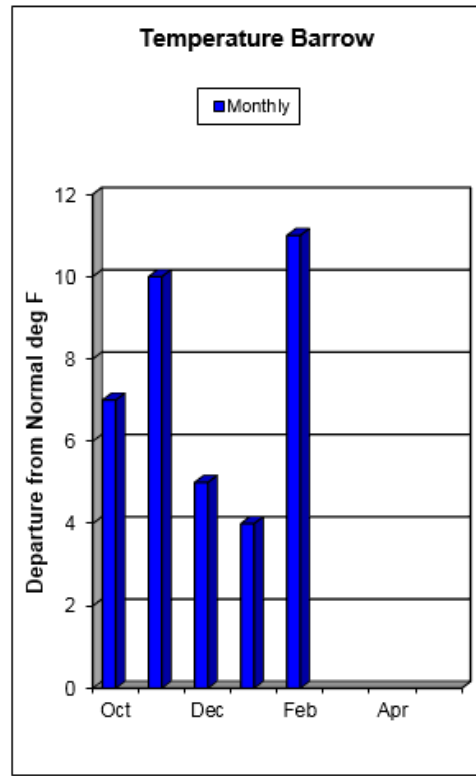
Snowpack Data			This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
Site Name	Elev.	Date	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Koyukuk								
Bettles Field	640	3/1/2015	19	3.5	28	5.4	---	5.6
Bonanza Forks	1200	2/27/2015	18	3.1*	24	5.7	26	4.8
Cloverleaf	170	3/2/2015	22	4.4*	21	4.4	---	---
Coldfoot	1040	3/1/2015	23	3.7	29	7.3	---	5.3
Colville Bend	170	3/2/2015	24	5.3*	24	4.7	---	---
Disaster Creek	1550	2/28/2015	17	3.0	22	4.2	22	3.2
Gobblers Knob	2030	No Survey	1	---	11	---	---	---
Huggins Creek	290	No Survey	---	---	32	7.4	---	---
Jr Slough	160	2/27/2015	24	4.9*	21	4.9	---	---
Kaldoyeit	750	No Survey	---	---	---	---	20	3.7
Kanuti Chalatna	670	No Survey	---	---	---	---	28	5.2
Kanuti Kilolitna	550	No Survey	---	---	---	---	21	4.0
Lake Todatonten	550	No Survey	---	---	---	---	28	5.0
Minnkokut	580	No Survey	---	---	---	---	32	5.7
Nolitna	560	No Survey	---	---	---	---	28	5.0
Table Mountain	2200	2/28/2015	22	3.6*	24	4.8	21	3.3
Taiholman	540	No Survey	---	---	---	---	4	0.8
Treat Island	190	3/2/2015	27	5.2*	21	4.4	---	---
Kuskokwim								
Aniak	80	3/1/2015	2	---	1	---	---	---
Holitna River	257	3/2/2015	2	0.5	---	---	---	---
Holokuk River	367	3/2/2015	0	0.0	0	---	---	---
Johnny Slu	180	3/2/2015	1	0.3*	---	---	---	---
Lower Aniak	164	3/2/2015	0	0.0	---	---	---	---
Mcgrath	340	No Survey	---	---	16	3.2*	27	5.4
Middle Kuskowim	297	3/2/2015	9	2.2*	---	---	---	---
N. Fork Kuskokwim	512	No Survey	---	---	23	6.6	---	---
Nixon Fork Kuskokwim	508	No Survey	---	---	21	6.0	---	---
Purkeypile Mine	2025	2/27/2015	20	3.6	23	4.1	24	4.6
Telaquana Lake	1550	3/2/2015	4	1.1*	0	0.0	22	4.4
Telaquana Lake SNOTEL	1275	3/1/2015	6	1.7	---	---	---	---
Lower Yukon								
Deer Creek	195	3/5/2015	26	4.9*	23	5.7	---	---
Grouch Creek	220	No Survey	---	---	---	---	31	7.0
Holikachuk	100	No Survey	---	---	---	---	34	7.6
Horsefly Creek	180	No Survey	---	---	---	---	27	5.6
Little Mud River	855	No Survey	---	---	13	2.6	---	---
Lower Nowitna River	205	3/5/2015	22	4.5*	21	3.6	---	---
Menotl Creek	380	No Survey	---	---	---	---	44	8.6
Middle Innoko	150	No Survey	---	---	---	---	32	6.5
Ninemile Island	140	2/27/2015	20	4.4*	31	6.2	---	---
Pike Trap Lake	130	2/27/2015	3	0.8*	11	2.3	---	---
Squirrel Creek	150	2/27/2015	25	5.5*	30	7.9	---	---
Tozikaket	600	No Survey	---	---	---	---	20	3.6
Upper Innoko	180	No Survey	---	---	---	---	33	7.2
Wapoo Hills	220	3/2/2015	30	5.7*	---	---	33	6.8
Yankee Slough	100	3/2/2015	29	5.4*	---	---	38	8.4
Yetna River	120	No Survey	---	---	---	---	27	5.5

*Estimate

Streamflow Forecasts

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek	Apr-Jun	65	108	45	4716	10500

Arctic and Kotzebue Sound



Snow pack

Arctic

The Arctic has variable, but near normal precipitation for the Water Year. The snowpack is normal to slightly above normal as well.

Kotzebue

Parts of the Kotzebue Sound area have received a healthy snow storm during the last week of February. Kelly Station SNOTEL on the Noatak River doubled its snowpack on February 26th from 13" to 26" in one day and finished the month with 28". However, Kotzebue itself only received less than 0.2" of water from the same storm and it came as rain, instead.

Arctic and Kotzebue Sound

Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Atigun Pass	4800	3/1/2015	31	---	34	---	---	---
Imnaviat Creek	3050	3/1/2015	33	---	25	---	---	---
Kelly Station	310	3/1/2015	28	4.6	19	3.5	---	---
Prudhoe Bay	30	3/1/2015	16	---	23	---	---	---
Sagwon	1000	3/1/2015	15	---	19	---	---	---

Streamflow Forecasts

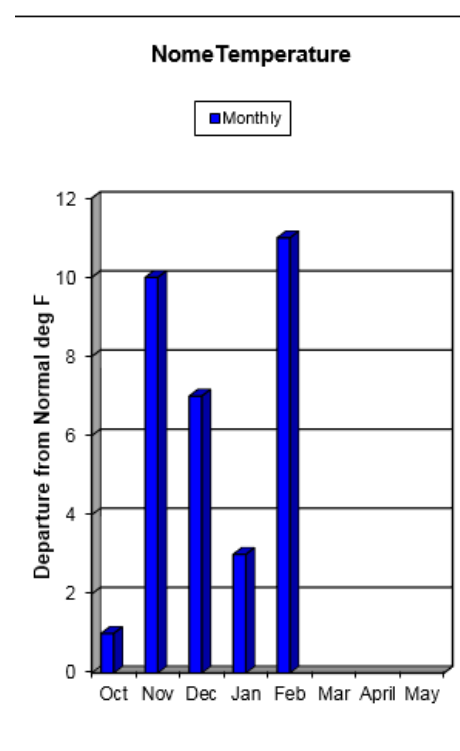
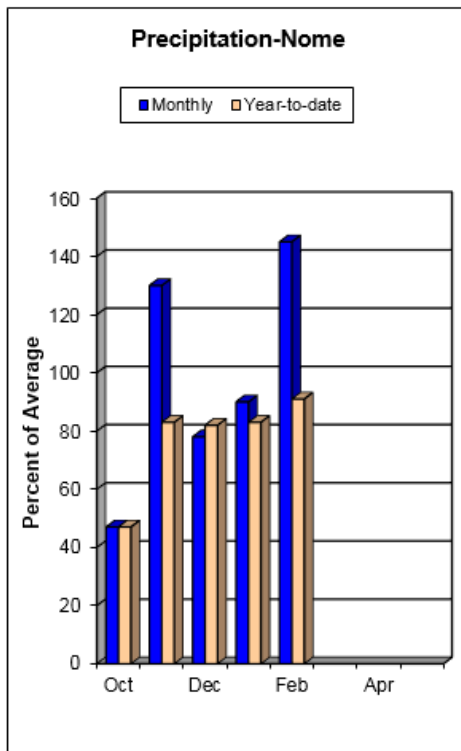
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse	Apr-Jul	88	118	58	700	796
	May-Jul	91	128	64	720	795
Sagavanirktok River near Pump Station 3	Apr-Jul	99	120	78	680	684
	May-Jul	100	148	67	680	683

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Arctic					
Artigun Camp	3400	2.4	2.6	2.5	96%
Atigun Pass	4800	2.9	4.5	4.8	60%
Barrow	25	1.2	1.3	---	---
Imnaviat Creek	3050	3.7	3.0	2.6	142%
Prudhoe Bay	30	2.2	2.3	2.6	85%
Sagwon	1000	2.9	2.7	2.6	112%
Kotzebue Sound					
Port Red Dog	50	No Survey	No Survey	4.2	---
Red Dog Mine	950	No Survey	No Survey	5.3	---
Kelly Station	310	4.5	8.5	---	---

Norton Sound/Y-K Delta/Bristol Bay



Snow pack

Norton Sound

The Norton Sound area has been without much snowpack this winter. Pargon Creek SNOTEL, north of White Mountain, which was near snowless for most of the month received 11" of snow on the last day of the month. However, Rocky Point SNOTEL only received 2" from the same storm and with only 4" at the site, it has less snow depth than it did last month. Rocky Point has 67% of normal precipitation for the water year, or 3.2".

Yukon Kuskokwim Delta

Snowpack is low in the Y-K Delta. The Kanaryagak SCAN site, located southeast of Chevak, has 7" of snow, down from 12" midmonth after a windstorm came through. The site has captured 3.0" inches of precipitation since October first. The NWS station in Bethel recorded 0.4" during February, which is average and 4.6" since October 1st, 135% of normal.

Bristol Bay

Snow continues to be minimal in the Bristol Bay basin, which has even less snow this month than last. Three Forks, Brooks and Port Alsworth snow courses had no snow. Neither do either the Weary Lake or Canyon Lake SCAN sites. Weary Lake SCAN site, 20 miles northwest of Dillingham, has caught 31.1" of precipitation since October 1st; last year it had 41.5" by this time.

Norton Sound/Y-K Delta/Bristol Bay

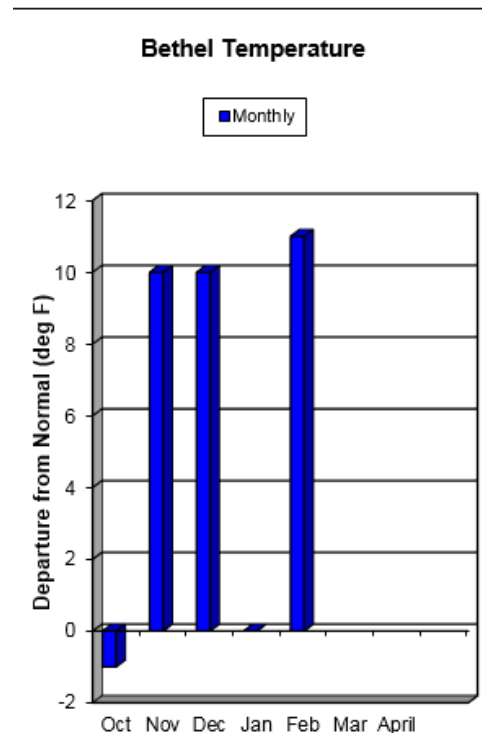
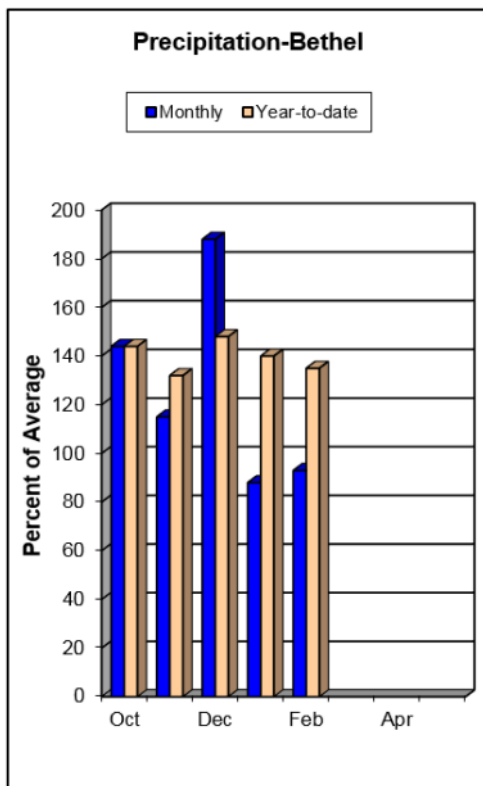
Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
			Snow Depth	Water Con- tent	Snow Depth	Water Con- tent	Snow Depth	Water Con- tent
Bristol Bay								
Brooks Camp	150	3/1/2015	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Fishtrap Lake	1800	No Survey	---	---	---	---	40	9.5
Port Alsworth	270	2/27/2015	0	0.0	0	0.0	18	3.6
Three Forks	1300	3/1/2015	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Weary Lake	100	3/1/2015	1	---	5	---	---	---
Norton Sound								
Pargon Creek	100	3/1/2015	11	---	3	---	---	---
Rocky Point	250	3/1/2015	4	---	4	---	---	---
Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta								
Kanaryagak Camp	13	3/1/2015	7	---	6	---	---	---

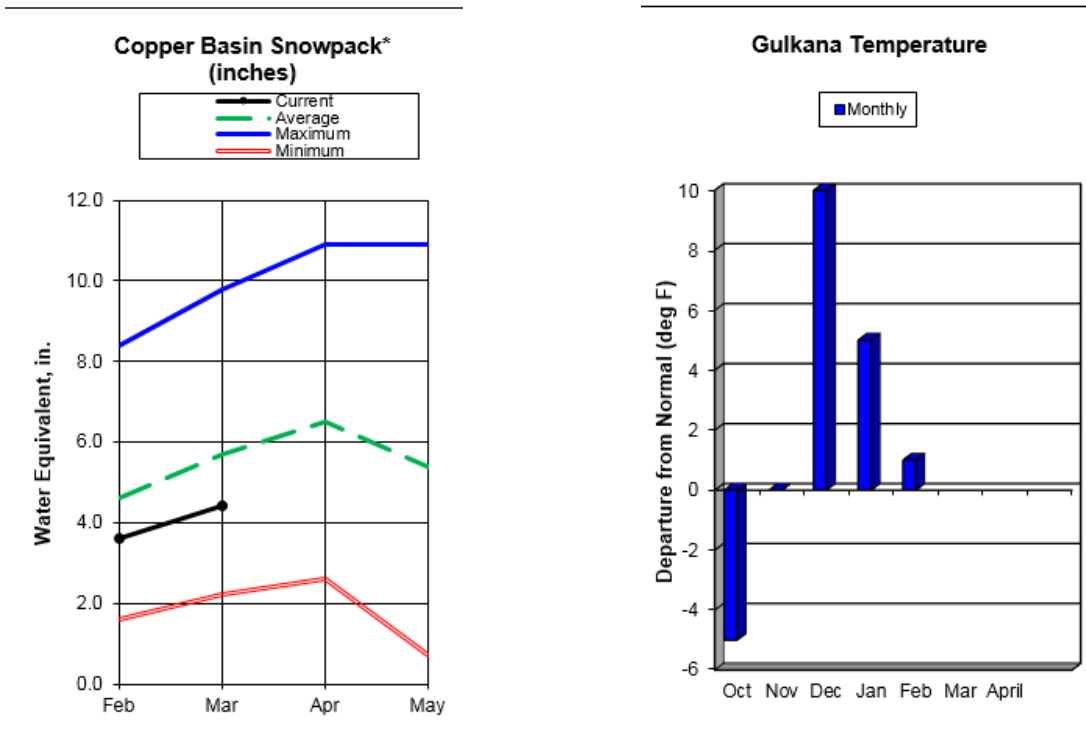
Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Bristol Bay					
Lower Mulchatna	320	5.8	11.7	---	---
Naknek River	100	5.5	12.8	---	---
Weary Lake	100	31.1	41.5	---	---
Norton Sound					
Checkers Creek	326	1.6	---	---	---
Pargon Creek	100	---	8.1	5.1	---
Rocky Point	250	3.2	7.7	4.8	67%
Yukon - Kuskokwim Delta					
Kanaryagak Camp	13	3.0	8.2	---	---



Copper Basin



Snow pack

The snowpack in the Copper River Basin ranges from slightly below normal to slightly above normal. Rain helped increase snow water contents without much of a corresponding increase in snowdepth.

The Alaska Range courses made slight gains during February and averaged 86% of normal. Paxson snow course was measured with 27 inches of snow with 5.6 inches of water content, 83% of normal, a gain of 3" and 1.2" of SWE.

Like last month, the basin floor ranged varied greatly from east to west. In the west, Little Nelchina snow course was 64% of normal while Kenney Lake School snow course was 133% normal. On a whole, the basin floor sites averaged 102% of normal.

The Chugach sites were below normal. Upper Tsaina SNOTEL had 110% of normal February precipitation, but much of that came as rain and its snowpack remains at 76% of normal with 38" of snow and 10.7" of water content.

Copper Basin

Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year Snow Depth	This Year Snow Depth	Last Year Snow Depth	Last Year Snow Depth	1981-2010 Normal Snow Depth	1981-2010 Normal Snow Depth
Chistochina	1950	2/27/2015	18	3.4	20	4.4	20	3.2
Chokosna	1550	2/27/2015	17	4.0	20	4.5	16	3.2
Dadina Lake	2160	3/2/2015	26	4.9	28	6.3	27	5.4
Fielding Lake	3000	2/27/2015	32	7.2	41	11.3	37	8.6
Fielding Lake SNOTEL	3000	3/1/2015	29	8.9	---	---	---	---
Haggard Creek	2540	2/28/2015	27	5.1	26	6.0	26	5.2
Kenny Lake School	1300	2/27/2015	18	4.0	21	4.5	17	3.0
Little Nelchina	2650	2/27/2015	17	3.0	23	4.2	24	4.7
Long Glacier	4820	2/27/2015	33	9.0	35	8.4	---	---
May Creek	1610	3/1/2015	18	3.8	21	5.3	---	4.6
Mentasta Pass	2430	2/27/2015	17	3.6	30	7.5	24	5.1
Monsoon Lake	3100	3/2/2015	24	5.0	29	5.5	28	5.4
Notch	2643	2/27/2015	4	1.0	22	5.0	---	---
Paxson	2650	2/27/2015	27	5.6	31	7.6	30	5.9
Sanford River	2280	3/2/2015	26	5.4	26	5.3	28	5.2
St. Anne Lake	1990	3/2/2015	24	4.5	27	5.3	23	4.2
Tazlina	1250	2/27/2015	20	4.4	19	4.7	16	3.4
Tebay Lake	1930	2/27/2015	34	9.9	47	14.1	---	---
Tolsona Creek	2000	2/27/2015	23	4.3	24	5.1	20	3.8
Tsaina River	1650	3/2/2015	38	10.7*	45	14.2	53	14.1
Twin Lakes	2400	3/2/2015	20	4.1	---	---	28	5.6
Upper Tsaina River	1750	3/1/2015	46	14.0	48	15.9	---	16.3
Worthington Glacier	2100	3/2/2015	48	14.9*	54	18.8	69	21.6

*Estimate

Streamflow Forecasts

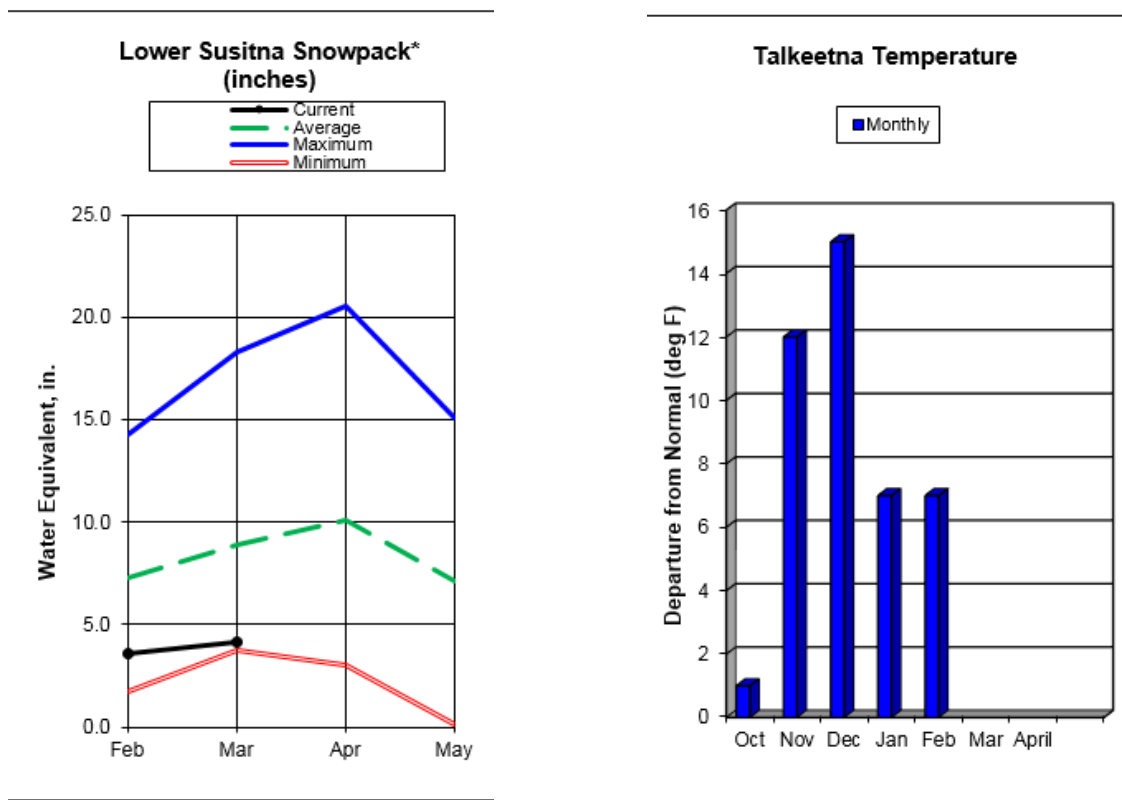
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Gulkana River at Sourdough	Apr- Jul	90	127	52	395	440

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
May Creek	1610	4.6	8.2	5.5	84%
Upper Tsaina River	1750	13.5	31.2	19.9	68%

Matanuska—Susitna Basin



Snow pack

The snowpack across the Matanuska and Susitna Basins continues to be well below normal.

The lower Susitna Basin snow courses average to 50% of normal. Unlike last month, the snowpack on the western side of the basin is more diminutive than the east half, but only slightly. Alexander Lake snow course has 20" of snow with 4.8" of water content, only 44% of normal.

In the Matanuska Basin, the southern Talkeetna Mountains are below normal as well. Independence Mine snow course has 40" of snow with 10.7" of water content, 58% of normal. Due to heavy February rains, low elevation snowpacks are further diminished. The snowpack at the Point MacKenzie SNOTEL site is 36% of normal with only 8" and 1.7" of water content.

The upper basin fared better, but the 10 sites measured in this area average to 71% of normal with most of the "healthier" sites being on the eastern side of the Talkeetna Mountains. The East Fork of the Chulitna snow course had 31" of snow with 7.2" of water, or 64% of normal.

Matanuska—Susitna Basin

Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Alexander Lake	160	2/27/2015	20	4.8	25	7.6	44	11.0
Alexander Lake SNOTEL	160	3/1/2015	17	4.3	---	---	---	---
Archangel Road	2200	3/2/2015	27	6.6	35	10.6	42	11.7
Blueberry Hill	1200	2/26/2015	29	7.7	33	10.1	45	12.8
Chelatna Lake	1450	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	12	4.1	44	10.0
Clearwater Lake	2650	3/2/2015	24	3.9*	24	4.5*	26	4.7
Curtis Lake	2850	3/2/2015	25	4.1	20	4.0	21	4.0
Denali View	700	2/26/2015	19	4.9	24	8.0	38	10.9
Dunkle Hills	2700	2/27/2015	18	4.3	44	15.9	---	---
Dutch Hills	3100	2/27/2015	43	12.4	70	23.7	74	22.1
E. Fork Chulitna	1770	2/26/2015	31	7.2	40	11.0	46	11.2
Fishhook Basin	3300	3/2/2015	36	9.0	56	18.0	53	15.6
Fog Lakes	2120	3/2/2015	21	3.7	23	4.5	22	4.3
Halfway Slough	350	2/26/2015	10	2.7	14	4.3	---	---
Horsepasture Pass	4300	3/2/2015	16	2.6	26	5.6	28	5.5
Independence Mine	3550	3/2/2015	40	10.7	64	22.0	62	18.6
Independence Mine SNOTEL	3550	3/1/2015	32	7.7	54	15.6	---	10.2
Lake Louise	2400	2/27/2015	24	3.4	25	4.2	21	3.8
Little Susitna	1700	3/2/2015	21	5.9	33	9.3	37	9.7
Monahan Flat	2710	3/1/2015	20	---	25	---	---	---
Nugget Bench	2010	2/26/2015	28	6.0	29	7.7	48	13.1
Point Mackenzie	250	3/1/2015	8	1.7	15	4.4	---	4.7
Ramsdyke Creek	2220	2/27/2015	40	11.7	45	14.6	62	18.6
Skwentna	160	2/27/2015	20	5.2	25	6.5	42	10.6
Square Lake	2950	3/2/2015	18	3.4*	23	4.6	21	3.5
Susitna Valley High	375	3/1/2015	12	4.1	21	7.8	---	7.2
Talkeetna	350	2/26/2015	12	3.1	16	5.1	28	6.2
Tokositna Valley	850	3/1/2015	29	8.7	29	8.3	---	10.4
Tyone River	2400	3/2/2015	21	3.5	---	---	24	4.4
Upper Oshetna River	3150	3/2/2015	15	2.4	21	3.7	20	4.0
Upper Sanona Creek	3100	3/2/2015	19	3.1	30	5.6	27	5.0
Willow Airstrip	200	2/26/2015	12	3.3	24	7.1	27	5.7

*Estimate

Streamflow Forecasts

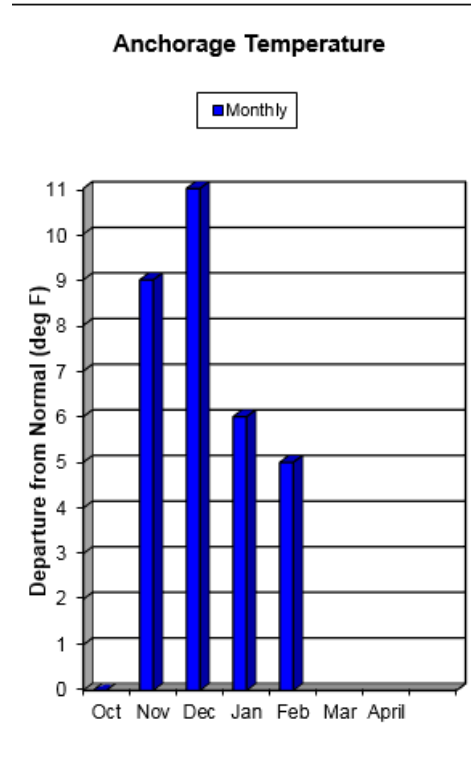
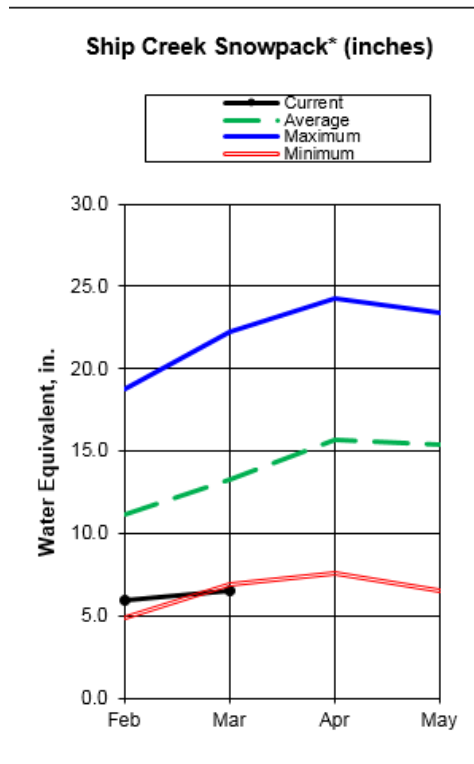
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Little Susitna River near Palmer	Apr-Jul	76	107	44	62	82
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	Apr-Jul	80	97	61	1250	1570

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Alexander Lake	160	9.4	---	---	---
Independence Mine	3550	9.6	22.9	13.3	72%
Monahan Flat	2710	3.6	6.5	7.1	51%
Susitna Valley High	375	6.9	16.8	10.5	66%
Tokositna Valley	850	9.2	27.0	15.2	61%

Northern Cook Inlet



Snow pack

Snow Conditions in Northern Cook Inlet are much below normal. The nine snow sites in the basin averaged only 31% of normal, about the same as last month.

A month ago the Mt. Alyeska SNOTEL site had 9" of Snow with 2.4" of water content. This month it has 6" of snow with 2.0" of water content, 8% of normal and a new record low. Indian Pass, on the other hand, gained snowpack and is 51% of normal with 42" of snow and 9.8" of water content.

This is the least snow pack Anchorage had had since 2003. The Arctic Ski Bowl snow course, which began getting measured in 1964, has set a new record low with 14" of snow and 3.8" of water content or 35% normal.

Across the inlet, the snowpack is similar. The Lone Ridge and Chuitna Plateau aerial markers fare marginally better than last year. Granite Point has no snow.

Northern Cook Inlet

Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year	This Year	Last Year	Last Year	1981-2010	1981-2010
			Snow Depth	Snow Depth	Snow Depth	Snow Depth	Normal	Normal
Anchorage Hillside	2080	3/1/2015	8	3.2	15	3.7	---	8.3
Arctic Ski Bowl	3000	2/27/2015	14	3.8	19	5.4	35	10.8
Arctic Valley #1	500	2/27/2015	4	1.6	12	2.9	18	4.0
Arctic Valley #2	1000	2/27/2015	8	2.0	14	3.7	22	4.5
Arctic Valley #3	1450	2/27/2015	10	3.0	15	4.5	28	6.7
Arctic Valley #4	2030	2/27/2015	11	3.2	13	3.9	28	6.4
Chuitna Plateau	1540	2/27/2015	49	10.6	33	9.5	69	25.8
Congahbuna Lake	550	2/27/2015	13	3.5	13	3.9	34	9.0
Granite Point	250	2/27/2015	0	0.0	1	0.2	20	4.7
Indian Pass	2350	3/1/2015	42	9.8	38	10.5	---	19.3
Kincaid Park	250	3/3/2015	3	1.0	11	3.0	17	3.9
Lone Ridge	1675	2/27/2015	42	9.7	42	12.8	76	29.0
Moraine	2100	3/1/2015	0	0.0	7	2.1	---	6.8
Mt. Alyeska	1540	3/1/2015	6	2.0	26	9.3	---	26.6
Point Mackenzie	250	3/1/2015	8	1.7	15	4.4	---	4.7
Portage Valley	50	2/26/2015	0	0.0	16	5.2	36	11.0
South Campbell Creek	1200	3/4/2015	6	1.4	13	3.1	24	5.8

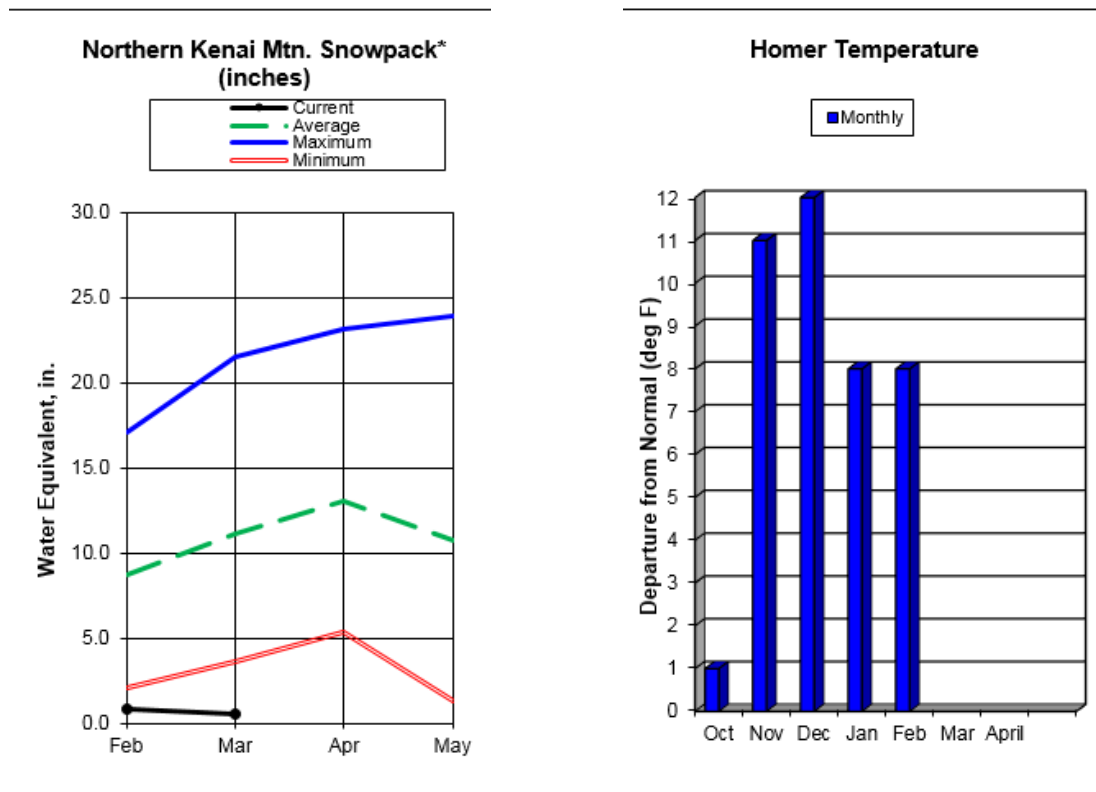
Streamflow Forecasts

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Ship Creek near Anchorage	Apr- Jul	57	81	44	33	58

Precipitation

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Anchorage Hillside	2080	6.5	14.3	11.9	55%
Indian Pass	2350	13.7	25.1	22.0	62%
Moraine	2100	5.1	8.4	10.1	51%
Mt. Alyeska	1540	30.9	37.6	39.9	77%
Point Mackenzie	250	4.3	11.5	7.2	60%

Kenai Peninsula



Snow pack

As bad as last month was for snowpack on the Kenai, it's worse this month. The peninsula's 19 sites average 15% of normal. Nine snow courses had no snow at all.

Eleven snow sites set new record lows and four additional sites tied the previous records set in 2003 with no snow. That's 15 out of 19 sites with records lows—the other four aren't that far off either.

Most notable is the complete absence of snow at Bertha Creek. This 45 year old snow course's previous record was set in 1985 with 26" of snow and 5.2" of water. Turnagain Pass SNOTEL site beat out last year's record low by 3" of depth and had 3.8" less water content with 39" and 9.7" of water content which is 35% of normal.

The Kenai Peninsula received about half to two thirds normal February precipitation and most of it came as rain.

Kenai Peninsula

Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Anchor River Divide	1653	3/1/2015	13	5.7	15	6.2	---	10.1
Bertha Creek	950	2/27/2015	0	0.0	26	7.1	47	14.7
Bridge Creek	1300	3/1/2015	0	0.0	7	2.2	34	9.6
Cooper Lake	1200	3/1/2015	3	1.5	12	4.2	---	13.1
Demonstration Forest	780	3/1/2015	0	0.0	8	2.4	23	6.6
Eagle Lake	1400	3/1/2015	0	0.0	11	3.3	40	10.4
Exit Glacier	400	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	20	7.4	48	15.9
Exit Glacier SNOTEL	400	3/1/2015	5	2.2	20	7.4	---	15.9
Grandview	1100	3/1/2015	4	0.9	25	7.3	---	26.5
Grouse Creek Divide	700	3/1/2015	2	0.4	17	6.8	---	14.6
Jean Lake	620	2/26/2015	0	0.0	3	0.8	14	3.2
Kachemak Creek	1660	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	1	0.3*	---	---
Kenai Moose Pens	300	3/1/2015	4	1.3	7	2.6	---	4.0
Kenai Summit	1390	2/27/2015	6	1.6	25	6.6	45	12.3
Mcneil Canyon	1320	3/1/2015	2	0.2	6	2.4	---	9.0
Middle Fork Bradley	2300	3/1/2015	2	---	11	---	---	---
Moose Pass	700	2/27/2015	0	0.0	4	1.1	20	6.0
Mt. Alyeska	1540	3/1/2015	6	2.0	26	9.3	---	26.6
Nuka Glacier	1250	3/1/2015	0	---	5	2.1*	74	28.8
Port Graham	300	3/1/2015	0	0.0	9	4.3	---	6.7
Portage Valley	50	2/26/2015	0	0.0	16	5.2	36	11.0
Snug Harbor Road	500	2/26/2015	0	0.0	0	0.0	17	5.2
Summit Creek	1400	3/1/2015	6	3.2	18	5.0	---	10.0
Turnagain Pass	1880	3/1/2015	39	9.7	42	13.5	---	27.9

*Estimate

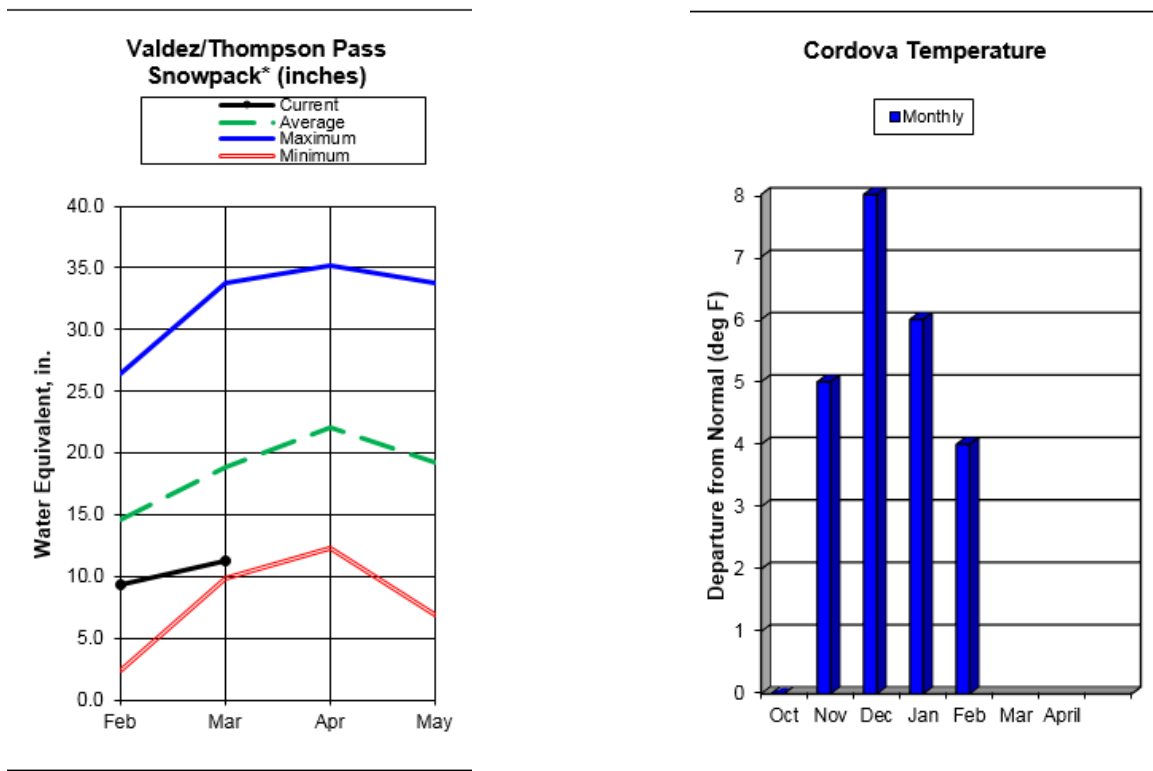
Streamflow Forecasts

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	Apr-Jul	74	88	61	715	960

Precipitation

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Anchor River Divide	1653	10.9	16.5	14.4	76%
Cooper Lake	1200	14.9	25.1	22.9	65%
Grandview	1100	34.3	31.0	34.8	99%
Grouse Creek Divide	700	27.3	34.4	33.3	82%
Kachemak Creek	1660	45.3	45.9	34.7	131%
Kenai Moose Pens	300	2.8	9.2	7.3	38%
Mcneil Canyon	1320	8.9	11.8	14.9	60%
Middle Fork Bradley	2300	28.6	32.5	29.0	99%
Nuka Glacier	1250	56.0	54.5	48.2	116%
Port Graham	300	35.1	44.1	43.5	81%
Summit Creek	1400	9.3	19.2	14.0	66%
Turnagain Pass	1880	23.2	27.5	28.5	81%

Western Gulf



Snow pack

The Western Gulf of Alaska and Prince William Sound area had above normal precipitation but continue to have below normal snowpack. Warmer than normal temperatures have brought rain, instead of snow to most locations.

Measured snowpack in Prince William Sound ranges from 3%-86% of normal. Like last month, the snow courses near Valdez were the most robust and all measured around 60-80% of normal.

Near Resurrection Bay, Exit Glacier SNOTEL is 14% of Normal and Grouse Creek Divide is 3% of normal. Grouse Creek Divide at 700' of elevation has 2" of snow with 0.4" of water content, considerably below the 14.6" of normal water content.

Western Gulf

Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Exit Glacier	400	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	20	7.4	48	15.9
Exit Glacier SNOTEL	400	3/1/2015	5	2.2	20	7.4	---	15.9
Grouse Creek Divide	700	3/1/2015	2	0.4	17	6.8	---	14.6
Lowe River	600	2/26/2015	35	9.4	40	14.8	50	14.8
Mt. Eyak	1405	3/1/2015	4	2.3	19	6.3	---	22.1
Nuka Glacier	1250	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	5	2.1	74	28.8
Sugarloaf Mountain	550	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	51	19.4	70	21.1
Tsaina River	1650	3/2/2015	38	10.7*	45	14.2	53	14.1
Upper Tsaina River	1750	3/1/2015	46	14.0	48	15.9	---	16.3
Valdez	50	2/26/2015	27	8.6	38	13.2	46	14.0
Worthington Glacier	2100	3/2/2015	48	14.9*	54	18.8	69	21.6

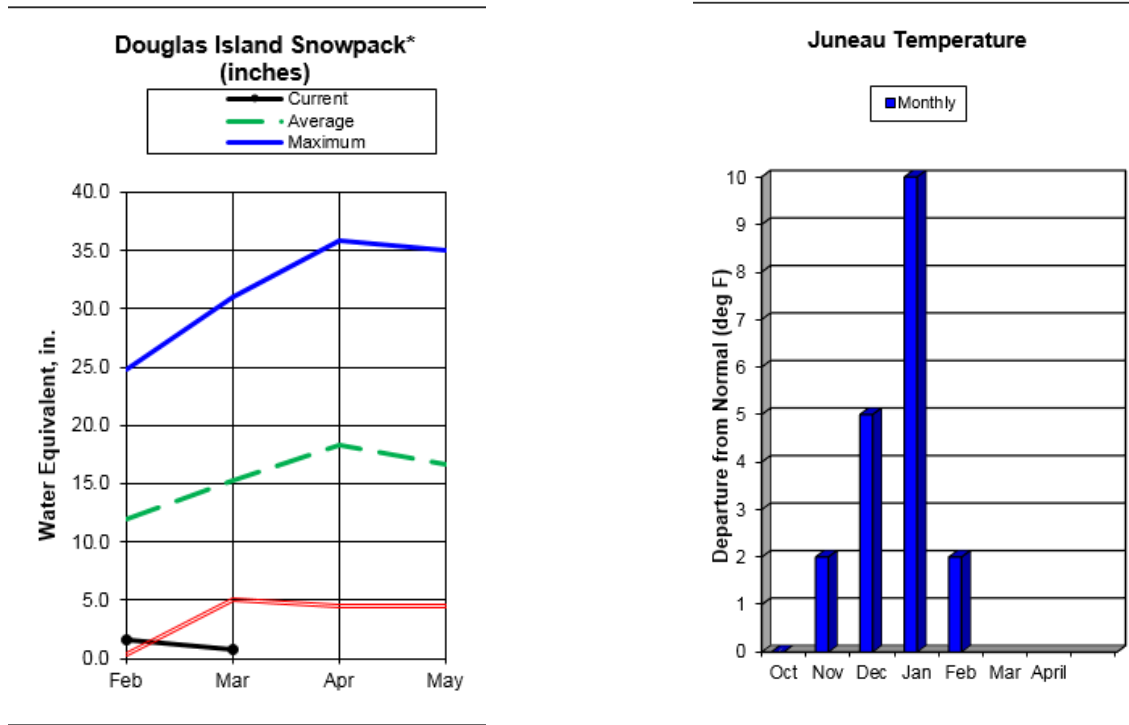
*Estimate

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Esther Island	50	78.4	86.1	71.9	109%
Grouse Creek Divide	700	27.3	34.4	33.3	82%
Mt. Eyak	1405	60.4	76.8	---	---
Nuchek	50	71.3	91.4	---	---
Nuka Glacier	1250	56.0	54.5	48.2	116%
Port San Juan	50	---	68.2	66.1	---
Seal Island	20	35.8	37.9	---	---
Strawberry Reef	30	43.0	38.7	---	---
Sugarloaf Mtn	550	29.2	53.1	34.5	85%
Tatitlek	50	37.3	50.9	35.7	104%

Southeast



Snow pack

Last month the measured snowpack in Southeast was meager; this month it's pitiful. Not only did several sites set new records lows, they annihilated the old ones.

The 50 year old Speel River snow course, southeast of Juneau, set a new record low with 17" of snow and 4.6" of water content, 19% of normal and 30% of the previous low set in 2001 of 42" and 15.3" of water content. Douglas Island fared worse. Both Eaglecrest and Cropley Lake snow courses which began in 1977 set new lows, handily beating out the previous lows set in 1981. For the first time, Eaglecrest snow course was snowless for the March 1 survey. It's 30 year average is 45" of snow depth and 16.5" of snow water content. Cropley Lake had 5" of snow with 2.0" of water content 9% of normal and 19% of the previous 1981 low of 19" of snow and 10.2" of water content.

To the south, Petersburg Ridge had only 5" of snow with 1.6" of water content, 7% of normal and its lowest March 1 reading since 1981 when it was measured with no snow. Institute Creek, near Wrangell, was measured for the first time without snow on March 1.

However, further north near Skagway, Moore Creek Bridge snow course is 73% of normal with 42" of snow and 13.8" of water content.

The low snowpack this year continues to be driven by warm temperatures and not by a lack of precipitation. Precipitation is slightly above normal for the region. It is likely that areas above 3000' in elevation have close to normal snowpacks, however, this can not be verified.

Southeast

Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Cropley Lake	1650	2/27/2015	5	2.0	86	26.5	71	23.1
Eagle Crest	1200	2/27/2015	0	0.0	56	16.0	45	16.5
Fish Creek	500	2/27/2015	0	0.0	9	3.5	20	6.5
Institute Creek	1350	3/1/2015	0	0.0	26	7.8	---	---
Long Lake	850	3/1/2015	37	14.5	89	31.0	---	27.2
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	2/28/2015	42	13.8	43	17.4	64	18.9
Petersburg Reservoir	550	2/27/2015	0	0.0	13	2.4	18	4.0
Petersburg Ridge, S.	1650	2/27/2015	5	1.6	46	15.3	65	21.4
Rainbow Falls	500	3/1/2015	0	0.0	8	1.4	---	---
Speel River	280	3/2/2015	17	4.6	66	28.2	68	23.7
West Creek	475	2/28/2015	3	0.8	35	11.3	---	---

Streamflow Forecasts

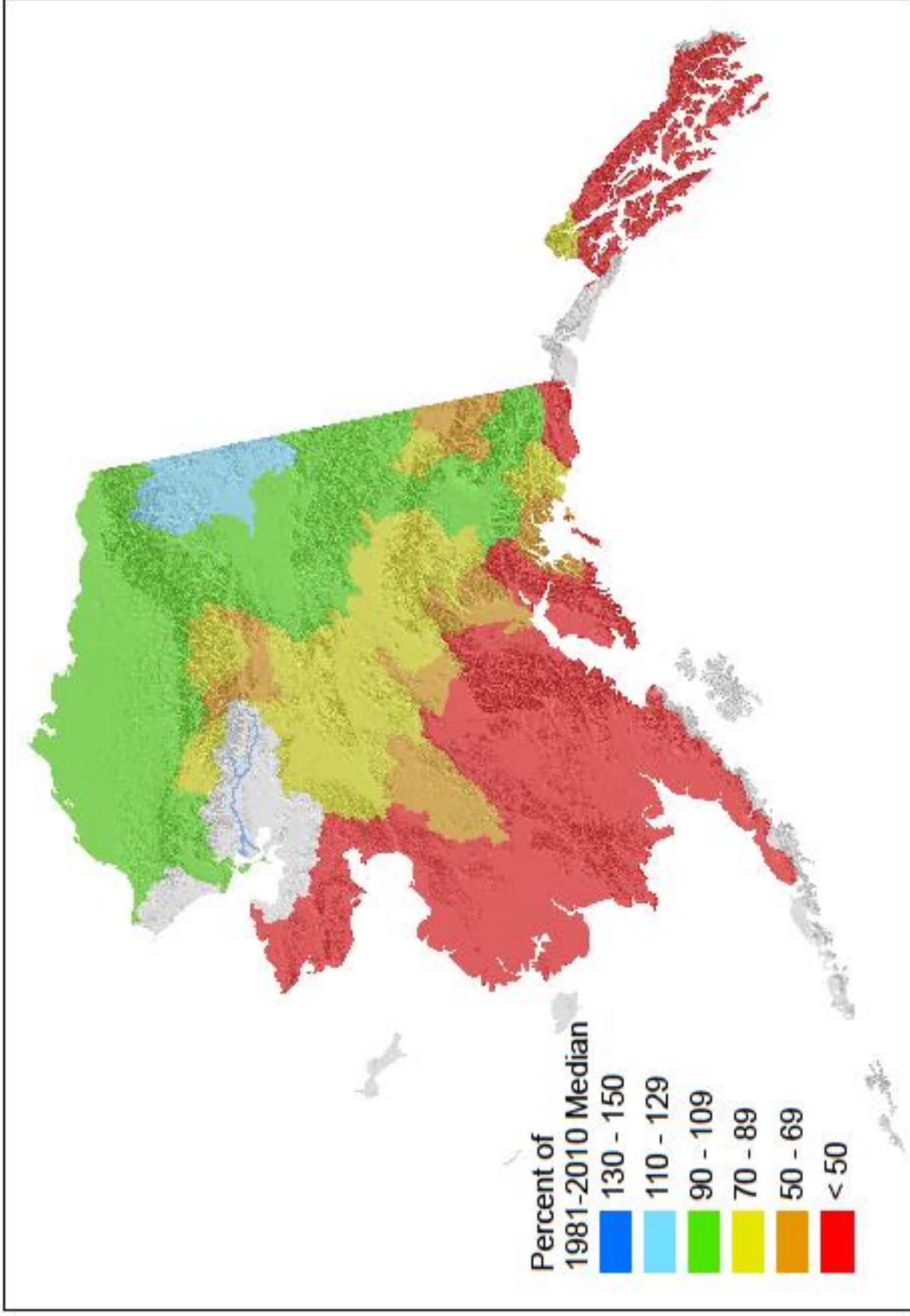
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Gold Creek near Juneau	Apr-Jul	71	97	44	24	34

Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Long Lake	850	88.9	82.7	85.9	103%
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	24.3	22.8	23.7	103%

Alaska Snowpack as of March 1, 2015

Based on Snow Water Content



For further information contact:

NRCS Alaska web site: www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ak/snow/

NRCS Water and Climate Center web site: <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/>

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

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