

Alaska Snow Survey Report



March 1, 2016

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Cover photo: Chuitna Plateau and the Tordillo Mountains. Chuitna Plateau Aerial Marker was measured with 68" of snow depth on March 1, 2016

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General Overview

SnowPack

The snowpack in most of the state made slight gains through February. Exceptions were coastal areas in Southeast and some other low lying areas which experienced melt and the mountains of the Kenai Peninsula which saw significant gains.

Like last month, much of the state has fairly normal or somewhat below normal snowpack. Parts of the White Mountains and the Kenai Mountains are the exception and are above to well above normal.

In Southeast Alaska, the snowline continues to rise and even sites at elevation have started to melt. At 1650' of elevation, Petersburg Ridge snow course dropped from 28" of snow with 10.6" of water content last month to 23" of snow and 8.8" of water content this month. Areas in Southeast closer to the continent have seen increases in the snowpack, however. Long Lake SNOTEL at 850' of elevation now has 63" of snow and 24.0" of water content, up from 54" and 18.6" water content last month.

Low lying snowpacks in southcentral and southwest Alaska have experienced some melting during February. Sites at elevation in these regions generally saw gains.

Due to a series of storms which battered the western Gulf, the Kenai Mountains saw significant gains in snowpack during the month. Anchor River Divide SNOTEL, north of Homer, measured a new 25 year record high snowpack. It had 59" of snow with 16.3" of water content, 161% of normal. Similarly, Turnagain Pass SNOTEL had 147" of snow and 48.5" of water content on March 1st, 174% of normal. In the last 33 years, its snowpack is second only to the massive snow year of 2001. However, the Portage Valley snow course, eleven miles away at 50' of elevation, had no snow. Its normal is 36" of snow with 11.0 of water content.

Compared to the Kenai, snowpacks in the Interior and Arctic were stagnant and saw minimal change since last month. Many locations maintained the same snow depth as last month with token gains in water content.

Precipitation

February precipitation divided the state into two portions: the haves and the have-nots.

Topping the list in the "haves" column was the Kenai Peninsula and Western Prince William Sound, where most sites received between 200-350% of normal February precipitation. Grandview SNOTEL received 16.8" of precipitation during the month, 354% of its average of 4.75". The deluge diminished further north into Cook Inlet, west into Southwest Alaska, and east towards Valdez where near normal precipitation was experienced.

Southeast also was in the precipitation "haves" category. From Skagway south, the Southeast experienced above normal precipitation. Long Lake, southeast of Juneau, received 12.3" of precipitation during the month, 113% of normal.

In the "have-nots" category, we have . . . the rest of the state. Here we can divide the state further, into places which received less than half normal precipitation and places which received nothing at all. Areas which received a tenth inch or less of precipitation during February include much of the Tanana Basin, the Yukon Flats, parts of the Copper Basin and the North Slope. Areas which received some, but below normal precipitation, included the Susitna Basin, parts of the Alaska Range, the Central Yukon Basin near the Canadian border and western Alaska from the Kuskokwim north to the Seward Peninsula.

General Overview Continued

Temperature

It's been called "The Winter that Wasn't." Continued much-above-normal temperatures persisted into February, causing some lower lying snowpacks to melt and gardeners to ponder spring planting schedules.

Fairbanks has yet to hit -30°F this winter, and the closest it came to it was back in November. The "Golden Heart of Alaska" was 9°F above normal for the month, down from 13°F above normal in January.

Talkeetna and Bettles both averaged 16° above normal for the month and close behind them Bethel and Fort Yukon were 15° above. This warm trend persists over the entire state. In the north, Barrow was 13° F above normal for the month; to the east, Whitehorse was 12°F above normal; to the west, Nome was 12° above normal for February; and to the south, where Juneau was 8° above normal for the month.

Streamflow Forecasts

FORECAST POINT*	Percent of Ave. Flow	Period
Yukon River at Eagle	99	April - July
Porcupine River nr Int'l Boundary.....	97	April - July
Yukon River near Stevens Village	101	April - July
Tanana River at Fairbanks	88	April - July
Tanana River at Nenana	87	April - July
Little Chena River near Fairbanks	96	April - July
Chena River near Two Rivers	98	April - July
Salcha near Salchaket	91	April - July
Sagvanirktok River near Pump Station 3	101	April - July
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse	89	April - July
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek	104	April - June
Gulkana River at Sourdough	90	April - July
Little Susitna River near Palmer	109	April - July
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	101	April - July
Ship Creek near Anchorage	91	April - July
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	110	April - July
Gold Creek near Juneau	79	April - July

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

FORECAST POINT	INDEX	Index	Key:
Koyukuk River at Hughes.....	-0.9		
MF Koyukuk R near Wiseman	+0.2		
Slate Creek at Coldfoot.....	+0.2		
Beaver Creek above Victoria Creek.....	-0.4		
Birch Creek below South Fork.....	-2.0		
Caribou Creek at Chatanika.....	-0.6		
Susitna River near Gold Creek.....	-0.3	-2 to -3	much below average snow-melt runoff
Chulitna River near Talkeetna.....	-2.0		
Deshka River at mouth near Willow.....	-2.3		
Montana Creek at Parks Highway.....	-2.0		
Willow Creek near Willow.....	-1.0	-1 to -2	below average snowmelt runoff
Skwentna River at Skwentna.....	-1.6		
Chuitna River near Tyonek.....	-2.0		
Campbell Creek near Spenard.....	-2.0		
Indian Creek at Indian.....	-2.2	-1 to +1	average snow-melt runoff
Bird Creek at Bird Creek	-2.2		
Glacier Creek nr Girdwood	-1.8		
Six Mile Creek near Hope.....	+1.2		
Resurrection Creek near Hope.....	—	+1 to +2	above average snowmelt runoff
Grouse Ck at Grouse Lake Outlet nr Seward	-0.2		
Anchor River near Anchor Point	-0.2		
Deep Creek near Ninilchik.....	0		
Ninilchik River near Ninilchik.....	0	+2 to +3	much above average snow-melt runoff
Fritz Creek near Homer.....	0		
Skagway River at Skagway.....	+1.0		
Municipal Watershed C nr Petersburg	-2.5		

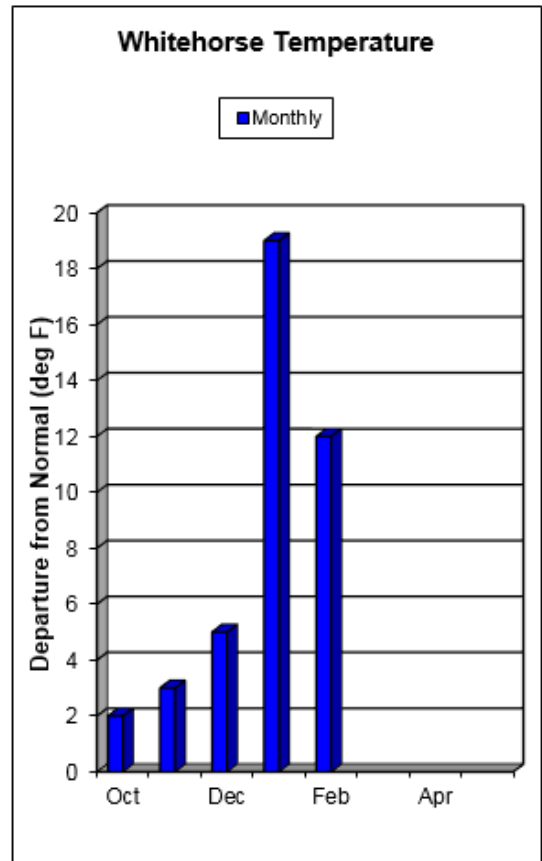
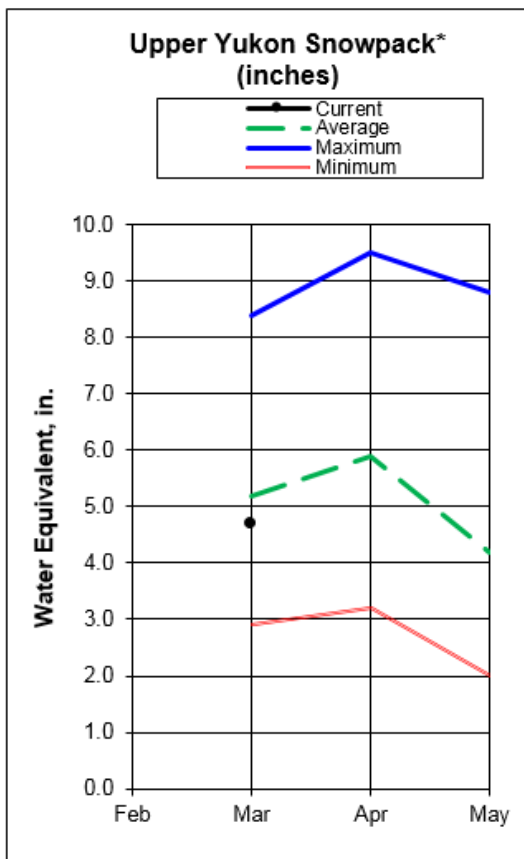
HOW FORECASTS ARE MADE

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 ranged from below to above normal depending on the region.

The lowest snowpack is on the basin upstream from Whitehorse. The 8 snow courses measured here average 80% of normal, ranging from 62% of normal at Mt. McIntyre to 97% of normal at Williams Creek.

To the north, the White River drainage averaged 91% of normal, ranging from 70-128% of normal. The snowpack increases from south to north.

Further north, the Dawson area snow courses average 104% of normal. King Solomon Dome snow course was right at normal with 28" of snow and 5.6" of water content.

To the east, the Stewart and Pelly drainages also had near normal snowpacks. The nine sites in this area average 102% of normal, ranging from 83" at Twin Peaks to 118% at Edwards Lake.

Upper Yukon Basin

Snowpack Data

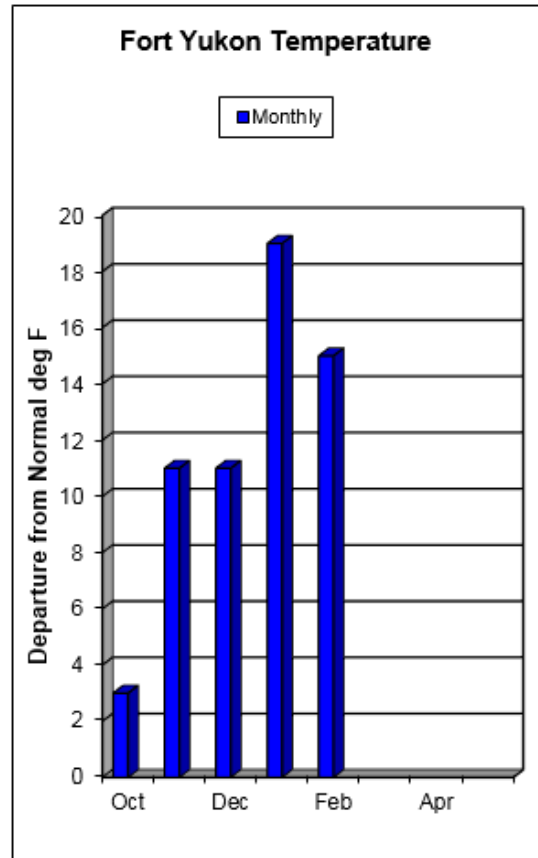
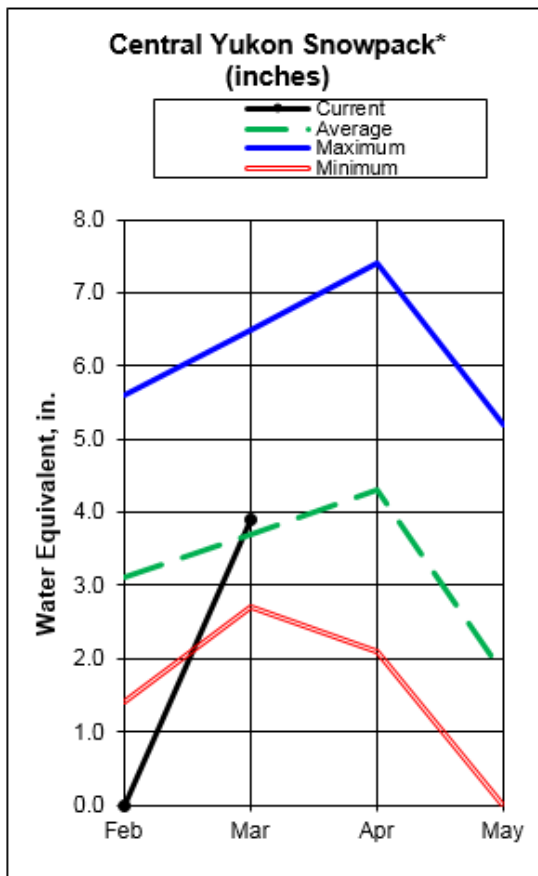
Site Name	Elev.	Date	This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
			This Year	This Year	Last Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	1981-2010 Normal
			Snow	Water Con-	Snow	Water Con-	Snow	Water Con-
Arrowhead Lake	3675	No Survey	---	---	---	---	30	5.7
Atlin	2395	3/1/2016	16	3.4	11	2.7	20	4.4
Beaver Creek	2150	2/25/2016	16	2.9	15	2.6	16	2.4
Burns Lake	3650	No Survey	---	---	36	7.6	33	7.4
Burwash Airstrip	2660	2/24/2016	6	0.9	6	1.0	10	1.7
Calumet	4300	2/29/2016	33	8.0	34	7.2	34	6.8
Casino Creek	3495	3/1/2016	26	5.1	22	4.2	24	4.0
Chair Mountain	3500	2/25/2016	12	2.1	21	3.1	20	3.0
Duke River	4300	No Survey	---	---	---	---	20	3.5
Eagle Plains	2330	3/1/2016	29	5.4	36	8.4	28	5.6
Eagle River	1115	3/1/2016	24	4.1	32	7.2	25	4.1
Edwards Lake	2720	2/25/2016	25	5.2	29	6.0	30	5.4
Finlayson Airstrip	3240	2/26/2016	19	3.4	17	3.0	20	3.6
Fuller Lake	3695	No Survey	---	---	---	---	31	6.7
Grizzly Creek	3200	3/1/2016	28	5.8	35	7.3	28	5.9
Hoole River	3400	No Survey	---	---	25	5.4	24	4.6
Jordan Lake	3050	No Survey	---	---	23	4.6	24	4.8
King Solomon Dome	3540	2/29/2016	28	5.6	32	6.2	29	5.6
Log Cabin (B.C.)	2900	2/23/2016	43	13.1	39	11.3	48	13.3
Macintosh	3805	3/1/2016	17	2.4	14	2.3	19	3.3
Mayo Airport	1770	2/25/2016	22	4.4	19	3.0	20	3.8
Meadow Creek	4050	2/24/2016	32	7.9	40	10.8	40	9.4
Midnight Dome	2805	2/29/2016	28	5.8	29	6.1	26	5.0
Montana Mtn.	3350	2/24/2016	16	3.0	25	6.6	24	5.2
Morley Lake	2700	2/24/2016	22	4.0	19	5.1	24	5.1
Mt. Berdoe	3395	3/2/2016	19	3.4	19	3.7	22	3.8
Mt. McIntyre B	3600	2/24/2016	16	3.2	26	5.4	26	5.2
Mt. Nansen	3350	3/1/2016	16	2.7	14	2.3	17	2.6
Old Crow	980	No Survey	---	---	34	6.4	24	3.8
Pelly Farm	1550	2/26/2016	14	3.0	14	3.3	16	2.8
Plata Airstrip	2725	No Survey	---	---	36	7.6	30	6.2
Rackla Lake	3410	2/25/2016	30	6.3	31	5.9	31	6.4
Riffs Ridge	2130	3/1/2016	27	5.6	36	8.9	28	4.7
Russell Lake	3480	2/25/2016	33	7.4	40	8.2	35	7.0
Satasha Lake	3630	3/1/2016	16	2.3	14	2.6	18	3.1
Summit	985	2/24/2016	27	5.7	25	5.8	34	9.2
Tagish	3540	2/25/2016	17	3.2	23	4.9	25	5.1
Twin Creeks	2950	2/24/2016	27	5.2	30	6.7	30	6.3
Whitehorse Airport	2300	2/24/2016	13	2.5	15	3.2	19	3.6
Williams Creek	3000	3/1/2016	20	3.0	18	3.2	18	3.1
Withers Lake	3200	2/25/2016	32	7.4	34	7.4	34	7.4

*Estimate

Streamflow Forecasts

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Yukon River At Eagle	Apr- Jul	99	114	84	33000	33300

Central Yukon Basin



Snow pack

The Central Yukon Basin snowpack is near normal across much of the basin, except for the White Mountains and the Fortymile region which are above normal.

The 6 measured sites in the White Mountains average 115% of normal. Upper Nome Creek SNOTEL measured just 0.1" of precipitation during the month.

In the Fortymile region, the five sites measured an average 129% of normal snowpack. The Chicken Airstrip snow course was measured with 17" of snow depth and 3.5" of water content, 125% of normal. The new Jack Wade Junction SNOTEL, near the junction of the Taylor and the Top-of-the-World Highways, has 33 inches of snow and 7.1 inches of water content, a gain of 3" and 0.9" of water content.

The Porcupine basin snow courses, in the Yukon Territories, averaged 105% of normal. The Fort Yukon SNOTEL site measured no new precipitation during the month and has 16 inches of snow. The snow course in Fort Yukon was measured with 20" of snow and 3.6" of water content, 120% of normal.

On the lower part of the basin, Seven Mile snow course, near the Yukon Crossing, was 76% of normal with 20 inches of snow and an estimated 3.5" of water content.

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	3/1/2016	17	3.5	20	3.7	---	---
Atigun Pass	4800	3/1/2016	46	---	31	---	---	---
Borealis	1330	3/2/2016	21	4.7	---	---	23	4.0
Boundary	3500	2/28/2016	31	6.5	20	4.4	22	4.3
Cathedral Creek	1800	2/29/2016	27	5.6*	34	6.4	---	---
Chicken Airstrip	1650	2/28/2016	17	3.5	12	2.3	16	2.8
Circle City	600	No Survey	---	---	---	---	25	3.6
Circle Hot Springs	860	3/2/2016	19	3.2	24	4.1	22	3.6
Coal Creek	1000	No Survey	---	---	26	4.4	---	---
Copper Creek	2000	2/29/2016	28	6.0*	36	8.5	---	---
Crescent Creek	2600	2/29/2016	22	4.5*	22	3.7	---	---
Eagle Summit	3650	No Survey	25	---	16	---	---	---
Fort Yukon SNOTEL	430	No Survey	16	---	15	---	---	---
Fort Yukon	430	3/1/2016	20	3.6	19	2.9	18	3.0
Fossil	1400	3/2/2016	19	4.4	---	---	22	3.8
Graphite Lake	600	2/29/2016	20	3.9*	18	3.1	---	---
Hess Creek	1000	3/1/2016	19	3.8*	22	4.7	24	4.5
Jack Wade Jct	3585	3/1/2016	33	7.1	---	---	---	---
Lost Chicken Hill	2150	2/28/2016	21	4.0	15	2.6	18	3.1
Lower Beaver Creek	400	2/29/2016	20	3.7*	26	4.4	---	---
Mission Creek	900	No Survey	---	---	---	---	17	3.5
Mt. Fairplay	3100	2/28/2016	20	4.1	17	3.9	20	3.8
Old Crow	980	No Survey	---	---	34	6.4	24	3.8
Ptarmigan Creek	2270	3/2/2016	21	4.0	22	3.5	23	3.6
Seven Mile	600	3/1/2016	20	3.5*	22	4.4	26	4.6
Stack Pup Creek	1620	3/2/2016	19	2.8	26	3.9	23	3.7
Step Mountain	2850	2/29/2016	28	5.9*	34	6.6	---	---
Thirty Mile	1350	3/1/2016	29	5.9*	26	5.5	34	7.0
Three Fingers	3350	2/29/2016	30	6.3*	33	7.3	---	---
Upper Nome Creek	2520	3/1/2016	25	5.9*	23	---	---	---
Vunzik Lake	500	2/29/2016	18	3.3*	18	3.1	---	---
Windy Gap	1900	3/2/2016	24	6.0	---	---	24	4.8
Wolf	1200	3/1/2016	20	5.0	---	---	21	3.6

*Estimate

Streamflow Forecasts

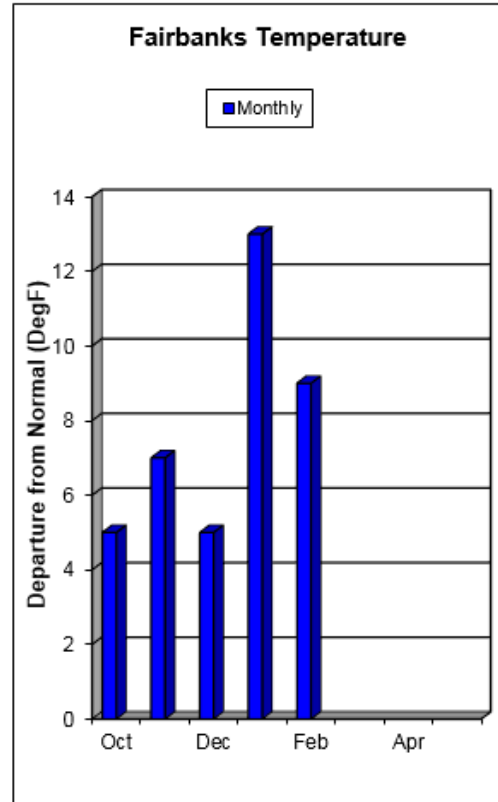
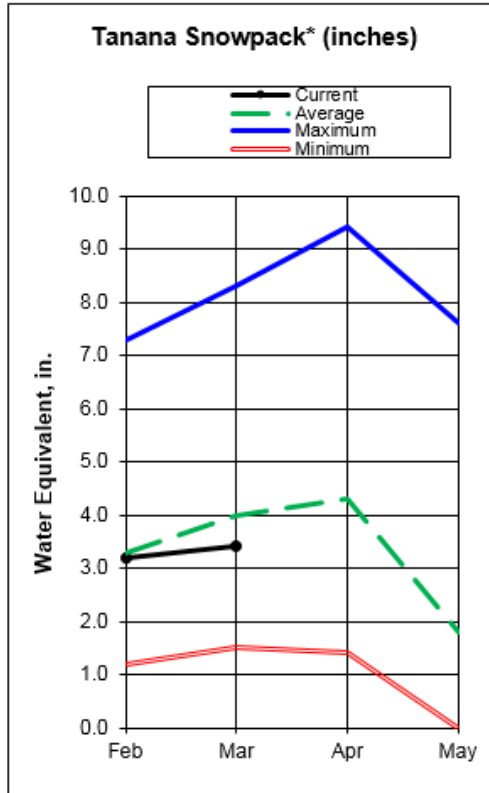
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Porcupine River near Intl Boundary	Apr- Jul	97	143	65	5450	5640
Yukon River near Stevens Village	Apr- Jul	101	116	86	48600	48100

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
American Creek	1050	3.2	3.7	---	---
Atigun Pass	4800	3.4	2.9	4.8	71%
Chandalar Camp	3300	2.8	4.0	3.9	72%
Eagle Summit	3650	4.7	4.7	4.7	100%
Fort Yukon	430	2.8	2.7	3.1	90%
Jack Wade Jct	3585	5.9	---	---	---
Upper Nome Creek	2520	4.1	3.9	4.3	95%

Tanana Basin



Snow pack

It was a dry month in the Tanana Basin. The twelve sites in the basin recorded an average of 12% of normal precipitation for the month. Half of those sites recorded no gains in precipitation.

So the snowpack trends of last month mostly remain this month: the upper valley with less than normal snowpack and the lower valley with normal or above normal snowpack.

The upper valley above Tok averages 79% of normal. The snow courses near Delta Junction averaged 84% of normal. The Tok SCAN site received 0.3" of precipitation over the month.

The snowpack increases further down valley. The seven measured sites in the Chena Valley average 115% on normal.

The snowpack in the basin below Fairbanks has now dropped to normal and in some places, slightly below. The Lake Minchumina snow course has 15 inches of snow with 3.5 inches of water content, 103% of normal.

Tanana 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
Bonanza Creek	1150	2/29/2016	19	5.2	19	3.7	20	3.9
Caribou Creek	1250	3/1/2016	13	3.0	16	2.9	20	3.6
Caribou Snow Pillow	900	3/1/2016	16	3.8	17	3.0	21	3.6
Chisana	3320	3/1/2016	14	2.8	12	2.3	---	4.1
Cleary Summit	2230	3/2/2016	26	5.6	28	4.7	26	4.6
Colorado Creek	700	3/1/2016	19	3.8	19	2.7	20	3.4
Fairbanks F.O.	450	3/1/2016	15	2.7	15	2.5	---	3.1
Faith Creek	1750	3/2/2016	20	3.8	24	3.9	24	4.2
Fielding Lake	3000	3/2/2016	35	9.0	32	7.2	37	8.6
Fort Greely	1500	2/29/2016	12	2.5*	16	3.1	17	3.0
French Creek	1800	2/29/2016	20	4.4	22	4.6	24	4.6
Gerstle River	1200	2/29/2016	10	1.6*	15	2.4	18	2.9
Gold King	1700	No Survey	---	---	---	---	19	3.3
Granite Crk	1240	3/1/2016	12	2.4	17	3.9	---	3.5
Jatahmund Lake	2180	No Survey	---	---	13	1.7	16	2.8
Kantishna	1550	3/1/2016	21*	4.0*	21	3.8	24	4.4
Lake Minchumina	730	3/2/2016	15	3.5	13	2.3	19	3.4
Lost Creek	3030	No Survey	---	---	13	2.5	17	3.0
Mentasta Pass	2430	3/2/2016	17	3.9	17	3.6	24	5.1
Monument Creek	1850	3/1/2016	17	4.6	24	4.5	---	4.0
Mt. Ryan	2800	3/1/2016	22	5.5	27	4.3	---	4.4
Munson Ridge	3100	3/1/2016	30	7.1	34	7.0	---	5.9
Paradise Hill	2200	3/1/2016	11	1.9	10	1.8	16	2.8
Ptarmigan Airstrip	2400	No Survey	---	---	---	---	17	2.9
Rock Creek Bottom	2250	No Survey	---	---	---	---	20	3.7
Rock Creek Ridge	2600	No Survey	---	---	---	---	18	3.6
Shaw Creek Flats	980	2/29/2016	12	1.8	12	1.9	14	2.5
Teuchet Creek	1640	3/1/2016	15	3.4	20	4.2	---	3.3
Tok Junction	1650	3/2/2016	14	2.2	16	2.6	18	3.0
Upper Wood River	2990	No Survey	---	---	---	---	21	4.0

*Estimate

Streamflow Forecasts

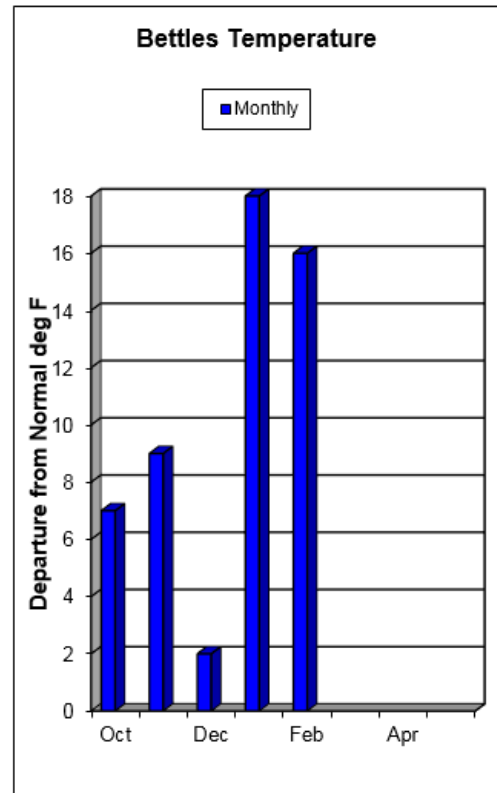
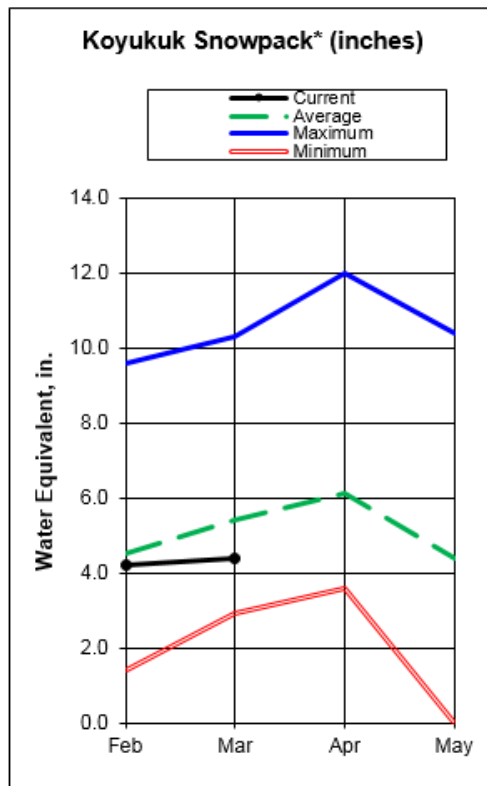
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Salcha River near Salchaket	Apr- Jul	91	116	52	570	625
Tanana River at Fairbanks	Apr- Jul	88	102	75	6590	7460
Chena River near Two Rivers	Apr- Jul	98	140	56	265	270
Little Chena River near Fairbanks	Apr- Jul	96	133	59	75	78
Tanana River at Nenana	Apr- Jul	87	101	74	7860	9000

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Chisana	3320	3.0	2.3	---	---
Fairbanks F.O.	450	3.4	2.8	4.0	85%
Granite Crk	1240	1.8	3.8	3.6	50%
Kantishna	1550	4.7	3.8	3.8	124%
Little Chena Ridge	2000	3.6	3.0	4.8	75%
Nenana	415	2.6	2.9	---	---
Tok	1630	2.2	3.0	---	---
Upper Chena	2850	5.0	5.2	5.9	85%

Western Interior Basins



Snow pack

Koyukuk

The middle Koyukuk basin only received a marginal amount of precipitation during February. Bettles SNOTEL caught 0.3" and Kanuti Lake SCAN and Coldfoot SNOTEL only received 0.1". The Coldfoot SNOTEL site is near median snowpack with 26 inches of depth and 5.5 inches of water content. The lower basin snowpack has below normal snowpack, while the basin closer to the Brooks Range appears to have normal or above normal snowpack.

Kuskokwim

The snowpack in the headwater regions of the Kuskokwim remains near or above normal. Telaquana Lake SNOTEL has the same snow depth as last month (17") but gained 0.7" of water content over February. The Aniak SCAN site gained 2" of snow over the month for a total of 11" and received 0.4" of precipitation over the month.

Lower Yukon

The lower Yukon area received some precipitation during February. The Innoko Camp SCAN measured 0.4" of precipitation for the month. It gained 3" of snow over the month for a total of 19". Snowpack in this region either made slight gains or losses in snow depth over the month and is generally considered below normal, although there are areas of above normal snowpack.

Snowpack Data

Western Interior Basins

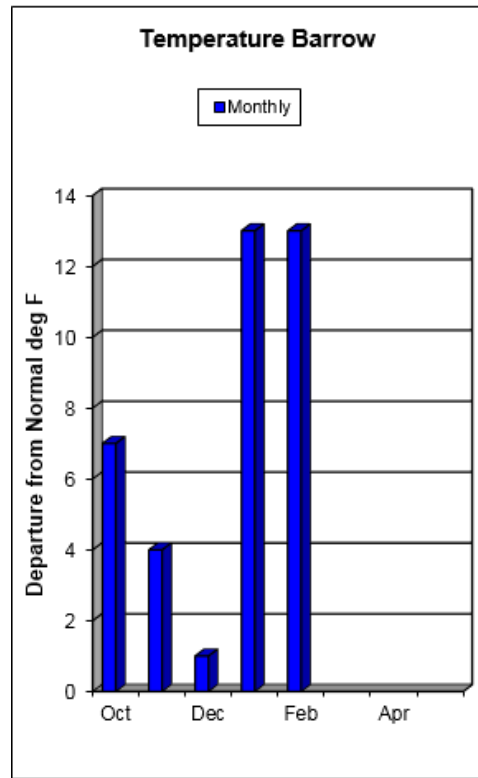
			This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
Site Name	Elev.	Date	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Koyukuk								
Bettles Field	640	3/1/2016	28	4.7	19	3.5	---	5.6
Bonanza Forks	1200	3/2/2016	13	2.8*	18	3.1	26	4.8
Cloverleaf	170	3/2/2016	21	4.0*	22	4.4	---	---
Coldfoot	1040	3/1/2016	26	5.5	23	3.7	---	5.3
Colville Bend	170	3/2/2016	23	4.1*	24	5.3	---	---
Disaster Creek	1550	3/2/2016	18	3.7*	17	3.0	22	3.2
Gobblers Knob	2030	3/1/2016	0	---	1	---	---	---
Huggins Creek	290	3/2/2016	16	3.2*	---	---	---	---
Jr Slough	160	3/2/2016	19	3.8*	24	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
Kanuti Lake	524	3/1/2016	14	2.7*	---	---	---	---
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	3/2/2016	21	4.3*	22	3.6	21	3.3
Taiholman	540	No Survey	---	---	---	---	4	0.8
Treat Island	190	3/2/2016	15	2.9*	27	5.2	---	---
Kuskokwim								
Aniak	80	3/1/2016	11	2.9*	2	---	---	---
Canyon Lake	550	3/1/2016	11	---	0	---	---	---
Holitna River	257	No Survey	---	---	2	0.5	---	---
Holokuk River	367	No Survey	---	---	0	0.0	---	---
Johnny Slu	180	No Survey	---	---	1	0.3	---	---
Lower Aniak	164	No Survey	---	---	0	0.0	---	---
Mcgrath	340	3/1/2016	20*	4.7*	---	---	27	5.4
Middle Kuskowim	297	No Survey	---	---	9	2.2	---	---
Purkeypile Mine	2025	3/2/2016	21	5.1*	20	3.6	24	4.6
Telaquana Lake	1550	No Survey	---	---	4	1.1	22	4.4
Telaquana Lake SNOTEL	1275	3/1/2016	17	5.6	6	1.7	---	---
Lower Yukon								
Bullfrog	100	3/2/2016	24	4.6*	---	---	---	---
Deer Creek	195	3/3/2016	12	3.2*	26	4.9	---	---
Grouch Creek	220	No Survey	---	---	---	---	31	7.0
Holikachuk	100	2/29/2016	40	8.3*	---	---	34	7.6
Horsefly Creek	180	No Survey	---	---	---	---	27	5.6
Little Mud River	855	3/3/2016	15	3.3*	---	---	---	---
Lower Nowitna River	205	3/3/2016	12	3.1*	22	4.5	---	---
Menotl Creek	380	No Survey	---	---	---	---	44	8.6
Middle Innoko	150	3/1/2016	23	4.7*	---	---	32	6.5
Ninemile Island	140	3/2/2016	23	4.2*	20	4.4	---	---
Pike Trap Lake	130	3/2/2016	9	2.2*	3	0.8	---	---
Squirrel Creek	150	3/2/2016	29	6.4*	25	5.5	---	---
Tozikaket	600	No Survey	---	---	---	---	20	3.6
Upper Innoko	180	3/1/2016	21	4.0*	---	---	33	7.2
Wapoo Hills	220	3/1/2016	41	8.1*	30	5.7	33	6.8
Yankee Slough	100	3/2/2016	31	5.8*	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- Jul	104	135	72	10900	10500

Arctic and Kotzebue Sound



Snow pack

Arctic

The Arctic continues to have below normal precipitation. The three precipitation sites along the Dalton Highway average 20% of normal precipitation for the month.

Kotzebue

The Kelly Station SNOTEL site received 0.4" of precipitation during the month. Snowdepth at the site is 21" deep which is near normal.

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	3/1/2016	46	---	31	---	---	---
Imnaviat Creek	3050	3/1/2016	21	---	33	---	---	---
Kelly Station	310	3/1/2016	21	2.8*	28	4.6	---	---
Prudhoe Bay	30	3/1/2016	4	---	16	---	---	---
Sagwon	1000	3/1/2016	15	---	15	---	---	---

*Estimate

Streamflow Forecasts

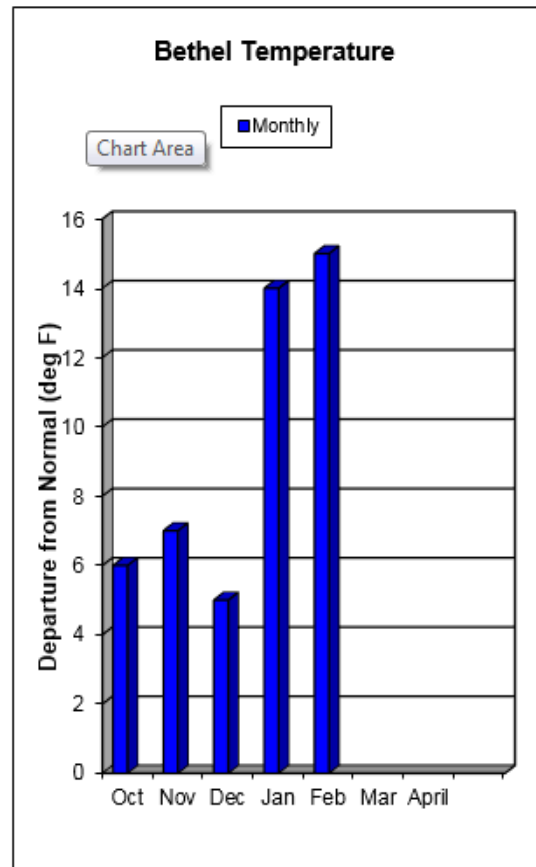
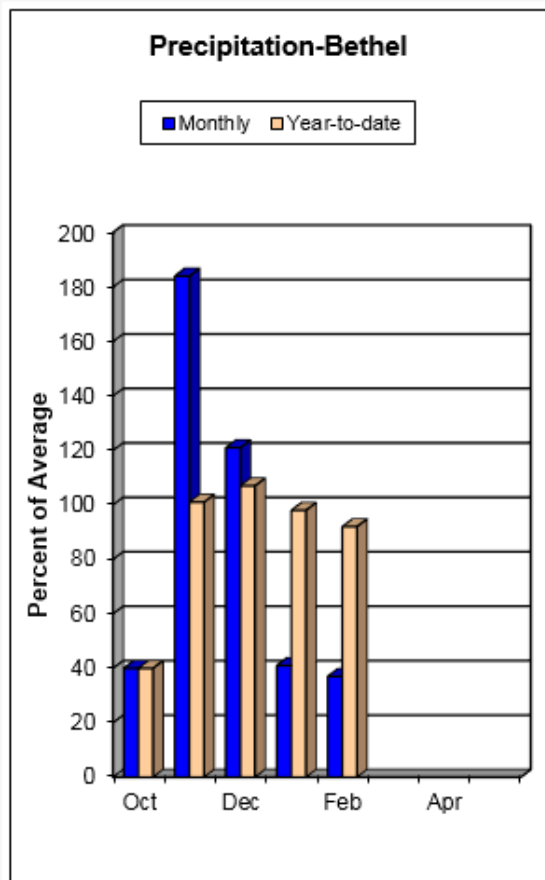
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse	Apr-Jul	89	119	59	710	796
	May-Jul	89	127	63	710	795
Sagavanirktok River near Pump Station 3	Apr-Jul	101	122	80	690	684
	May-Jul	99	146	66	675	683

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Arctic					
Atigun Camp	3400	1.5	2.5	2.1	71%
Atigun Pass	4800	3.4	2.9	4.8	71%
Imnaviat Creek	3050	1.4	3.4	2.6	54%
Prudhoe Bay	30	1.2	2.2	2.6	46%
Sagwon	1000	2.0	2.9	2.6	77%
Kotzebue Sound					
Port Red Dog	50	No Survey	No Survey	3.1	---
Red Dog Mine	950	No Survey	No Survey	3.9	---
Kelly Station	310	3.6	4.5	---	---

Norton Sound/Y-K Delta/Bristol Bay



Snow pack

Norton Sound

The Norton Sound area received less than half of its normal precipitation in February. Still the snow-pack in the area made some gains. Rocky Point gained an additional 2" of snow depth for a total of 23". However, the new Unalakleet SCAN site, located outside of town at 310 feet of elevation, gained no snow during February, but did catch 0.2" of precipitation for the month.

Yukon Kuskokwim Delta

Snowpack made slight gains in the Y-K Delta during February. The Kanaryagak Camp SCAN site, located southeast of Chevak, gained 1" of snow for a total of 14" of snow depth, and a gain of 0.4" precipitation during the month.

Bristol Bay

Snow continues to be low in the Bristol Bay basin. Many low lying areas continue to be snow free. This area received healthy precipitation during the month, but it doesn't seem to have contributed to the snowpack in most areas. Weary Lake SCAN, 20 miles northwest of Dillingham, gained 4.0" of precipitation during the month, but ended with 7" of snow depth-after peaking at 17" mid-month- the same as it started February with.

Norton Sound/Y-K Delta/Bristol Bay

Snowpack Data

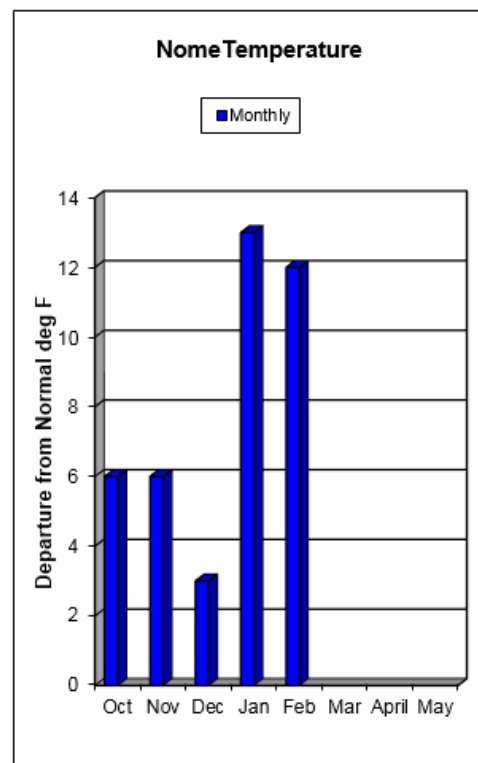
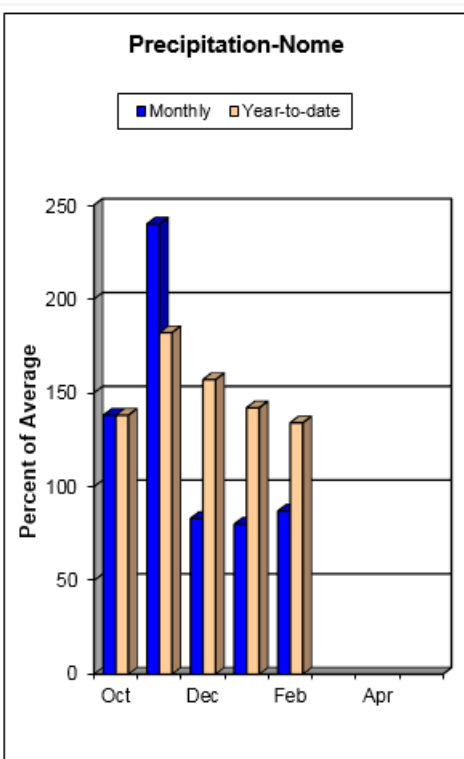
Snowpack Data			This Year		Last Year		1981-2010 Normal	
Site Name	Elev.	Date	Snow Depth	Water Con- tent	Snow Depth	Water Con- tent	Snow Depth	Water Con- tent
Bristol Bay								
Canyon Lake	550	3/1/2016	11	---	0	---	---	---
Fishtrap Lake	1800	No Survey	---	---	---	---	40	9.5
Lower Mulchatna	320	3/1/2016	2	---	0	---	---	---
Naknek River	100	3/1/2016	0	---	0	---	---	---
Port Alsworth	270	3/1/2016	0	0.0	0	0.0	18	3.6
Three Forks	1300	No Survey	---	---	0	0.0	---	---
Upper Twin Lakes	2000	No Survey	---	---	---	---	27	6.4
Weary Lake	100	3/1/2016	7	2.6*	1	---	---	---
Norton Sound								
Checkers Creek	326	3/1/2016	10	1.8*	6	---	---	---
Johnsons Camp	25	3/1/2016	6	---	---	---	---	---
Pargon Creek	100	3/1/2016	11	3.1*	1	---	---	---
Rocky Point	250	3/1/2016	21	4.7*	5	---	---	---
Unalakleet	290	3/1/2016	0	---	---	---	---	---
Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta								
Kanaryagak Camp	13	3/1/2016	13	---	8	---	---	---

*Estimate

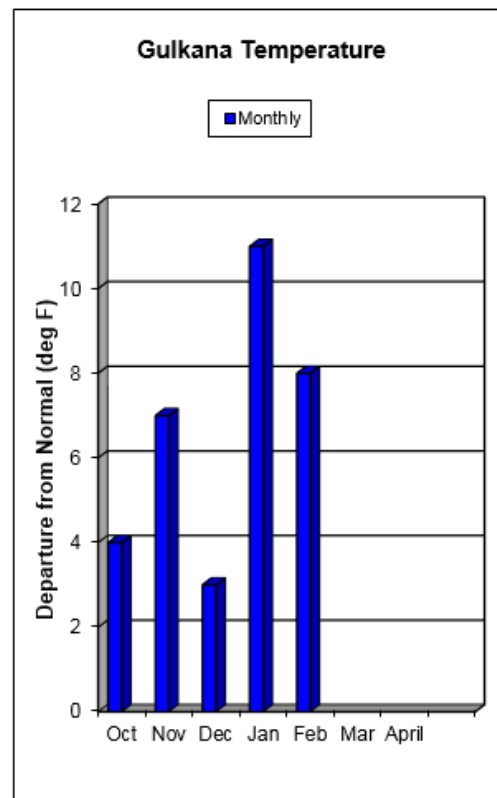
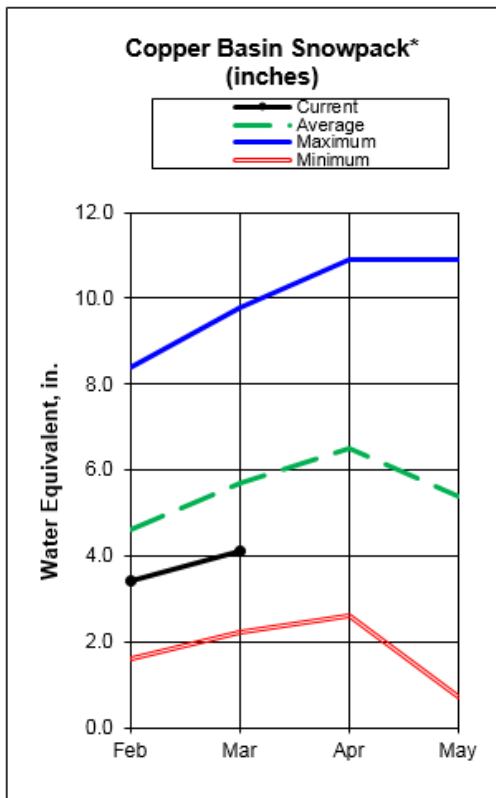
Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Bristol Bay					
Lower Mulchatna	320	9.2	5.8	---	---
Naknek River	100	10.3	5.5	---	---
Weary Lake	100	31.8	31.1	---	---
Norton Sound					
Checkers Creek	326	2.5	1.6	---	---
Pargon Creek	100	7.1	---	5.1	139%
Rocky Point	250	5.6	3.2	4.8	117%
Unalakleet	290	2.6	---	---	---
Yukon - Kuskokwim Delta					
Kanaryagak Camp	13	3.9	3.0	---	---



Copper Basin



Snow pack

Precipitation in the Copper Valley was below normal for February, but varied from just below normal to a trace. As a result, snowpack in most of the Copper Valley didn't change significantly from last month. The 11 sites across the basin average 88% of normal.

The Alaska Range courses average 90% of normal. Paxson snow course measured at 22 inches of snow with 4.8 inches of water content, the same as last month.

The basin floor snowpack was below normal, with its seven sites averaging 68% of normal. On the western side of the basin, Little Nelchina snow course had 14" of snow and 2.5" of water content, 53% of normal. On the eastern side, Chistochina snow course, which was 91% of normal with 16 inches of depth and 2.9" of water content, lost 1" of depth and gained 0.1" over the month.

The Chugach Range is the only portion of the basin with above normal snowpack. The three measured sites averaged 108% of normal. Worthington Glacier snow course has 80" of snow and 21.6" of water content, 107% of normal.

Copper 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
Chistochina	1950	3/2/2016	16	2.9	18	3.4	20	3.2
Chokosna	1550	No Survey	---	---	17	4.0	16	3.2
Copper Center	1264	No Survey	---	---	21	4.8	---	---
Dadina Lake	2160	No Survey	---	---	26	4.9	27	5.4
Fielding Lake	3000	3/2/2016	35	9.0	32	7.2	37	8.6
Haggard Creek	2540	3/4/2016	17	3.2	27	5.1	26	5.2
Kenny Lake School	1300	2/29/2016	9	2.1	18	4.0	17	3.0
Little Nelchina	2650	2/29/2016	14	2.5	17	3.0	24	4.7
Long Glacier	4820	No Survey	---	---	33	9.0	---	---
Lost Creek	3030	No Survey	---	---	13	2.5	17	3.0
May Creek	1610	3/1/2016	17	3.5	18	4.1	---	4.6
Mentasta Pass	2430	3/2/2016	17	3.9	17	3.6	24	5.1
Monsoon Lake	3100	No Survey	---	---	24	5.0	28	5.4
Notch	2643	No Survey	---	---	4	1.0	---	---
Paxson	2650	3/2/2016	22	4.8*	27	5.6	30	5.9
Sanford River	2280	No Survey	---	---	26	5.4	28	5.2
St. Anne Lake	1990	No Survey	---	---	24	4.5	23	4.2
Tazlina	1250	2/29/2016	11	2.3	20	4.4	16	3.4
Tebay Lake	1930	No Survey	---	---	34	9.9	---	---
Tolsona Creek	2000	2/29/2016	15	2.8*	23	4.3	20	3.8
Tsaina River	1650	2/25/2016	61	15.6	38	10.7	53	14.1
Twin Lakes	2400	No Survey	---	---	20	4.1	28	5.6
Upper Tsaina River	1750	3/1/2016	67	17.2	46	14.0	---	16.3
Worthington Glacier	2100	2/25/2016	80	23.2	48	14.9	69	21.6

*Estimate

Streamflow Forecasts

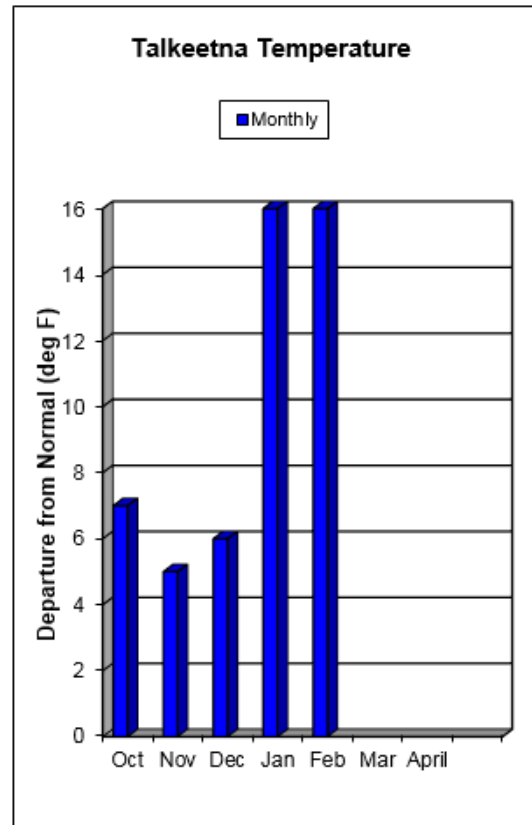
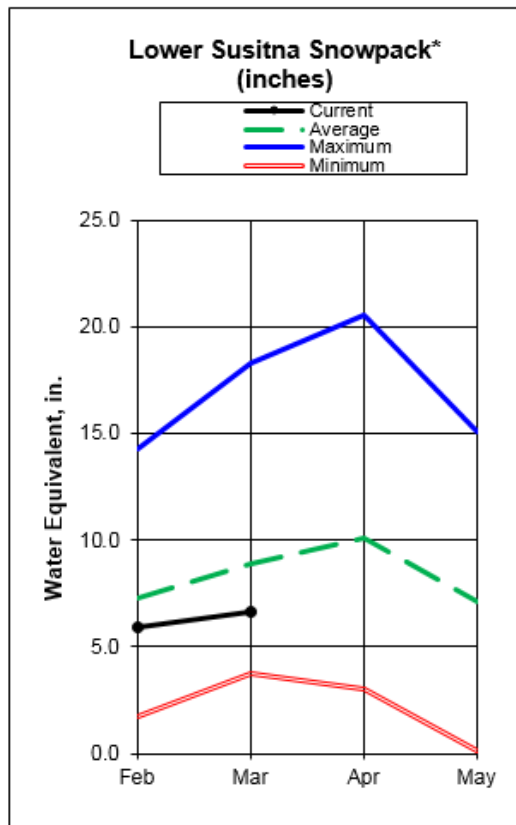
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Gulkana River at Sourdough	Apr-Jul	90	127	52	395	440

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
May Creek	1610	6.8	4.9	5.5	124%
Upper Tsaina River	1750	22.1	20.2	24.1	92%

Matanuska—Susitna Basin



Snow pack

The snowpack across the Matanuska and Susitna Basins varies from below to above normal. Snowpacks in most locations made marginal gains with some areas losing snowpack. Precipitation for the month was essentially half normal and came either as snow or rain depending on location.

The lower Susitna Basin snow courses dropped to an average of 79% of normal this month. The Willow Airstrip Snow course has 18 inches of snow, the same as last month, but with an additional 0.5" of water content. Its 4.3" of water content make it 75% of normal.

Like last month, the Upper Susitna Basin snowpack is above normal on the western side of the Talkeetnas and below normal on the eastern side of the Talkeetnas. Lake Louise and Horsepasture Pass on the eastern side are both near 65% of normal, while on the western side, Blueberry Hill and East Fork Chulitna snow courses along the Parks Highway are near 110% of normal. The snowpack in the Peters Hills is now considered slightly below normal.

In the Matanuska Basin, the snowpack in the southern Talkeetna Mountains remains above normal, even though Independence Mine Snow Course only received 35% of normal February precipitation. Independence Mine snow course had 62 inches of snow with 22.3 inches of water content, 120% of normal. However, the lower lying Little Su snow course lost 1" of depth and marginally lost water content as well.

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	3/1/2016	33	9.6	20	4.8	44	11.0
Alexander Lake SNOTEL	160	3/1/2016	26	7.7	17	4.3	---	---
Archangel Road	2200	2/29/2016	38	11.0	27	6.6	42	11.7
Blueberry Hill	1200	2/29/2016	50	14.8	29	7.7	45	12.8
Chelatna Lake	1450	3/2/2016	25	7.3*	20	5.0	44	10.0
Clearwater Lake	2650	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	24	3.9	26	4.7
Curtis Lake	2850	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	22	3.4	21	4.0
Denali View	700	2/29/2016	33	9.2	19	4.9	38	10.9
Dunkle Hills	2700	3/2/2016	48	14.5*	18	4.3	---	---
Dutch Hills	3100	3/2/2016	59	17.4*	43	12.4	74	22.1
E. Fork Chulitna	1770	2/29/2016	44	13.2	31	7.2	46	11.2
Fishhook Basin	3300	2/29/2016	55	19.3	36	9.0	53	15.6
Fog Lakes	2120	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	21	3.7	22	4.3
Halfway Slough	350	2/29/2016	16	3.8	10	2.7	---	---
Horsepasture Pass	4300	3/1/2016	19	3.6*	16	2.6	28	5.5
Independence Mine	3550	2/29/2016	62	22.3	40	10.7	62	18.6
Independence Mine SNOTEL	3550	3/1/2016	47	14.6	32	8.4		10.2
Lake Louise	2400	2/29/2016	15	2.5	24	3.4	21	3.8
Little Susitna	1700	2/29/2016	35	8.7	21	5.9	37	9.7
Monahan Flat	2710	3/1/2016	33	7.7*	20	---	---	---
Nugget Bench	2010	3/2/2016	31	9.3*	28	6.0	48	13.1
Ramsdyke Creek	2220	3/2/2016	62	18.2*	40	11.7	62	18.6
Sheep Mountain	2900	2/29/2016	21	4.0	17	2.8	24	4.8
Skwentna	160	3/1/2016	28	7.9	20	5.2	42	10.6
Square Lake	2950	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	18	3.2	21	3.5
Susitna Valley High	375	3/1/2016	19	6.1	12	4.5	---	7.2
Talkeetna	350	2/29/2016	17	4.6	12	3.1	28	6.2
Tokositna Valley	850	3/1/2016	47	13.7	29	8.7	---	10.4
Tyone River	2400	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	21	3.5	24	4.4
Upper Oshetna River	3150	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	15	2.4	20	4.0

*Estimate

Streamflow Forecasts

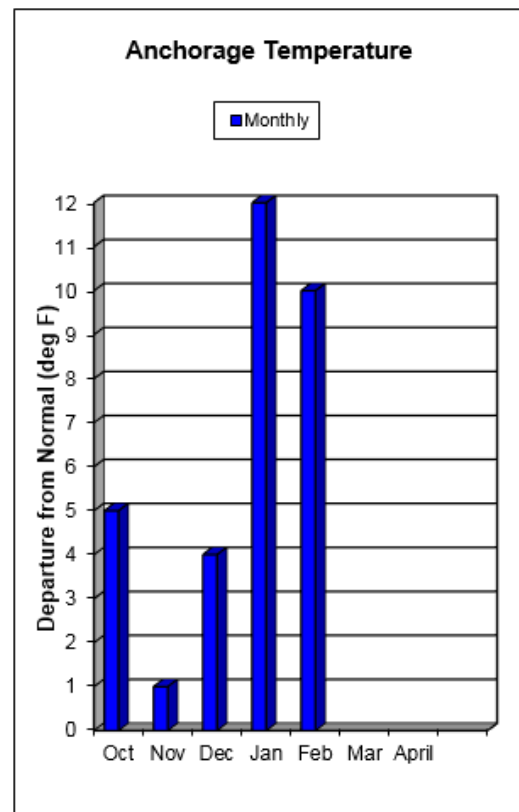
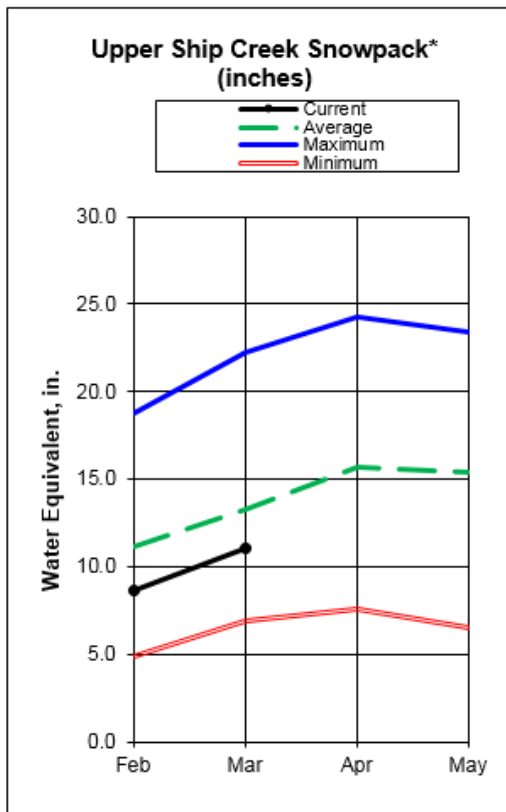
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Little Susitna River near Palmer	Apr-Jul	109	140	77	89	82
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	Apr-Jul	101	119	83	1580	1570

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Alexander Lake	160	15.1	9.4	---	---
Independence Mine	3550	16.5	9.6	13.3	124%
Monahan Flat	2710	6.9	3.6	7.1	97%
Susitna Valley High	375	9.8	8.0	10.5	93%
Tokositna Valley	850	18.7	11.6	17.1	109%

Northern Cook Inlet



Snow pack

February brought both increasing and diminishing snowpacks to northern Cook Inlet. Precipitation varied from just below normal near Anchorage to twice normal at the Mount Alyeska SNOTEL site.

Low lying snow courses lost snow pack over the month. South Fork of Campbell snow course at 1200' of elevation lost snow pack. Arctic Valley #1 snow course, at 500' elevation, was snowless for the first time since 2003 and for only the third time since 1964. Kincaid Park snow course melted out and had its first snowless March 1 measurement since 2003. Even last year it had more snow.

Higher sites, however, made gains. Indian Pass SNOTEL site has 88% of normal snowpack with 56" of snow and 16.9" of water content, up from 44" and 12.6" of water content last month. Likewise, Moraine SNOTEL, above Eklutna Reservoir, gained 7" of snow depth and 1" of water content over the month. On March 1st, it had 25" of snow depth and 5.3" of water content, 78% of normal.

Northern Cook Inlet

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
Anchorage Hillside	2080	3/1/2016	23	5.5	8	3.4	---	8.3
Arctic Ski Bowl	3000	2/29/2016	28	8.8	14	3.8	35	10.8
Arctic Valley #1	500	2/29/2016	0	0.0	4	1.6	18	4.0
Arctic Valley #2	1000	2/29/2016	3	1.0	8	2.0	22	4.5
Arctic Valley #3	1450	2/29/2016	20	5.0	10	3.0	28	6.7
Arctic Valley #4	2030	2/29/2016	19	5.1	11	3.2	28	6.4
Chuitna Plateau	1540	3/1/2016	68	20.9*	49	10.6	69	25.8
Congahbuna Lake	550	3/1/2016	24	7.4*	13	3.5	34	9.0
Granite Point	250	3/1/2016	0	0.0	0	0.0	20	4.7
Indian Pass	2350	3/1/2016	56	16.9	42	9.8	---	19.3
Kincaid Park	250	3/1/2016	0	0.0	3	1.0	17	3.9
Lone Ridge	1675	3/1/2016	71	22.0*	42	9.7	76	29.0
Moraine	2100	3/1/2016	25	5.3	0	0.0	---	6.8
Mt. Alyeska	1540	3/1/2016	65	24.6	6	2.0	---	26.6
Portage Valley	50	3/1/2016	0	0.0	0	0.0	36	11.0
South Campbell Creek	1200	3/2/2016	4	1.3	6	1.4	24	5.8

*Estimate

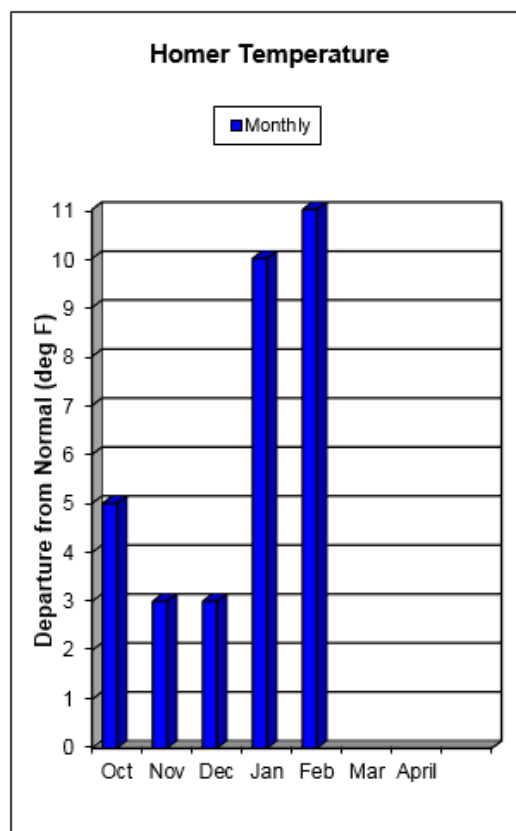
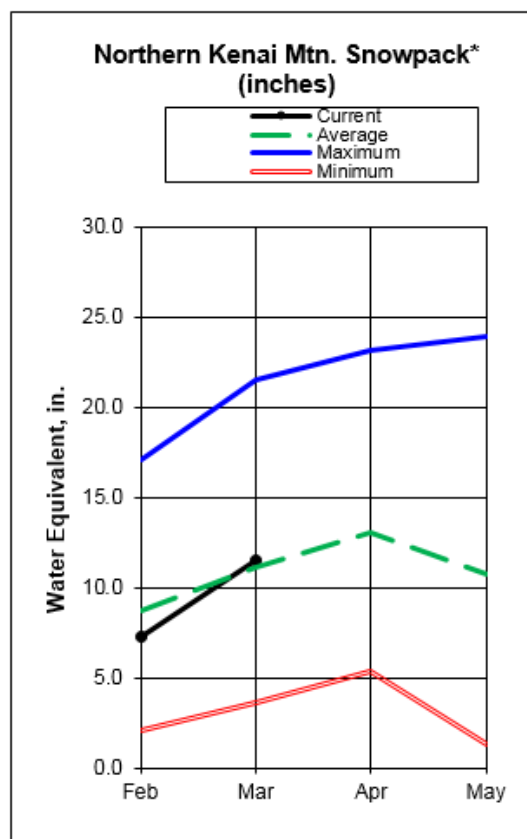
Streamflow Forecasts

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Ship Creek near Anchorage	Apr-Jul	91	117	67	53	58

Precipitation

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			% of Normal
			Last Year	1981-2010 Normal		
Anchorage Hillside	2080	9.1	6.5	11.9		76%
Indian Pass	2350	21.0	14.4	22.0		95%
Moraine	2100	8.9	5.5	10.1		88%
Mt. Alyeska	1540	48.4	30.9	39.9		121%

Kenai Peninsula



Snow pack

It was a wet and warm month for most of the Kenai Peninsula. Several storm systems hit from the Gulf bringing rain and snow. The 12 SNOTEL sites on the Peninsula averaged 251% of normal precipitation for the month, ranging from 40% at Kenai Moose Pens to 354% at Grandview SNOTEL.

The snowpack generally increased during the month, more so at elevation and less so in low lying areas. At 1653' of elevation, Anchor River Divide SNOTEL measured a new 25 year record high snowpack. It had 59" of snow with 16.3" of water content, 161% of normal. However, Demonstration Forest snow course, only 17 miles to the south at 780 feet of elevation, had only 11" of snow with 3.5" of water content, 53% of normal and its sixth lowest March measurement in 40 years.

Similarly, Turnagain Pass SNOTEL now had 147" of snow and 48.5" of water content on March 1st, 174% of normal. In the last 33 years, its snowpack is second only to the massive snow year of 2001. However, the Portage Valley snow course, eleven miles away at 50' of elevation, had no snow. Its normal is 36" of snow with 11.0 of water content.

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	3/1/2016	59	16.3	13	5.7	---	10.1
Bertha Creek	950	3/1/2016	46	14.4	0	0.0	47	14.7
Bridge Creek	1300	2/29/2016	35	9.6	0	0.0	34	9.6
Cooper Lake	1200	3/1/2016	44	15.3	3	1.1	---	13.1
Demonstration Forest	780	3/1/2016	11	3.5	0	0.0	23	6.6
Eagle Lake	1400	3/2/2016	51	13.3	0	0.0	40	10.4
Exit Glacier	400	2/29/2016	30	9.4	---	---	48	15.9
Exit Glacier SNOTEL	400	3/1/2016	30	10.0	5	2.0	---	15.9
Grandview	1100	3/1/2016	82	34.1	4	0.9	---	26.5
Grouse Creek Divide	700	3/1/2016	44	18.6	2	0.6	---	14.6
Jean Lake	620	3/1/2016	5	1.0	0	0.0	14	3.2
Kenai Moose Pens	300	3/1/2016	11	3.2	4	1.3	---	4.0
Kenai Summit	1390	3/1/2016	65	17.2	6	1.6	45	12.3
Lower Kachemak Creek	1915	3/1/2016	27	---	---	---	---	---
Mcneil Canyon	1320	3/1/2016	28	10.8	0	0.0	---	9.0
Middle Fork Bradley	2300	<i>No Survey</i>	98	---	2	---	---	---
Moose Pass	700	3/1/2016	10	3.0	0	0.0	20	6.0
Mt. Alyeska	1540	3/1/2016	65	24.6	6	2.0	---	26.6
Nuka Glacier	1250	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	---	---	74	28.8
Pass Creek	1200	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	---	---	30	7.5
Port Graham	300	3/1/2016	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	6.7
Portage Valley	50	3/1/2016	0	0.0	0	0.0	36	11.0
Resurrection Pass	2250	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	---	---	36	10.1
Snug Harbor Road	500	3/1/2016	2	0.5	0	0.0	17	5.2
Summit Creek	1400	3/1/2016	42	11.6	6	3.2	---	10.0
Turnagain Pass	1880	3/1/2016	147	48.5	39	12.5	---	27.9

**Estimate*

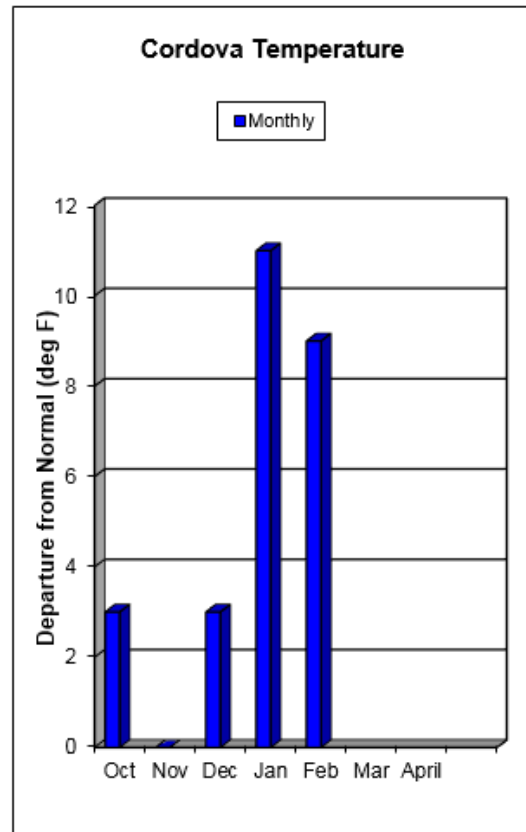
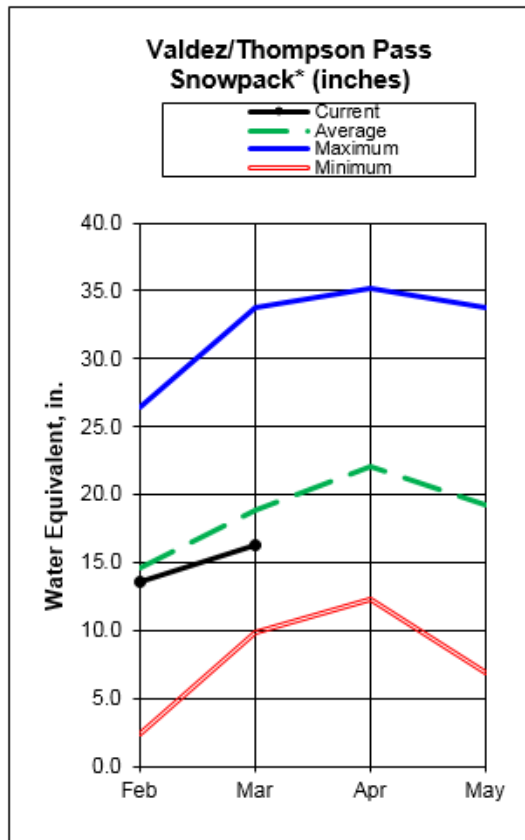
Streamflow Forecasts

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	Apr-Jul	110	123	97	1060	960

Precipitation

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Anchor River Divide	1653	22.4	10.9	14.4	156%
Cooper Lake	1200	26.6	15.6	22.9	116%
Grandview	1100	57.2	35.9	34.8	164%
Grouse Creek Divide	700	55.8	29.0	33.3	168%
Kachemak Creek	1660	61.5	45.3	34.7	177%
Kenai Moose Pens	300	6.9	2.8	7.3	95%
Mcneil Canyon	1320	19.8	8.9	14.9	133%
Middle Fork Bradley	2300	42.0	30.0	29.0	145%
Nuka Glacier	1250	65.5	56.0	48.2	136%
Port Graham	300	53.3	35.8	43.5	123%
Summit Creek	1400	19.6	9.8	14.0	140%
Turnagain Pass	1880	53.2	27.3	34.3	155%

Western Gulf



Snow pack

The snowpack in the Western Gulf of Alaska region continues to be variable from below normal to above normal snowpack. Measured snowpack in Prince William Sound ranges from 57%-111% of normal, though it is likely that some higher elevation sites might approach 200% of normal. Snowpacks in most parts of the Sound increased during the month.

February hammered the western Sound with precipitation. Some sites received over 300% of normal precipitation for the month. Esther Island SNOTEL caught 20.8" of precipitation, 187% of normal. This precipitation pattern diminished in the eastern Sound, which still received normal to above normal precipitation.

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	2/29/2016	30	9.4	---	---	48	15.9
Exit Glacier SNOTEL	400	3/1/2016	30	10.0	5	2.0	---	15.9
Grouse Creek Divide	700	3/1/2016	44	18.6	2	0.6	---	14.6
Lowe River	600	3/1/2016	41	12.1	35	9.4	50	14.8
Mt. Eyak	1405	3/1/2016	35	12.6	4	1.5	---	22.1
Nuka Glacier	1250	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	---	---	74	28.8
Sugarloaf Mountain	550	2/29/2016	60	18.2	---	---	70	21.1
Tsaina River	1650	2/25/2016	61	15.6	38	10.7	53	14.1
Upper Tsaina River	1750	3/1/2016	67	17.2	46	14.0	---	16.3
Valdez	50	3/1/2016	33	11.5	27	8.6	46	14.0
Worthington Glacier	2100	2/25/2016	80	23.2	48	14.9	69	21.6

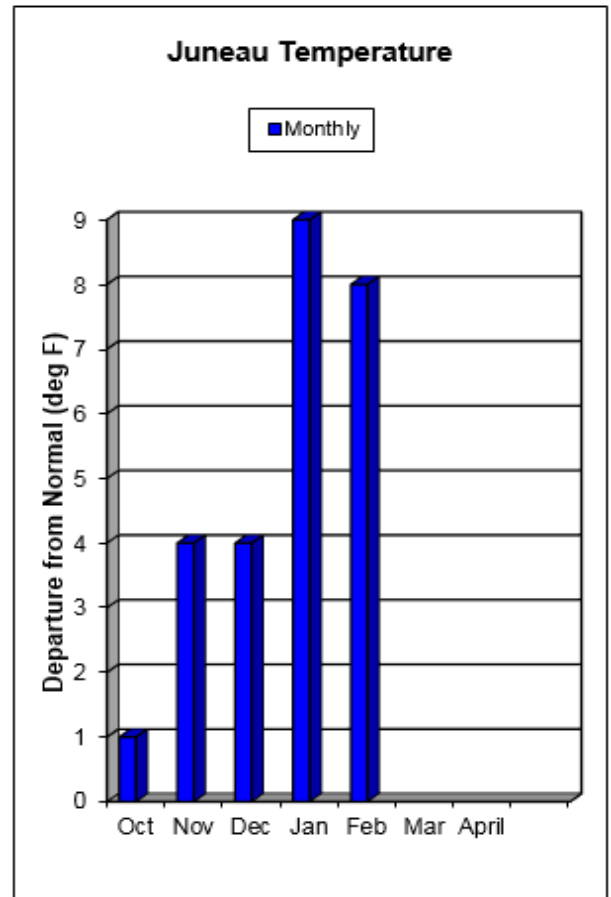
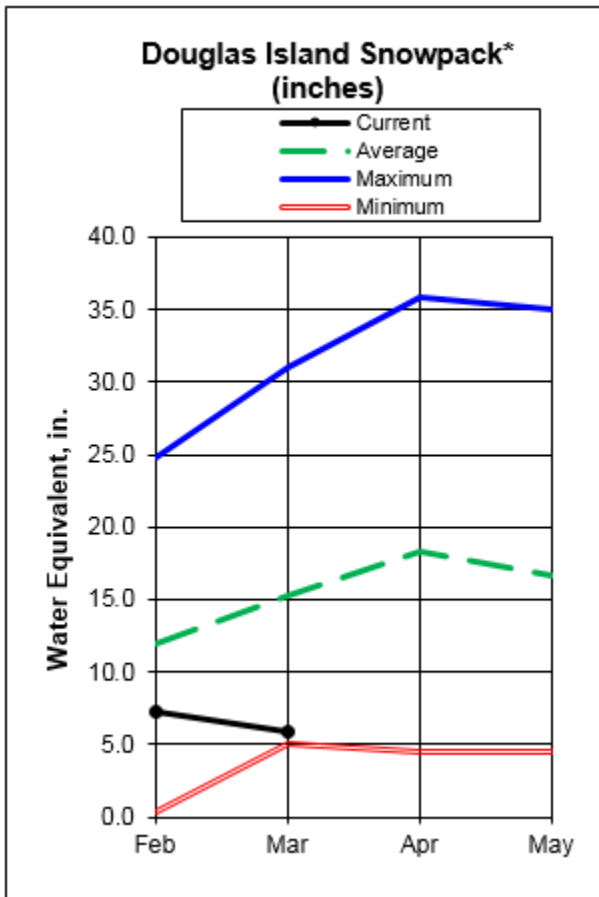
**Estimate*

Precipitation

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Esther Island	50	113.8	78.4	71.9	158%
Grouse Creek Divide	700	55.8	29.0	33.3	168%
Mt. Eyak	1405	70.4	60.4	---	---
Nuchek	50	96.6	69.8	---	---
Nuka Glacier	1250	65.5	56.0	48.2	136%
Port San Juan	50	92.4	70.9	66.1	140%
Seal Island	20	49.6	35.8	---	---
Strawberry Reef	30	55.3	43.0	---	---
Sugarloaf Mtn	550	39.5	29.2	34.5	114%
Tatitlek	50	44.0	37.3	35.7	123%

Southeast



Snow pack

The snowpack in Southeast Alaska continues to be below normal. In many places the snowpack diminished during February. While precipitation for the month has been near or above normal, due to warmer temperatures, much of this precipitation has come as rain.

This decrease in snowpack can be traced far up the mountain side. Cropley Lake snow course, at 1650' of elevation on Douglas Island across from Juneau, dropped from 46" of snow and 16.4" of water content last month to 37" of snow with 15.8" of water content this month. Also at 1650' of elevation, Petersburg Ridge snow course dropped from 28" of snow with 10.6" of water content last month to 23" of snow and 8.8" of water content this month. Lower monitoring sites in these areas continue to be devoid, or nearly devoid, of snowpack at all.

However, closer to the continent, upper elevation snowpacks continued to grow. Long Lake SNOTEL at 850' of elevation now has 63" of snow and 24.0" of water content, up from 54" and 18.6" water content last month.

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	3/1/2016	37	15.8	5	2.0	71	23.1
Eagle Crest	1200	3/1/2016	4	2.0	0	0.0	45	16.5
Fish Creek	500	3/1/2016	0	0.0	0	0.0	20	6.5
Institute Creek	1350	3/1/2016	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Heen Latinee	2065	3/1/2016	44	12.2	---	---	---	---
Long Lake	850	3/1/2016	63	24.0	37	14.0	---	27.2
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	2/29/2016	54	16.4	42	13.8	64	18.9
Petersburg Reservoir	550	2/29/2016	0	0.0	0	0.0	18	4.0
Petersburg Ridge, S.	1650	2/29/2016	23	8.8	5	1.6	65	21.4
Rainbow Falls	500	3/1/2016	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Speel River	280	<i>No Survey</i>	---	---	17	4.6	68	23.7
West Creek	475	2/29/2016	29	10.2	3	0.8	---	---

**Estimate*

Streamflow Forecasts

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	% of Average	Maximum(%)	Minimum(%)	50% Exceedance (KAF)	30yr Average (KAF)
Gold Creek near Juneau	Apr-Jul	79	106	54	27	34

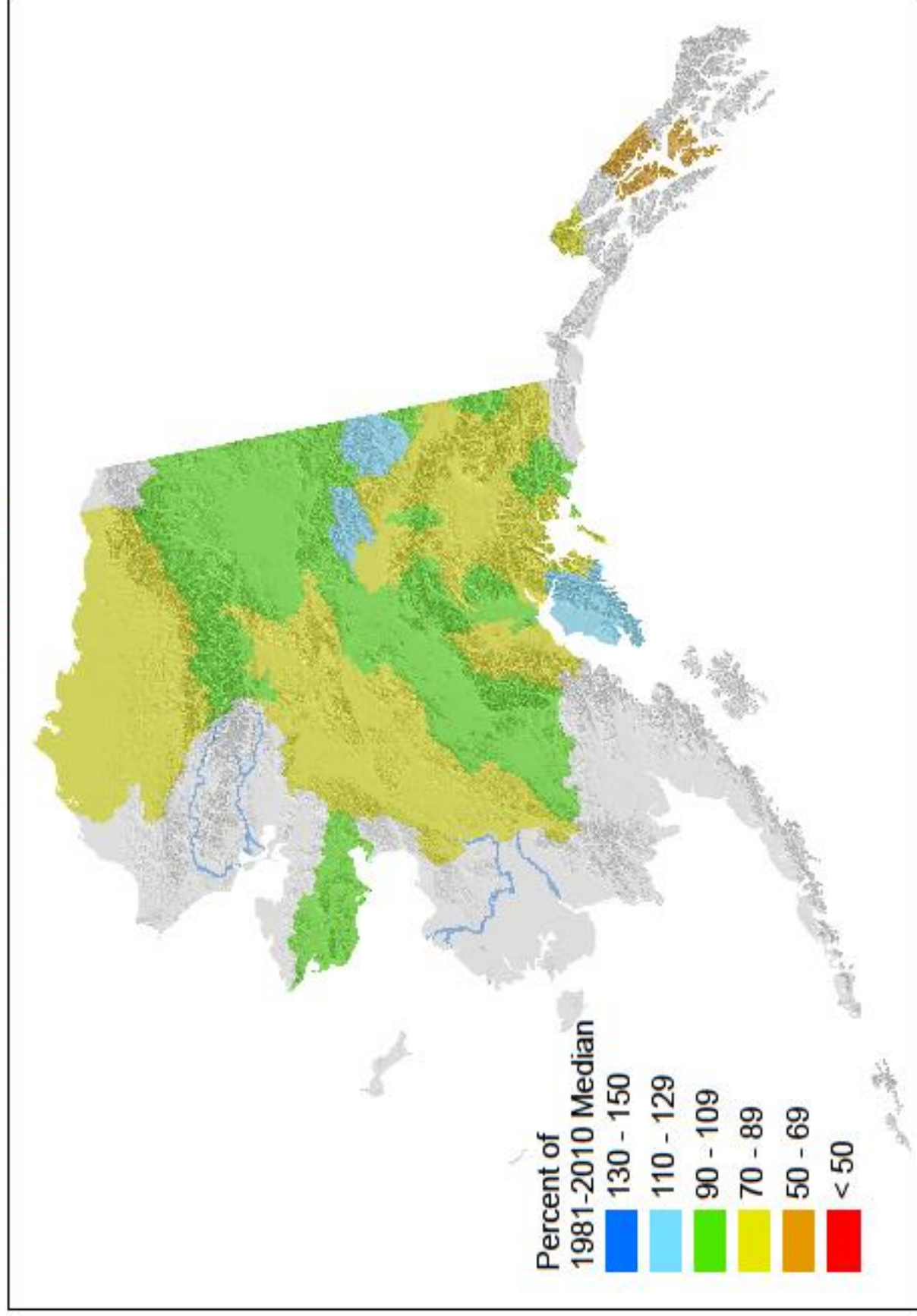
Precipitation Data

Inches Accumulated since October 1st

Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1981-2010 Normal	% of Normal
Long Lake	850	89.2	88.9	85.9	104%
Heen Latinee	2065	34.4	---	---	---
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	27.2	26.2	23.7	115%

Alaska Mountain Snowpack as of March 1, 2016

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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