United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

ALASKA SNOW SURVEY REPORT

MAY 1, 2005

The Following Organizations Cooperate With the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Snow Survey Work:

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    - Tongass National Forest
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  - NOAA, National Weather Service
  - Climate Monitoring and Diagnostics Laboratory
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- **Ministry of the Environment**
  - British Columbia
- **Department of the Environment**
  - Government of the Yukon

United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Snowpack

There are again nine new maximum of record snow water contents measured for May 1st with records extending from 18 to 40 years, but many of them are different from April 1st and some of the snow courses with maximum records last month were not measured this month. Again there are an additional seven record maximum snow course snow water contents with a period of record that began in 1996, 10 years. These are in the Innoko Wildlife Refuge. The nine new records in their perspective regions are: Central Yukon – Seven Mile, Koyukuk –Bonanza Forks, Kuskokwim – McGrath, Susitna – Blueberry Hills, Denali View, Dutch Hills, E. Fork Chulitna, Ramsdyke Creek, and Tokositna Valley. Snow Courses with record maximum snow water contents from April 1st not measure this month are Tozikaket, Lake Todatonten, Monahan Flat and Horsepasture Pass. It is a good possibility these remain a record for May 1st also.
The Yukon Territories has 1 snow course in the Yukon River basin with maximum of record snow water content. This is Midnight Dome which ties the record set in 1985 with the record beginning in 1975.

Precipitation

Some of the National Weather Service gauges reporting greater than normal precipitation for the month of April are Bettles (140 percent), Eielson (105 percent), Juneau (118 percent), Seward (168 percent), Talkeetna (217 percent) and Valdez (125 percent). The precipitation at Bettles and Talkeetna indicates significant snow added to the already record or near record snowpack in their respective regions. Southwest Alaska received very little precipitation in April. At Barrow very little precipitation was recorded although there were many days (18) had trace amounts.

Temperature

The west coast communities of Bethel, Nome and Kotzebue recorded below average normal temperatures for the month of April. The rest of the state including, the Yukon Territories, had above normal temperatures.
On the North Slope, Barrow was 5.1 deg. F above normal. In the interior Eagle Village was 5.9 deg. F above normal and Fairbanks was 2.8 deg F above normal. In South Central, Anchorage was 4.7 deg F above normal and Homer was 5.6 deg. F above normal. In Southeast, Annette was 4.0 deg. F above normal and Juneau was 4.9 deg. F above normal.

STREAMFLOW

Streamflow forecasts of snowmelt runoff are as follows:

FORECAST POINT*	Percent of Ave. Flow	Period
Yukon River at Eagle	117	May-Jul
Yukon River near Stevens Village	116	May-Jul
Tanana River at Fairbanks	111	May-Jul
Tanana River at Nenana	106	May-Jul
Little Chena River near Fairbanks	110	May-Jul
Chena River near Two Rivers	110	May-Jul
Salcha near Salchaket	111	May-Jul
Sagvanirktok River near Pump Station 3	96	May-Jul
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse	96	May-Jul
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek	115	May-Jul
Gulkana River at Sourdough	110	May-Jul
Little Susitna River near Palmer	135	May-Jul
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	129	May-Jul
Ship Creek near Anchorage	119	May-Jul
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	93	May-Jul
Gold Creek near Juneau	97	May-Jul

SNOWMELT RUNOFF INDEX (SRI)
For streams that no longer have stream gauging stations.

FORECAST POINT	INDEX
Koyukuk River at Hughes	+2.3
Beaver Creek above Victoria Creek	+1.0
Birch Creek below South Fork	-0.7
Caribou Creek at Chatanika	-0.6
Susitna River near Gold Creek	+2.5
Chulitna River near Talkeetna	+3.0
Deshka River at mouth near Willow	+2.2
Montana Creek at Parks Highway	+2.0
Willow Creek near Willow	+2.6
Skwentna River at Skwentna	+1.5
Chuitna River near Tyonek	+2.2
Campbell Creek near Spenard	+1.0
Indian Creek at Indian	-1.5
Bird Creek at Bird Creek	-1.5
Six Mile Creek near Hope	-2.5
Resurrection Creek near Hope	-1.8
Anchor River near Anchor Point	-2.7
Deep Creek near Ninilchik	-2.5
Ninilchik River near Ninilchik	-2.5
Fritz Creek near Homer	-2.8
Skagway River at Skagway	+1.0

Index	Key:
-2 to -3	much below average snowmelt runoff
-1 to -2	below average snowmelt runoff
-1 to +1	average snowmelt runoff
+1 to +2	above average snowmelt runoff
+2 to +3	much above average snowmelt runoff

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

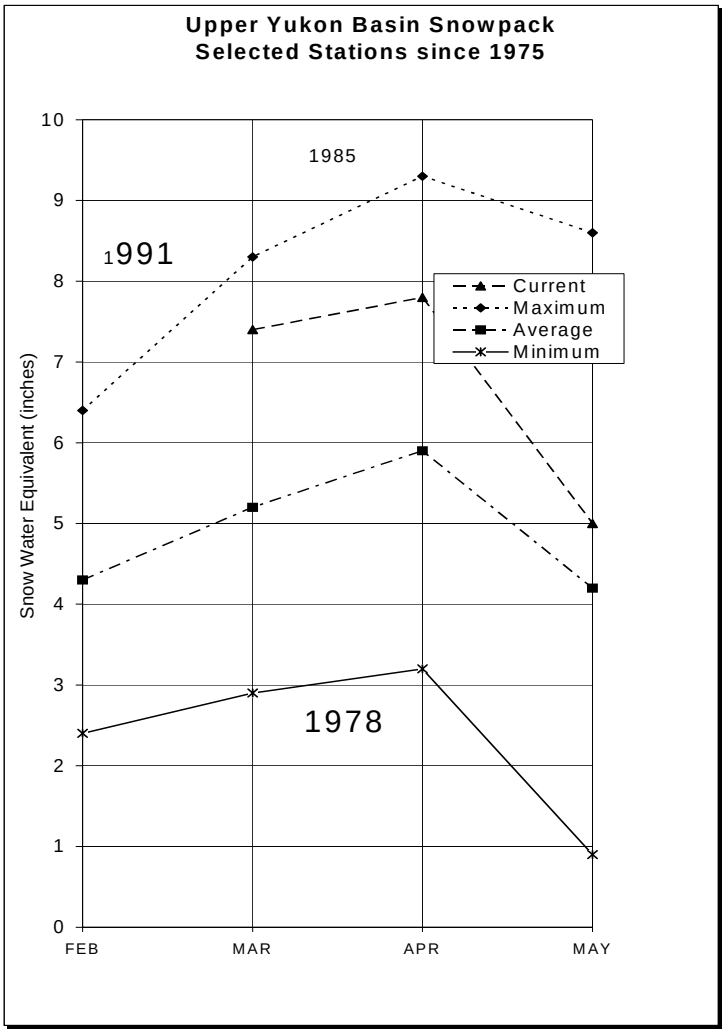
HOW FORECASTS ARE MADE

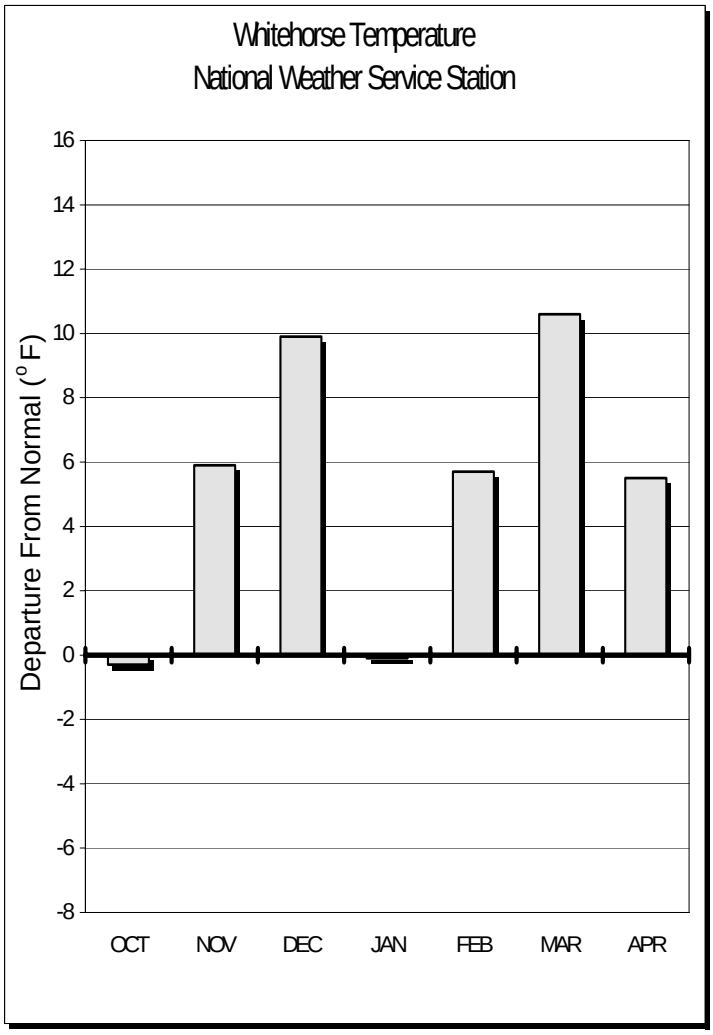
Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of the water content in the snow at selected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

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

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

UPPER YUKON BASIN*





Current Basin Conditions

There is one snow course that has a maximum of record snow course water content for May 1st. The snow course is Midnight Dome and it ties the record water content set in 1985. The Yukon Territory snow course water contents are above normal, however snow courses with a water content of 5 inches or less on April 1st no longer have any snow as of May 1st. The Dawson region snow courses continue to be much above normal and are 147 percent. The Stewart/Pelly region remained high at 140 percent of normal while the White River only had the Duke River snow course with any snow on it, the region is 43 percent of normal.
The Yukon River at Eagle volume flow forecast is 117 percent of normal for the May through July time period. The forecast percent of normal remains unchanged from last month and the volume flow forecast is 38,500,000 acre-feet.

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

Upper Yukon Basin

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR Snow Depth	THIS YEAR Water Content	LAST YEAR Sow Depth	LAST YEAR Water Content	1971-2000 AVERAGE Snow Depth	1971-2000 AVERAGE Water Content
			(inches)					
Arrowhead Lake	3675	4/26/05	38	11.2	36	10.9	29	7.9
Atlin	2395	4/29/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	2.0
Beaver Creek	2150	4/27/05	0	0.0	4	0.7	4	1.1
Burns Lake	3650	4/27/05	29	10.3	36	11.6	25	8.3
Burwash Airstrip	2660	4/27/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2
Calumet	4300	4/05/05	42	10.4	39	9.1	33	7.8
Casino Creek	3495	4/28/05	12	3.7	22	6.0	20	4.6
Chair Mountain	3500	4/27/05	0	0.0	---	---	---	---
Duke River	4300	4/30/05	11	2.9	24	5.1	15	3.1
Edwards Lake	2720	4/26/05	29	7.9	33	10.0	22	6.0
Finlayson Airstrip	3240	4/27/05	8	2.4	10	2.9	9	2.6
Fuller Lake	3695	4/26/05	32	9.9	37	10.9	28	8.1
Grizzly Creek	3200	4/29/05	23	7.6	21	6.7	21	5.2
Hoole River	3400	4/27/05	20	5.5	22	6.1	11	3.0
Jordan Lake	3050	4/27/05	15	4.5	17	4.5	11	2.9
King Solomon Dome	3540	4/28/05	17	4.8	22	6.3	14	3.8
Log Cabin (B.C.)	2900	4/28/05	34	14.7	52	20.1	38	14.2
Mayo Airport	1770	4/26/05	11	3.2	9	3.3	2	0.6
MacIntosh	3805	4/28/05	0	0.0	17	4.3	8	1.9
Meadow Creek	4050	4/28/05	41	12.1	39	11.3	37	10.6
Midnight Dome	2805	4/29/05	23	7.8	26	6.6	19	4.7
Montana Mountain	3350	4/29/05	21	6.1	17	4.7	16	4.2
Morley Lake	2700	4/29/05	14	4.5	11	2.8	9	2.7
Mount Nansen	3350	4/28/05	0	0.0	11	2.9	2	0.5
Mt. Berdoe	3395	4/28/05	0	0.0			10	2.4
Mt. McIntyre B	3600	5/02/05	24	7.2	21	5.7	19	4.8
Pelly Farm	1550	4/25/05	0	0.0	7	1.7	1	0.3
Plata Airstrip	2725	4/26/05	26	9.4	33	10.1	18	5.5
Rackla Lake	3410	4/26/05	35	10.6	35	9.7	31	8.5
Russell Lake	3480	4/26/05	34	11.0	40	11.5	25	7.4
Satasha Lake	3530	4/28/05	0	0.0	12	3.1	6	1.9
Tagish	3540	4/27/05	24	7.2	17	4.2	15	4.2
Twin Creeks	2950	4/26/05	20	7.1	26	8.6	20	5.7
White River	2700	No Report			---	---	---	---
Whitehorse Airport	2300	4/29/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	1.0
Williams Creek	3000	4/28/05	0	0.0	18	4.9	9	1.9
Withers Lake	3200	4/26/05	43	14.6	39	12.0	30	9.1

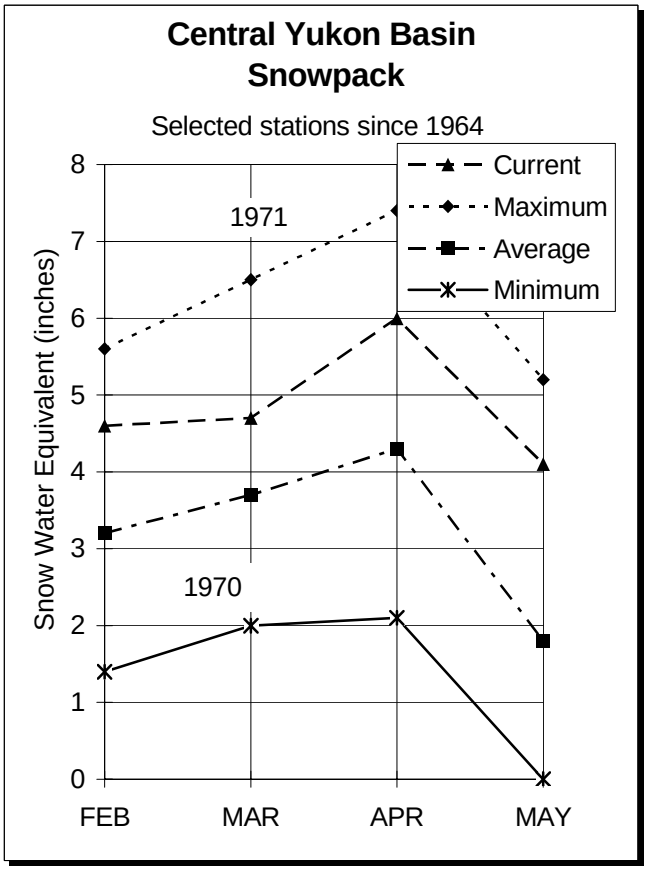
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

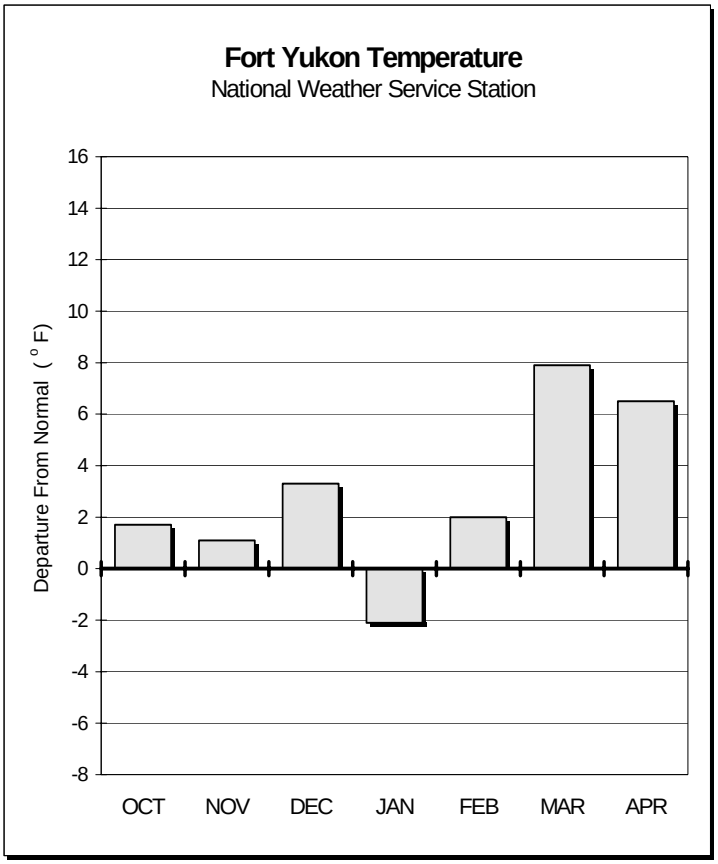
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Yukon River At Eagle	May-Jul	32900	38500	117	43100	33900

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Above Whitehorse/ Tetlin	9	106	121
Dawson	3	103	147
Stewart/ Pelly	14	96	140
White River	5	22	43

CENTRAL YUKON BASIN*





Current Basin Conditions

The west side of the basin has a record maximum snow water content at the Seven Mile snow course. It has 26 inches of snow depth with 8.2 inches of water content. The previous record was set in 1982 and was 6.6 inches of water content. Fort Yukon and the 6 snow courses in the Yukon Charlie have no snow as of May 1st.
The Yukon River volume flow forecast for the May through July time period at Stevens Village is 54,300,000 acre-ft., 116 percent of normal.

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

Central Yukon Basin

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR Snow Depth	THIS YEAR Water Content	LAST YEAR Sow Depth	LAST YEAR Water Content	1971-2000 AVERAGE Snow Depth	1971-2000 AVERAGE Water Content
			(inches)					
Borealis	1330	No Report			17	3.3	---	---
Cathedral Creek	1800	5/04/05	0	0	---	---	---	---
Copper Creek	2000	5/04/05	0	0.0	---	---	---	---
Cresent Creek	2600	5/04/05	0	0.0	---	---	---	---
Eagle Plains	2330	4/29/05	20	5.9	21	5.8	20	4.8
Eagle River	1115	4/29/05	18	6.2	19	4.3	17	4.0
Fort Yukon	430	5/01/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	20	3.8
Graphite Lake	600	4/29/05	0	0	0.0			
Hess Creek	1000	4/29/05	21	6.6	9	2.4	9	2.5
Lower Beaver Creek	400	4/29/05	12	4.0	---	---	---	---
Mission Creek	900	No Report			7	1.5	2	0.5
Old Crow	980	4/30/05	23	3.8	19	4.9	14	3.3
Riff's Ridge	2130	4/29/05	17	3.4	23	5.8	19	4.6
Seven Mile	600	4/28/05	26	8.2	10	2.6	12	3.1
Step Mountain	2850	5/04/05	0	0.0	---	---	---	---
Tacoma Bluff	1450	5/04/05	0	0.0	---	---	---	---
Thirty Mile	1350	4/28/05	36	11.3	20	5.6	26	6.7
Three Fingers	3350	5/04/05	0	0.0	---	---	---	---
Vunzik Lake	500	4/29/05	6	2.0	---	---	---	---

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Yukon River near Stevens Village	May-Jul	46800	54300	116	62150	46450

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1st

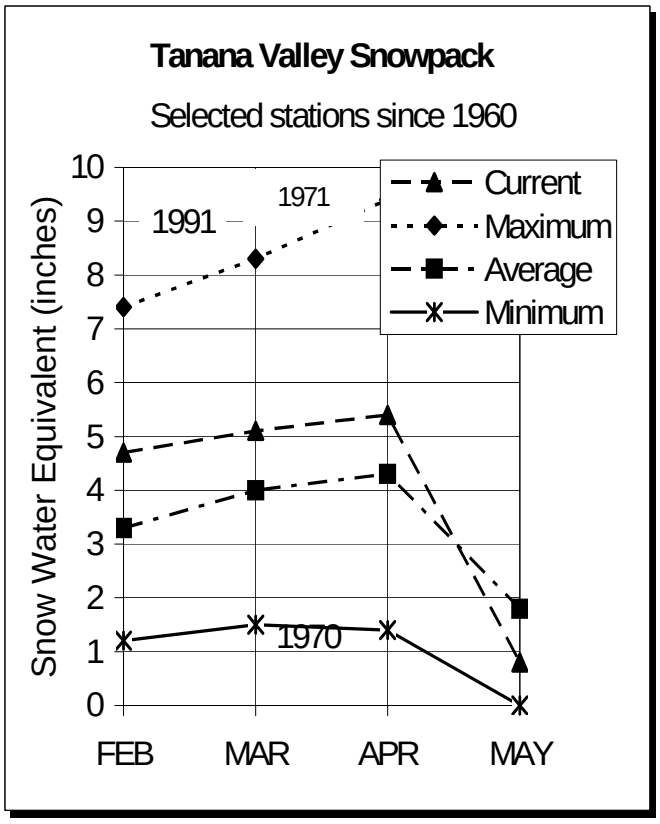
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Atigun Pass**	4800	4/29/05	8.2	5.8	7.0	117
Chandalar Shelf**	3300	4/29/05	6.6	5.6	5.3	124
Eagle Summit	3650	5/01/05	6.0	5.5	6.5	92
Fort Yukon	430	5/01/05	4.4	2.6	---	---
Mission Creek	900	No Report		5.5	5.8	

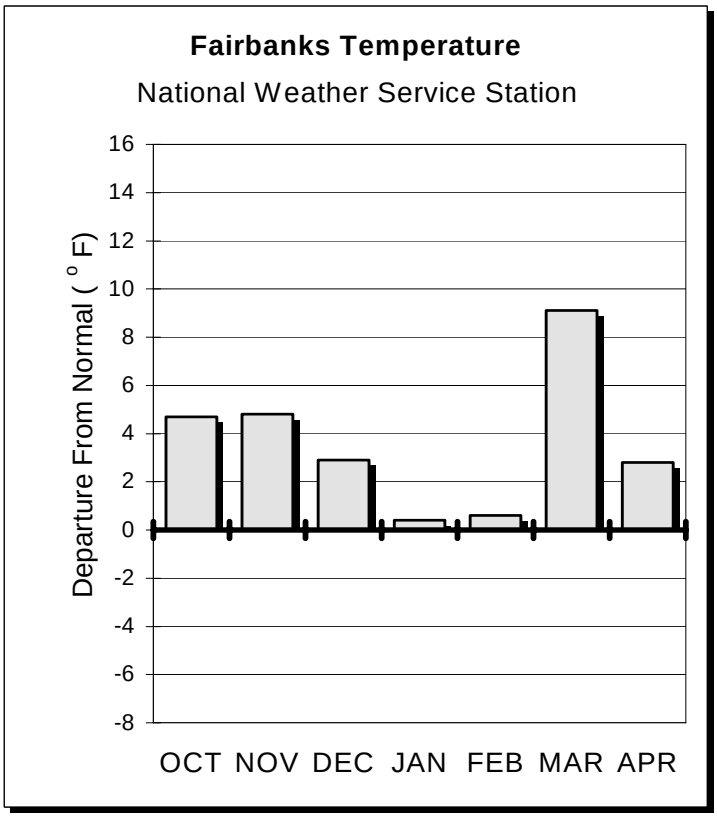
**Wyoming shielded gauge

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Forty Mile	No Report	---	---
Porcupine (Y.T.)	4	93	116
Yukon Flats	1	315	265

TANANA BASIN*





Current Basin Conditions

The Fielding Lake snow course water content is 135 percent of normal with 16.2 inches of water content. The lower elevation snow courses were melted out as of May 1st and are below normal. The high elevation snow courses throughout the basin with an above normal snow water content are Cleary Summit, Munson Ridge, French Creek, Mentasta Pass and Upper Chena.

The Snowmelt Runoff Index for Beaver Creek above Victoria Creek is plus 1.0, above average.

The Chena River near Two Rivers volume flow forecast for the April through July period remains at 110 percent of normal at 280,000 acre-feet.

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

Tanana Basin

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR Snow Depth	THIS YEAR Water Content	LAST YEAR Sow Depth	LAST YEAR Water Content	1971-2000 AVERAGE Snow Depth	1971-2000 AVERAGE Water Content
			(inches)					
Bonanza Creek	1150	No report			0	0.0	11	2.8
Caribou Creek	1250	5/01/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	1.7
Caribou Mine	1150	5/01/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	2.9
Caribou Snow Pillow	900	5/01/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	1.7
Cleary Summit	2230	4/29/05	19	6.1	19	6.1	22	5.9
Colorado Creek	700	4/29/05	6	1.4	0	0.0	9	2.3
Fairbanks FO	450	4/29/05	1	0.2	0	0.0	3	0.8
Faith Creek	1900	4/29/05	4	1.1	5	1.1	11	2.7
Fielding Lake	3000	4/25/05	48	16.2	39	11.3	39	12.0
Fort Greely	1500	4/28/05	0	0.0	6	1.4	3	0.9
French Creek	1800	4/28/05	19	6.4	8	2.0	14	4.1
Gerstle River	1200	4/28/05	9	1.2	7	1.3	6	1.5
Granite Creek	1240	5/01/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	1.8
Jatahmund Lake	2180	No Survey			0	0.0	---	---
Kantishna	1550	4/24/05	9	3.0	3	1.2	---	---
Lake Minchumina	730	4/27/05	4	1.3	0	0.0	5	1.3
Little Chena Bottom	1460	4/30/05	4	0.8	2	0.6	9	3.0
Little Chena Ridge	2000	4/30/05	0	0.0	7	2.2	16	4.5
Mentasta Pass	2430	4/25/05	29	6.9	6	2.2	16	4.8
Monument Creek	1850	4/30/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	14	3.5
Mt. Ryan	2800	4/30/05	9	2.9	13	3.8	24	6.3
Munson Ridge	3100	4/30/05	29	10.3	26	7.4	36	9.7
Paradise Hill	2200	4/27/05	2	0.9	0	0.0	0	0.0
Rock Creek Bottom	2250	4/28/05	8	2.2	0	0.0	8	2.2
Rock Creek Ridge	2600	4/28/05	10	2.9	0	0.0	14	4.9
Shaw Creek Flats	980	4/28/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.8
Stampede	1800	4/27/05	4	1.3	0	0.0	---	---
Teuchet Creek	1640	4/30/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	8	2.1
Tok Junction	1650	4/25/05	4	0.9	0	0.0	3	0.9
Upper Chena	3000	4/30/05	23	7.9	22	7.3	25	7.5
Upper Chena Pillow	2850	4/30/05	17	5.9	15	5.0	22	6.9

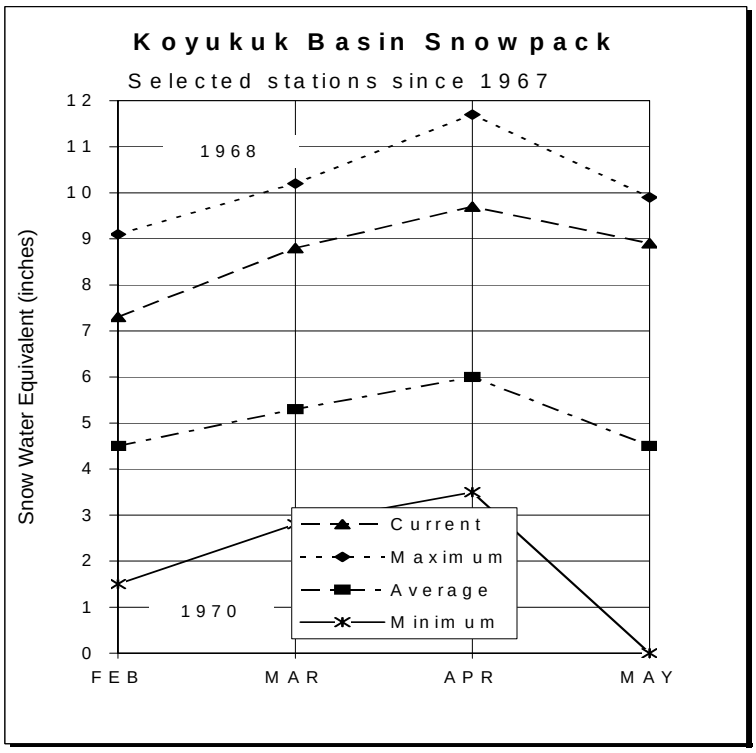
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

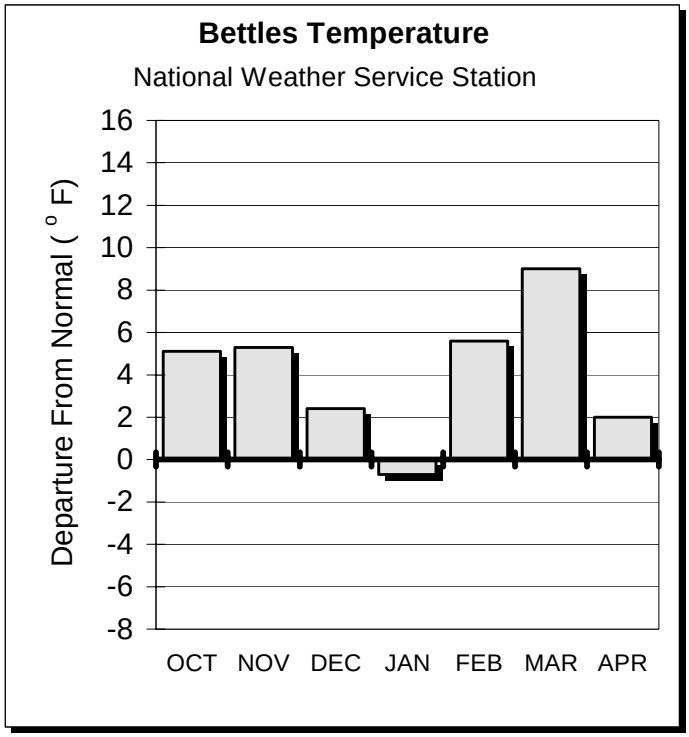
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Tanana River at Fairbanks	May-Jul	6680	7400	111	8290	6510
Little Chena R. near Fairbanks	May-Jul	72	79.0	110	104	54.0
Chena River near Two Rivers	May-Jul	255	280	110	355	205
Salcha River near Salchaket	May-Jul	595	600	111	835	485
Tanana River at Nenana	May-Jul	8470	9000	106	10340	7660

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Chatanika	2	100	84
Chena Basin	8	115	118
Lower Tanana Valley	3	395	127
Mid Tanana Valley (Delta Junction)	5	124	109
Upper Tanana Valley (Tok)	1	0	100

WESTERN INTERIOR BASINS*





Current Basin Conditons

Koyukuk

This regions snow courses are 167 percent of normal with one new maximum of record snow water content. The Bonanza Forks snow course water content is 237 percent of normal with 31 inches of snow depth and 9.7 inches of water content breaking the record set in 1989. Lake Todatonten snow course was not measured but probably remains a record after seeing last month's measurements. The snow water content percent above normal tapers off as you go north to the Brooks Range. Coldfoot snow course is 198 percent of normal and Table Mountain near the bottom of Atigun Pass is 144 percent of normal.

Kuskokwim

In the Upper Kuskokwim, the McGrath snow course has a new record maximum snow water content for May 1st with 8.2 inches and is 293 percent of normal. The record began in 1980 and the previous record was set in 1982.
The Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek is forecast to flow 115 percent of normal for the May through July time period with 11,000,000 acre-ft. of water.

Lower Yukon

Nine of the eleven snow courses in the Lower Yukon have record snow water contents. These are all in the Innoko Wildlife Refuge. Tozikaket was not measured this month, but the assumption is made that it remains a record maximum water content as last month.

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

Western Interior Basins

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR Snow Depth	THIS YEAR Water Content	LAST YEAR Sow Depth	LAST YEAR Water Content	1971-2000 AVERAGE Snow Depth	1971-2000 AVERAGE Water Content
			(inches)					
Koyukuk								
Bettles Field	640	No Report			11	2.8	13	3.4
Bonanza Forks	1200	4/28/05	31	9.7	14	4.2	16	4.1
Cloverleaf	170	4/29/05	23	7.0	New		---	---
Coldfoot	1040	4/28/05	37	10.5	15	4.2	21	5.3
Disaster Creek	1550	4/29/05	16	4.0	0	0.0	11	2.6
JR Slough	160	4/29/05	27	8.2	New		---	---
Kaldoyeit	750	4/28/05	8	2.7	0	0.0	---	---
Kanuti-Chelatna	670	4/28/05	25	8.0	2	0.5	---	---
Kanuti-Kilolitna	550	4/28/05	16	5.0	2	0.5	---	---
Minnkokut	580	4/28/05	26	8.6	18	5.5	---	---
Ninemile Island	140	4/29/05	32	10.0	New		---	---
Nolitna	560	4/28/05	26	8.0	2	0.5	---	---
Pike Trap Lake	130	4/29/05	0	0.0	New			
Squirrel Creek	150	4/29/05	30	9.5	New		---	---
Table Mountain	2200	4/29/05	25	6.2	12	2.8	19	4.3
Taiholman	540	4/28/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Kuskokwim								
Lake Minchumina	730	4/27/05	4	1.3	0	0.0	5	1.3
McGrath	340	4/29/05	24	8.2	0	0.0	9	2.8
Purkeypile Mine	2025	4/27/05	9	3.0	---	---	10	2.5
Lower Yukon								
Grouch Creek	220	4/29/05	24	9.0	0	0.0	---	---
Holikachuk	100	4/29/05	21	8.0	0	0.0	---	---
Horsefly Creek	180	4/29/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Innoko Cabin	200	No Survey			0	0.0	---	---
Menotl Creek	380	4/29/05	22	8.5	0	0.0	---	---
Middle Innoko	150	4/29/05	15	6.0	0	0.0	---	---
Telaquana Lake	1550	No Report			0	0.0	---	---
Upper Innoko	180	4/29/05	21	8.5	0	0.0	---	---
Wapoo Hills	220	4/29/05	28	10.5	0	0.0	---	---
Yankee Slough	100	4/29/05	26	9.0	39	11.0	---	---
Yetna River	120	4/29/05	13	5.0	0	0.0	---	---

*Estimate

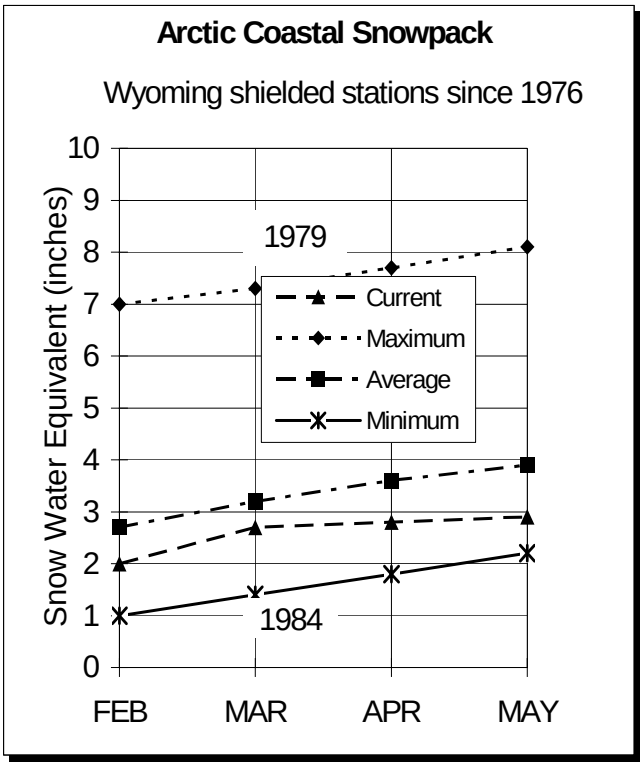
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

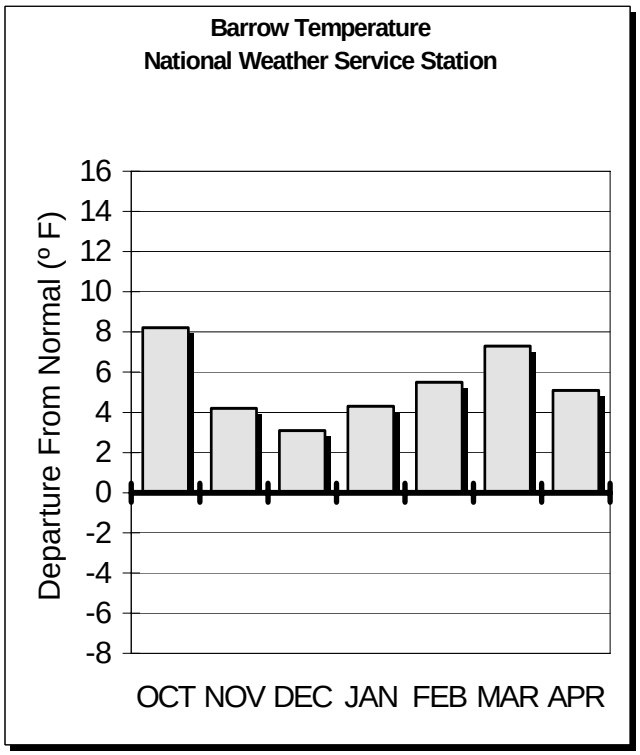
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek	May-Jul	9550	11000	115	13590	8410

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Koyukuk	10	311	167
Upper Kuskokwim	2	---	232
Lower Yukon	9	586	279

ARCTIC AND KOTZEBUE SOUND*





Current Basin Conditions

Arctic

The Imnaviat Creek SNOTEL site at MP 117.1 has received 2.6 inches of precipitation since October 1st, 71 percent of normal.

Kotzebue

No Report from the Red Dog Mine precipitation gauges. The National Weather Service observer reported 4 inches of snow on the ground the end of April at Kotzebue.

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

Arctic and Kotzebue Sound

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR Snow Depth	THIS YEAR Water Content	LAST YEAR Sow Depth	LAST YEAR Water Content	1971-2000 AVERAGE Snow Depth	1971-2000 AVERAGE Water Content
					(inches)			
Kugarak	225	No Report			---	---	---	---
Red Dog	950	No Report			15	4.4	29	7.6

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Arctic						
Atigun Camp	3400	4/29/05	2.6	2.9	3.0	87
Atigun Pass	4800	4/29/05	8.2	5.8	7.0	117
Barrow	25	5/02/05	2.2	3.5	3.1	71
Imnaviat Creek	3050	5/01/05	2.6	1.8	3.4	76
Prudhoe Bay	30	No Report		4.7	4.2	
Kotzebue Sound						
Kivalina	50	No Report		3.9	---	---
Red Dog**	950	No Report		4.6	5.1	---

** Wyoming Shielded Gauge

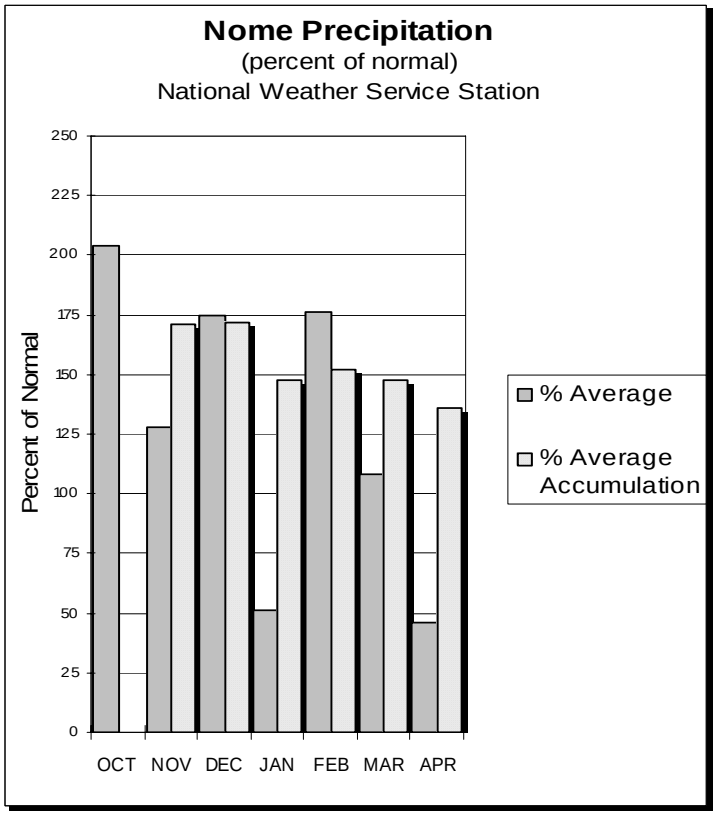
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

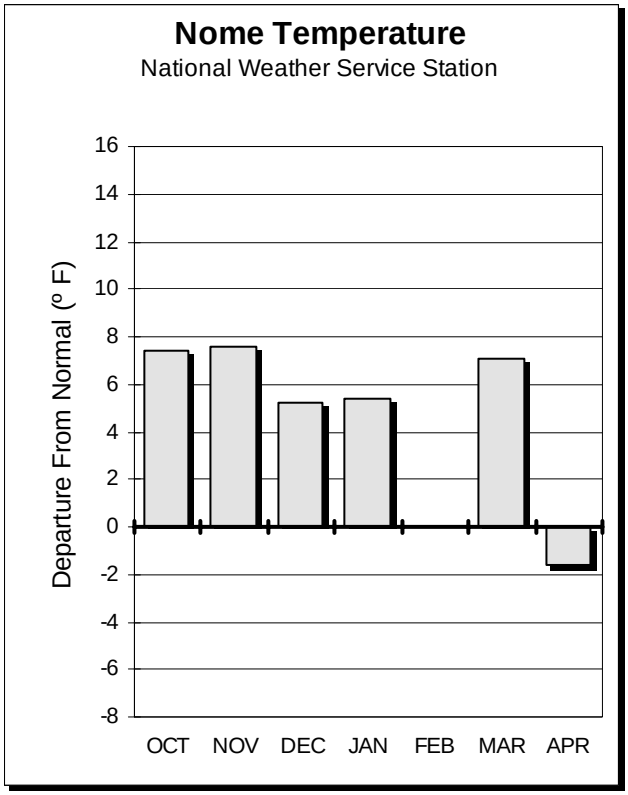
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Sagvanirktok River near Pump Station 3	May- Jul	685	655	96	785	525
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse	May- Jul	795	760	96	1010	510

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Arctic Coast	1	63	71
Dalton Highway	3	128	100

NORTON SOUND/SOUTHWEST DELTA/BRISTOL BAY*





Nome February departure from normal is 0º F.

Current Basin Conditions

Norton Sound

The snow depth at Pargon Creek was 24 inches the 1st of May. Last year the greatest depth recorded through the winter at this site was 11 inches and it had melted to 0 by April 15th. This is greater than normal and most of the area surrounding Norton Sound is above normal with few areas having been blown free of snow by the wind.

Southwest Delta/Bristol Bay

Snow was gone at King Salmon by April 23rd according to the National Weather Service observer. Also, Bethel's snow was gone by 16th.

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

NORTON SOUND/SOUTHWEST DELTA/BRISTOL BAY*

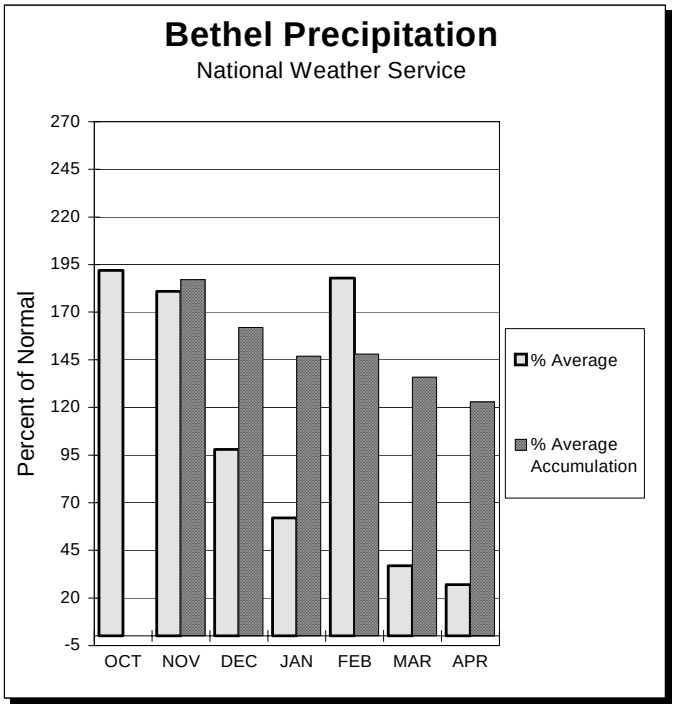
SNOWPACK DATA

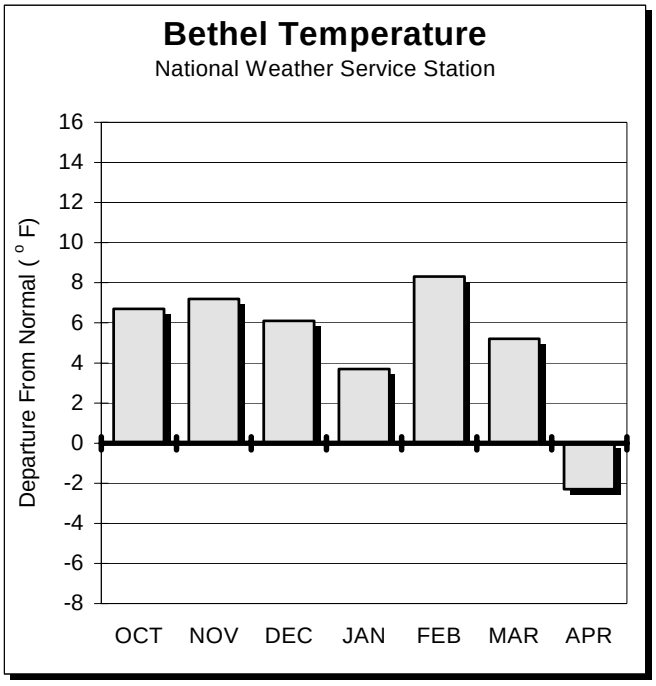
Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR Snow Depth	THIS YEAR Water Content	LAST YEAR Sow Depth	LAST YEAR Water Content	1971-2000 AVERAGE Snow Depth	1971-2000 AVERAGE Water Content
			(inches)					
Bristol Bay								
Port Alsworth	270	No Report			0	0.0	0	0.0
Upper Twin Lakes	2000	No Report			0	0.0	---	---

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

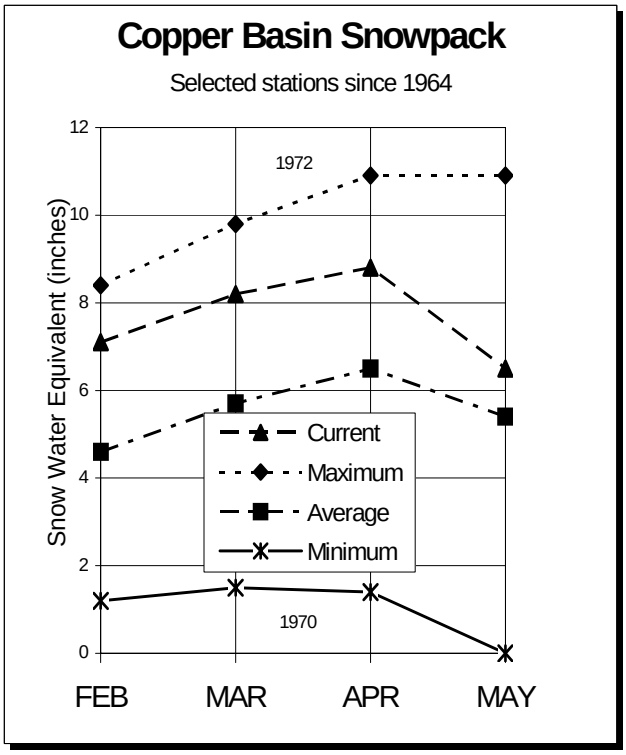
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Pargon Creek	100	5/01/05	8.1	5.8	---	---
Rocky Point	500	No Report		6.1	---	---

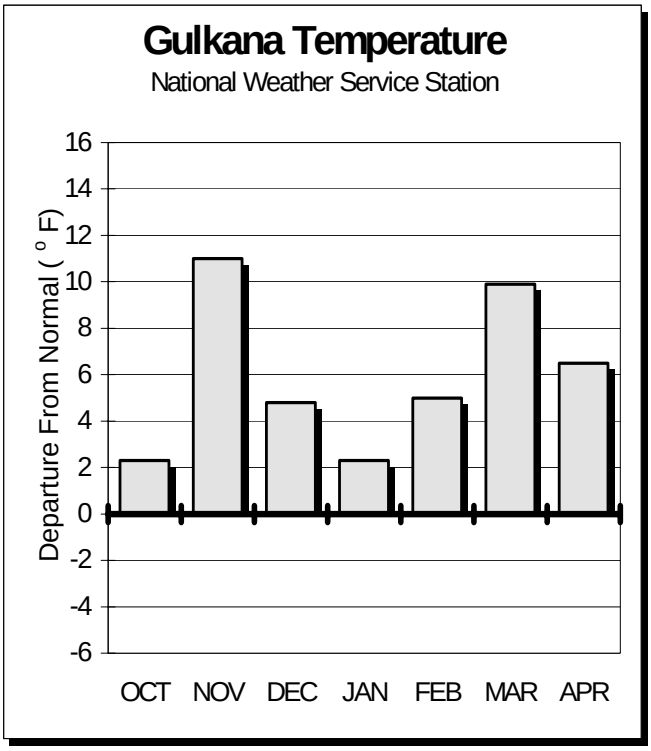




* For further information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Anchorage.

COPPER BASIN*





Current Basin Conditions

Few snow courses were measured in the Copper Basin the 1st of May. The three snow courses on the south side of the Alaska Range are 125 percent of normal. The new snow courses in the Wrangle St. Elias Mountains, Tebay Lake and Long Glacier have 33 inches of snow depth with 13.0 inches and 12.5 inches of water content respectively.

The Gulkana River volume flow forecast for the April-July period is 110 percent of normal at 490,000 acre-feet.

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

Copper Basin

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR Snow Depth	THIS YEAR Water Content	LAST YEAR Sow Depth	LAST YEAR Water Content	1971-2000 AVERAGE Snow Depth	1971-2000 AVERAGE Water Content
			(inches)					
Chistochina	1950	4/25/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	1.2
Chokosna	1550	5/02/05	0	0.0	---	---	---	---
Haggard Creek	2540	4/25/05	10	3.3	12	3.4	18	5.2
Kenny Lake School	1300	4/29/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.9
Lake Louise	2400	No Report			14	3.9	12	2.9
Little Nelchina	2650	No Report			18	4.9	13	3.6
Long Glacier	4820	5/02/05	33	12.5	New		---	---
Mentasta Pass	2430	4/25/05	29	6.9	6	2.2	16	4.8
Paxson	2650	4/25/05	23	6.5	24	5.6	22	6.9
Tazlina	1225	No Report			0	0.0	---	---
Tebay Lake	1930	5/02/05	33	13.0	new		---	---
Tolsona Creek	2000	No Report			8	3.0	5	2.1
Tsaina River	1650	4/29/05	35	13.0	38	14.0	41	14.6
Upper Tsaina	1750	5/01/05	36	14.0			---	---
Worthington Glacier	2100	4/29/05	62	25.5	66	25.9	61	24.6

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Gulkana River at Sourdough	May-Jul	445	490	110	555	455

PRECIPITATION DATA

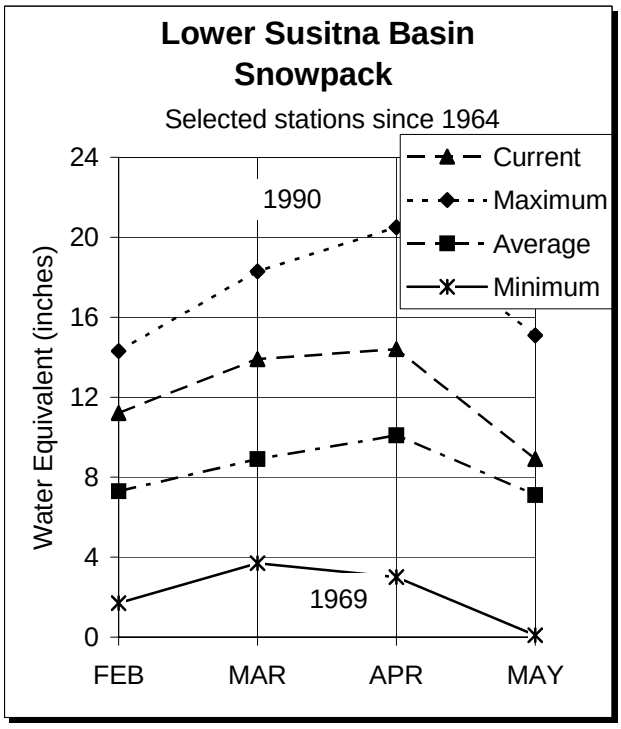
INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

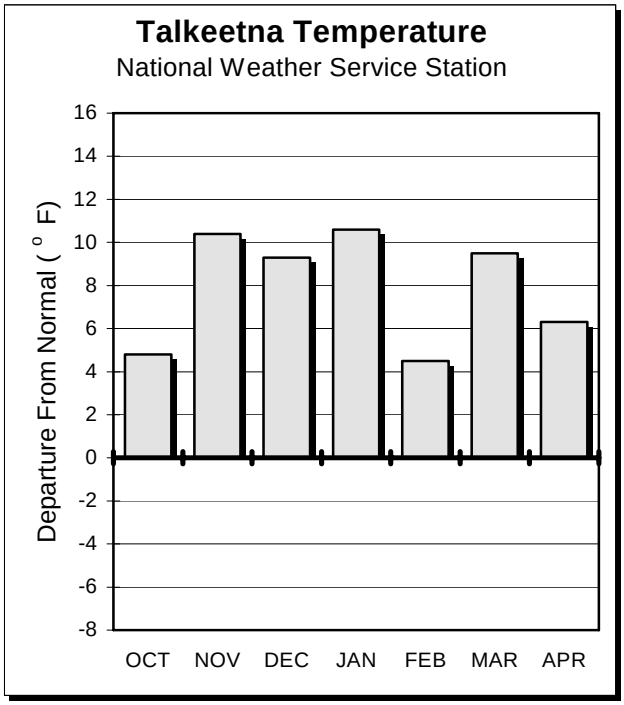
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (ft.)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Upper Tsaina	1750	5/01/05	29.8	26.6	---	---

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Alaska Range	3	155	125
Basin Floor	2	97	52
Chugach Range	1	0	0
Talkeetna Mountains	No Report		

MATANUSKA - SUSITNA BASINS*





Current Basin Conditions

The Independence Mine snow course is 148 percent of normal with 100 inches of snow depth and 40.2 inches of water content. The Fishhook Basin snow course water content, just below the visitor's center, has the 2nd highest water content measured for its May 1st record having 93 inches of snow depth and 37.2 inches of water content. The record high year is 1979; the record extends back to 1964. The Watershed Analysis for the Little Susitna Basin snow courses is 151 percent of normal.

In the Dutch Hills and to the east, the following snow courses have record snow water contents for May 1st: Dutch Hills, Ramsdyke Creek, Tokositna Valley, Denali View, Blueberry Hill, and E. Fork Chulitna.

The Chulitna River near Talkeetna Snowmelt Runoff Index is a plus 3.0 which is much above average. The Deshka River, at mouth near Willow, Snowmelt Runoff Index is a plus 2.2 which is much above average.

The Little Susitna River basin has a near record amount of snow and the forecasted flow for the May through July period is 135 percent of normal, 113,000 acre-feet.

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

Matanuska - Susitna Basins

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR Snow Depth	THIS YEAR Water Content	LAST YEAR Sow Depth	LAST YEAR Water Content	1971-2000 AVERAGE Snow Depth	1971-2000 AVERAGE Water Content
			(inches)					
Archangel Road	2200	4/29/05	50	19.8	32	11.6	37	14.9
Blueberry Hill	1200	4/28/05	67	27.1	30	10.8	43	17.4
Chelatna Lake	1450	4/27/05	45	18.5	11	4.3	33	10.9
Denali View	700	4/28/05	54	24.7	13	5.0	30	12.3
Dunkle Hills	2700	4/27/05	72	27.0	24	7.9	---	---
Dutch Hills	3100	4/27/05	112	45.0	71	24.1	74	28.7
E. Fork Chulitna	1800	4/28/05	72	27.7	33	11.0	44	15.7
Eldridge Glacier	3400	4/27/05	33	13.5	7	3.0	---	---
Fishhook Basin	3300	4/29/05	93	37.2	55	17.2	61	22.1
Halfway Slough	350	4/28/05	3	2.3	0	0.0	---	---
Independence Mine	3550	4/29/05	100	40.2	63	20.5	65	27.1
Lake Louise	2400	No Report			14	3.9	12	2.9
Little Susitna	1700	4/29/05	32	13.1	16	5.7	22	9.2
Moose Creek Ranch	450	4/27/05	2	1.2	0	0.0	---	---
Nugget Bench	2010	4/27/05	45	20.0	34	10.5	46	15.3
Point Mackenzie	250	4/27/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.8
Ramsdyke Creek	2220	4/27/05	93	38.5	56	17.9	57	21.9
Sheep Mountain	2900	No Report			11	4.0	14	3.9
Susitna Valley High	375	4/29/05	25	8.7	5	1.9	14	5.7
Talkeetna Airport	350	4/29/05	22	7.6	0	0.0	16	5.4
Tokositna Valley	850	4/27/05	68	31.0	10	3.8	43	17.0
West Fork Yentna	950	4/27/05	60	24.5	---	---	---	---
Willow Airstrip	200	4/29/05	12	4.3	5	1.7	13	4.1

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Little Susitna River near Palmer	May-Jul	84	113	135	133	93
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	May-Jul	1590	2050	129	2290	1810

PRECIPITATION DATA

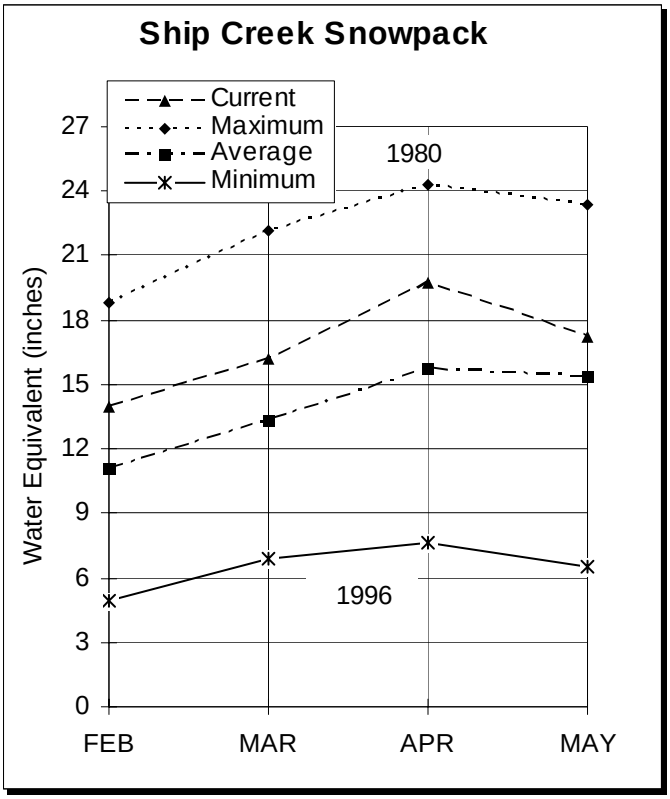
INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

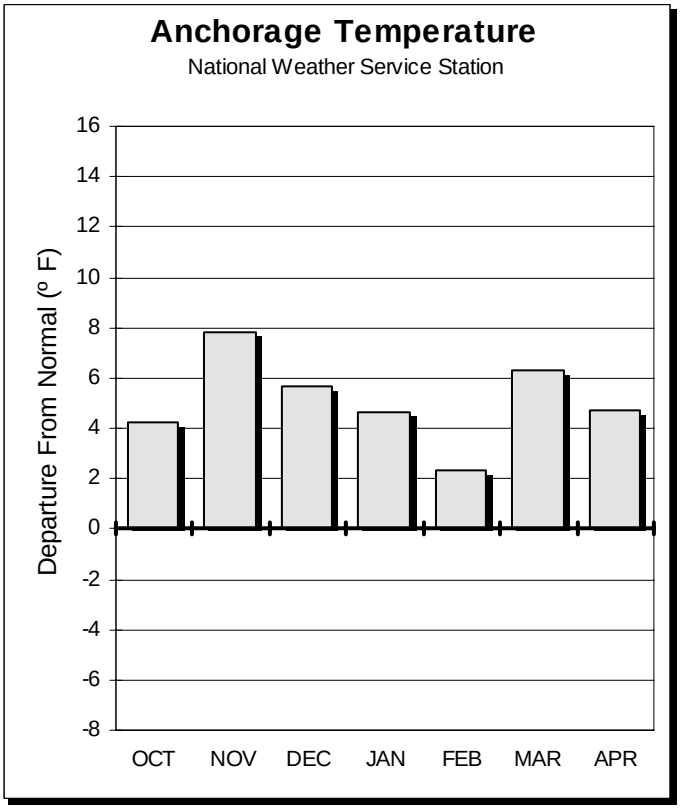
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (ft.)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Independence Mine	3550	4/30/05	50.7	21.1	29.1	174
Susitna Valley High	375	5/01/05	23.2	11.3	13.3	174

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Lower Susitna	2	700	125
Matanuska/Little Susitna	4	220	150
Peters Hills	4	239	162
Upper Susitna	No Report		

NORTHERN COOK INLET*





Current Basin Conditions

The Anchorage Hillside snow course is 100 percent of normal and Indian Pass is 104 percent of normal water content. Portage snow course reported no snow.
The Bird Creek at Bird Creek Snowmelt Runoff Index is a minus 1.5 which is below average.
The Ship Creek forecasted flow for the May through July period is 119 percent of normal, 68,000 acre-feet.

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

Northern Cook Inlet

SNOW PACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR Snow Depth	THIS YEAR Water Content	LAST YEAR Sow Depth	LAST YEAR Water Content	1971-2000 AVERAGE Snow Depth	1971-2000 AVERAGE Water Content
			(inches)					
Anchorage Hillside	2080	4/29/05	26	9.9	31	11.0	29	9.9
Arctic Ski Bowl	3000	No Survey			46	16.5	---	13.8
Arctic Valley #1	500	No Survey			0	0.0	---	0.2
Arctic Valley #2	1000	No Survey			4	1.2	---	0.7
Arctic Valley #3	1950	No Survey			20	6.7	---	2.9
Arctic Valley #4	2130	No Survey			20	6.8	---	4.3
Indian Pass	2350	5/01/05	62	27.9	72	25.7	72	26.5
Kincaid Park	250	4/30/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Moraine	2100	5/01/05	6	2.9	16	6.4	---	---
Point Mackenzie	200	4/27/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.8
Portage Valley	50	4/27/05	0	0.0	15	7.4	19	9.2
South Campbell Creek	1200	4/29/05	0	0.0	15	5.8	13	4.3

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Ship Creek near Anchorage	May-Jul	57	68	119	76	60

PRECIPITATION DATA

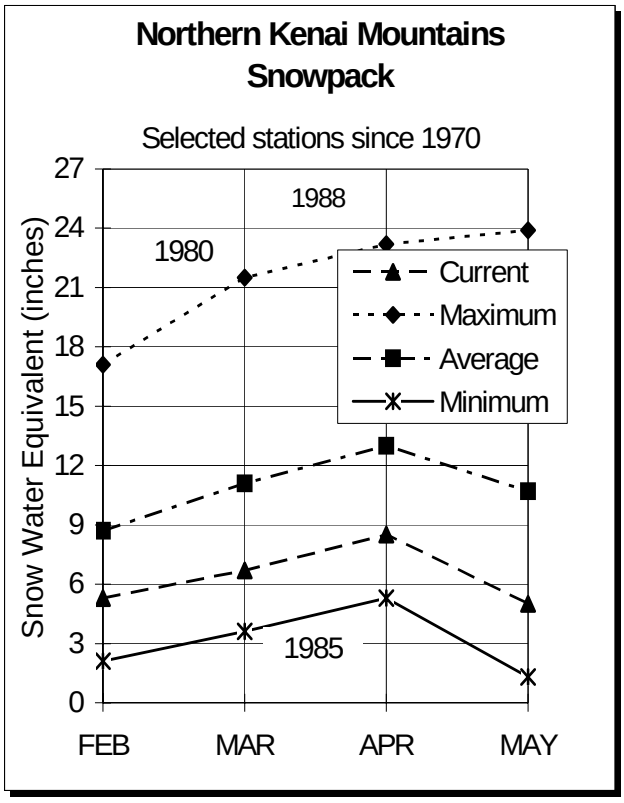
INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

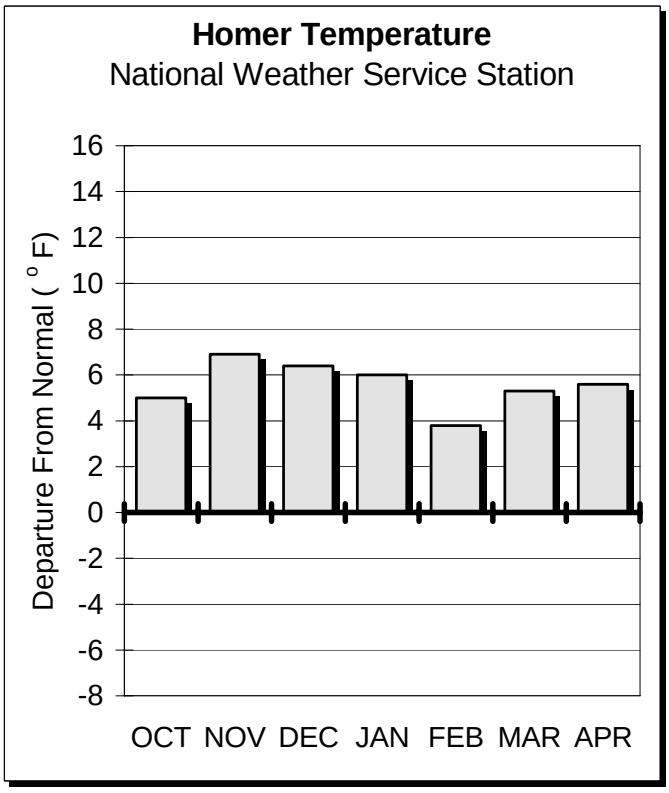
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Indian Pass	2350	5/01/05	33.1	25.1	27.9	119
Moraine	2100	5/01/05	11.8	12.0	---	---
Mt. Alyeska	1540	No Report		---	45.3	---
Point Mackenzie	200	5/01/05	12.7	10.4	8.6	148

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Campbell Creek	2	59	70
Ship Creek	2	103	104
Turnagain Arm	1	107	84

KENAI PENINSULA*





Current Basin Conditions

The Northern Kenai Mountain snow water contents vary from no snow at Jean Lake and Moose Pass to 91 percent of normal snow water content at Summit Creek.
The region on the rim above Homer shows no snow from Bridge Creek to McNeil Canyon School. The Anchor River SNOTEL site had 9 inches of snow depth and 2.9 inches of water content May 1st.
The Snowmelt Runoff Index for Fritz Creek near Homer is much below normal with a minus 2.8 index on a plus 3 to minus 3 scale.
The Ninilchik and Deep Creek Snowmelt Runoff Indexes are both a minus 2.5, which is much below average also.

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

Kenai Peninsula

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR Snow Depth	THIS YEAR Water Content	LAST YEAR Sow Depth	LAST YEAR Water Content	1971-2000 AVERAGE Snow Depth	1971-2000 AVERAGE Water Content
			(inches)					
Bertha Creek	950	No Report			45	17.7	49	18.2
Bridge Creek	1300	5/03/03	0	0.0	28	10.2	37	12.3
Cooper Lake	1200	4/29/05	23	8.0	32	12.9	34	12.3
Demonstration Forest	780	5/03/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	21	7.4
Grandview	1100	5/01/05	40	19.1	103	37.1	77	26.3
Grouse Creek Divide	700	4/29/05	10	3.7	60	19.5	44	16.6
Jean Lake	620	4/29/05	0	0.0	2	0.7	2	0.5
Kenai Moose Pens	300	5/01/05	0	0.0	---	---	1	0.3
Kenai Summit	1390	No Report			26	11.2	30	11.4
McNeil Canyon	1320	5/01/05	0	0.0	23	9.7	21	7.8
Moose Pass	700	5/01/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	2.5
Nuka Glacier	1250	5/01/05	71	31.0	95	40.2	93	42.4
Port Graham	300	5/01/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	---	---
Snug Harbor Road	500	4/29/05	0	0.0	3	0.8	12	2.5
Summit Creek	1400	5/01/05	18	6.1	21	8.2	14	6.7
Turnagain Pass	1880	5/01/05	65	33.5	95	31.4	95	40.1

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	May-Jul	890	830	93	935	725

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

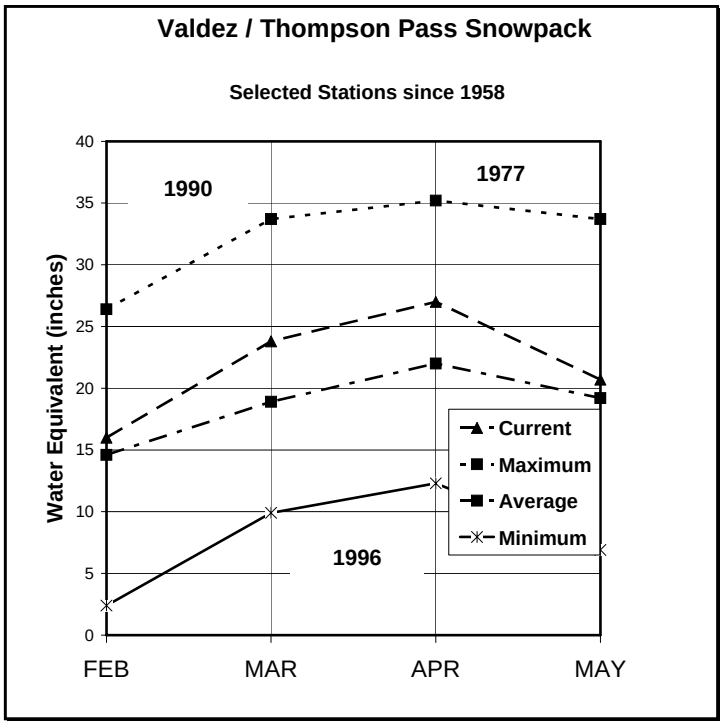
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Cooper Lake	1200	4/09/05	29.1	28.5	25.1	116
Grandview	1100	5/01/05	36.6	49.2	43.1	85
Grouse Creek Divide	700	4/29/05	48.5	46.7	39.8	122
Kachemak Creek	1660	5/01/05	41.7	New	---	---
Kenai Moose Pens	300	No Report		13.1	9.2	---
McNeil Canyon	1320	5/01/05	16.9	19.7	17.2	98
Middle Fork Bradley**	2300	5/01/05	38.1	35.0	37.3	102
Nuka Glacier**	1250	5/01/05	62.1	65.9	61.1	102
Port Graham	300	5/01/05	58.9	47.4	---	---
Summit Creek	1400	5/01/05	15.1	18.3	17.7	85
Turnagain Pass	1880	5/01/05	36.5	48.9	45.8	80

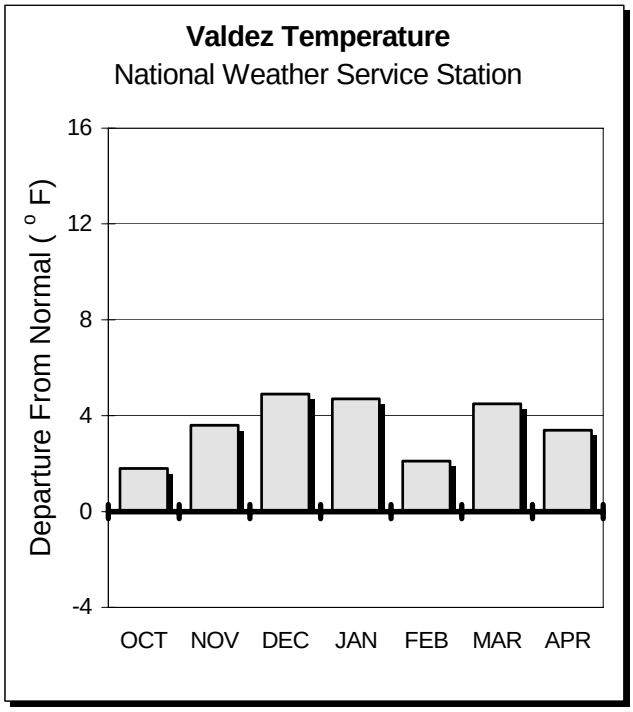
**Wyoming shielded gauge

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Bradley Lake	1	77	73
Ninilchik Dome	3	0	0
Northern Kenai Mountains	4	89	80
Northern Kenai Flats	1	0	0

WESTERN GULF*





Current Basin Conditions

The Worthington Glacier snow course has 62 inches of snow and 25.5 inches of water content, 104 percent of normal. The Valdez snow course is a 131 percent of normal water content.
The Sugarloaf Mountain precipitation gauge has caught 62.5 inches since October 1st, 130 percent of normal.

* For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Copper Center.

Western Gulf

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev.	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
	(feet)		(inches)					
Exit Glacier	400	No Report			---	---	32	13.3
Grouse Creek Divide	700	4/29/05	10	3.7	60	19.5	44	16.6
Lowe River	425	4/29/05	26	9.4	35	14.1	30	12.0
Nuka Glacier	1250	5/01/05	71	31.0	95	40.2	93	42.4
Sugarloaf Mountain	550	4/28/05	84	31.3	57	22.6	67	27.6
Tsaina River	1650	4/29/05	35	13.0	38	14.0	41	14.6
Upper Tsaina River	1750	5/01/05	36	14.0	60	25.3	---	---
Valdez	50	4/29/05	39	16.5	26	11.0	33	12.6
Worthington Glacier	2100	4/29/05	62	25.5	66	25.9	61	24.6

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

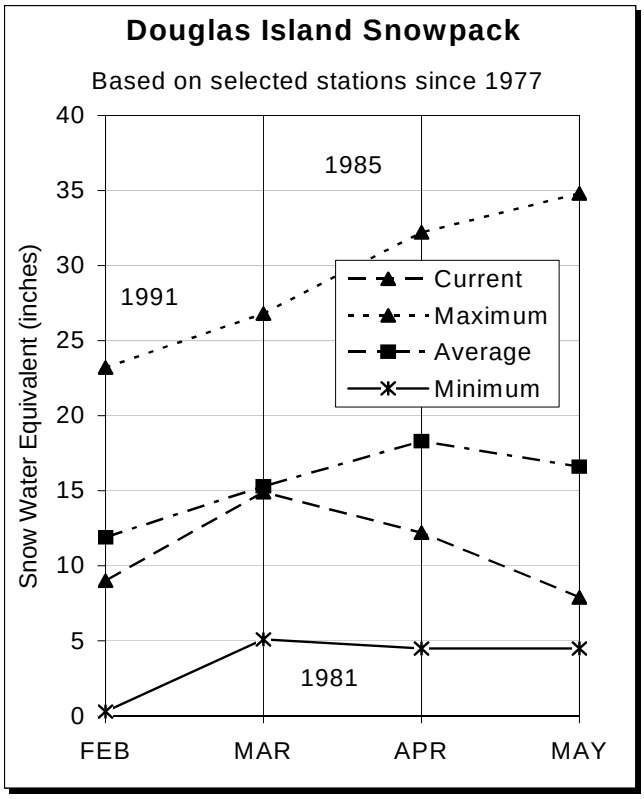
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Grouse Creek Divide	700	4/29/05	48.5	46.7	39.8	122
Nuka Glacier**	1250	5/01/05	62.1	65.9	61.1	101
Solomon Gulch*	30	No Report		35.5	44.4	---
Sugarloaf Mountain	550	4/28/05	62.5	42.7	47.9	130
Upper Tsaina River	1750	5/01/05	29.8	26.6	---	---

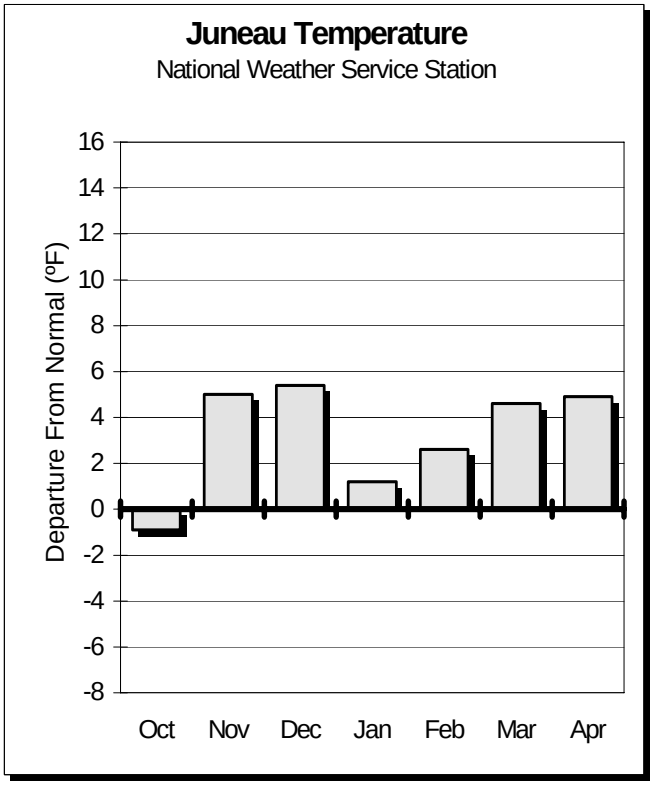
**Wyoming shielded gauge
*Copper Valley Electric Association

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Lowe River (Valdez)	3	112	108

SOUTHEAST*





Snowcover:

The Moore Creek Bridge snow course water content is 90 percent of normal, 18.9 inches were measured.
The Cropley Lake snow course is the only snow course with snow on Douglas Island, having 44 inches of depth and 20.4 inches of water content, 62 percent of normal.
The Long Lake SNOTEL site at the Snettisham Hydro-electric project has 70 inches and 30.9 inches of water content.

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

Southeast

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR Snow Depth	THIS YEAR Water Content	LAST YEAR Sow Depth	LAST YEAR Water Content	1971-2000 AVERAGE Snow Depth	1971-2000 AVERAGE Water Content
			(inches)					
Cropley Lake	1650	4/29/05	44	20.4	53	21.9	73	32.8
Eagle Crest	1200	4/29/05	7	3.2	0	0	37	15.7
Fish Creek	500	4/29/05	0	0.0	0	0	3	1.3
Long Lake	850	4/25/05	70	30.9	68	30.4	---	---
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	4/29/05	45	18.9	67	27.4	50	21.0
Petersburg Reservoir	550	4/28/05	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	2.3
Petersburg Ridge	1650	4/29/05	10	3.6	49	20.2	51	22.1
Speel River	280	No Report			52	22.8	59	26.1

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX (kaf)	MIN (kaf)
Gold Creek near Juneau	May-Jul	31	30	97	37	23

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Long Lake	850	4/25/05	118.3	106.3	---	115
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	4/26/05	27.7	---	26.6	104
Snettisham	25	4/30/05	147.4	124.1	112.5	131
Swan Lake	50	4/30/05	125.9	133.0	91.1	138

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Douglas Island	3	108	47
Long Lake	1	102	---
Petersburg	2	18	15

For further information contact:

NRCS Alaska web site: www.ak.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/
Alaska Meteor Burst Communication System (AMBCS) web site: ***www.ambcs.org***

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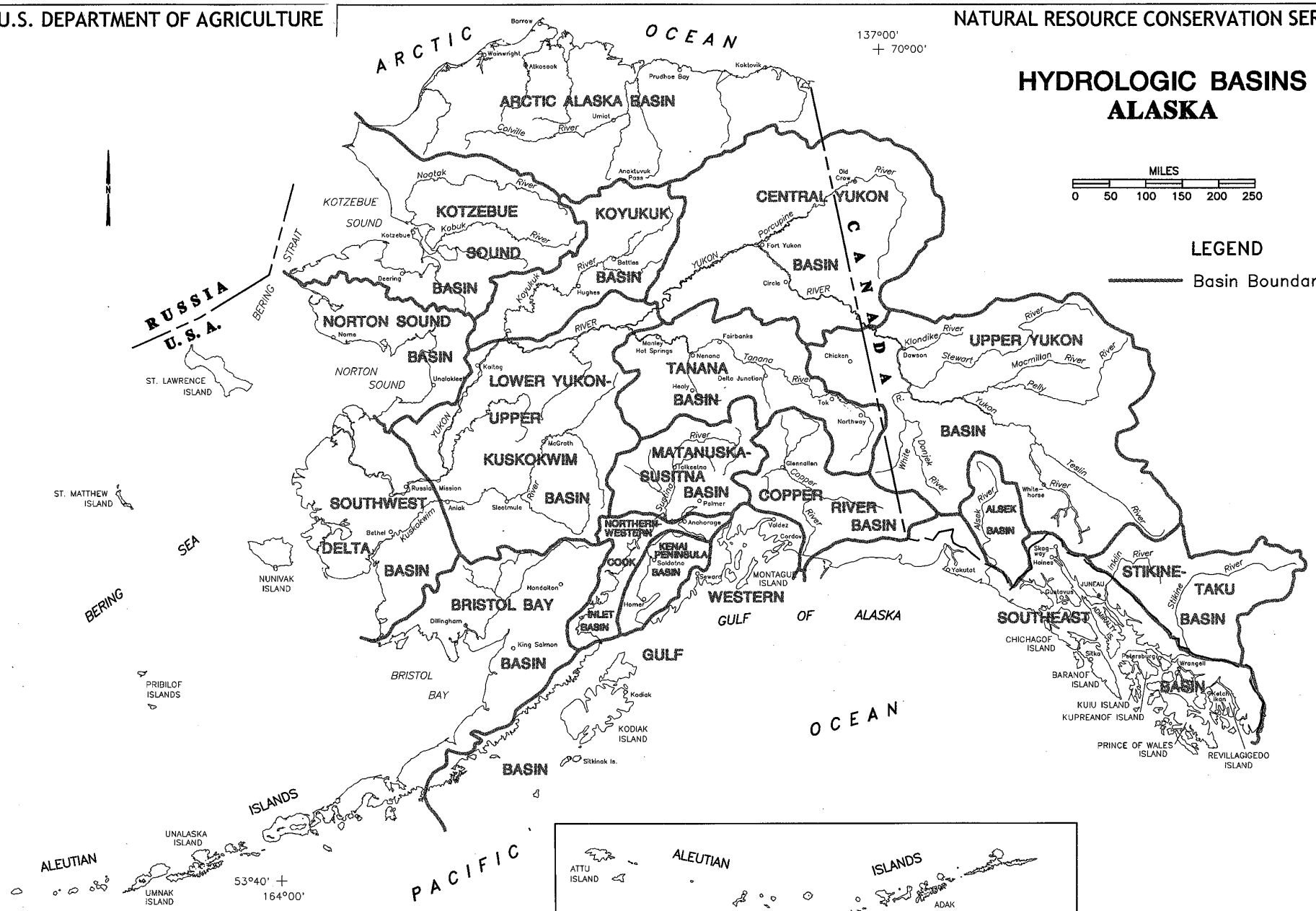
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE

HYDROLOGIC BASINS
ALASKA



SOURCE: U.S.G.S. HYDROLOGIC UNIT MAP, 1987, AND TIGER/LINE CENSUS FILES, 1990. INFORMATION FROM SCS FIELD PERSONNEL. MAP PREPARED USING AUTOMATED MAP CONSTRUCTION. LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATE SYSTEM CALCULATED BY THE APPLICATIONS SOFTWARE. NATIONAL CARTOGRAPHY AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS CENTER, FORT WORTH, TEXAS, 1993.

REVISED DECEMBER 1993 1003609

USDA, SCS, NATIONAL CARTOGRAPHY & GIS CENTER, FORT WORTH, TX, 1993

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Alaska
Snow Survey Report

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Anchorage, AK