Alaska Snow Survey Report

May 1, 2025

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
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Cover Photo: Flying through the Chena Basin for May Snow Surveys. Photo by: Caroline “Rosie” Duncan, USACE.

Table of Contents

General Overview

Updated 1991-2020 Snow Survey and Water Supply Normals

Every 10 years, The NRCS's Snow Survey and Water supply Forecasting Program (SSWSF) produces new 30-year central tendency statistics. These are often call the site Normals. The new 1991-2020 Normals have been developed and are being used in this publication. A detailed discussion can be found on the National Water and Climate Center's website here. The main take away is that "100% of Normal" this winter is not likely to be the same as it was last decade. A side-by-side comparison of the new and old Alaska snowpack Normals for February can be found here.

Snowpack

Another Alaska snow season is nearly in the books. Statewide, basins are now sending a winter's worth of precipitation to the ocean. It's been a wild ride. When this snow surveyor was running Anchorage ski trails in February, I began dreaming of gardening and boating. But winter in Alaska doesn't end in February. April was wet, and in many places, cold, especially early in the month. Many of the same ski trails I was running on mid-winter had groomed snow in April for the first time since November. After a record warm and wet January, the driest February on record for many South-Central stations, and a warm March, I was ready for Summer. April had me yelling at the sky, frustrated with the weather… for being weather.

Fairbanks was the snowfall lottery winner in 2025. The robust network of snow stations in the hills surrounding Fairbanks, established through NRCS and US Army Corps of Engineers partnership, help guide decisions about diverting water from the Chena River to prevent flooding in Fairbanks. Every April and May snow surveyors go check on these stations and make measurements to be used in this decision-making process. In April, surveys were delayed nearly a week by yet another snowstorm. Cool weather delayed melt onset, and the May 1 measurements came in more than double the norm, with a few approaching all-time records. There is still a lot of water yet to come down the Chena River this spring and the Corps is watching the river closely.

Near-record snowpack also exists northwest of Fairbanks in the Koyukuk headwaters. Ample winter snow and a cool April led to near-record SWE readings on the south side of the Brooks Range along the Dalton Highway. These taper downstream, but all measurements in the Koyukuk remain well above the 1991–2020 Median.

Elsewhere, snowpack is a hodgepodge of above and below Normal values, mostly elevation-dependent. The low-elevation Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta has been snow-free for much of the winter, extending inland as far as McGrath.

General Overview, Continued

Snowpack Continued

In South-Central Alaska, snow conditions vary dramatically across short distances. Take the drive from Portage to Turnagain Pass: Portage Snow Course at 90 feet ASL is snow-free, not typical, but not unprecedented either. Thirteen miles away, at Bertha Creek (880 feet ASL), the snowpack is half of Normal, while between those two sites, at Turnagain Pass SNOTEL (1,860 feet), it's near Normal. The same pattern plays out along the road to Hatcher Pass and from Willow to Broad Pass.

Below Normal snowpack exists in parts of eastern Alaska and the Canadian Yukon, and all of Southeast Alaska. For snow-loving Southeasterners, winter 2025 was rough. Below Normal snowpack was measured at every station in the network, during every month of the snow season. For these hearty folk, the arrival of cool summer rain is a welcome relief from cold winter rain.

Precipitation

April 2025, typically one of the driest months, was wet. Several sites recorded their wettest April on record. Esther Island in Western Prince William Sound, a perennial contender for Alaska's wettest SNOTEL site, picked up 26.4 inches of precipitation, triple the Normal and a 20-year record. Kenai Moose Pens also set a record, logging more than three times the Normal amount, though at 2.2 inches, the total is a clear illustration in the dramatic differences in precipitation patterns across the Kenai Peninsula.

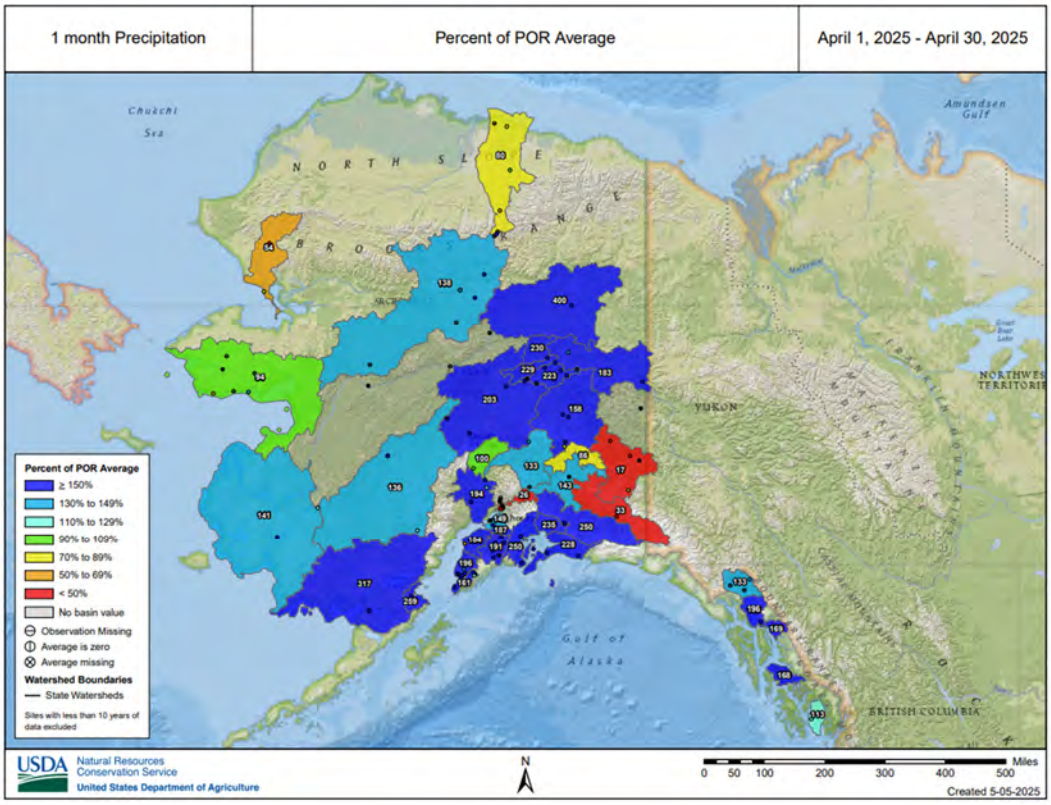
Most of the state saw above Normal April precipitation, especially Southcentral Alaska and the Chena Mountains near Fairbanks. Exceptions include the North Slope and parts of Western Alaska, which recorded below Normal totals

		Basin Index	
		Current	Last Year
Alaska Statewide Snowpack	**# of Sites**	**Percent of Median**	**Percent of Median**
Upper Yukon Basin	32	97	78
Central Yukon Basin	13	161	112
Tanana Basin	28	192	76
Koyukuk Basin	11	156	91
Kuskokwim Basin	-	-	-
Copper Basin	16	104	171
Matanuska-Susitna Basin	14	88	123
Northern Cook Inlet	7	78	130
Kenai Peninsula	19	69	118
Western Gulf of Alaska	6	94	185
Southeast Alaska	8	45	96

Alaska Statewide Precipitation Maps

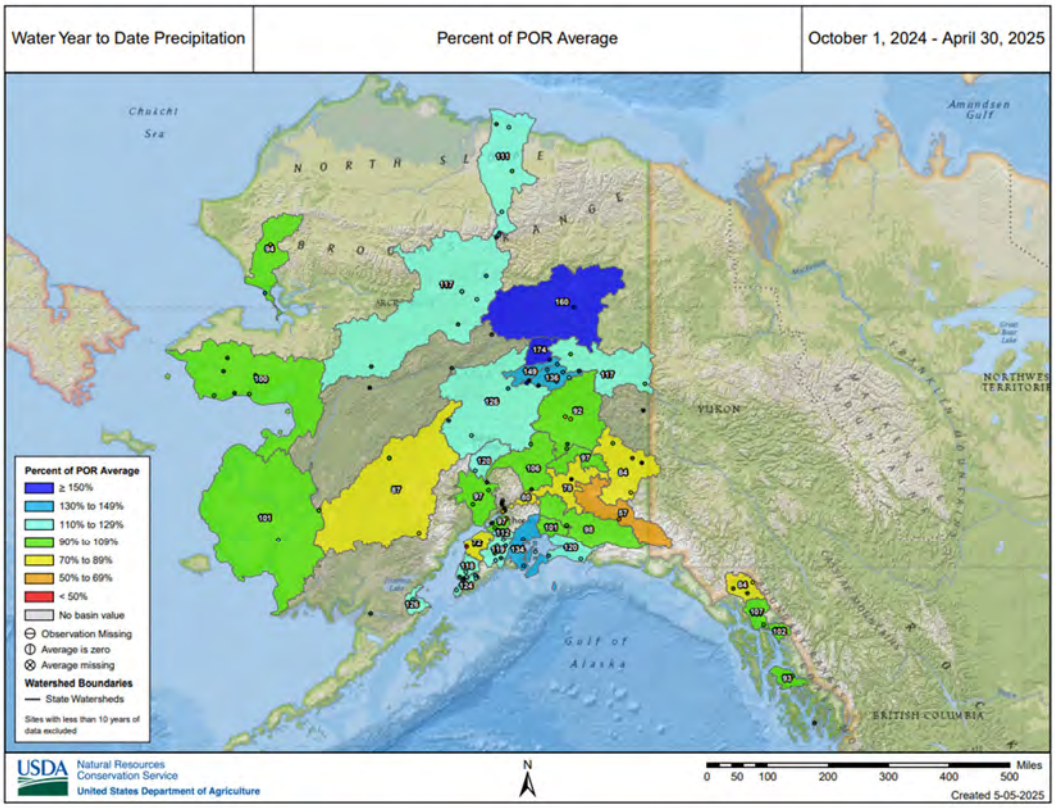
Monthly Precipitation for April 2025

(% of Period of Record Average)



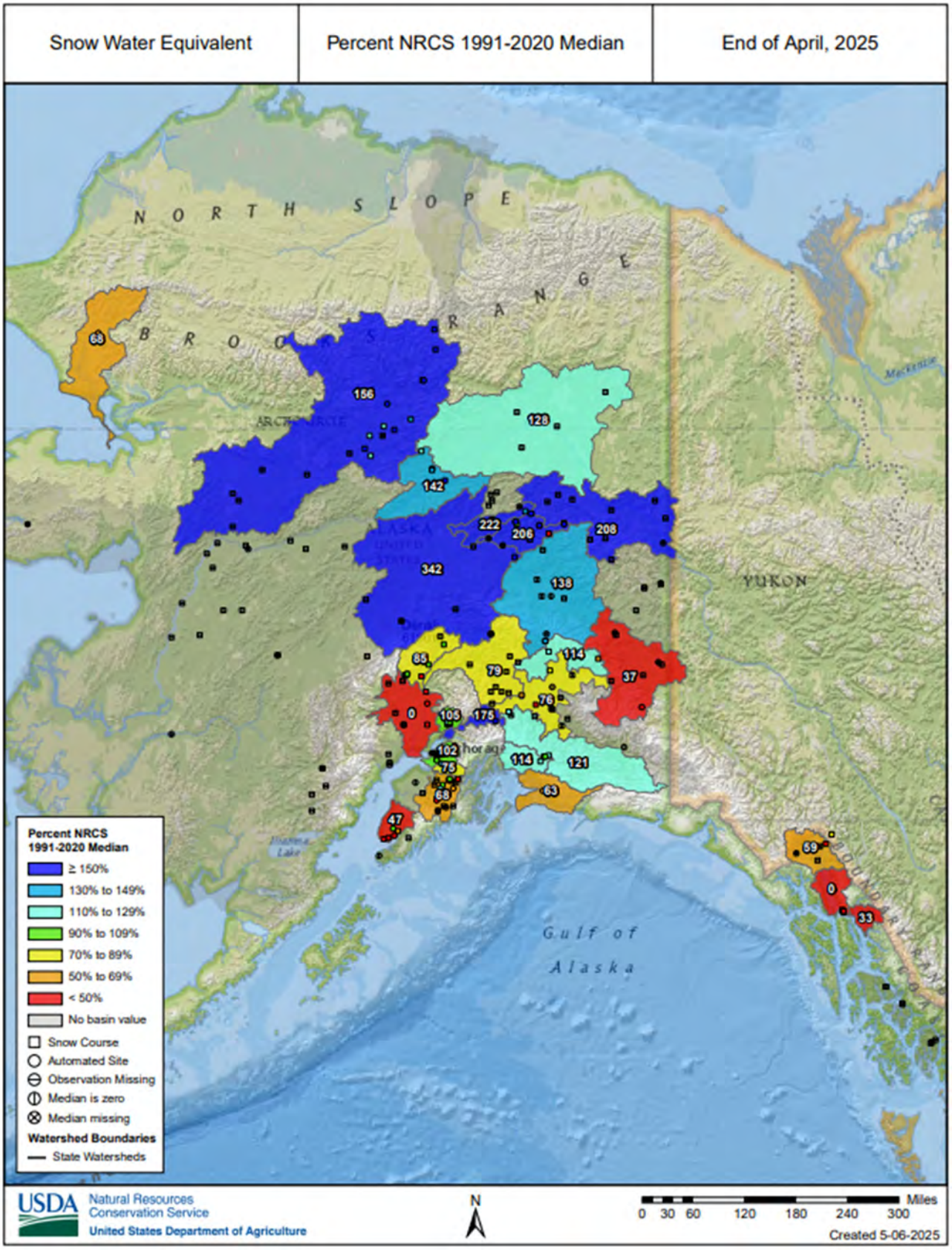
Water Year-to-date Precipitation

(% of Period of Record Average)



Alaska Statewide Snowpack Map

Based on May 1st, 2025 Snow Water Equivalent



Streamflow Forecasts

FORECAST POINT*	50% Exceedance as % of Median	Period
Yukon River at Eagle	102	May - July
Porcupine River nr Int'l Boundary……	108	May - July
Yukon River near Stevens Village	94	May - July
Tanana River at Fairbanks	99	May - July
Tanana River at Nenana	107	May - July
Little Chena River near Fairbanks	131	May - July
Chena River near Two Rivers	131	May - July
Salcha near Salchaket	102	May - July
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek	95	May - July
Sagvanirktok River near Pump Station 3	105	May - July
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse	103	May - July
Gulkana River at Sourdough	110	May - July
Little Susitna River near Palmer	114	May - July
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	107	May - July
Ship Creek near Anchorage	112	May - July
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	103	May - July
Bradley Lake Inflow	—	May - July
Taiya River nr Skagway	104	May - July

New NRCS Water Supply Forecast System for Alaska

This year, the NRCS begins using a new water supply forecast (WSF) system, the Multi-Model Machine-Learning Metasystem, or M^4. In comparison to the historic singular WSF model, the new system creates a mean value from six different forecast models. Using the mean of the ensemble of models harnesses the strengths of each technique while insulating against potential individual model vulnerabilities. The original NRCS WSF model remains as part of the suite of ensemble models. Testing shows that the ensemble mean generally equals or exceeds the performance of any individual model member.

The Alaska Streamflow forecasts in this report contain forecasts derived from both the legacy regression models and the new M^4 forecast model.

Application of NRCS water supply probabilistic forecasts remains unchanged.

Contact:

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Additional reading:

Assessing the new NRCS water supply forecast model for the American West

A Machine Learning Metasystem for Robust Probabilistic Nonlinear Regression-Based Forecasting

HOW FORECASTS ARE MADE

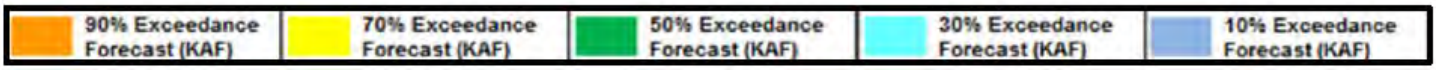
Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of snow water equivalent at selected manual 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.

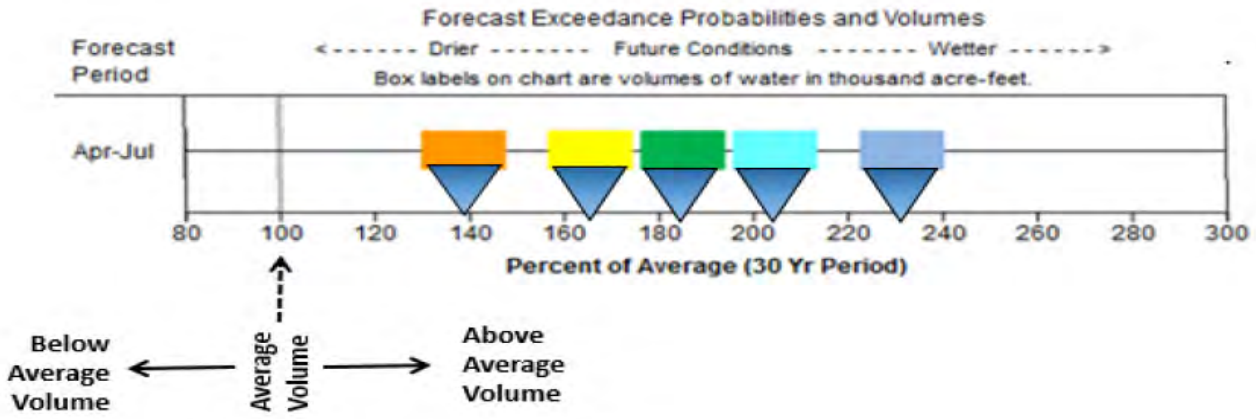
The wider the spread among these values, the more uncertain the forecast. As the season progresses, forecasts become more accurate, primarily because a greater portion of the future weather conditions become known; this is reflected by a narrowing of the range around the 50% exceedance probability forecast. 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.

How to Interpret the Streamflow Forecast Graphic:

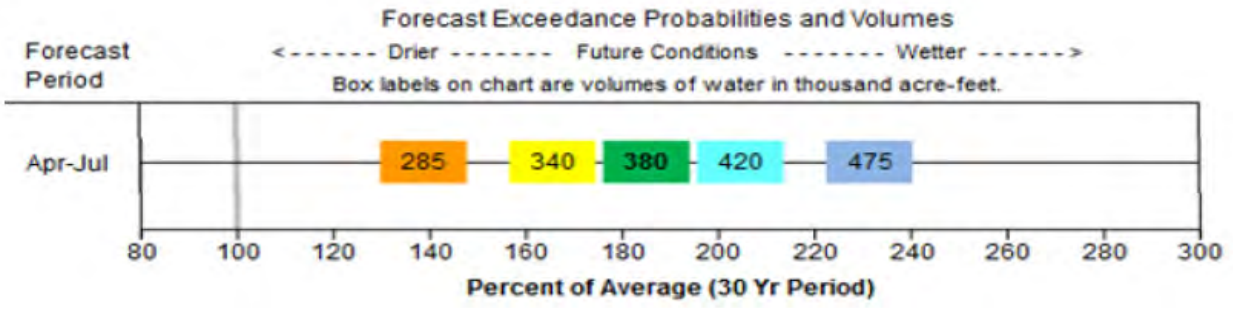
This graphic provides a visual alternative to the forecast tables the NRCS has presented for years. It gives both the volume and percent of average of each of the five forecast exceedances.



The five colored boxes represent each forecast's five exceedances.
The center of each forecast exceedance box corresponds to that exceedance's percent of average on the horizontal axis. In this case the green 50% exceedance forecast box is centered over 185% of average streamflow. If drier future conditions occur the orange box (90% exceedance) is 139% of average. If wetter future conditions occur the darker blue box (10% exceedance) is 232% of average. In some cases when exceedance volumes are similar, the width of the colored boxes gets squeezed. Still use the center of the box to determine its percent of average. The width of the box is irrelevant.



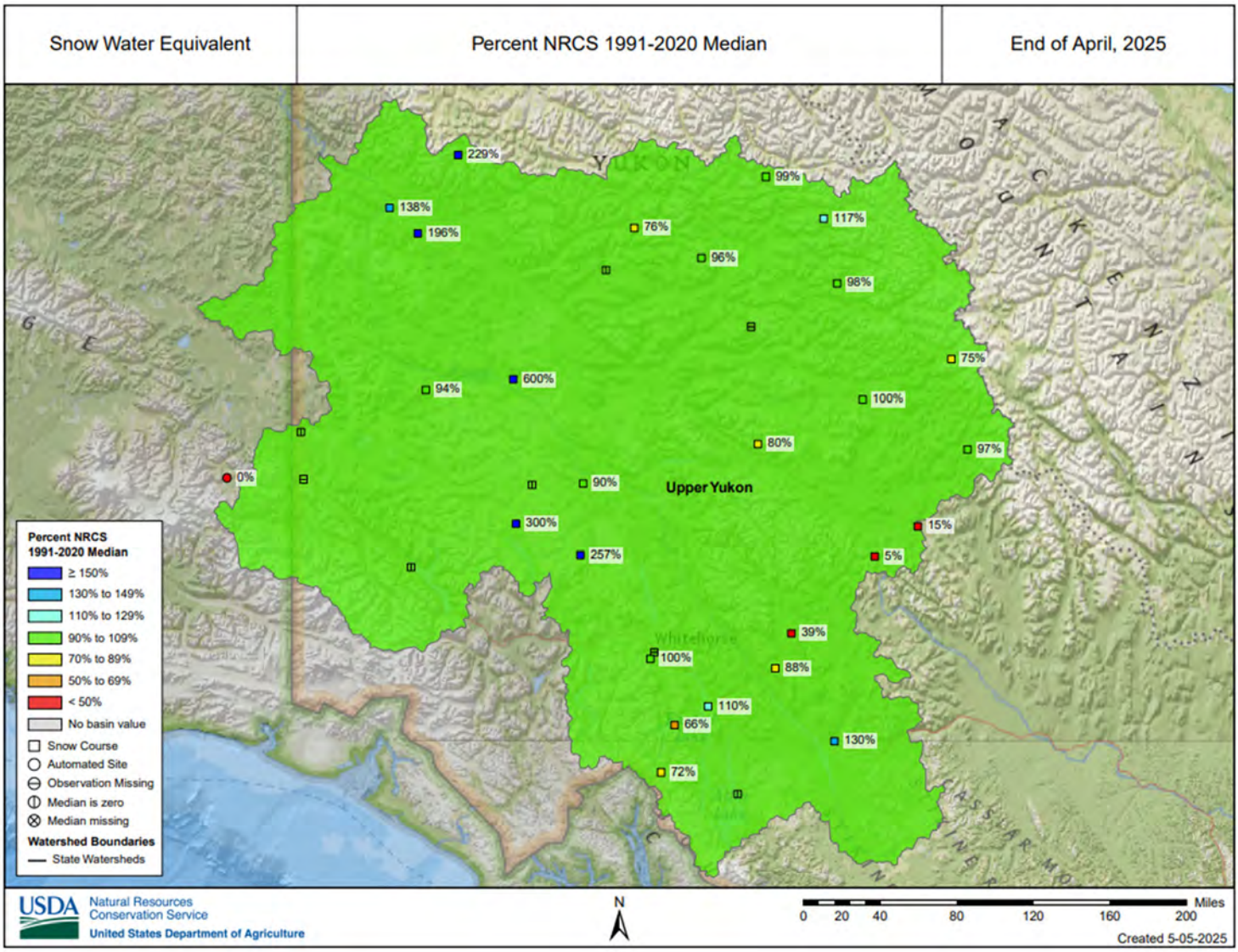
Boxes to the right of the gray 100% of average line represent above average volumes. Conversely, any boxes to the left of the gray 100% line represent below average volumes. In this case all forecast exceedances are for above average April-July volumes. Averages are based on the 1981-2010 period. The number inside or above each colored box represents the volume of that exceedance forecast in thousand acre-feet (KAF). In this case the green 50% exceedance forecast volume is 380 KAF which is



centered above 185% of average. Volumes decrease with drier future conditions (left of green box) and increase with wetter conditions (right of green box).
Forecast graphics for other basins are available at: https://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/wsf/Fcst_Chart/

Upper Yukon Basin

Upper Yukon Snowpack



Snowpack

Snowpack in the Upper Yukon ranges from snow-free to near record levels on May 1, 2025. Many of the snow-free measurements were taken from snow courses where this is usual for the time of year. The lowest below Normal measurements were recorded in the eastern portion of the region. Downriver, closer to Alaska, there are some exceptionally high readings. The 9.6 inches of SWE measured at Grizzly Creek, near the junction of the Klondike and Dempster Highways, is more than double the average for the date and the second-highest May 1 measurement in 51 years of observation. Overall, the 32 stations used to calculate the basin index report 92% of the 1991–2020 Median.

Upper Yukon Basin

Snowpack Data

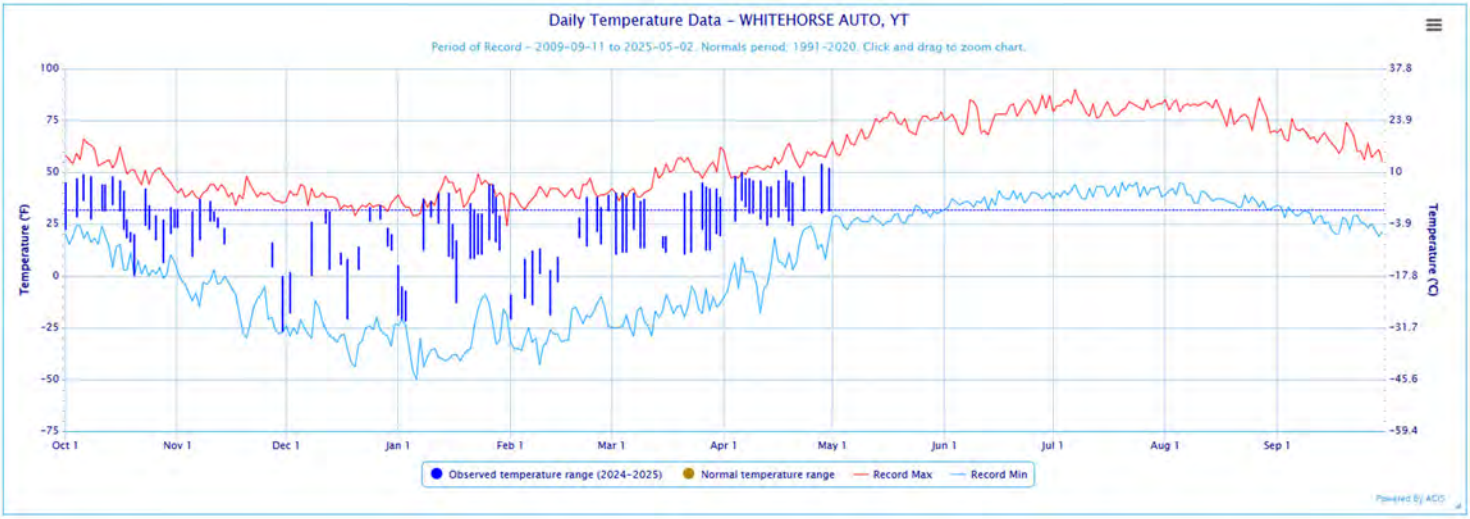
Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Atlin Lake	2395	0	6	0.0	1.6	---
Beaver Creek	2150	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Blackstone River	1020	12	15	3.2	3.9	---
Burns Lake	3650	27	20	8.5	6.9	97%
Burwash Airstrip	2660	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Calumet	4300	30	16	5.6	4.0	76%
Casino Creek	3495	21	---	4.5	---	94%
Chisana SNOTEL	3320	0*	5	0.0	1.3	0%
Edwards Lake	2720	20	12	5.4	2.6	96%
Finlayson Airstrip	3240	3	4	0.4	0.9	15%
Francis River	730	0	19	0.0	5.4	---
Fuller Lake	3695	26	27	6.3	7.1	75%
Grizzly Creek	3200	25	21	9.6	7.7	229%
Hoole River	3400	1	11	0.2	2.6	5%
Hyland	855	16	16	5.1	4.9	---
Jordan Lake	3050	8	7	1.5	1.5	39%
King Solomon Dome	3540	34	11	10.2	2.4	196%
Log Cabin B.C.	2900	31	48	10.8	18.5	72%
Macintosh	3805	4	0	0.6	0.0	300%
Mayo Airport	1770	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Meadow Creek	4050	39	30	10.0	9.7	89%
Midnight Dome	2805	31	24	8.0	6.7	138%
Montana Mtn.	3350	14	16	3.1	3.6	66%
Morley Lake	2700	10	17	4.3	4.8	130%
Mt. Berdoe	3395	12	5	2.6	1.5	90%
Mt. Mcintyre B	3600	22	19	6.1	4.6	100%
Mt. Nansen	3350	2	0	0.6	0.0	---
Ogilvie River	550	15	19	3.2	3.9	---
Pelly Farm	1550	5	0	1.8	0.0	600%
Pine Lake Airstrip	995	24	25	7.8	7.9	---
Plata Airstrip	2725	20	5	5.8	1.0	98%
Rackla Lake	3410	33	30	7.4	7.4	99%
Rose Creek Faro	1080	9	1	2.0	0.4	80%
Satasha Lake	3630	8	0	1.8	0.0	257%
Summit	985	31	37	9.3	12.6	155%
Tagish	3540	22	15	5.4	3.7	110%
Twin Creeks	2950	17	14	5.8	3.9	100%
Watson Lake Airport	685	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Williams Creek	3000	7	---	2.0	---	167%
Withers Lake	3200	35	---	9.8	---	117%

**Estimate*

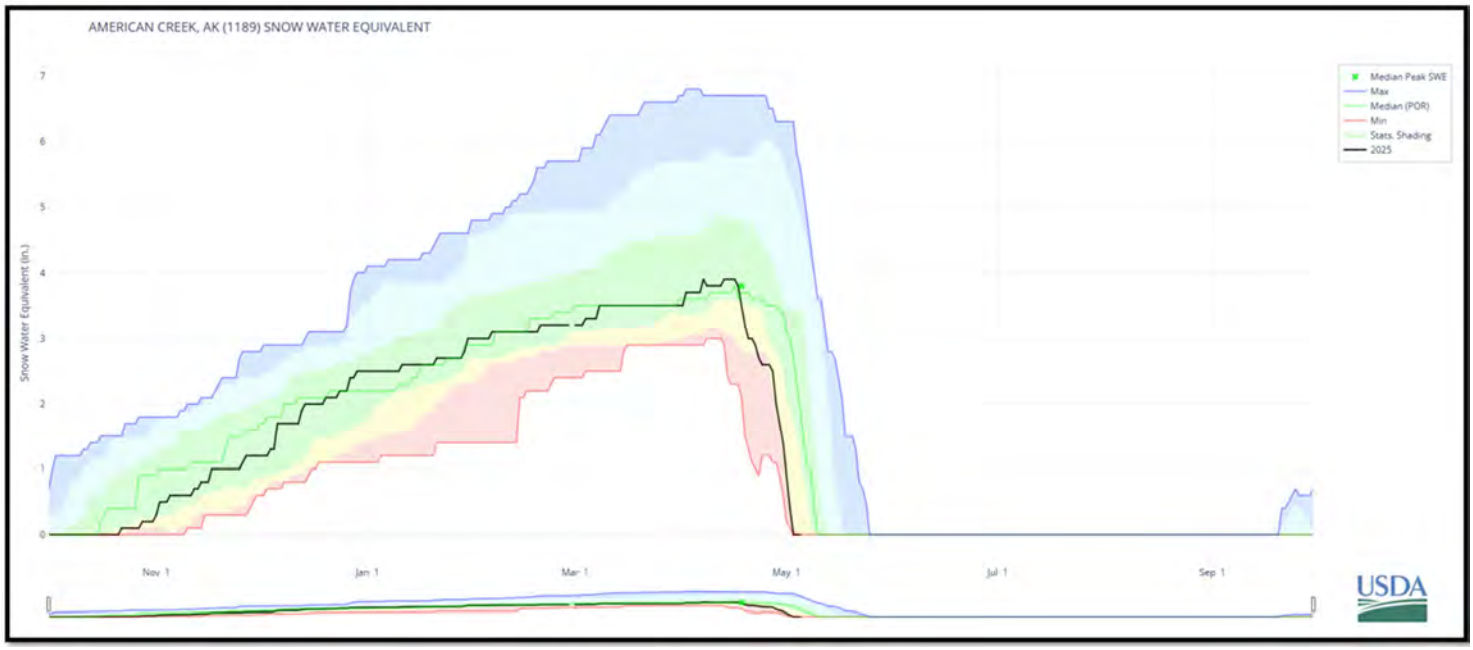
Upper Yukon Basin

Temperature Chart

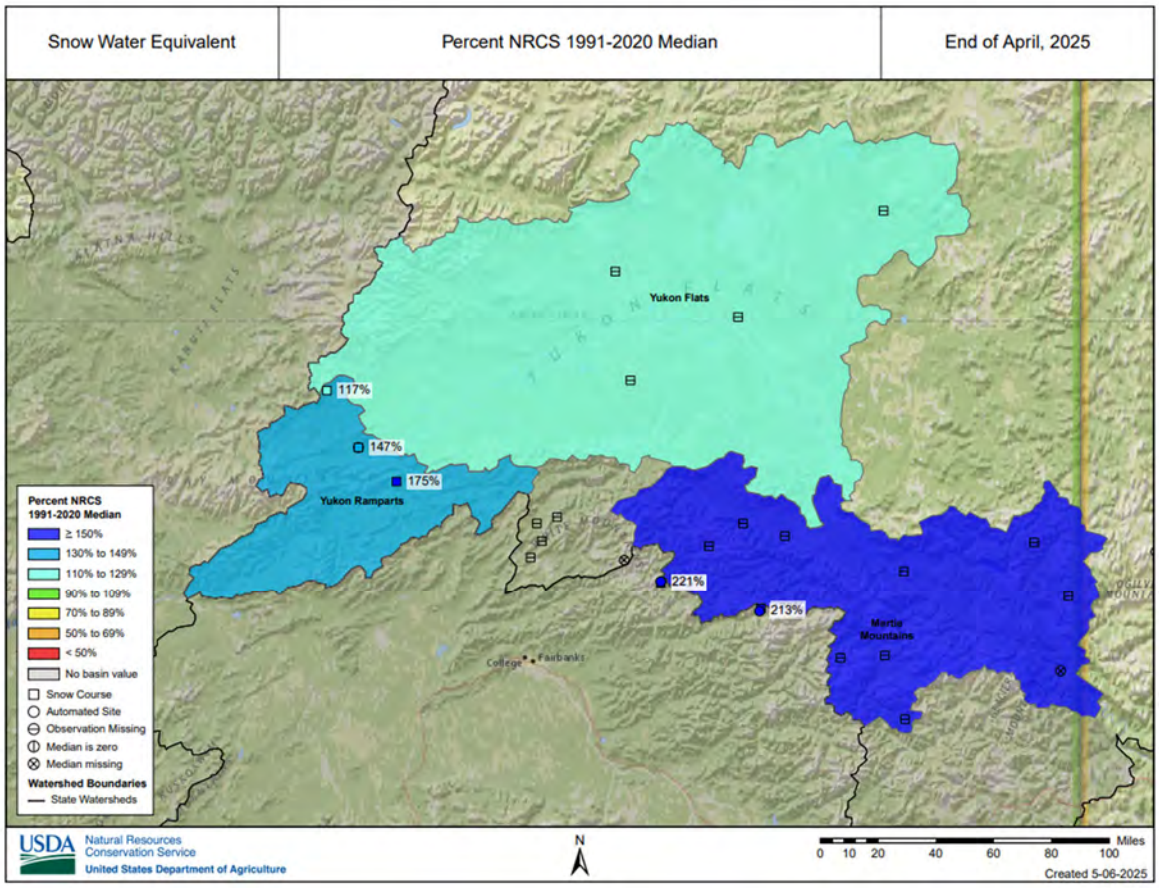
Source: NOAA ACIS



Central Yukon Basin



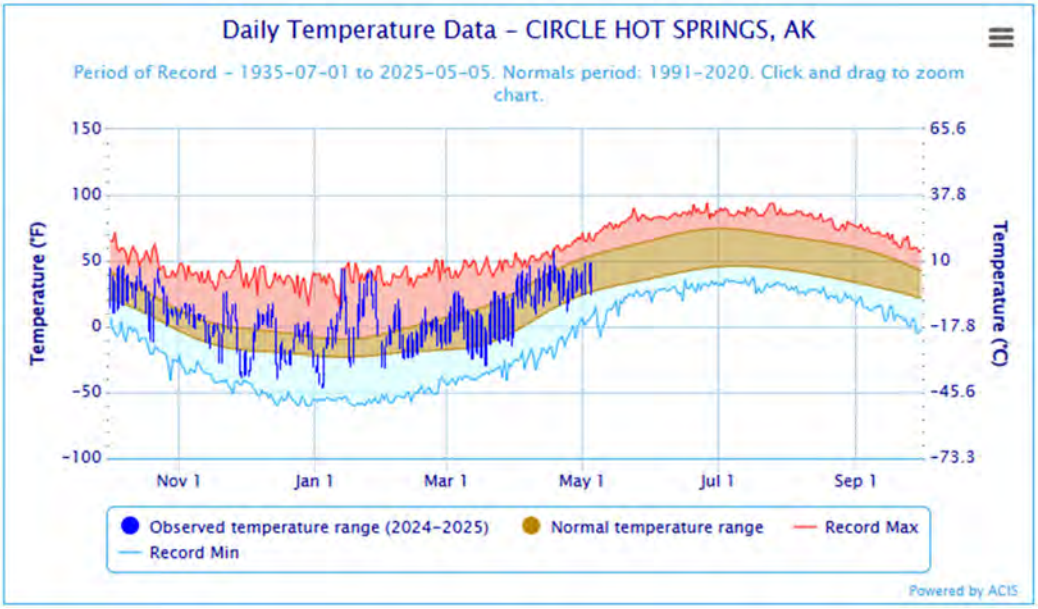
Snowpack Map



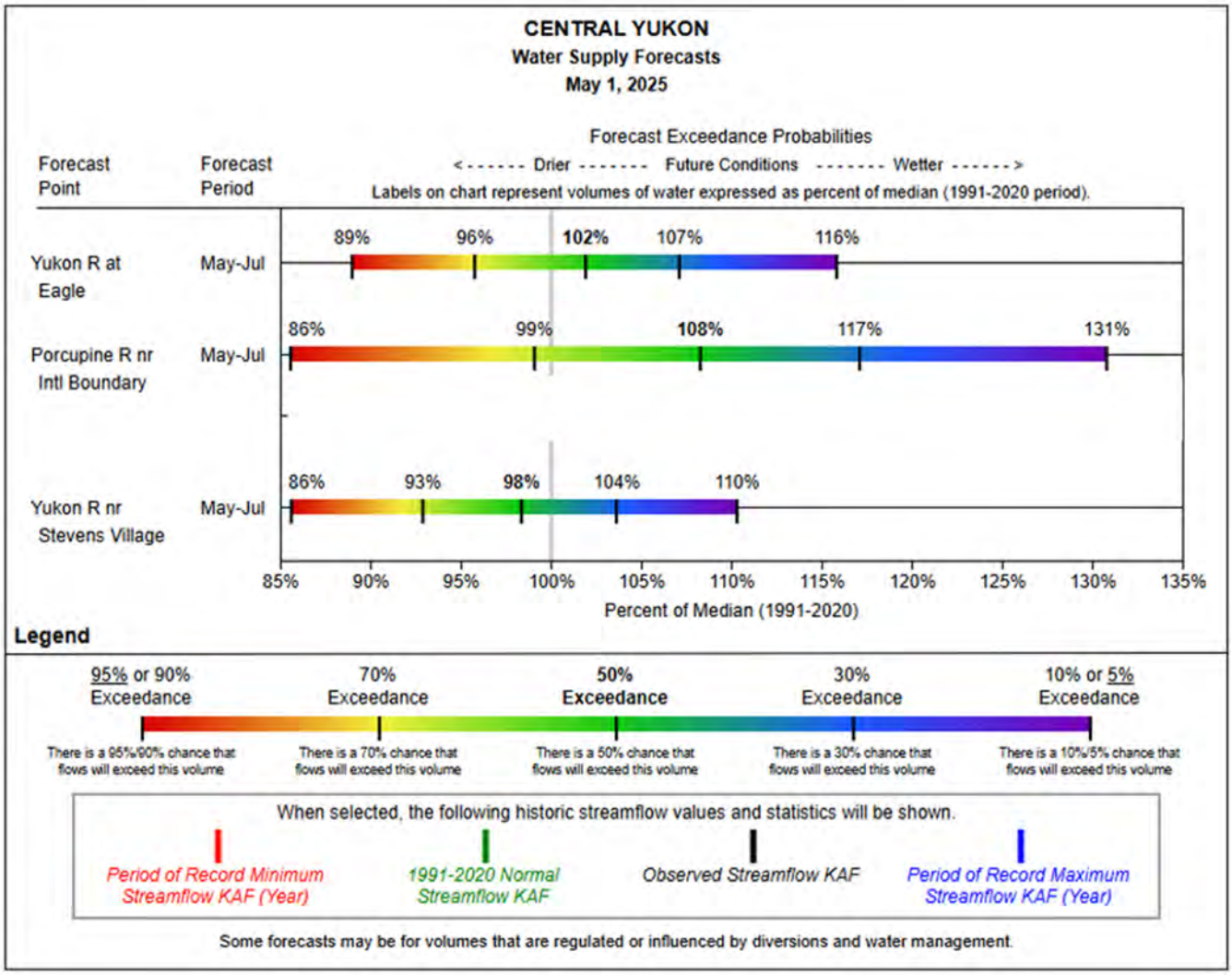
Central Yukon Basin

Temperature Chart

Source: NOAA ACIS



Streamflow Forecasts



Central Yukon Basin

Snowpack

Snowpack in the Central Yukon is mostly above Normal on May 1, 2025. As was the case last month, the most robust snowpack is found in the uplands dividing the Yukon and Tanana Rivers. The Hess Creek Snow Course, on the Dalton Highway near the Yukon Crossing, is reporting the highest May 1 SWE in 43 years of observation. The snowpack declines heading east in the basin, with two of the measurements taken by counterparts in Yukon Province reporting below Normal snowpack for the date.

Snowpack Data

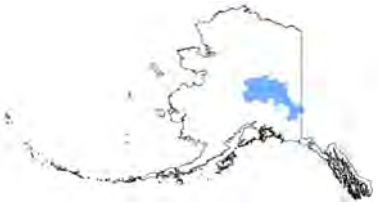
		Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
Site Name	Elev.	Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
American Creek SNOTEL	1020	4	16	0.9	4.8	---
Atigun Pass SNOTEL	4780	50	36	---	---	---
Eagle Plains	2330	24	24	7.3	8.5	126%
Eagle River	1115	17	27	3.7	7.0	88%
Eagle Summit SNOTEL	3630	41	21	---	---	---
Fort Yukon SNOTEL	440	16	2	---	---	---
Hess Creek	1020	30	15	7.0	3.0	175%
Jack Wade Jct SNOTEL	3660	25	18	6.1	6.3	---
Monument Creek	1840	16	0	6.0	0.0	316%
Monument Creek SNOTEL	1840	9	0	4.0	0.0	167%
Mt. Ryan	2750	41	14	11.2	4.0	243%
Mt. Ryan SNOTEL	2750	38	9	10.6	4.2	221%
Old Crow	980	26	28	5.6	8.6	140%
Riffs Ridge	2130	15	22	3.8	7.8	73%
Seven Mile	570	20	10	5.0	2.9	147%
Seven Mile SNOTEL	660	20	---	5.7*	---	---
Thirty Mile	1390	38	26	6.8	7.4	117%
Upper Chena	3020	41	18	11.2	5.6	170%
Upper Chena SNOTEL	2790	40	18	11.5	---	213%
Upper Nome Creek SNOTEL	2500	39	9	11.6*	3.0	---

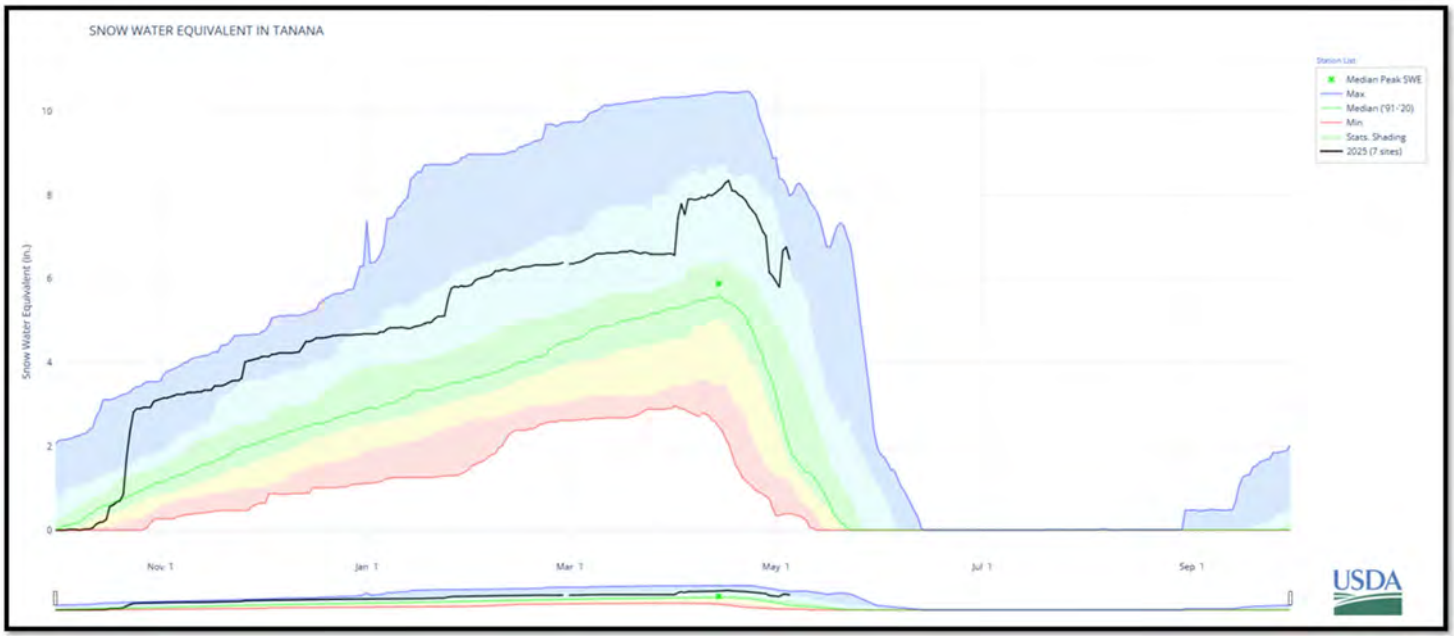
**Estimate*

Precipitation Data

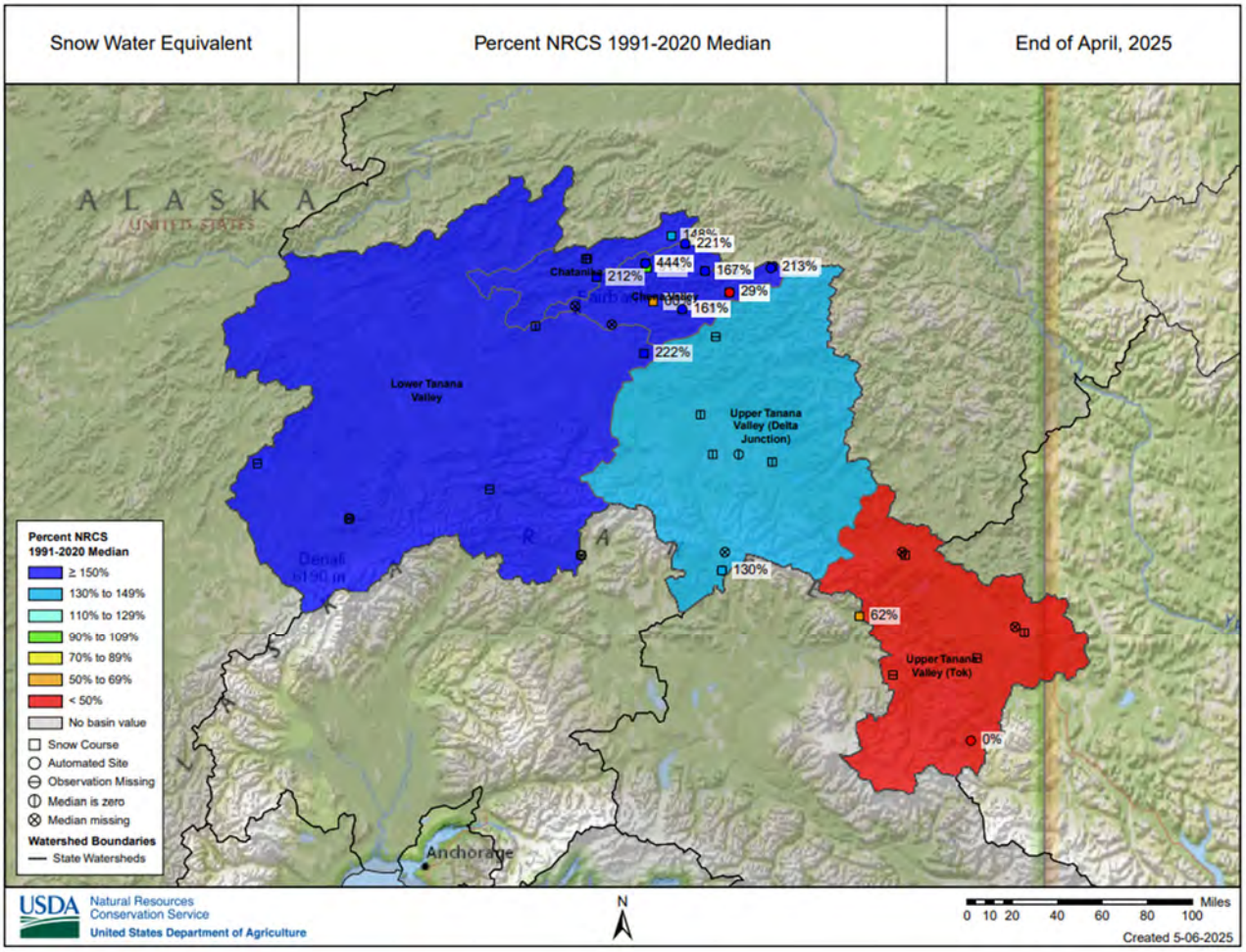
		Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
American Creek	1020	4.3	5.9	---	---
Atigun Pass	4780	9.1	8.0	6.6	138%
Eagle Summit	3630	6.0	5.5	5.8	103%
Fort Yukon	440	6.4	3.9	3.8	168%
Jack Wade Jct	3660	6.2	7.1	---	---
Monument Creek	1840	9.0	5.7	6.4	141%
Mt. Ryan	2750	10.0	5.5	6.2	161%
Seven Mile	660	6.7	---	---	---
Upper Nome Creek	2500	15.1	6.9	7.0	216%

Tanana Basin



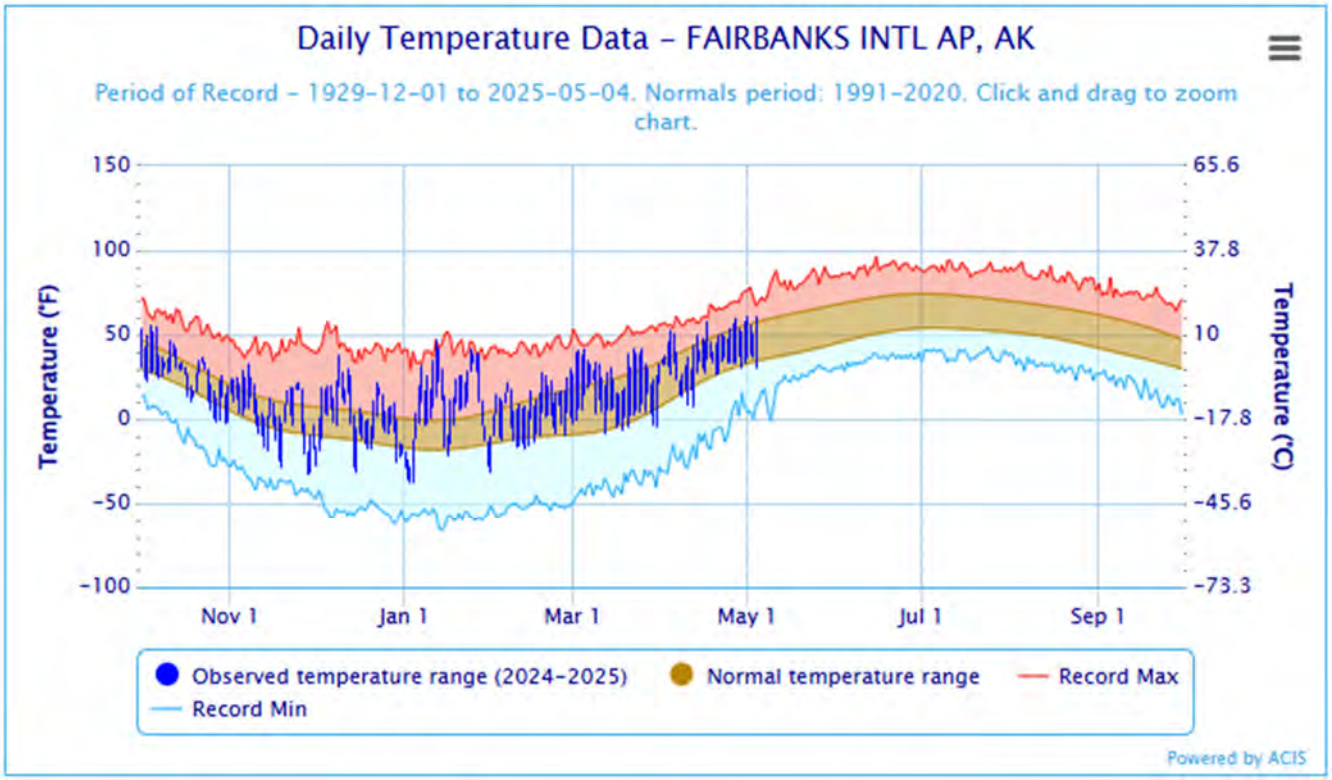


Snowpack Map

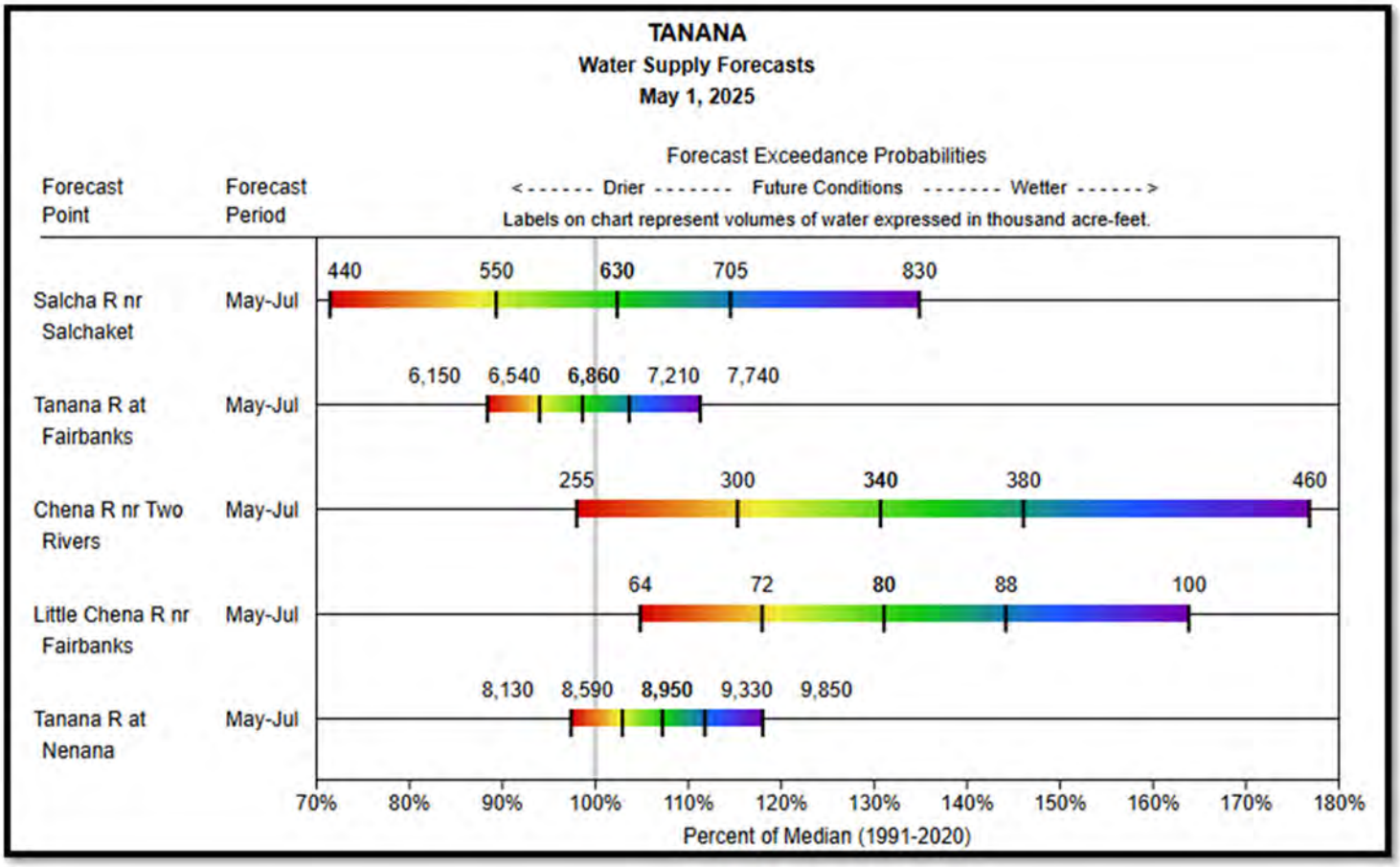


Tanana Basin

Temperature Chart



Streamflow Forecasts



Tanana Basin

Snowpack

Snowpack in the Tanana is mostly above Normal on May 1, 2025. The most outstanding snowpacks are in the Chena Basin, a region that has received substantial snowfall all winter. Heading upstream toward the Canadian border, many of the reporting stations in the basin are snow-free, which is typical for the date. Overall, the 28 stations used to index the basin are reporting nearly double the 1991–2020 Median for the date.

Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Bonanza Creek	1120	15	---	4.3	---	---
Caribou Creek	1230	6	---	1.9	---	---
Chena Lakes SNOTEL	500	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Chisana SNOTEL	3320	0*	5	0.0	1.3	0%
Cleary Summit	2250	34	18	11.0	4.8	212%
Colorado Creek	650	2	0	0.6	0.0	60%
Creamers Field SNOTEL	440	0*	0	0.0	0.0	---
Faith Creek	1710	16	4	4.6	0.9	148%
Fielding Lake SNOTEL	3000	31	32	10.6	11.0	---
Fielding Lake	3010	37	42	12.7	12.0	130%
Fort Greely	1470	3	0	0.2	0.0	---
French Creek	1940	29	6	8.0	1.4	222%
Gerstle River	1180	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Granite Crk SNOTEL	1250	0*	0	0.3*	0.0	---
Kantishna SNOTEL	1590	15	2	4.2	0.2	---
Little Chena Bottom	1080	5	---	2.0	---	91%
Little Chena Ridge SNOTEL	2150	22	0	7.1	0.0	444%
Look Eyrie SNOTEL	5040	120	121	46.2	---	---
Mentasta Pass	2470	7	8	2.0	2.6	63%
Monahan Flat SNOTEL	2690	21	28	7.4	7.6	---
Monument Creek SNOTEL	1840	9	0	4.0	0.0	167%
Mt. Ryan SNOTEL	2750	38	9	10.6	4.2	221%
Munson Ridge SNOTEL	3020	49	22	14.0	7.5	161%
Nenana SNOTEL	370	0*	0	---	---	---
Paradise Hill SNOTEL	2010	0	0	0.0*	0.0	---
Shaw Creek Flats	960	1	0	0.3*	0.0	---
Teuchet Creek SNOTEL	1560	1*	0	0.2*	0.0	29%
Tok SNOTEL	1640	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Tok Junction	1680	0	6	0.0	1.3	---
Upper Chena SNOTEL	2790	40	18	11.5	---	213%
Upper Nome Creek SNOTEL	2500	39	9	11.6*	3.0	---

**Estimate*

Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Chena Lakes	500	6.5	3.8	---	---
Chisana	3320	3.2	4.2	3.8	84%
Creamers Field	440	6.6	4.1	---	---
Fielding Lake	3000	11.2	11.4	---	---
Granite Crk	1250	3.7	5.1	4.2	88%
Kantishna	1590	8.2	5.8	5.8	141%
Little Chena Ridge	2150	9.6	5.6	6.1	157%
Monahan Flat	2690	9.0	9.1	7.8	115%
Monument Creek	1840	9.0	5.7	6.4	141%
Mt. Ryan	2750	10.0	5.5	6.2	161%
Munson Ridge	3020	12.3	7.6	8.8	140%
Nenana	370	8.2	4.2	3.9	210%
Paradise Hill	2010	3.4	3.4	---	---
Teuchet Creek	1560	5.7	4.7	5.2	110%
Tok	1640	3.6	4.4	---	---
Upper Nome Creek	2500	15.1	6.9	7.0	216%

Western Interior Basins

Snowpack

Koyukuk

Snowpack in the Koyukuk is above normal on May 1, 2025. Not a single station recorded less SWE than the 1991–2020 May 1 Median. The two highest elevation sites on the Dalton Highway in the Brooks Range, Table Mountain and Disaster Creek, recorded the second-highest values in over 50 years of observation. The 11 stations that index the basin are reporting 156% of Normal for the date.

Kuskokwim

The limited data points in the Kuskokwim basin were snow-free on May 1, 2025. This is typical for Aniak and Telaquana Lake but is a bit early for McGrath. Telaquana Lake SNOTEL had a poor snow year, hitting its SWE peak in early December and remaining largely snow-free since the end of January. With 11 years of data, this winter will be graphed as its record minimum for most of the snow season.

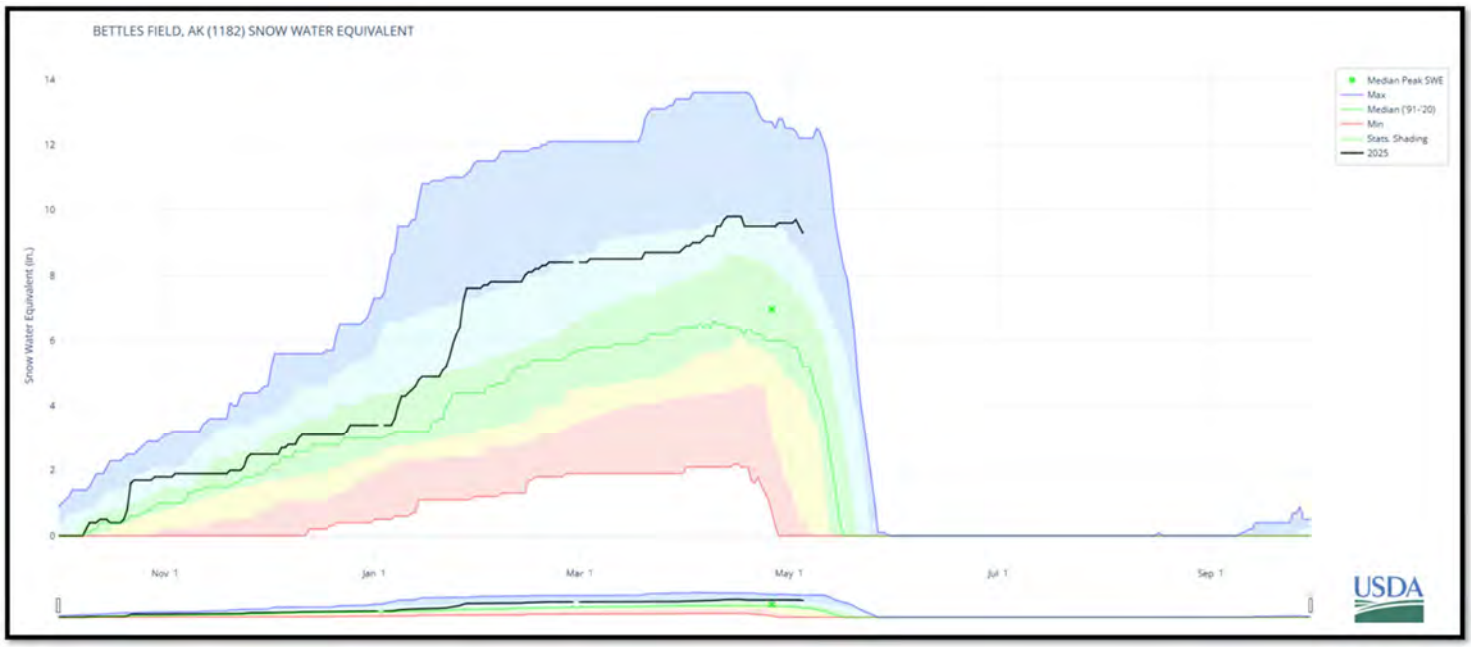
Lower Yukon

Snowpack in the Lower Yukon is likely above Normal. The most notable measurements earlier in the winter were aerial markers upstream of Galena. None of these markers were flown in May, but the Galena SNOTEL indicates conditions may persist.

Precipitation Data

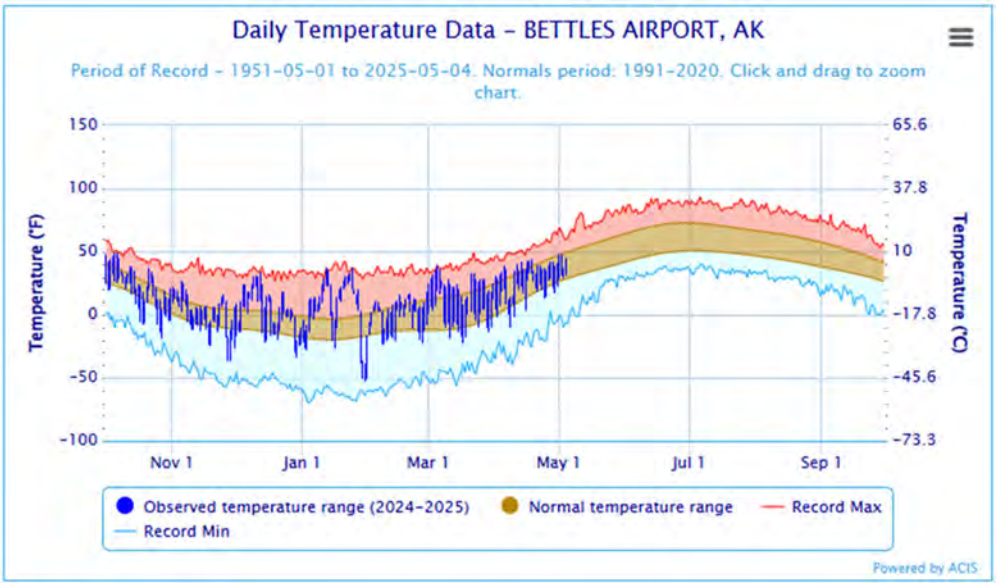
		Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
Site Name	**Elev.**	**This Year**	**Last Year**	**1991-2020 Normal**	**% of Normal**
Koyukuk					
Bettles Field	640	9.3	7.2	7.5	124%
Coldfoot	1070	9.3	5.9	6.2	150%
Gobblers Knob	2040	9.6	8.5	6.4	150%
Kuskokwim					
Aniak	90	9.6	11.5	5.9	163%
McGrath	340	10.2	8.6	---	---
Telaquana Lake	1250	6.0	6.2	---	---
Lower Yukon					
Galena AK	340	6.8	7.0	---	---

Western Interior Basins

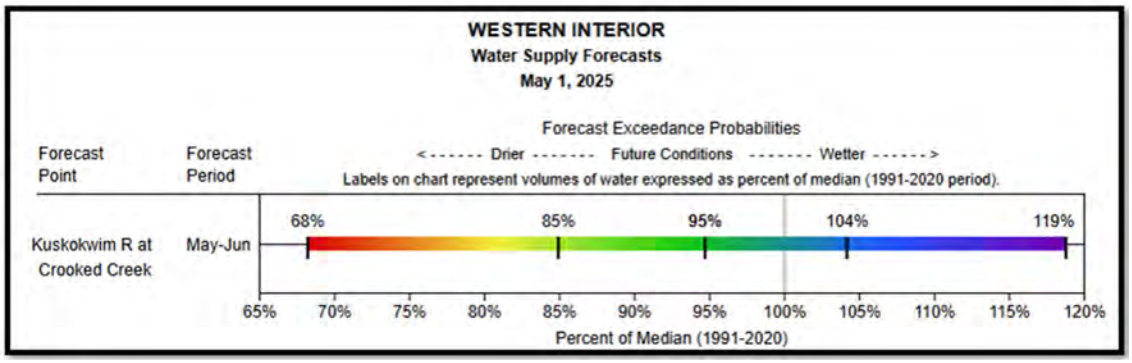


Temperature Data

Source: NOAA ACIS



Streamflow Forecasts



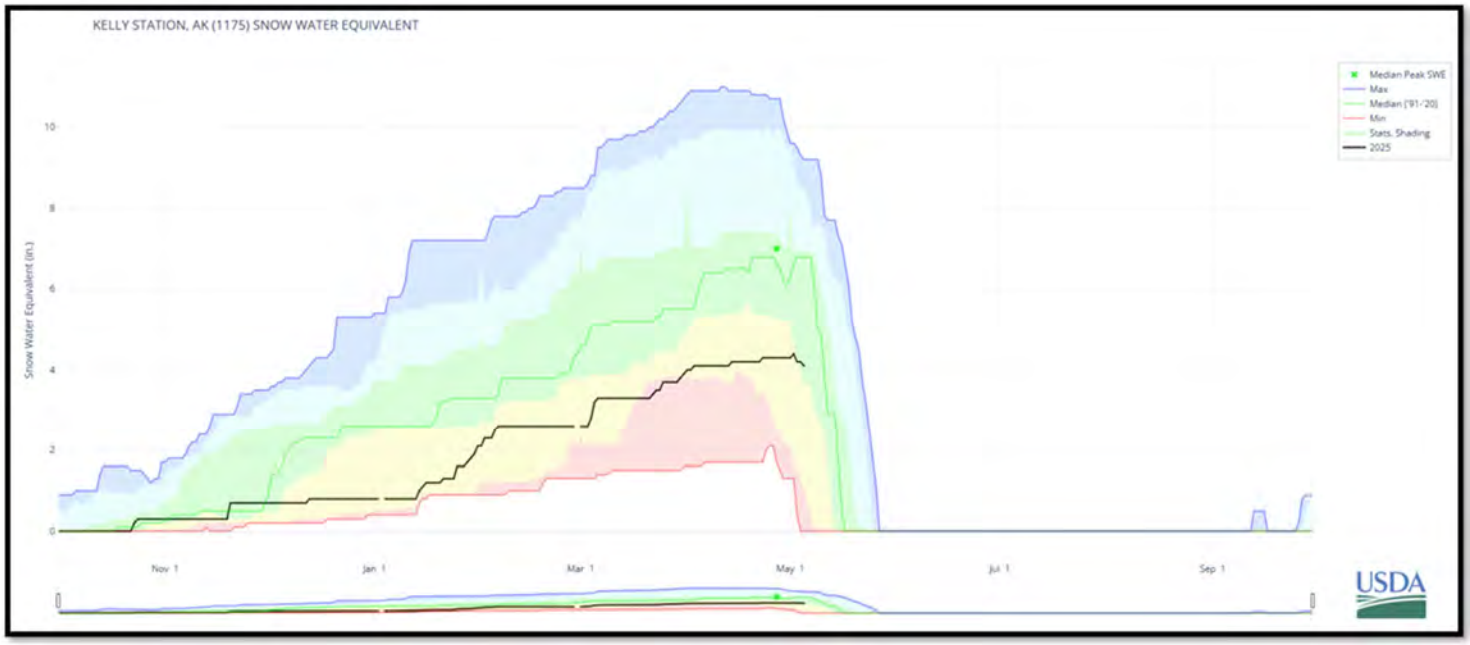
Western Interior Basins

Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Koyukuk						
Bettles Field SNOTEL	640	32	23	9.6*	7.8	163%
Bonanza Forks	1050	22	13	5.8	3.3	149%
Coldfoot SNOTEL	1070	33	18	9.0	5.3	164%
Coldfoot	1060	35	19	8.4	5.7	---
Disaster Creek	1560	25	7	6.2	1.9	207%
East Chalatna	610	12	---	3.6*	---	---
Gobblers Knob SNOTEL	2040	6	0	---	---	---
Kaldoyeit	740	27	16	8.8*	5.1	259%
Kanuti Chalatna	700	15	7	4.4*	2.4	122%
Kanuti Kilolitna	580	12	0	3.4	0.0	121%
Minnkokut	510	25	15	7.5*	5.0	117%
Nolitna	610	22	13	7.2*	4.3	171%
Table Mountain	2210	31	17	7.9	4.1	172%
Thirty Mile	1390	38	26	6.8	7.4	117%
Kuskokwim						
Aniak SNOTEL	90	0	0	0.0	---	---
McGrath SNOTEL	340	0	8	0.0*	2.8	---
Telaquana Lake SNOTEL	1250	0*	0	0.0*	0.0	---
Lower Yukon						
Galena AK SNOTEL	340	11	8	4.5	3.1	---
Hozatka Lake SNOTEL	220	7	1	---	---	---

**Estimate*

Arctic and Kotzebue Sound



Snowpack

Arctic

It is difficult to assess the snowpack in the Arctic on May 1, 2025, due to limited data. Water-year-to-date precipitation at stations along the Dalton Highway is above Normal. Snow depths at these stations are near Normal, though snow is notoriously difficult to measure in this environment.

Kotzebue

The Kotzebue region has few snow and precipitation data points. Kelly Station SNOTEL reports below Normal snowpack on May 1, 2025. The 4.3 inches of SWE it recorded is about 70% of Normal. Dahl Creek SNOTEL, installed two years ago, is reporting nearly the same snowpack as it did on this date in 2023. It is believed to represent a deep snowpack for the region. The Kotzebue airport has collected well above-average precipitation for the year, although rain is included. The only certainty is that Kelly Station's snowpack is below Normal.

Arctic and Kotzebue Sound

Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Arctic						
Atigun Pass SNOTEL	4780	50	36	---	---	---
Imnaviat Creek SNOTEL	3060	30	26	---	---	---
Prudhoe Bay SNOTEL	50	13	20	---	---	---
Sagwon SNOTEL	1000	15	12	---	---	---
Kotzebue Sound						
Dahl Creek SNOTEL	250	36	18	13.0	6.9	---
Imnaviat Creek SNOTEL	3060	30	26	---	---	---

**Estimate*

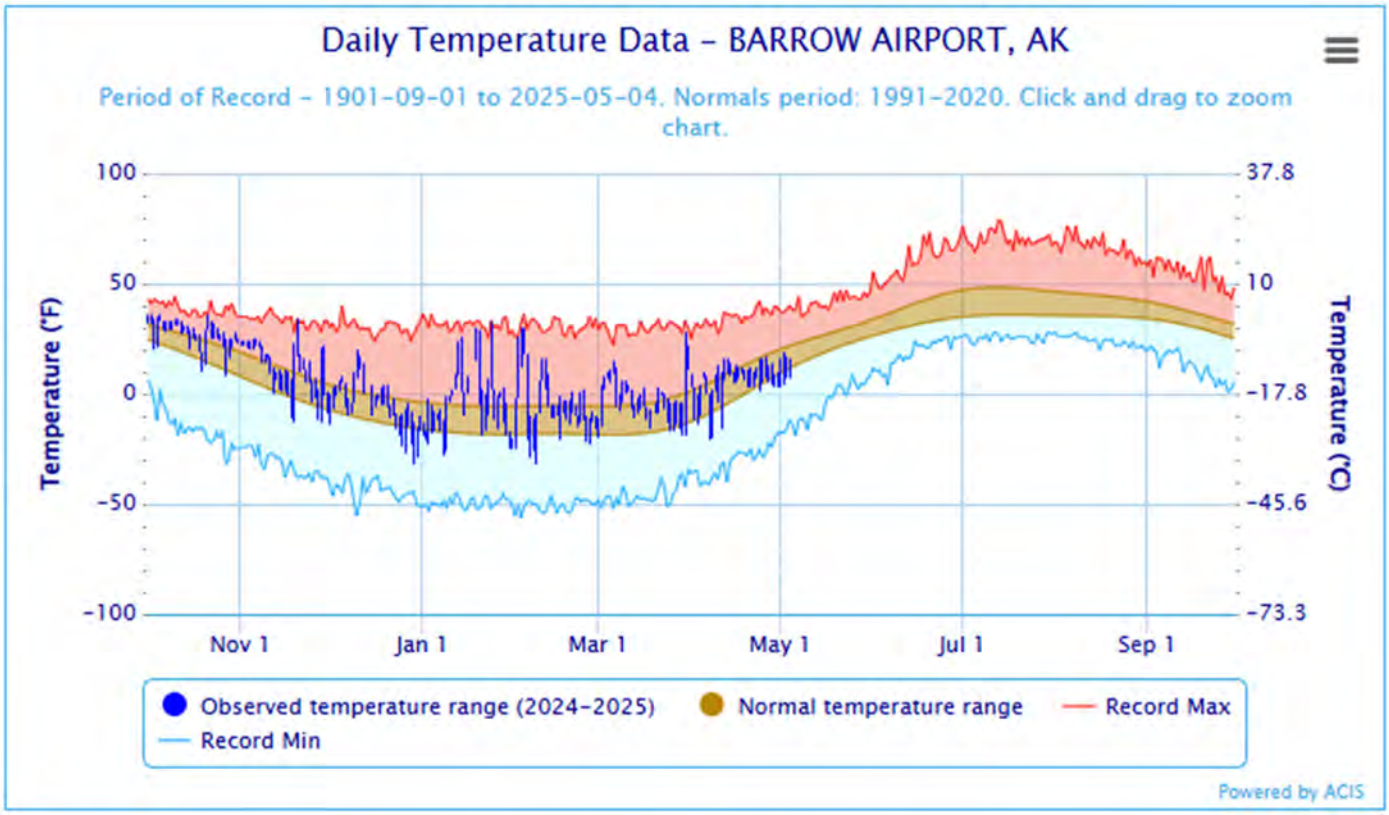
Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Arctic					
Atigun Pass	4780	9.1	8.0	6.6	138%
Imnaviat Creek	3060	3.9	3.9	3.3	118%
Prudhoe Bay	50	4.7	5.6	3.7	127%
Sagwon	1000	3.3	4.1	3.2	103%
Kotzebue Sound					
Dahl Creek	250	13.0	9.2	---	---
Kelly Station	300	5.2	6.9	7.9	66%

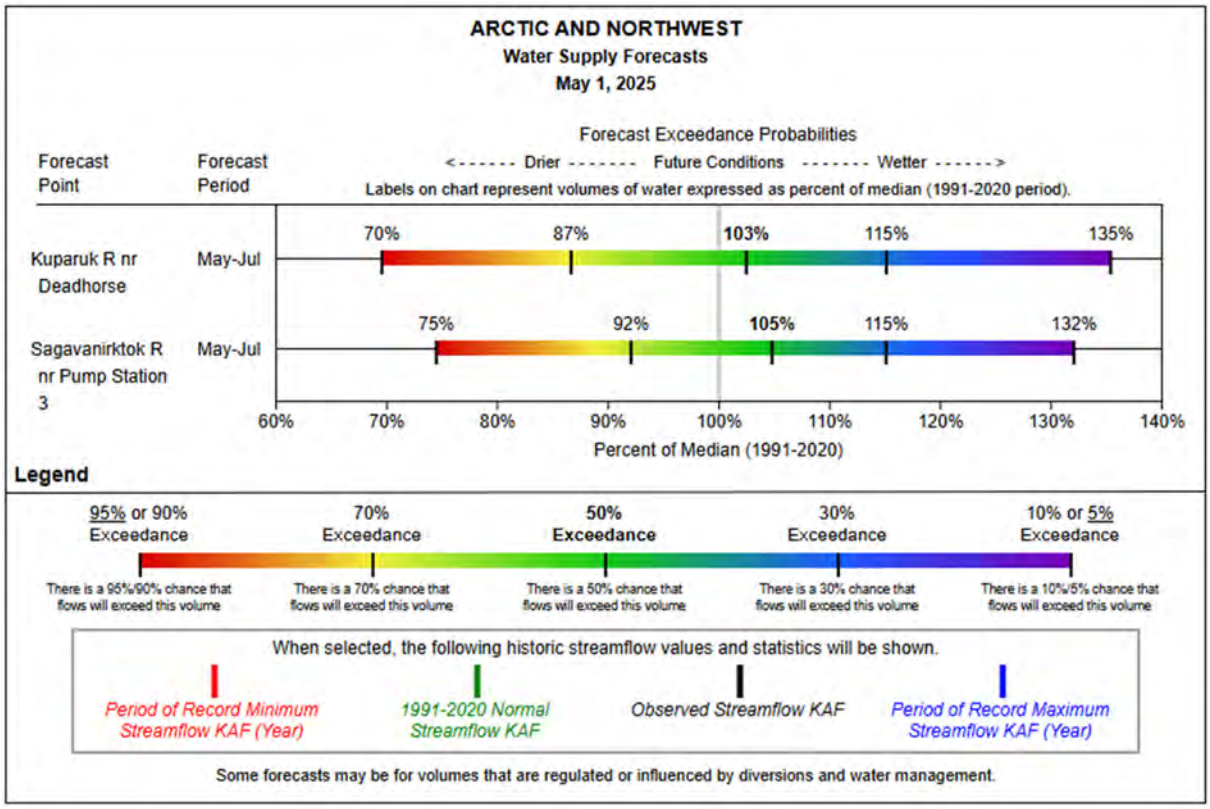
Arctic and Kotzebue Sound

Temperature Data

Source: NOAA ACIS



Streamflow Forecasts

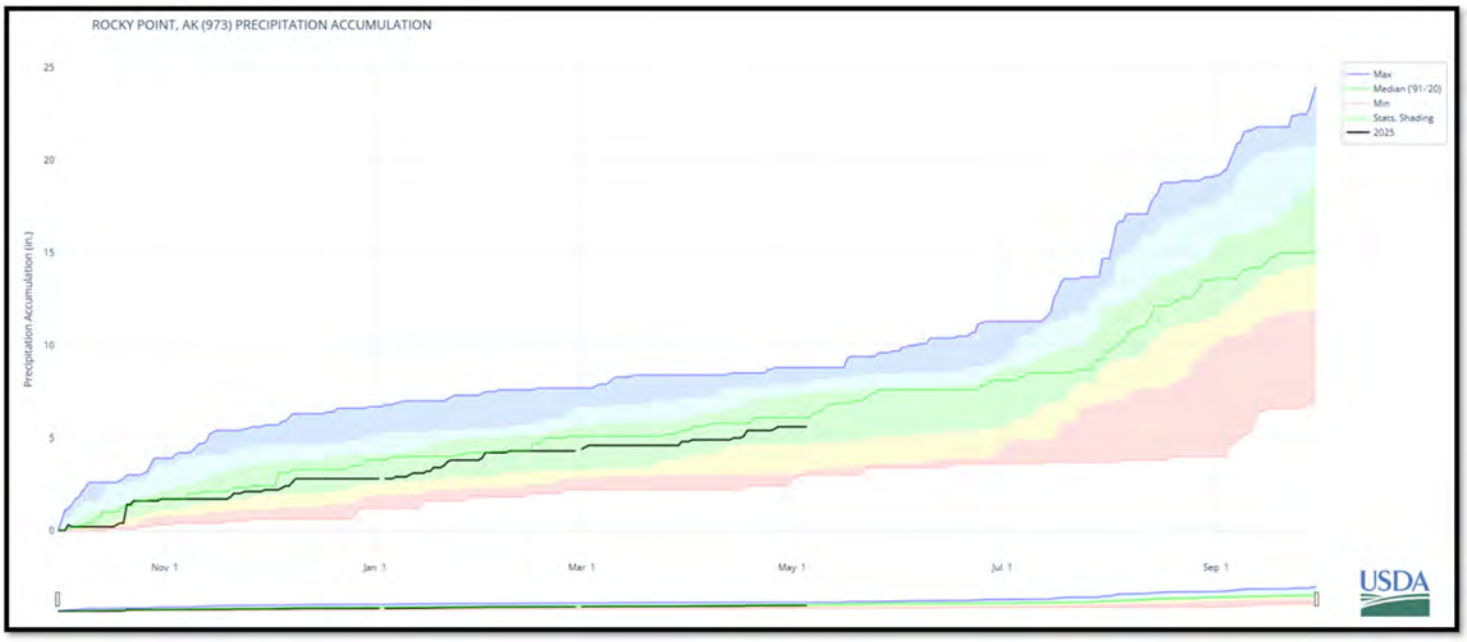


Norton Sound/Y-K Delta/Bristol Bay

Snowpack

Precipitation sites on the Seward Peninsula are near Normal, with both Nome Airport and Rocky Point reporting water-year-to-date precipitation close to average. Snow depth sensors at Rocky Point and Pargon Creek also indicate an average snowpack. The snowpack at Pilgrim Hot Springs peaked on April 18th with 4.3 inches of water content.

In the lowlands around Southwest Alaska, widespread snow-free conditions were observed. Readings from Aniak, Bethel, King Salmon, McGrath, and Port Alsworth were all snow-free on May 1.



Norton Sound/Y-K Delta/Bristol Bay

Precipitation Data

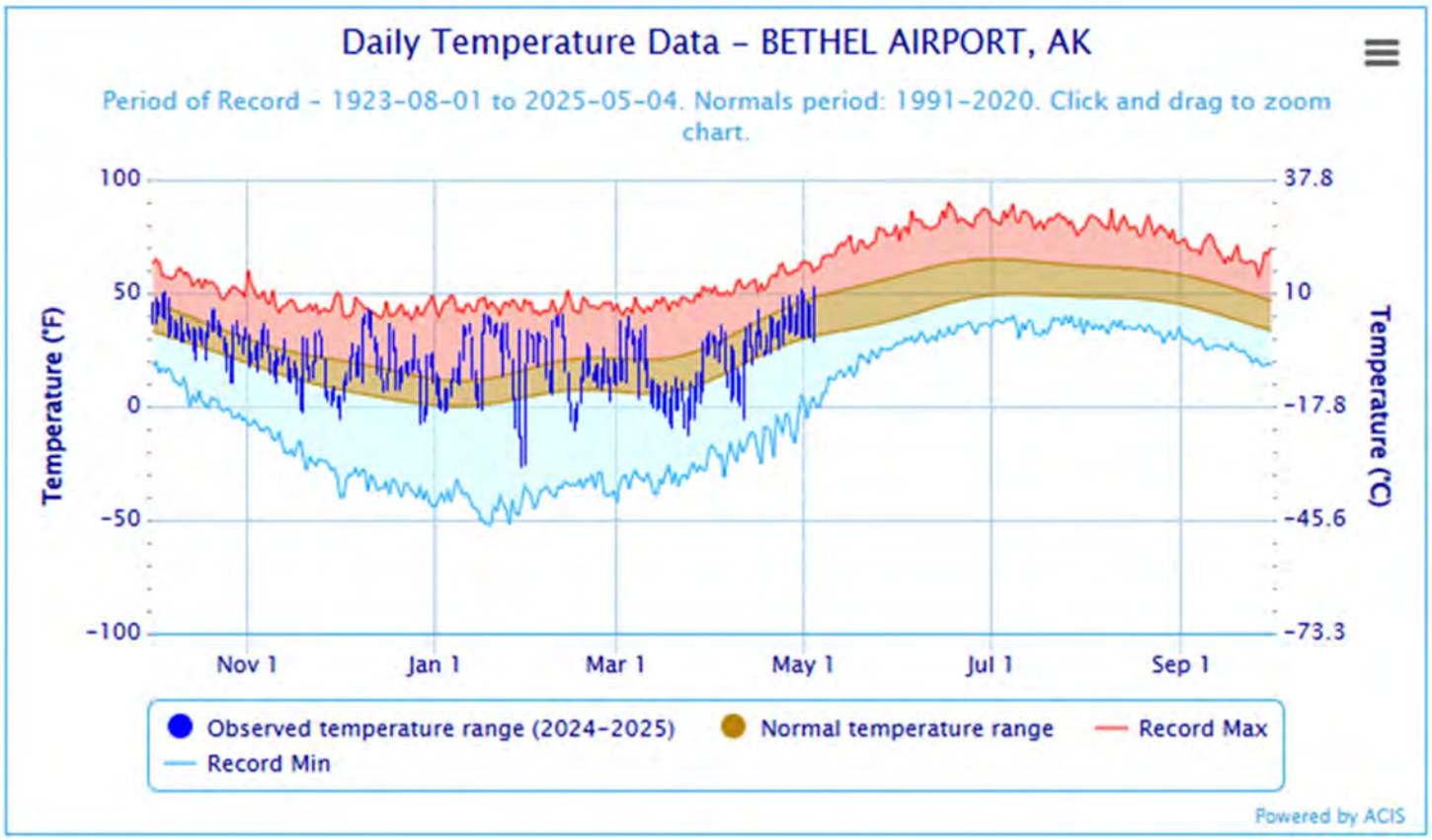
Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Aniak	90	9.6	11.5	5.9	163%
Pilgrim Hot Springs	20	8.2	---	---	---
Rocky Point	180	5.6	5.2	6.1	92%

Snowpack Data

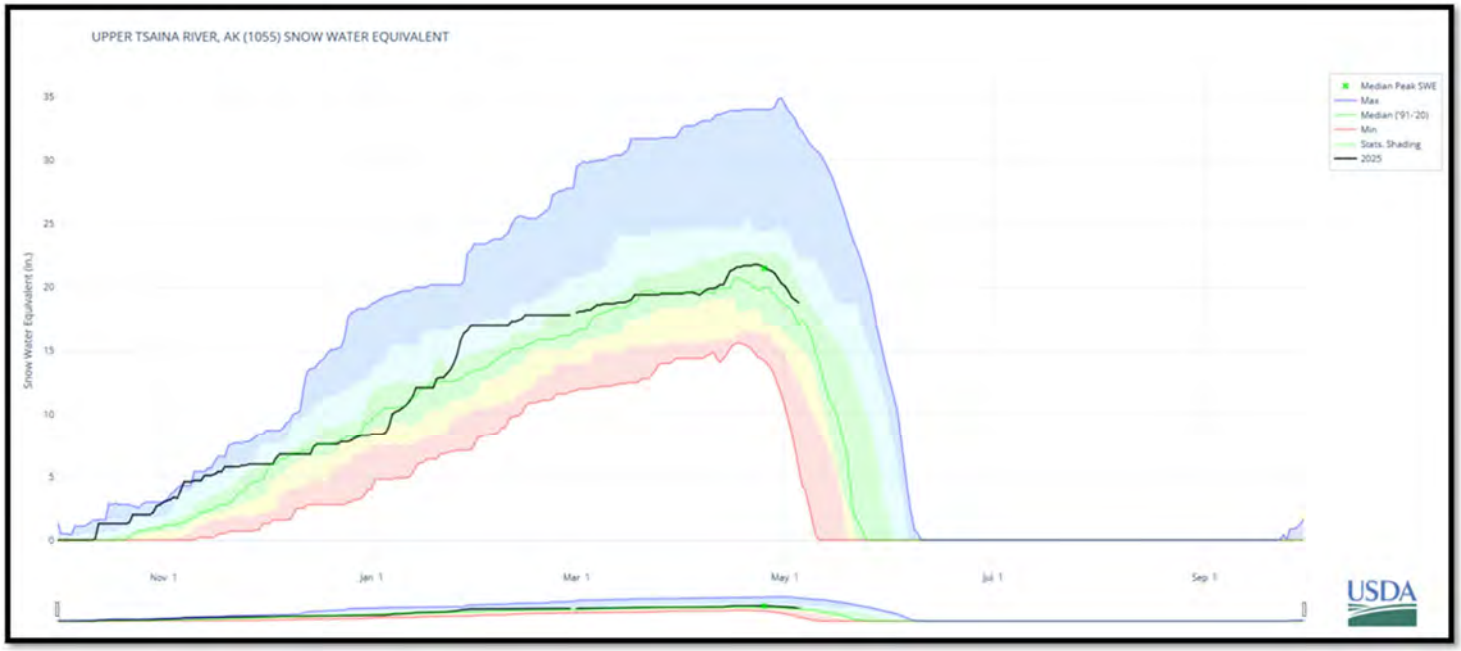
Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Aniak SNOTEL	90	0	0	0.0	---	---
Igiugig	100	0	---	---	---	---
Pargon Creek SNOTEL	90	4	12	---	---	---
Pilgrim Hot Springs SNOTEL	20	10	---	3.6	---	---
Rocky Point SNOTEL	180	15*	38	---	---	---

Temperature Data

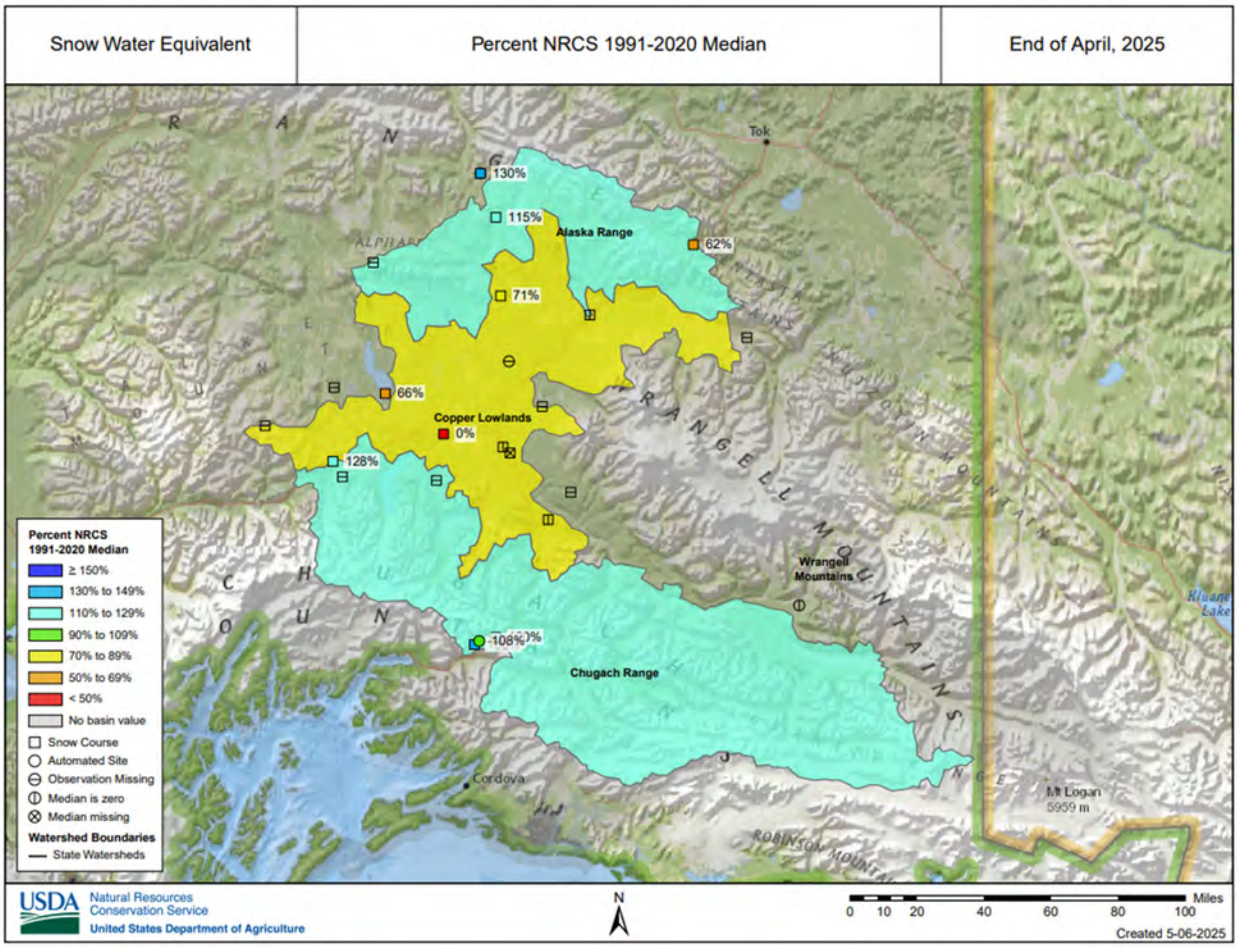
Source: NOAA ACIS



Copper Basin



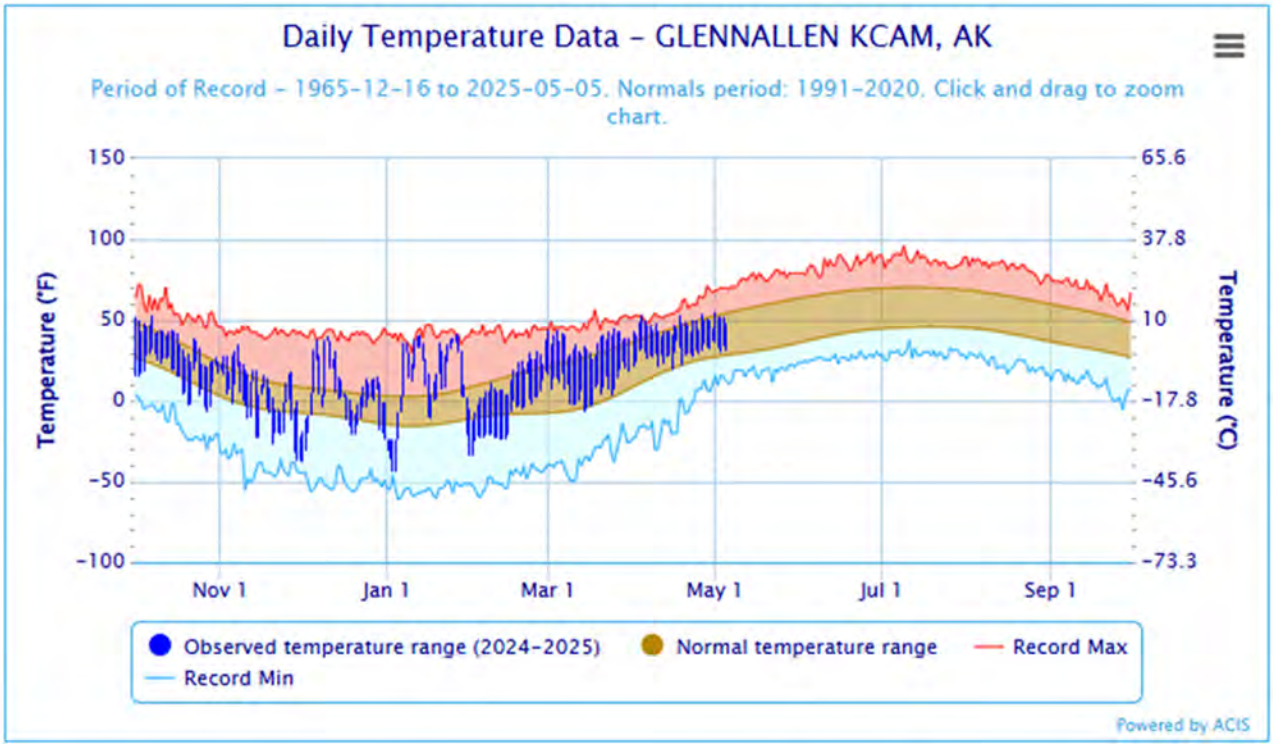
Snowpack Map



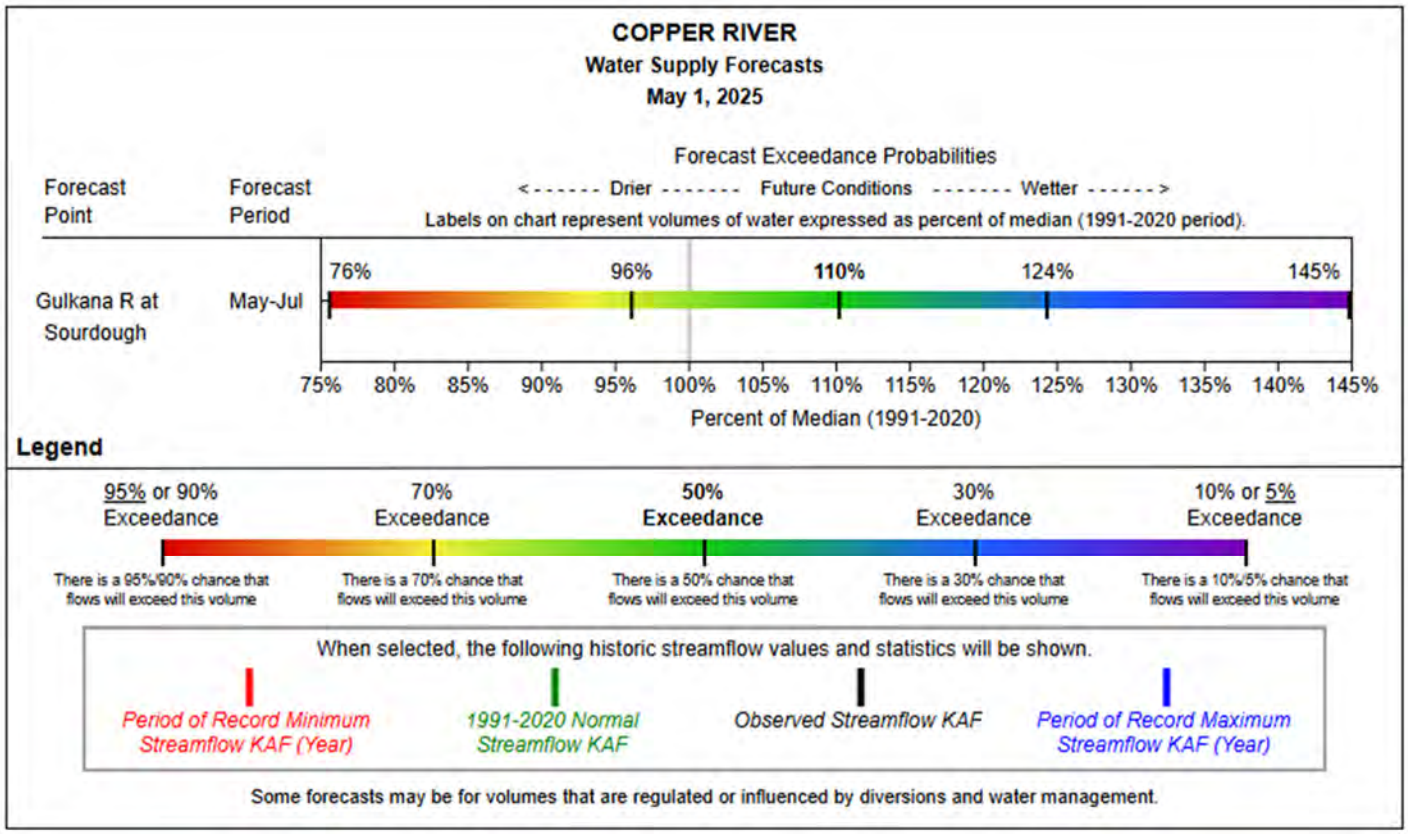
Copper Basin

Temperature Chart

Source: NOAA ACIS



Streamflow Forecasts



Copper Basin

Snowpack

Snowpack in the Copper River Basin is mixed on May 1, 2025. The most significant snowpack is near Thompson Pass, where the 30.6 inches of SWE measured at the Worthington Glacier Snow Course is 130% of the 1991–2020 May 1 Median. Around Glennallen, the snow courses have melted out which is typical for the date.

Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Chistochina	1940	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Copper Center	1300	0	13	0.0	4.4	---
Fielding Lake	3010	37	42	12.7	12.0	130%
Fielding Lake SNOTEL	3000	31	32	10.6	11.0	---
Gulkana River SNOTEL	1830	1	7	---	---	---
Haggard Creek	2450	10	25	2.7	7.8	71%
Horsepasture Pass SNOTEL	4220	26	31	---	---	---
Kenny Lake School	1270	0	3	0.0	0.6	---
Lake Louise	2400	6	12	1.9	3.6	66%
Little Nelchina	2660	14	17	4.1	5.7	128%
Lowe River	550	26	54	9.9	21.4	115%
May Creek SNOTEL	1550	0*	16	0.0	5.6	---
Mentasta Pass	2470	7	8	2.0	2.6	63%
Mt. Eyak SNOTEL	1450	29	68	12.5	27.4	63%
Nicks Valley SNOTEL	4230	159	146	---	---	---
Paxson	2620	23	32	7.0	9.7	115%
Tazlina	1240	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Tolsona Creek	2060	0	19	0.0	5.5	0%
Tsaina River	1590	42	60	15.0	22.1	120%
Upper Tsaina River SNOTEL	1730	54	81	20.1	34.4	108%
Worthington Glacier	2080	68	83	30.6	35.9	130%

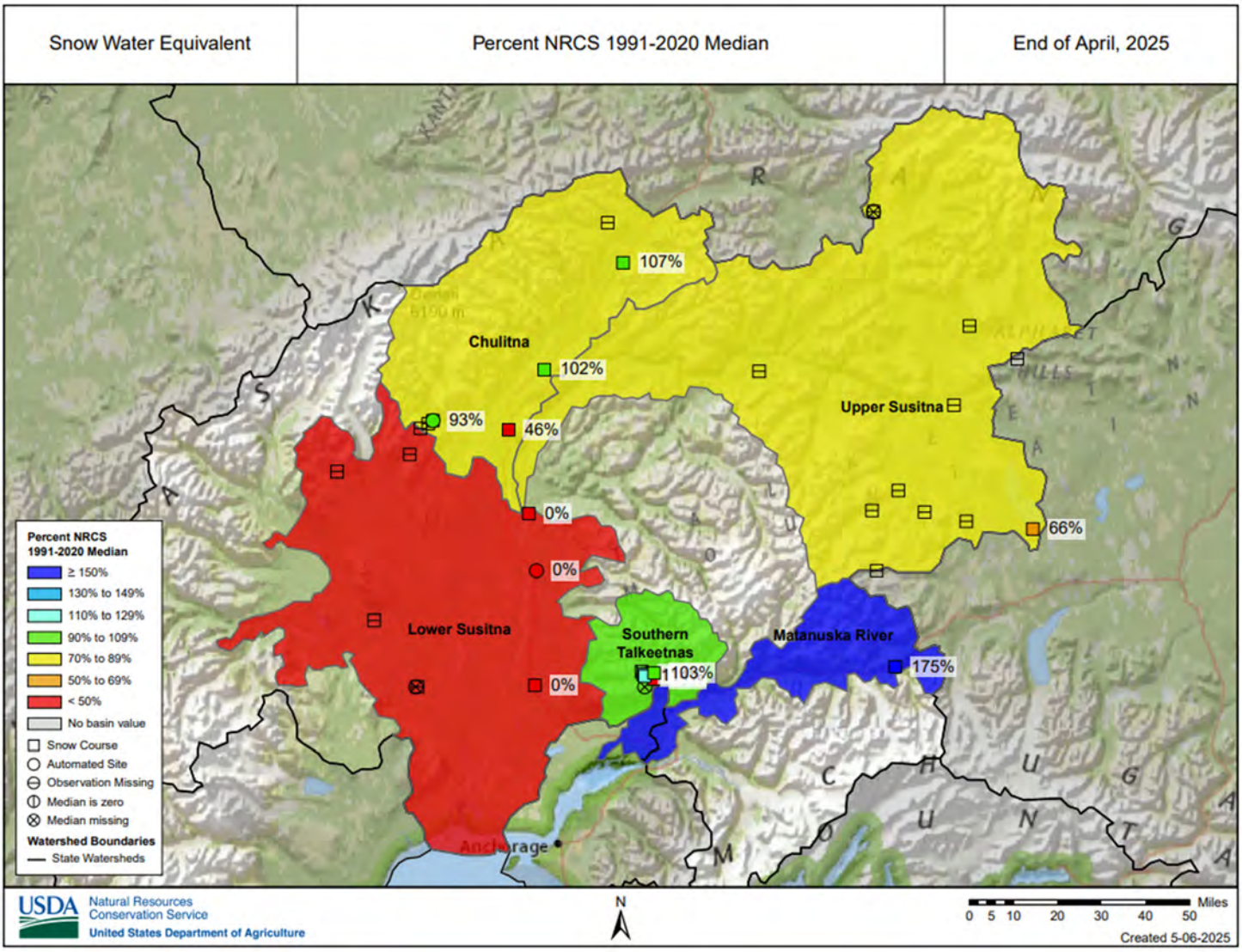
**Estimate*

Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Fielding Lake	3000	11.2	11.4	---	---
Gulkana River	1830	3.8	8.2	---	---
May Creek	1550	4.2	11.0	6.2	68%
Mt. Eyak	1450	84.5	90.4	79.2	107%
Upper Tsaina River	1730	26.2	33.8	26.7	98%

Matanuska—Susitna Basin

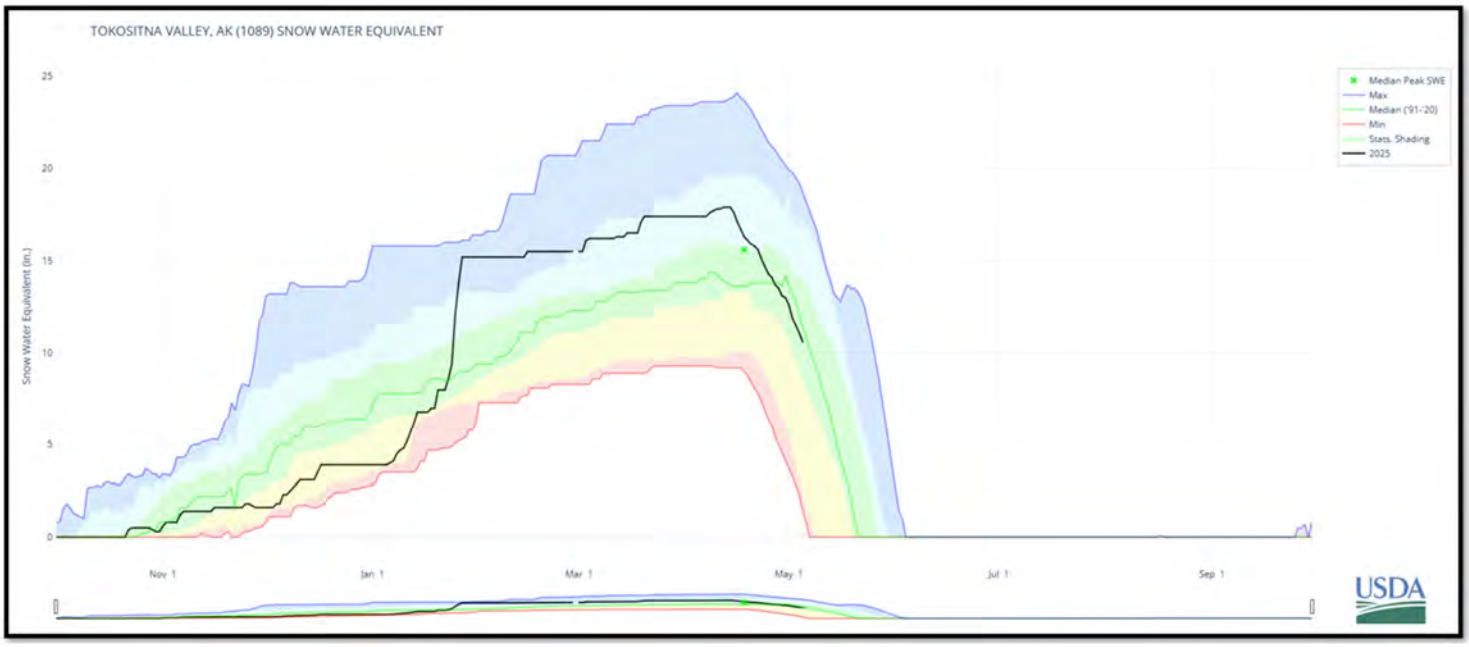
Snowpack Map



Snowpack

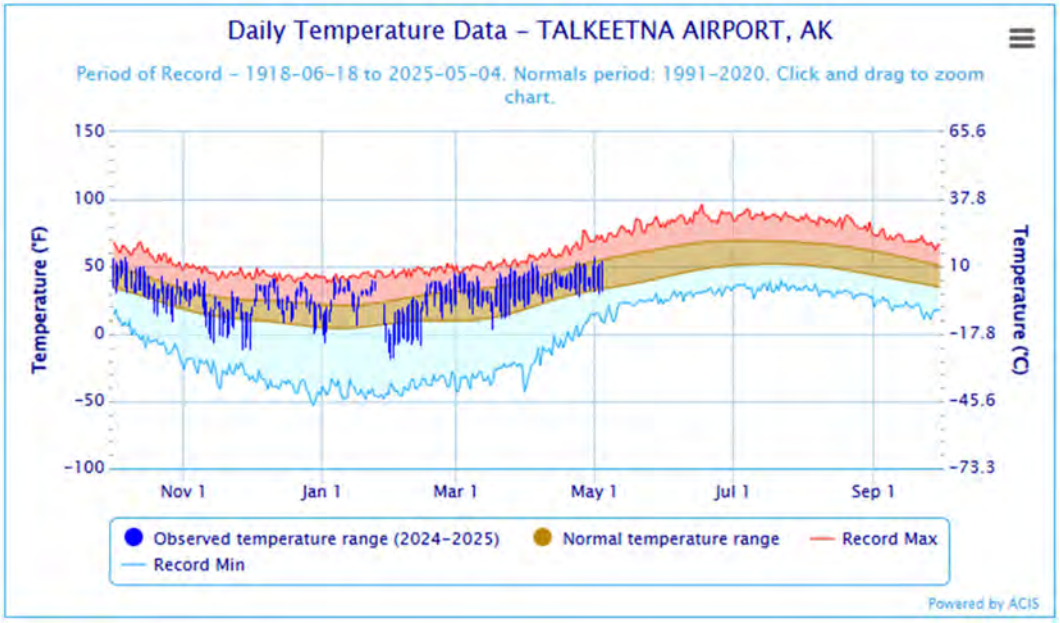
Snowpack in the Lower Susitna on May 1, 2025, is highly elevation-dependent, a trend noted all year. The lowest-elevation snow course on the road to Hatcher Pass had about half the usual SWE, while sites above 2,500 feet report above Normal snowpack. Similarly, on the Parks Highway, snow-free measurements were recorded at Talkeetna and Willow, with near Normal snowpack at higher elevation at the East Fork Chulitna Snow Course. In the Upper Susitna, the sole measurement at Lake Louise was 66% of Normal. The only site in the Matanuska Basin, Sheep Mountain Snow Course, recorded 175% of its 1991–2020 Median.

Matanuska—Susitna Basin

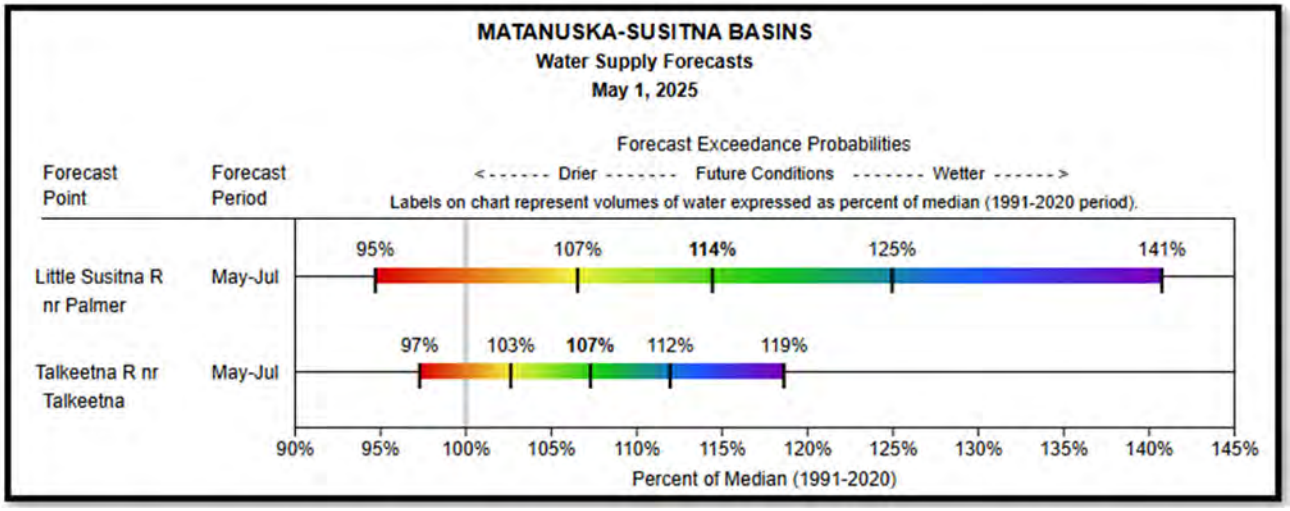


Temperature Data

Source: NOAA ACIS



Streamflow Forecasts



Matanuska—Susitna Basin

Snowpack Data

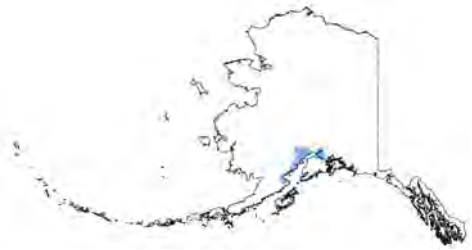
Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Alexander Lake SNOTEL	170	0*	7	0.0*	0.9	---
Archangel Road	2280	31	41	11.9	15.1	103%
Birthday Pass	4010	80	85	33.6	33.7	---
Blueberry Hill	1220	34	46	13.2	17.3	102%
Denali View	750	12	29	4.0*	9.5	46%
E. Fork Chulitna	1750	35	45	13.5	15.7	107%
Fishhook Basin	3400	56	58	21.7	22.1	114%
Frostbite Bottom SNOTEL	2690	41	47	16.3	17.7	---
Horsepasture Pass SNOTEL	4220	26	31	---	---	---
Independence Mine	3450	65	67	25.6	27.3	113%
Independence Mine SNOTEL	3450	57	57	24.1	23.0	---
Lake Louise	2400	6	12	1.9	3.6	66%
Little Susitna	1730	11	28	3.0	9.8	49%
Monahan Flat SNOTEL	2690	21	28	7.4	7.6	---
Moraine SNOTEL	2010	2	19	0.5*	6.8	15%
Sheep Mountain	2860	8	12	2.1	4.0	175%
Spring Creek SNOTEL	590	0*	0	---	---	---
Susitna Valley High SNOTEL	360	0	10	0.0*	4.2	0%
Talkeetna	360	0	3	0.0	0.5	0%
Tokositna Valley SNOTEL	840	35	44	12.6	16.0	93%
Willow Airstrip	210	0	5	0.0	1.4	0%

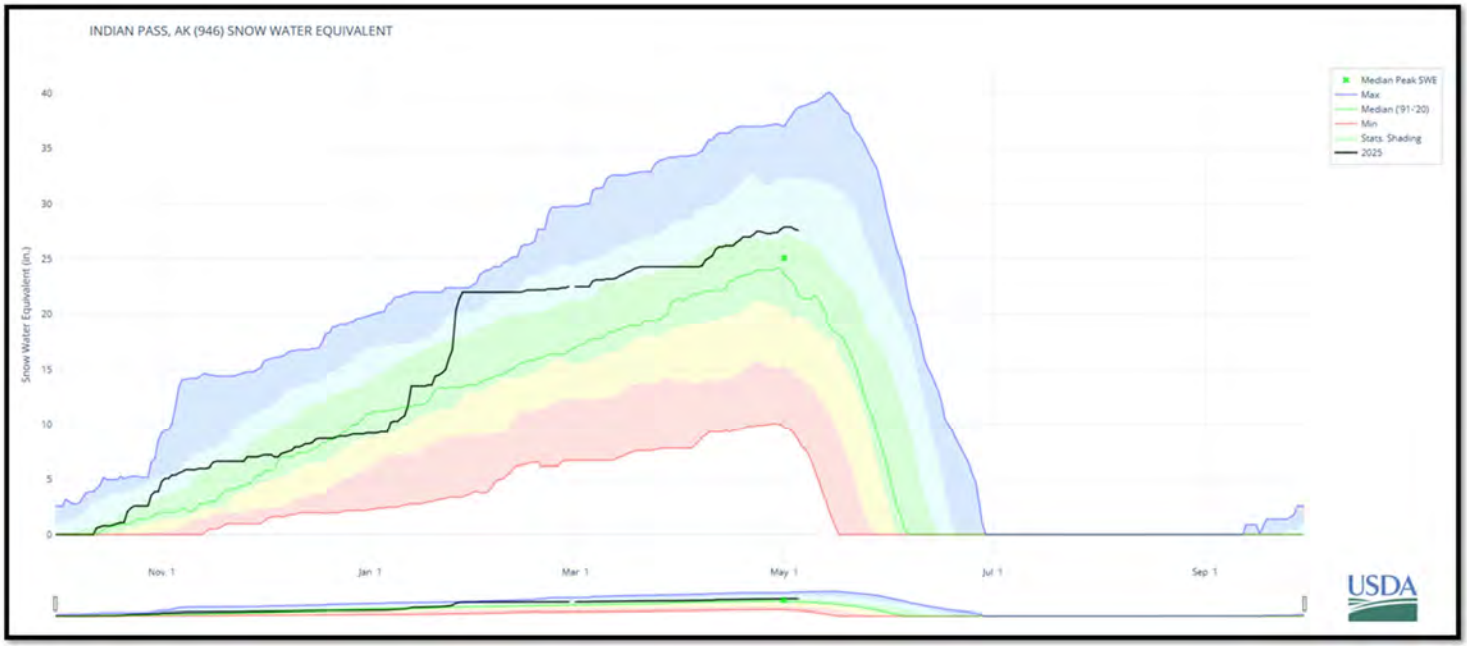
**Estimate*

Precipitation Data

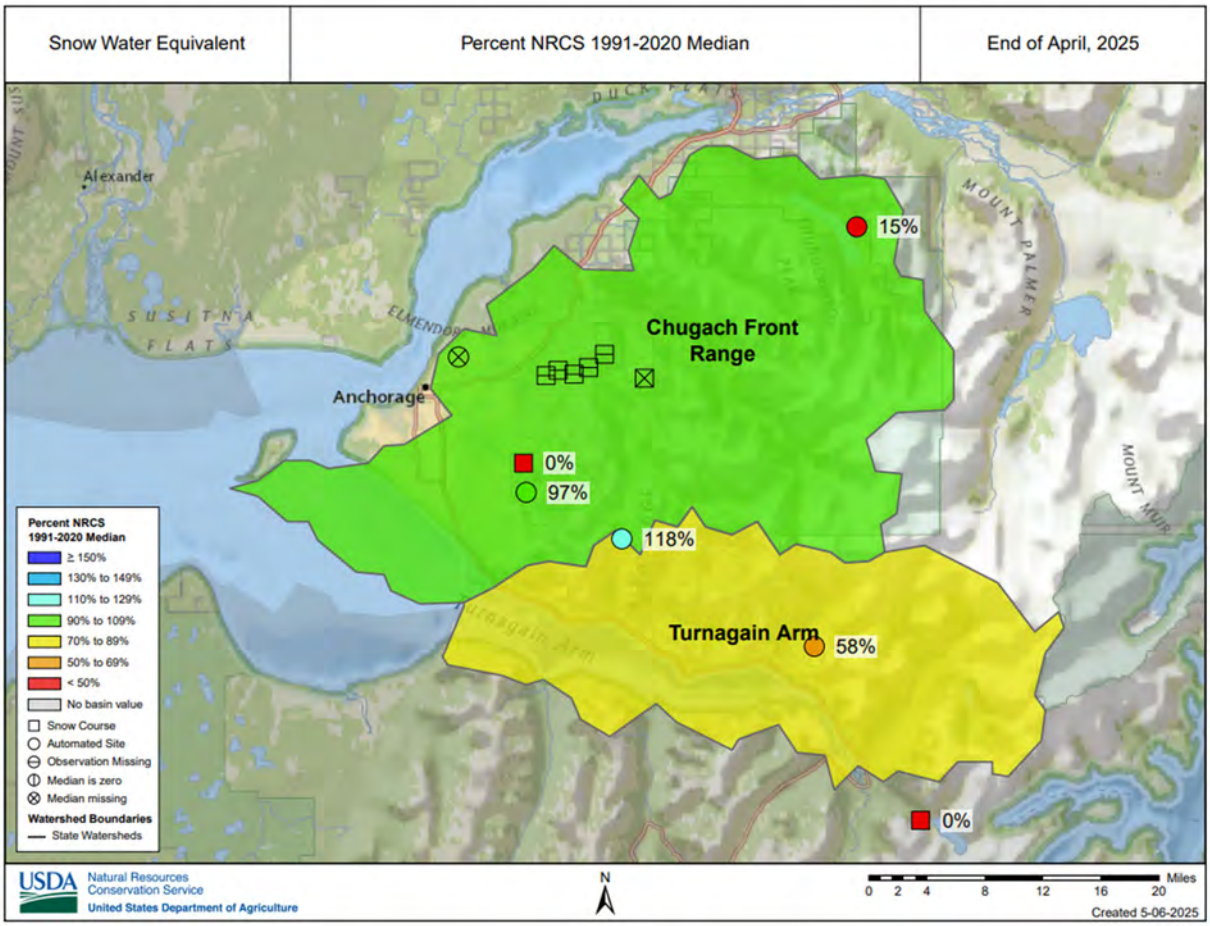
Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Alexander Lake	170	15.3	16.6	---	---
Frostbite Bottom	2690	18.0	21.5	---	---
Independence Mine	3450	18.5	22.8	19.4	95%
Monahan Flat	2690	9.0	9.1	7.8	115%
Moraine	2010	10.0	13.3	11.2	89%
Spring Creek	590	5.9	9.3	---	---
Susitna Valley High	360	13.8	13.0	12.8	108%
Tokositna Valley	840	26.9	22.4	22.5	120%

Northern Cook Inlet





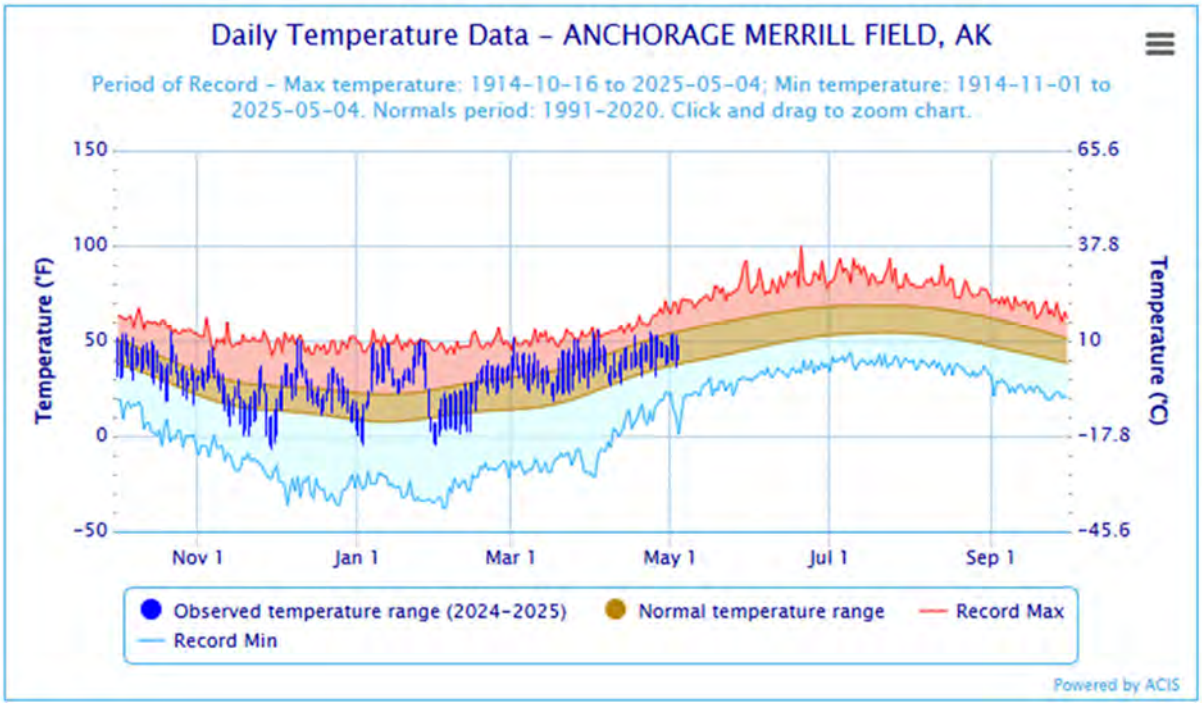
Snowpack Map



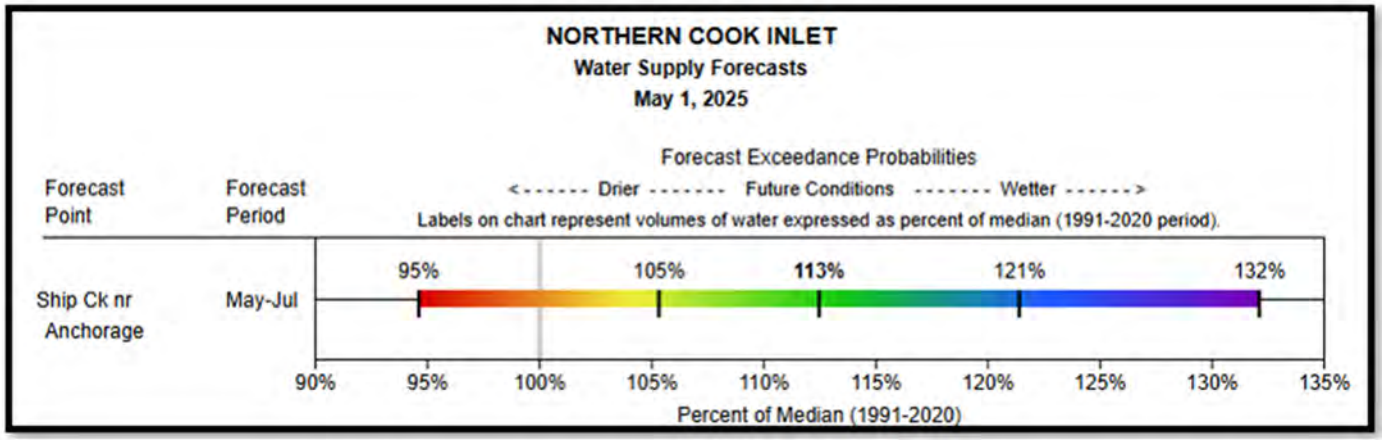
Northern Cook Inlet

Temperature Data

Source: NOAA ACIS



Streamflow Forecasts



Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Anchorage Hillside	1910	14.6	20.2	16.1	91%
Elmendorf Field	170	5.9	---	---	---
Frostbite Bottom	2690	18.0	21.5	---	---
Indian Pass	2400	29.6	34.1	28.2	105%
Mcneil River SGS	110	69.1	---	---	---
Moraine	2010	10.0	13.3	11.2	89%
Mt. Alyeska	1500	59.5	44.9	47.7	125%
Spring Creek	590	5.9	9.3	---	---

Northern Cook Inlet

Snowpack

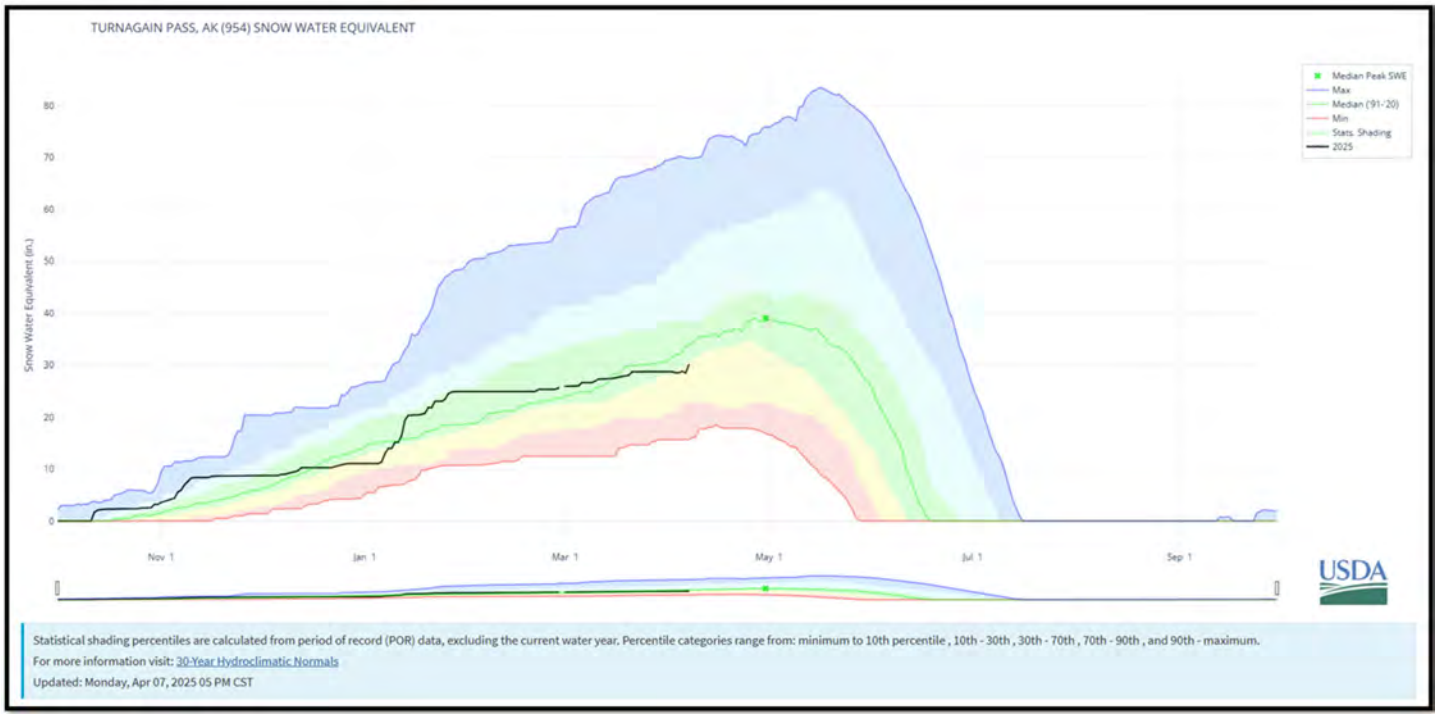
Snowpack around Cook Inlet on May 1, 2025, varies with elevation and location. In the Anchorage area, elevations below ~1,500 feet ASL are snow-free. Near Normal snowpack is found at Anchorage Hillside SNOTEL, with above-Normal SWE at Indian Pass. Moraine, near Eklutna at 2,000 feet ASL and on a solar aspect, is nearly snow-free. Mount Alyeska, which has tracked near record minimums most of the year, gained slightly in April but was melting rapidly on May 1, sitting just above half its 1991–2020 Median.

Snowpack Data

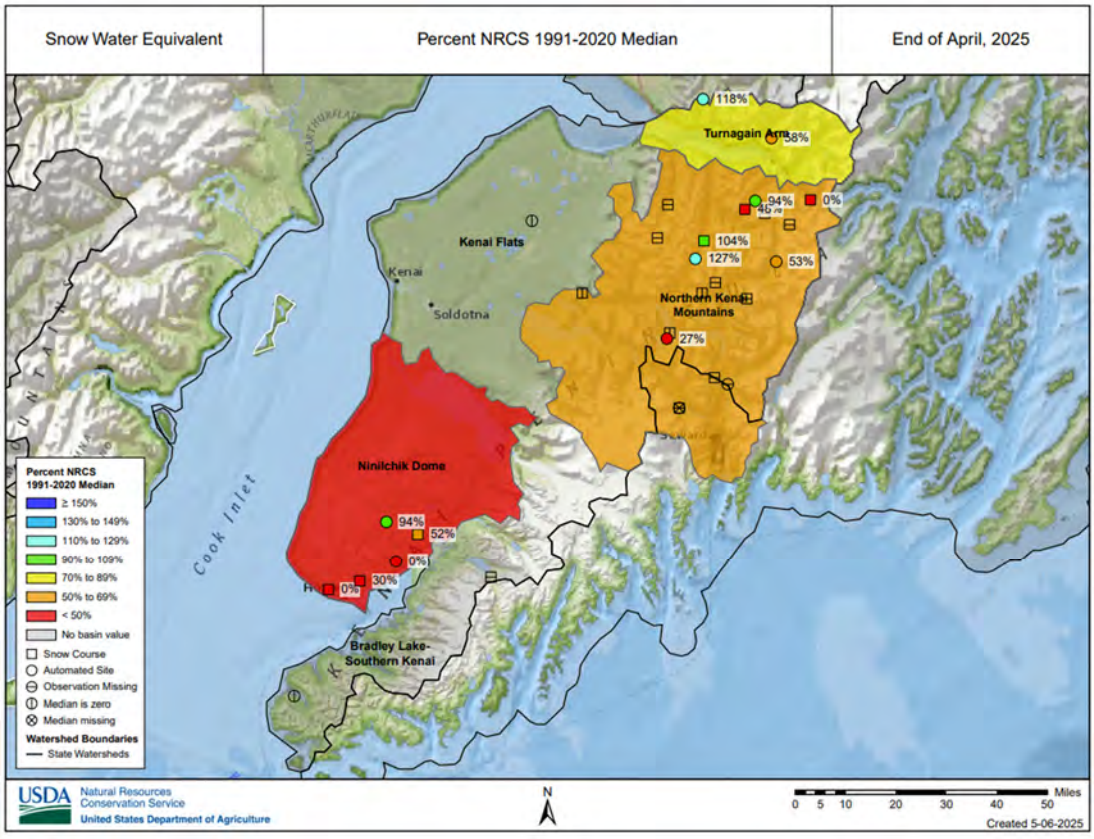
		Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
Site Name	Elev.	Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Anchorage Hillside SNOTEL	1910	14	34	5.7	11.4	97%
Elmendorf Field SNOTEL	170	0	---	0.0*	---	---
Frostbite Bottom SNOTEL	2690	41	47	16.3	17.7	---
Indian Pass SNOTEL	2400	64	67	27.9*	27.5	118%
Kincaid Park	280	0	3	0.0	1.5	---
Little Susitna	1730	11	28	3.0	9.8	49%
Mcneil River SGS SNOTEL	110	0*	1	---	---	---
Moraine SNOTEL	2010	2	19	0.5*	6.8	15%
Mt. Alyeska SNOTEL	1500	54	71	17.6	29.3	58%
Portage Valley	90	0	6	0.0	2.4	0%
South Campbell Creek	1240	0	14	0.0	4.7	0%
South Fork Eagle River	2160	4	23	2.2	7.2	---
Spring Creek SNOTEL	590	0*	0	---	---	---

**Estimate*

Kenai Peninsula



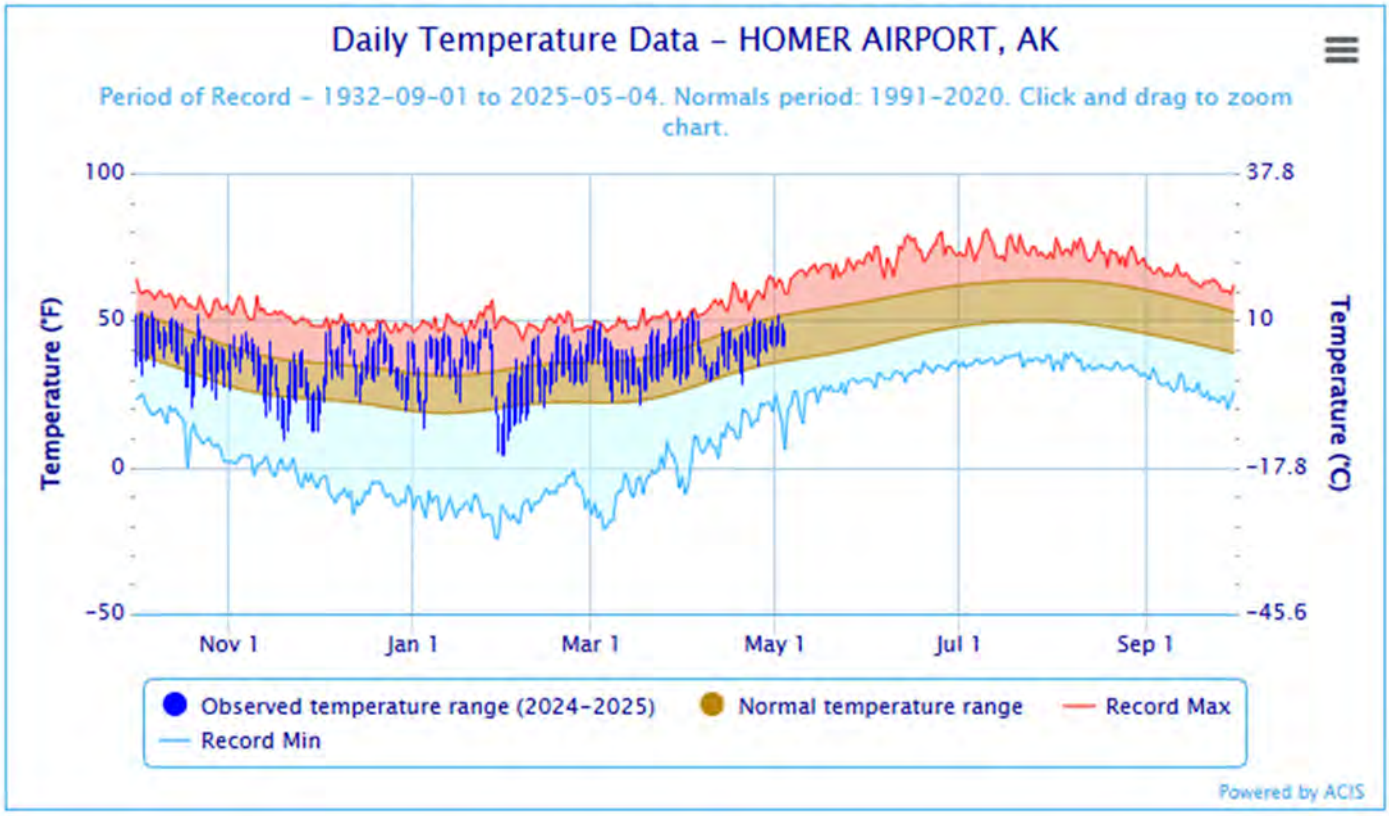
Snowpack Map



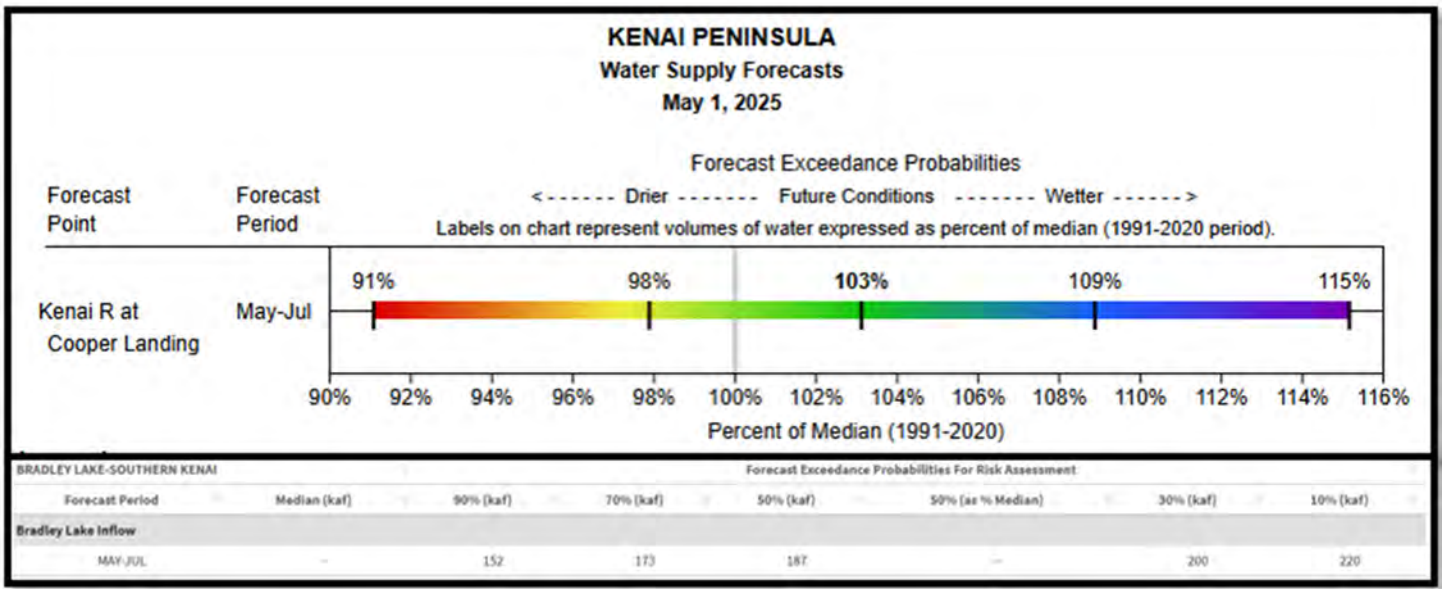
Kenai Peninsula

Temperature Chart

Source: NOAA ACIS



Streamflow Forecasts



BRADLEY LAKE-SOUTHERN KENAI		Forecast Exceedance Probabilities For Risk Assessment					
Forecast Period	Median (kaf)	90% (kaf)	70% (kaf)	50% (kaf)	50% (as % Median)	30% (kaf)	10% (kaf)
Bradley Lake Inflow							
MAY-JUL	-	152	173	187	-	200	220

Kenai Peninsula

Snowpack

Snowpack on the Kenai Peninsula ranges from nonexistent to above Normal on May 1, 2025. The highest snowpacks are in the Central Kenai Mountains, where Summit Creek SNOTEL and Kenai Summit Snow Course are both above Normal. Closer to the coast, values drop. Snow-free readings were recorded at Bridge Creek, Portage Valley, Snug Harbor, Moose Pass, Jean Lake, as well as Kenai Moose Pens, McNeil Canyon, and Port Graham SNOTELS. Other sites fall between these extremes, and the regional basin index is well below the 1991–2020 Median.

Snowpack Data

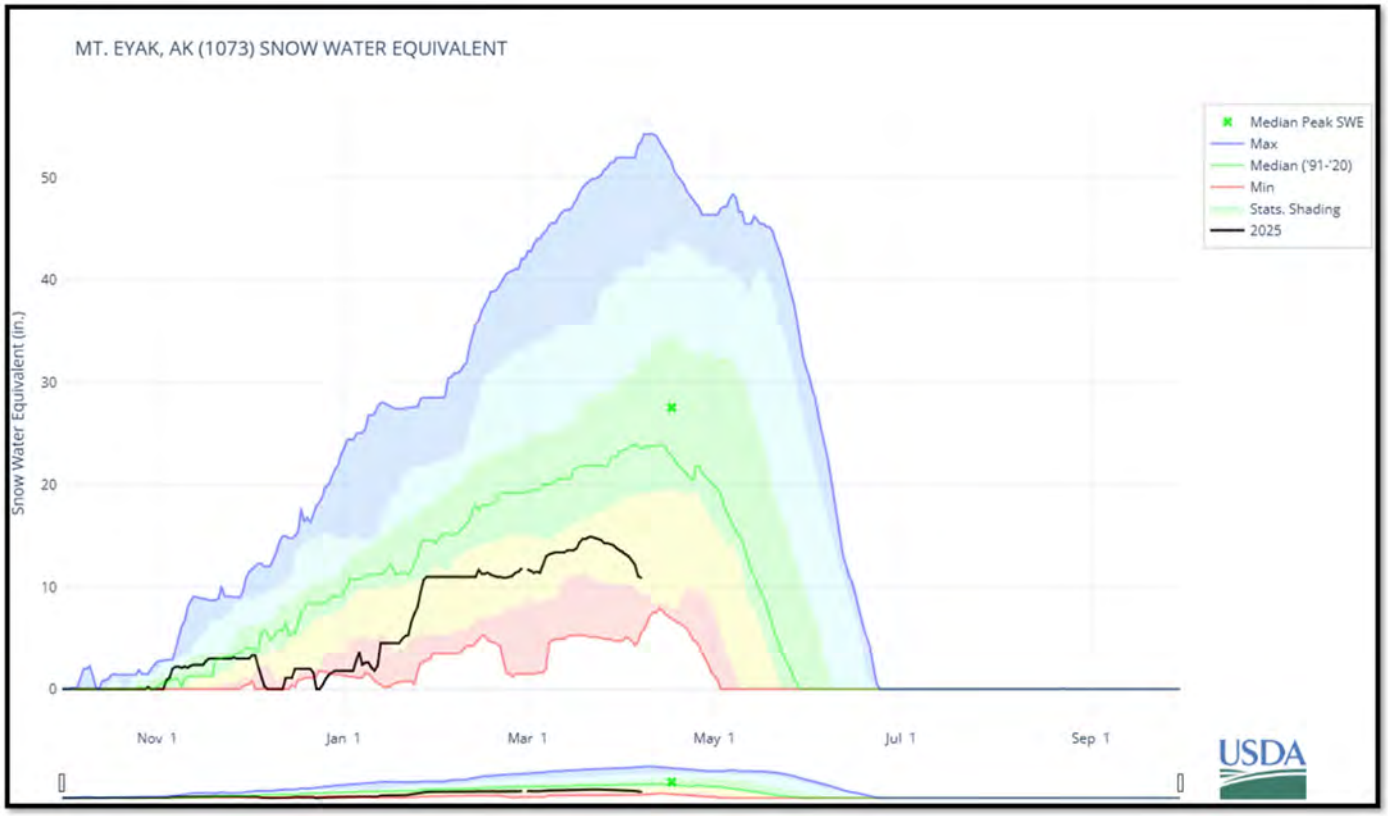
		Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
Site Name	Elev.	Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Anchor River Divide SNOTEL	1650	21	30	8.7	11.1	94%
Bertha Creek	880	22	46	8.0	18.2	48%
Bridge Creek	1330	9	24	2.8	7.6	30%
Cooper Lake SNOTEL	1150	8	37	2.2	16.0	27%
Demonstration Forest	670	0	17	0.0	4.4	0%
Eagle Lake	1410	9	22	3.0	7.2	52%
Exit Glacier SNOTEL	360	3	44	1.4	15.8	---
Grandview SNOTEL	1070	44	72	17.6	29.6	53%
Grouse Creek Divide SNOTEL	720	9	57	---	26.0	---
Indian Pass SNOTEL	2400	64	67	27.9*	27.5	118%
Jean Lake	680	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Kenai Moose Pens SNOTEL	300	0*	0	0.0*	0.0	---
Kenai Summit	1280	26	33	9.6	13.3	104%
Lower Kachemak Creek SNOTEL	1960	49	41	---	---	---
Mcneil Canyon SNOTEL	1350	0*	15	0.0	5.7	0%
Middle Fork Bradley SNOTEL	2340	42	52	---	---	---
Moose Pass	680	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Mt. Alyeska SNOTEL	1500	54	71	17.6	29.3	58%
Nuka Glacier SNOTEL	1230	35	73	---	---	---
Port Graham SNOTEL	270	0*	0	0.0*	0.0	---
Portage Valley	90	0	6	0.0	2.4	0%
Primrose SNOTEL	2030	104	---	---	---	---
Snug Harbor Road	410	0	2	0.0	1.0	---
Summit Creek SNOTEL	1340	20	31	8.1*	12.1	127%
Tincan SNOTEL	3370	119	---	---	---	---
Turnagain Pass SNOTEL	1860	88	77	36.1	32.1	94%

**Estimate*

Precipitation Data

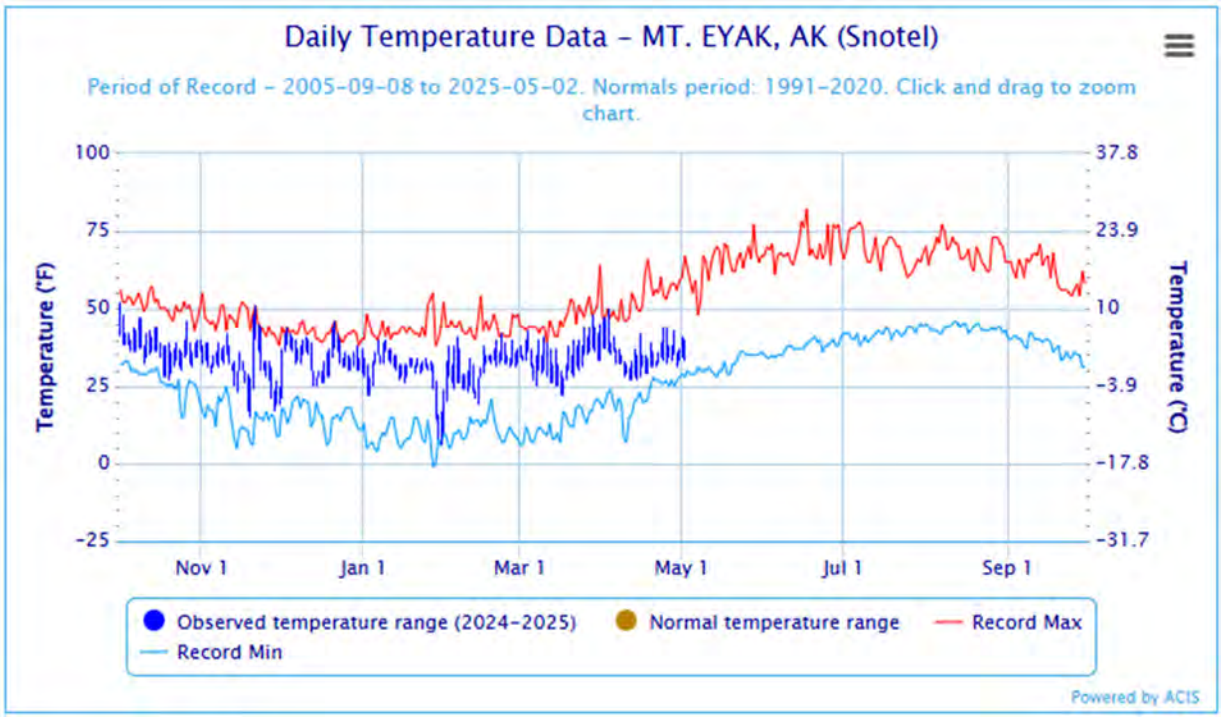
		Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Anchor River Divide	1650	22.6	16.9	19.0	119%
Cooper Lake	1150	27.5	27.4	25.8	107%
Exit Glacier	360	66.6	49.0	---	---
Grandview	1070	60.4	38.3	44.9	135%
Grouse Creek Divide	720	49.4	31.2	41.6	119%
Indian Pass	2400	29.6	34.1	28.2	105%
Kenai Moose Pens	300	9.1	9.5	8.8	103%
Lower Kachemak Creek	1960	52.0	26.8	---	---
Mcneil Canyon	1350	20.8	16.1	17.6	118%
Middle Fork Bradley	2340	46.0	30.1	35.3	130%
Moose Inc	110	26.1	---	---	---
Mt. Alyeska	1500	59.5	44.9	47.7	125%
Nuka Glacier	1230	72.6	32.4	55.9	130%
Port Graham	270	60.4	46.7	51.0	118%
Schor Garden	380	22.4	---	---	---
Summit Creek	1340	21.9	18.9	17.4	126%
Turnagain Pass	1860	52.0	36.0	43.3	120%

Western Gulf – Prince William Sound



Temperature Chart

Source: NOAA ACIS

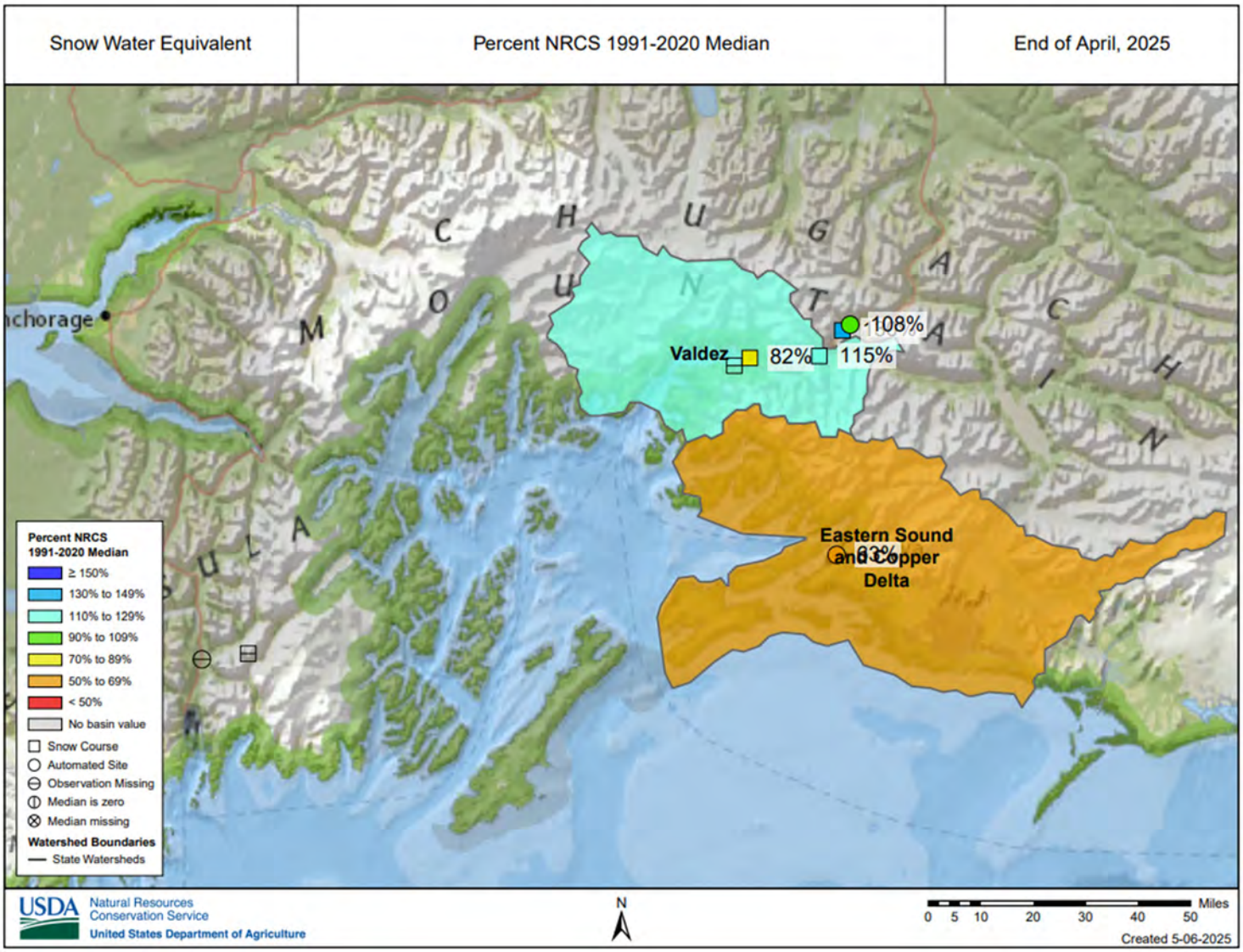


Western Gulf – Prince William Sound

Snowpack

Snowpack around Valdez is an outlier for low-elevation Southern Alaska. The Valdez Snow Course at 40 feet of elevation had 6.8 inches of SWE, 82% of the 1991–2020 May 1 Median. Higher up, snowpack increases both in depth and in relation to Normal. Valdez's snowpack stands out not only in Southern Alaska but also compared to other Western Gulf sites, such as Seward and Cordova, where snowpack remains low.

Snowpack Map



Western Gulf — Prince William Sound

Snowpack Data

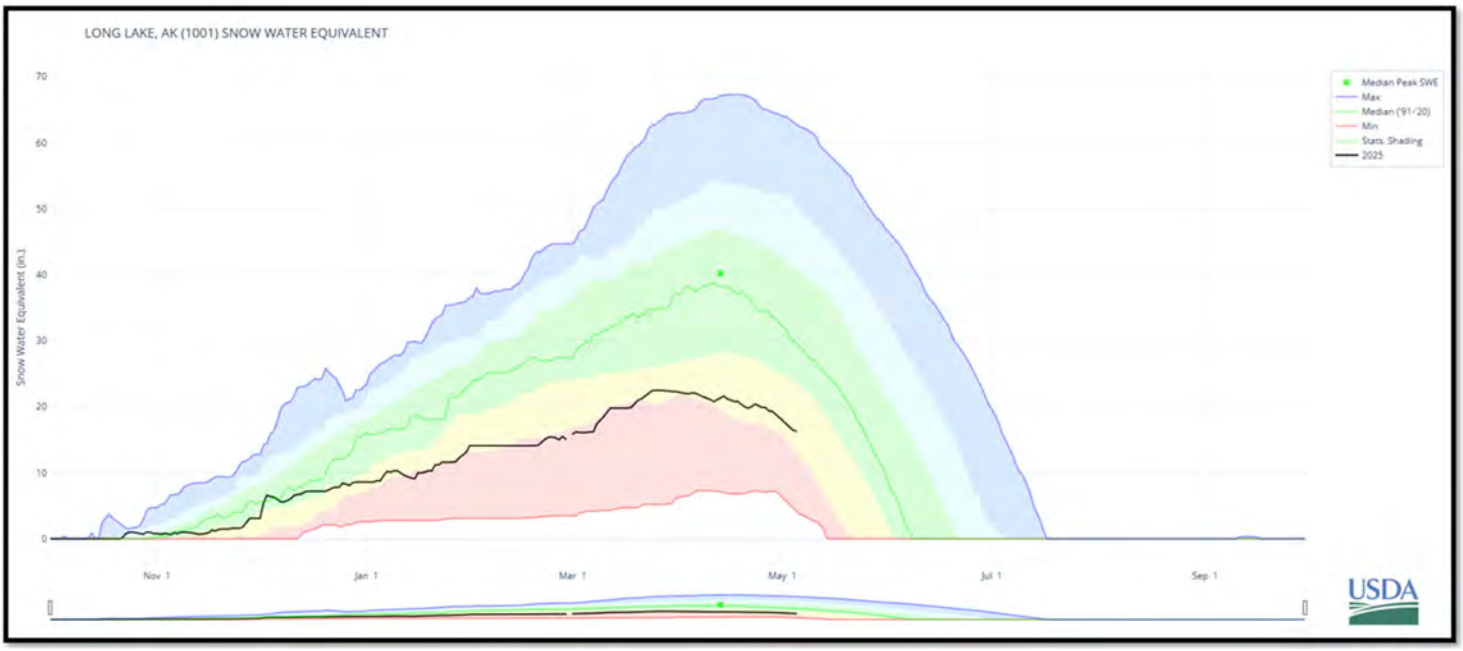
Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Cooper Lake SNOTEL	1150	8	37	2.2	16.0	27%
Esther Island SNOTEL	50	0	11	---	---	---
Exit Glacier SNOTEL	360	3	44	1.4	15.8	---
Grouse Creek Divide SNOTEL	720	9	57	---	26.0	---
Lowe River	550	26	54	9.9	21.4	115%
Mt. Eyak SNOTEL	1450	29	68	12.5	27.4	63%
Nicks Valley SNOTEL	4230	159	146	---	---	---
Nuka Glacier SNOTEL	1230	35	73	---	---	---
Sugarloaf Mtn SNOTEL	530	48	71	---	---	---
Tsaina River	1590	42	60	15.0	22.1	120%
Upper Tsaina River SNOTEL	1730	54	81	20.1	34.4	108%
Valdez	40	18	40	6.8	16.2	82%
Worthington Glacier	2080	68	83	30.6	35.9	130%

**Estimate*

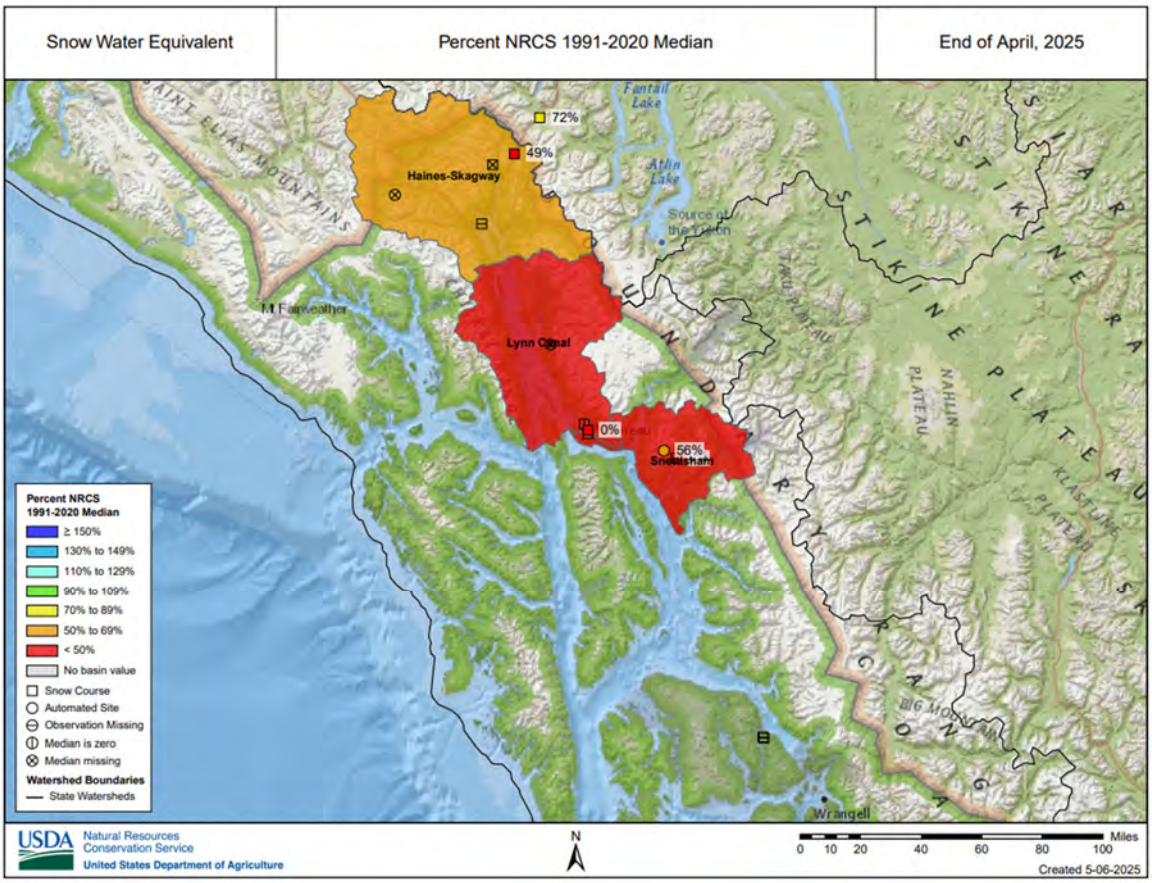
Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Cooper Lake	1150	27.5	27.4	25.8	107%
Esther Island	50	134.8	89.2	92.5	146%
Exit Glacier	360	66.6	49.0	---	---
Grouse Creek Divide	720	49.4	31.2	41.6	119%
Mt. Eyak	1450	84.5	90.4	79.2	107%
Nuka Glacier	1230	72.6	32.4	55.9	130%
Sugarloaf Mtn	530	48.2	52.0	46.4	104%
Upper Tsaina River	1730	26.2	33.8	26.7	98%

Southeast



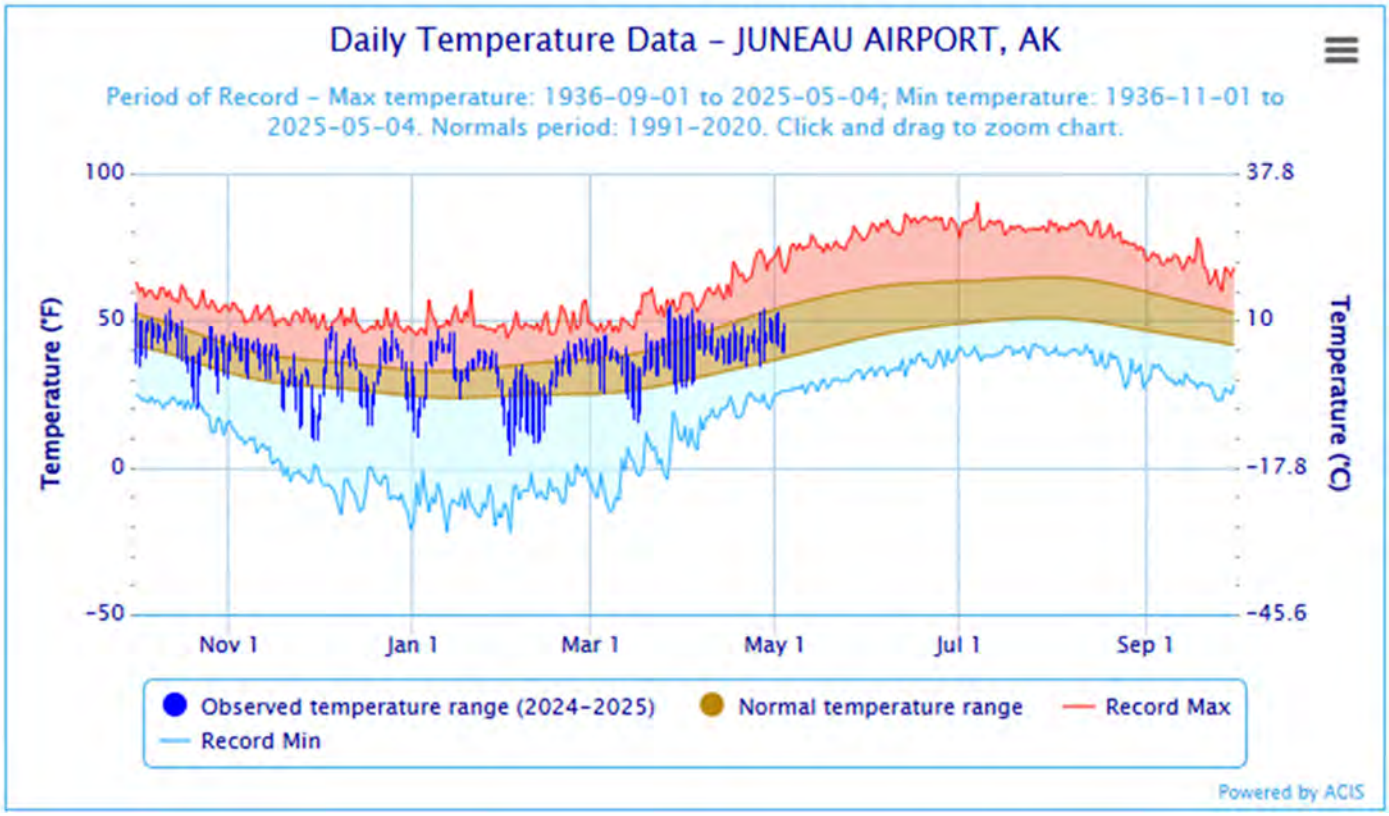
Snowpack Map



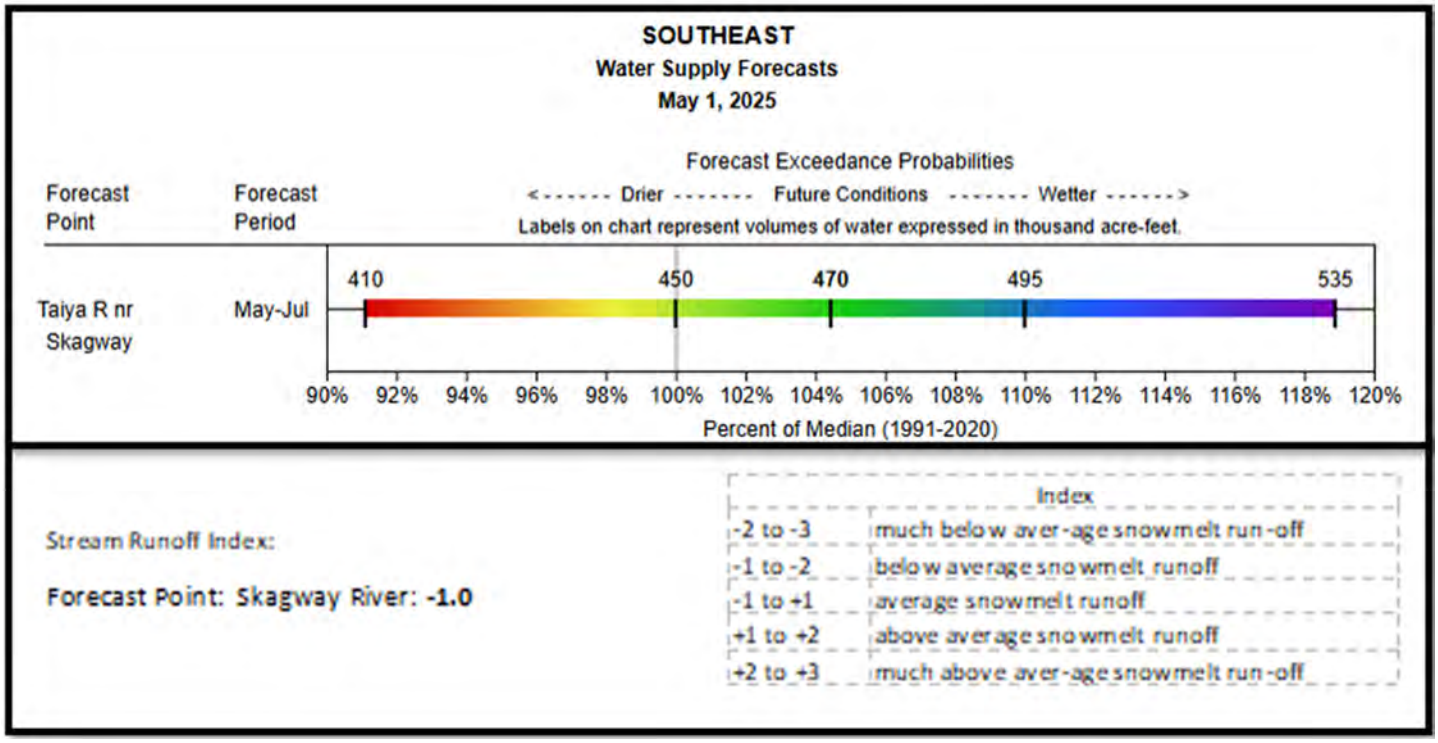
Southeast

Temperature Data

Source: NOAA ACIS



Streamflow Forecasts



Southeast

Snowpack

Snowpack in Southeast Alaska is abysmal on May 1, 2025. No sites in the monitoring network reported above Normal snowpack at any elevation. On Douglas Island, the highest site, Cropley Lake at 1,770 feet ASL, couldn't be measured due to an open river between the road and the snow course. The nearby Eagle Crest site at 1,220 feet was snow-free. At Snettisham, the Speel River Snow Course at 200 feet ASL was snow-free for only the third time in its 59-year record. Further upslope, Long Lake SNOTEL had just 18 inches of SWE, a little more than half the usual May 1 value.

Snowpack Data

		Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
Site Name	Elev.	Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Eagle Crest	1220	0	31	0.0	10.8	0%
Fish Creek	520	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Flower Mountain SNOTEL	2540	64	85	25.8*	33.1	---
Heen Latinee SNOTEL	2100	32	36	13.2	---	---
Hoonah SNOTEL	1520	13	48	6.8	22.8	---
Log Cabin B.C.	2900	31	48	10.8	18.5	72%
Long Lake SNOTEL	840	44	78	18.0	33.5	56%
Moore Creek Bridge SNOTEL	2250	38	57	---	---	---
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	28	41	9.8	19.0	49%
Mount Ripinsky SNOTEL	2580	92	123	---	---	---
Speel River	200	0	46	0.0	22.2	0%
Summit	985	31	37	9.3	12.6	155%
West Creek	460	0	0	0.0	0.0	---
Williams Creek	3000	7	---	2.0	---	167%

**Estimate*

Precipitation Data

		Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
Site Name	Elev.	This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Heen Latinee	2100	41.1	---	---	---
Hoonah	1520	47.5	51.2	---	---
Long Lake	840	108.0	129.8	103.7	104%
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	25.0	35.8	29.8	84%

For further information contact:

NRCS Alaska web site: **https://www.https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/alaska/snow-survey**
NRCS Water and Climate Center web site: **https://www.https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/sswsf-snow-survey-and-water-supply-forecasting-program/national-water-and**

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