

United States Department of Agriculture



Issued by:

Bruce I. Knight, Chief
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Washington, D.C.

Released by:

Shirley Gammon
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Palmer, Alaska

Published by:

Rick McClure, Hydrologist
Catherine Avery, Statistical Assistant
Snow, Water and Climate Staff
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Anchorage, Alaska

TABLE OF CONTENTS

State General Overview.....	3
Streamflow Forecast.....	4
How Forecasts are Made.....	5
Basin Conditions and Data	
Upper Yukon Basin.....	6, 7
Central Yukon Basin.....	8, 9
Tanana Basin	10, 11
Western Interior Basins	12, 13
Arctic and Kotzebue Basin.....	14, 15
Norton Sound, Southwest, and Bristol Bay.....	16, 17
Copper Basin.....	18, 19
Matanuska - Susitna Basins	20, 21
Northern Cook Inlet	22, 23
Kenai Peninsula.	24, 25
Western Gulf.....	26, 27
Southeast	28, 29
Telephone Numbers and other contact information.....	30

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Snowpack

Only one region of the state has an above normal snowpack for May 1st. The area includes Bettles and goes north and east of Bettles, extending east of Coldfoot into the Central Yukon Basin. Coldfoot snow water content is 136 percent of normal. The remainder of the state varies from below normal to no snow. This is indicated by looking at the snow courses at Petersburg Ridge, Turnagain Pass, and Little Chena Ridge, which are 40 percent of normal water content, 73 percent of normal water content, and no snow, respectively. Only 2 out of the ten snow courses in the Innoko Wildlife Refuge have snow on them. In the Tanana Basin, there is no snow starting at Beaver Creek in the Yukon Territories, and the lack of snow continues north and west to Tok, Granite Creek (near Delta Junction), Fairbanks and Lake Minchumina. The snowpack in the Central Yukon from last month is gone.

Precipitation

The only stations reporting above normal precipitation for the month are on the West Coast of Alaska and the Arctic Coast. Bethel reported 2.58 inches, 211 percent of normal, Nome reported .89 inches, 131 percent of normal, and Kotzebue reported .50 inches, 134 percent of normal according to the National Weather Service observer. Barrow had .47 inches, 157 percent of normal, at the NRCS precipitation gauge measured by the NOAA Climatological Monitoring for Diagnostics Lab (CMDL) personnel. The remaining stations across the state varied from 36 percent of normal in Juneau to 82 percent of normal in King Salmon.

Temperature

The first week of April brought colder than normal temperatures to most portions of the state. The last week of the month brought much warmer than normal temperatures to the state, with many locations having 60 degrees F or above recorded for the high. Anchorage had a series of 5 days in a row, at the end of the month, with the high temperature for the day an average of 12 degrees F above the normal high. Juneau had a high temperature of 73 degrees F on both the 26th and the 27th of April.

This month makes six out of the seven months this winter that all of the National Weather Service stations reported above normal temperatures for the month.

STREAMFLOW

Streamflow forecasts of snowmelt runoff are as follows:

FORECAST POINT*	Percent of Ave. Flow	Period
Yukon River at Eagle	83	May-Jul
Yukon River near Stevens Village.....	90	May-Jul
Tanana River at Fairbanks.....	94	May-Jul
Tanana River at Nenana.....	91	May-Jul
Little Chena River near Fairbanks.....	76	May-Jul
Chena River near Two Rivers	86	May-Jul
Salcha near Salchaket.....	73	May-Jul
Sagvanirktok River near Pump Station 3	96	May-Jul
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse.....	82	May-Jul
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek	89	May-Jul
Gulkana River at Sourdough.....	85	May-Jul
Little Susitna River near Palmer.....	77	May-Jul
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	91	May-Jul
Ship Creek near Anchorage.....	54	May-Jul
Kenai River at Cooper Landing.....	92	May-Jul
Gold Creek near Juneau.....	84	May-Jul

SNOWMELT RUNOFF INDEX (SRI)

For streams that no longer have stream gauging stations.

FORECAST POINT	INDEX	Index Key:
Koyukuk River at Hughes.....	+1.8	
Beaver Creek above Victoria Creek.....	-1.7	
Birch Creek below South Fork	-1.2	
Caribou Creek at Chatanika.....	-2.7	-2 to -3 much below average snowmelt runoff
Susitna River near Gold Creek	-2.7	
Chulitna River near Talkeetna.....	-3.0	
Deshka River at mouth near Willow	-3.0	-1 to -2 below average snowmelt runoff
Montana Creek at Parks Highway.....	-3.0	
Willow Creek near Willow.....	-2.8	
Skwentna River at Skwentna	-2.5	-1 to +1 average snowmelt runoff
Chuitna River near Tyonek	-3.0	
Campbell Creek near Spenard.....	-3.0	+1 to +2 above average snowmelt runoff
Indian Creek at Indian.....	-3.0	
Bird Creek at Bird Creek	-3.0	
Six Mile Creek near Hope	-2.8	+2 to +3 much above average snowmelt runoff
Resurrection Creek near Hope	-2.8	
Anchor River near Anchor Point.....	-3.0	
Deep Creek near Ninilchik	-3.0	
Ninilchik River near Ninilchik.....	-3.0	
Fritz Creek near Homer	-3.0	
Skagway River at Skagway.....	-3.0	

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

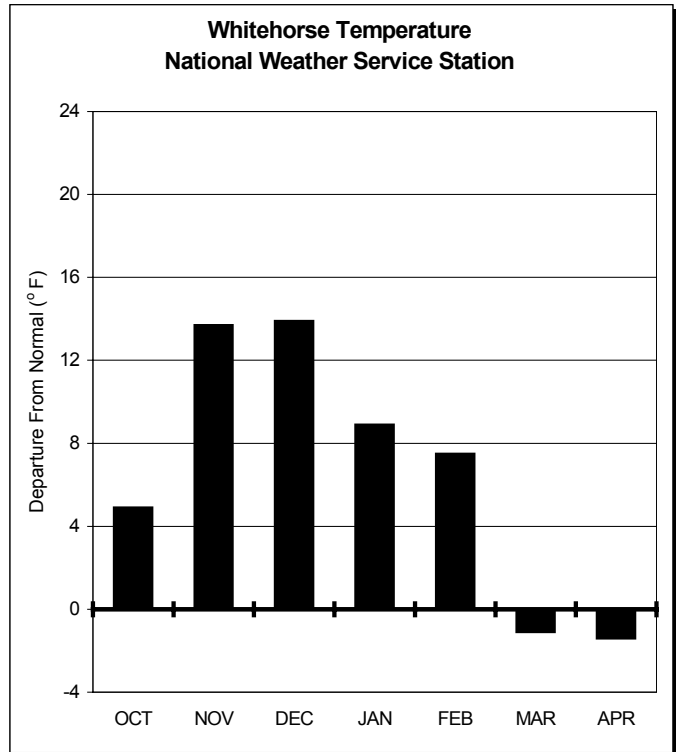
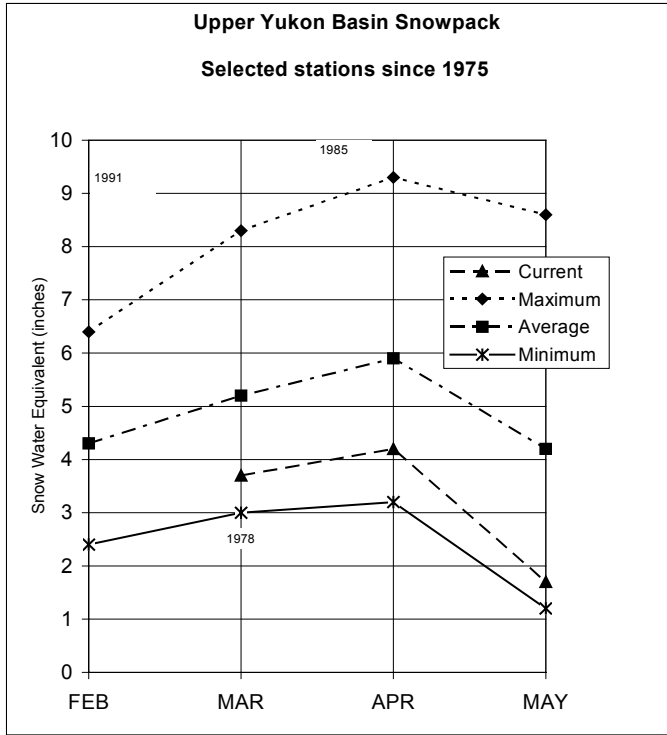
HOW FORECASTS ARE MADE

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

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

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

UPPER YUKON BASIN*



Current Basin Conditions

The snow courses in the White River Basin have no snow as of April 30th. The Dawson area snow courses are 38 percent of normal, while the snow courses above Whitehorse/Teslin are 44 percent of normal. The Log Cabin snow course set a record minimum water content for the May 1st snow survey, 5.0 inches. The previous minimum was 6.8 inches of water content measured in 1974.

The region with the most snow remaining with respect to normal is the Stewart/Pelly River Basins where the snow water content averages 68 percent of normal. The most snow water content measured was at the Withers Lake snow course, 8.2 inches, which is 90 percent of normal.

The Yukon at Eagle streamflow volume flow forecast for the May through July time period is 83 percent of average, 27,170,000 acre-ft.

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

Upper Yukon Basin

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Arrowhead Lake	3675	No Survey			24	5.3	29	7.9
Atlin	2395	4/30/03	0	0.0	0	0	7	2.0
Beaver Creek	2150	4/30/03	0	0.0	18	4.2	4	1.1
Burns Lake	3650	4/30/03	12	3.7	33	8.3	25	8.3
Burwash Airstrip	2660	4/30/03	0	0.0	9	1.7	1	0.2
Calumet	4300	4/30/03	21	7.0	23	4.6	33	7.8
Casino Creek	3490	4/27/03	10	2.4	19	4.6	20	4.6
Chair Mountain	3500	No Survey			12	3.5	--	---
Duke River	4300	4/28/03	0	0.0	16	2.6	15	3.1
Edwards Lake	2720	4/29/03	20	5.2	21	4.5	22	6.0
Finlayson Airstrip	3240	4/30/03	0	0.0	19	4.8	9	2.6
Fuller Lake	3690	4/29/03	24	8.1	27	5.8	28	8.1
Grizzly Creek	3200	5/01/03	9	3.3	13	3.3	21	5.2
Hoole River	3400	4/30/03	0	0.0	20	4.5	11	3.0
Jordan Lake	3050	4/30/03	6	1.5	20	4.8	11	2.9
King Solomon Dome	3540	4/30/03	0	0.0	12	3.0	14	3.8
Log Cabin (B.C.)	2900	5/01/03	13	5.0	45	15.8	38	14.2
Mayo Airport	1770	4/30/03	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.6
MacIntosh	3805	4/27/03	0	0.0	13	3.1	8	1.9
Meadow Creek	4050	5/01/03	24	6.8	44	11.8	37	10.6
Midnight Dome	2805	4/30/03	9	1.7	12	3.0	19	4.7
Montana Mountain	3350	4/30/03	7	1.6	21	6.3	16	4.2
Morley Lake	2700	4/29/03	9	3.2	12	3.9	9	2.7
Mount Nansen	3350	4/27/03	0	0.0	7	1.8	2	0.2
Mt. Berdoe	3400	4/27/03	3	0.7	13	3.4	10	2.4
Mt. McIntyre B	3600	No Survey			14	2.9	19	4.8
Pelly Farm	1550	4/25/03	1	0.2	8	2.2	1	0.3
Plata Airstrip	2720	4/29/03	13	4.5	19	5.2	18	5.5
Rackla Lake	3410	4/29/03	24	7.4	25	5.2	31	8.5
Russell Lake	3480	4/29/03	22	6.9	30	5.7	25	7.4
Satasha Lake	3805	4/27/03	0	0.0	12	3.1	6	1.9
Tagish	3540	4/29/03	8	2.4	19	5.9	15	4.2
Twin Creeks	2950	4/29/03	10	3.8	24	6.6	20	5.7
White River	2700	No Survey			--	---	--	---
Whitehorse Airport	2300	5/01/03	0	0.0	7	2.1	4	1.0
Williams Creek	3000	4/27/03	2	0.4	5	1.2	9	1.9
Withers Lake	3200	4/29/03	22	8.2	26	6.4	30	9.1

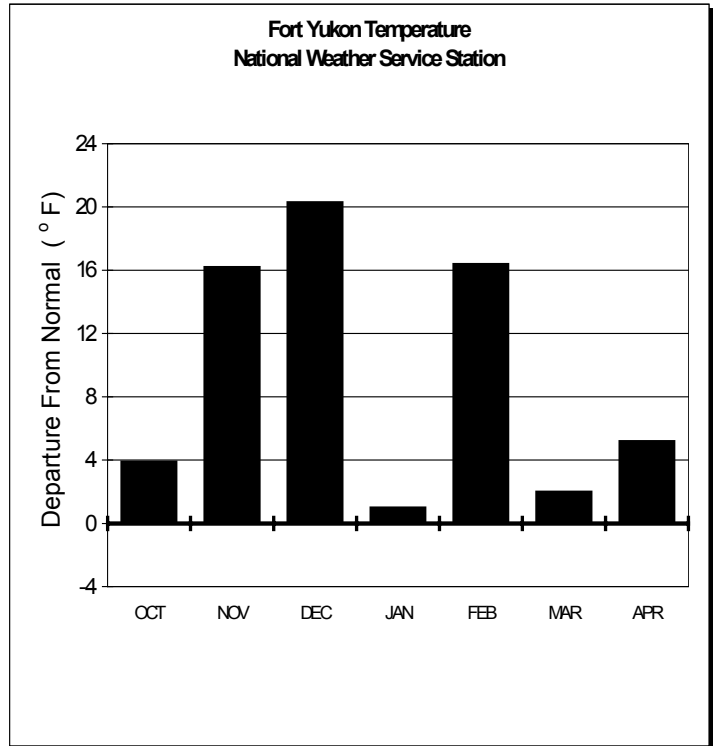
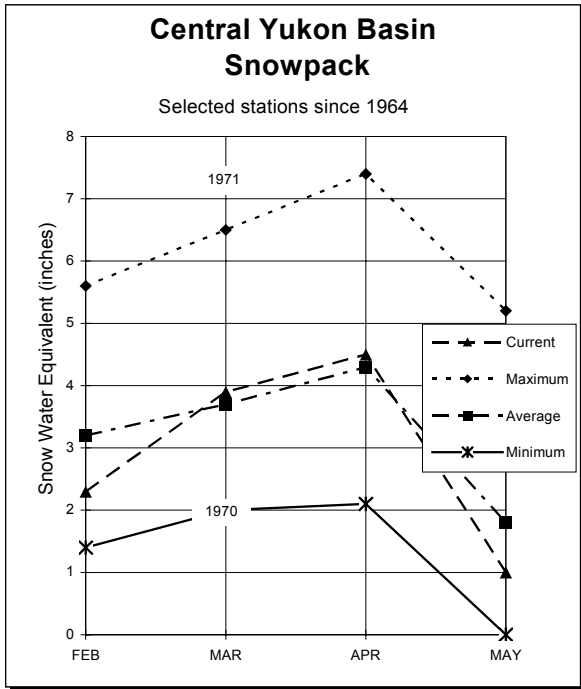
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Yukon River At Eagle	May-Jul	32900	27170	83	31770	22570

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Above Whitehorse/ Tetlin	9	38	44
Dawson	3	40	38
Stewart/ Pelly	14	82	68
White River	5	0	0

CENTRAL YUKON BASIN*



Current Basin Conditions

Snow left the ground at the Fort Yukon SNOTEL site the 29th of April. The Seven Mile snow course, seven miles north of the Yukon Crossing on the Dalton Highway, had 2 inches of water content, which is 64 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		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth (inches)	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Eagle Plains	2330	5/01/03	17	4.7	24	4.4	20	4.8
Eagle River	1120	5/01/03	12	2.7	18	3.9	17	4.0
Fort Yukon	430	4/30/03	0	0.0	14	2.0	20	3.8
Hess Creek	1000	4/30/03	0	0.0	23	5.3	9	2.5
Mission Creek	900	4/30/03	0	0.0	4	0.6	2	0.5
Old Crow	980	5/01/03	16	4.0	23	3.5	14	3.3
Riff's Ridge	2130	5/01/03	14	3.8	17	3.4	19	4.6
Seven Mile	600	4/30/03	9	2.0	23	4.7	12	3.1
Thirty Mile	1350	4/30/03	22	6.0	37	7.5	26	6.7

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	42240	90	50090	34390

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1st

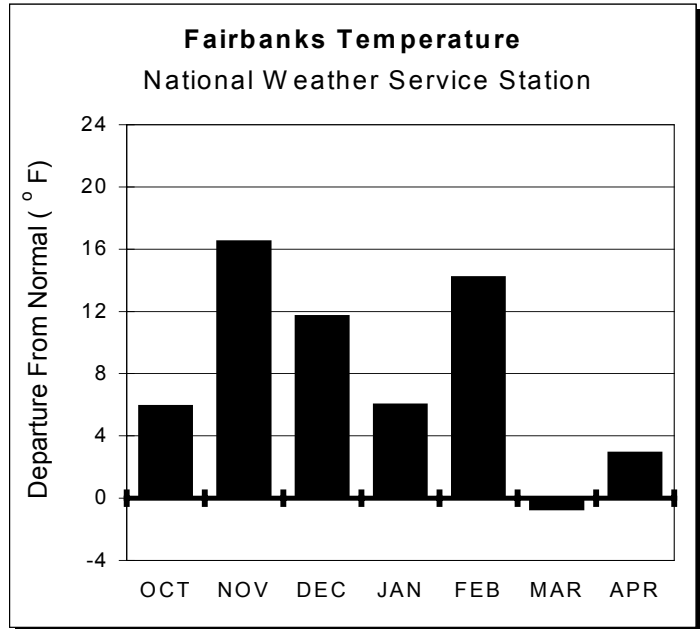
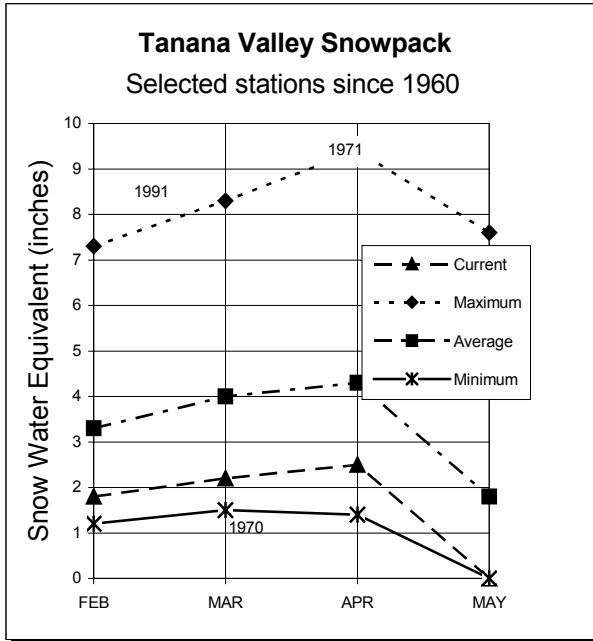
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Atigun Pass**	4800	5/01/03	8.0	7.1	7.0	114
Chandalar Shelf**	3300	5/01/03	7.1	6.5	6.0	118
Eagle Summit	3650	4/30/03	6.3	6.3	6.6	96
Fort Yukon	430	4/30/03	3.9	3.9	---	---
Mission Creek	900	4/30/03	No Report	5.2	5.8	---

**Wyoming shielded gauge

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Forty Mile	1	0	0
Porcupine (Y.T.)	4	100	91
Yukon Flats	2	30	29

TANANA BASIN*



Current Basin Conditions

No snow exists in the lower elevations of the Tanana Valley. The Fielding Lake snow course has 22 inches of snow with 7.7 inches of water content and is 64 percent of normal. Three of the six SNOTEL (SNOW TELemtry) sites in the Chena Basin had no snow and the Chena Basin is 24 percent of normal.

* 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		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Bonanza Creek	1150	4/30/03	0	0.0	7	0.7	11	2.8
Caribou Creek	1250	5/01/03	0	0.0	8	2.0	6	1.7
Caribou Snow Pillow	900	5/01/03	0	0.0	6	1.4	6	1.7
Cleary Summit	2230	5/02/03	4	1.1	22	4.8	22	5.9
Colorado Creek	700	5/01/03	0	0.0	11	3.4	9	2.3
Fairbanks FO	450	5/02/03	0	0.0	3	0.3	3	0.8
Faith Creek	1900	5/02/03	0	0.0	17	3.5	11	2.7
Fielding Lake	3000	4/29/03	22	7.7	22	6.3	39	12.0
Fort Greely	1500	4/29/03	0	0.0	10	3.4	3	0.9
French Creek	1800	4/30/03	0	0.0	31	6.4	14	4.1
Gerstle River	1200	4/29/03	0	0.0	7	1.7	6	1.5
Granite Creek	1240	4/30/03	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	1.8
Jatahmund Lake	2180	4/29/03	0	0.0	9	2.0	--	---
Kantishna	1550	4/27/03	0	0.0	6	0.6	--	---
Lake Minchumina	730	4/29/03	0	0.0	1	0.3	5	1.3
Little Chena Bottom	1460	5/01/03	0	0.0	11	2.6	9	3.0
Little Chena Ridge	2000	5/01/03	0	0.0	23	4.8	16	4.5
Mentasta Pass	2430	4/29/03	9	2.6	17	4.4	16	4.8
Monument Creek	1850	5/01/03	0	0.0	28	5.8	14	3.5
Mt. Ryan	2800	5/01/03	11	4.4	24	5.4	24	6.3
Munson Ridge	3100	5/01/03	24	7.3	33	7.4	36	9.7
Paradise Hill	2200	4/29/01	0	0.0	7	1.9	--	---
Rock Creek Bottom	2250	4/28/03	0	0.0	19	4.0	--	---
Rock Creek Ridge	2600	4/28/03	0	0.0	21	4.6	--	---
Shaw Creek Flats	980	4/30/03	0	0.0	10	2.7	3	0.8
Stampede	1800	4/29/03	0	0.0	New		--	---
Teuchet Creek	1640	5/01/03	0	0.0	14	3.1	8	2.1
Tok Junction	1650	4/29/03	0	0.0	10	3.0	3	0.9
Upper Chena	3000	5/01/03	15	5.5	26	6.6	25	7.5
Upper Chena Pillow	2850	5/01/03	12	3.3	27	7.8	22	6.9

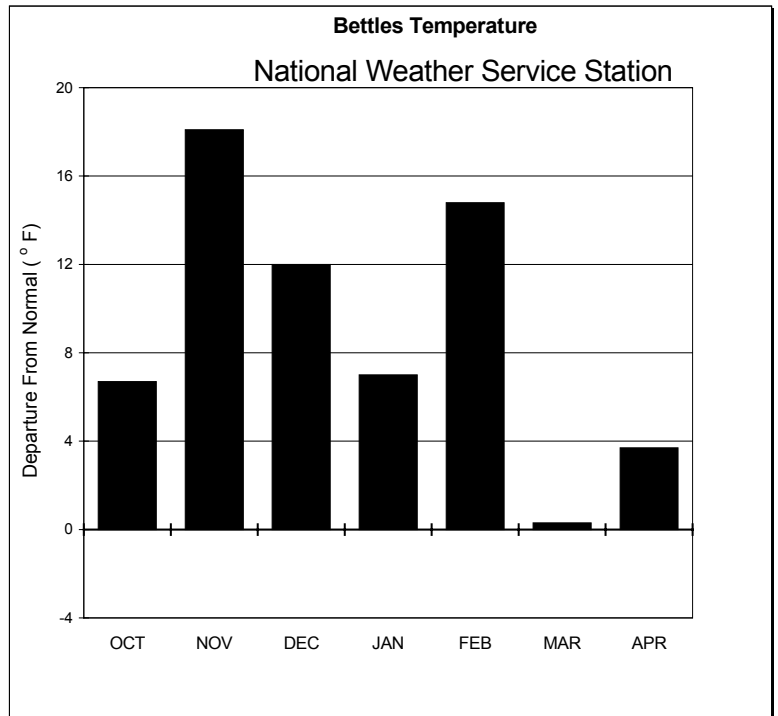
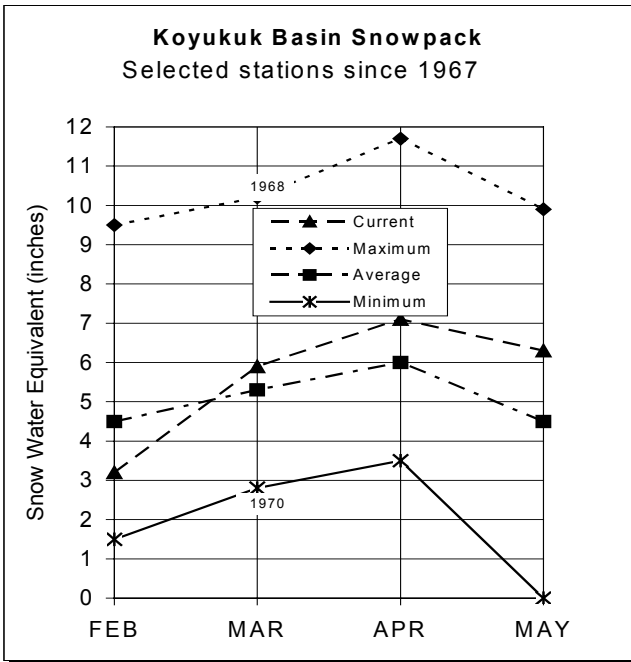
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Tanana River at Fairbanks	May-Jul	6680	6290	94	7180	5400
Little Chena R. near Fairbanks	May-Jul	72	55	76	80	30
Chena River near Two Rivers	May-Jul	255	220	86	295	145
Salcha River near Salchaket	May-Jul	595	435	73	610	260
Tanana River at Nenana	May-Jul	8470	7690	91	9030	6350

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Chatanika	4	9	9
Chena Basin	6	22	28
Lower Tanana Valley	6	0	0
Mid Tanana Valley (Delta Junction)	5	55	45
Upper Tanana Valley (Tok)	4	0	0

WESTERN INTERIOR BASINS*



Current Basin Conditions

Koyukuk

The northeastern part of this region is the only area in the state where the snowpack water content is above normal. The percent of normal varies from 90 percent of normal at Thirty Mile to 136 percent of normal at Coldfoot. The Snowmelt Runoff Index for the Koyukuk at Hughes is 1.8, which is above average.

Kuskokwim

The McGrath snow course had no snow the 30th of April. Also, no snow was reported at Lake Minchumina or Purkeypale Mine.

Lower Yukon

Two of the ten snow courses measured in the Lower Yukon Innoko Basin had snow. These two were Menotl Creek with 12 inches of snow and Yankee Slough with 15 inches of snow located on the West Side of the Innoko Basin.

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

Western Interior Basins

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Koyukuk								
Bettles Field	640	5/01/03*	28	9.4	25	6.6	13	3.4
Bonanza Forks	1200	4/30/03	20	5.1	26	6.5	16	4.1
Coldfoot	1040	4/30/03	22	7.2	33	7.3	21	5.3
Disaster Creek	1550	4/30/03	14	4.4	25	5.6	11	2.6
Kaldoyeit	580	4/29/03	0	0.0	26	6.5	--	---
Kanuti-Chelatna	550	4/29/03	6	2.1	16	4.7	--	---
Kanuti-Kilolitna	550	4/29/03	0	0.0	8	2.5	--	---
Minnkokut	580	4/29/03	11	3.8	26	6.7	--	---
Nolitna	560	4/29/03	5	1.7	16	4.7	--	---
Table Mountain	2200	4/30/03	20	5.8	27	5.1	19	4.3
Taiholman	540	4/29/03	0	0.0	0	0.0	--	---
Kuskokwim								
Lake Minchumina	730	4/29/03	0	0.0	1	0.3	5	1.3
McGrath	340	4/30/03	0	0.0	9	2.8	9	2.8
Purkeypile Mine	2030	4/29/03	0	0.0	16	3.3	10	2.5
Lower Yukon								
Grouch Creek	220	4/29/03	0	0.0	No	Report	--	---
Holikachuk	100	4/29/03	0	0.0	No	Report	--	---
Horsefly Creek	180	4/29/03	0	0.0	No	Report	--	---
Innoko Cabin	200	4/29/03	0	0.0	No	Report	--	---
Menotl Creek	380	4/29/03	12	4.1	No	Report	--	---
Middle Innoko	150	4/29/03	0	0.0	No	Report	--	---
Upper Innoko	180	4/29/03	0	0.0	No	Report	--	---
Wapoo Hills	220	4/29/03	0	0.0	No	Report	--	---
Yankee Slough	100	4/29/03	15	5.2	No	Report	--	---
Yetna River	120	4/29/03	0	0.0	No	Report	--	---

*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	8490	89	11460	5520

PRECIPITATION DATA

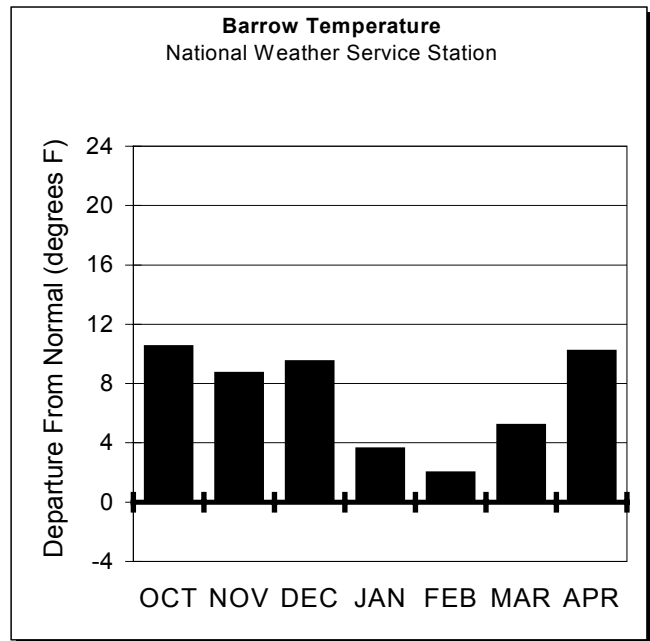
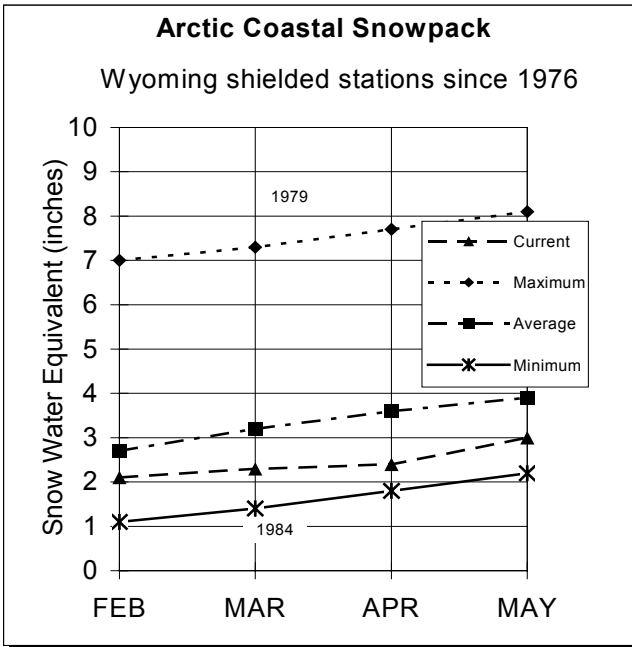
INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1st

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Bettles Field	640	5/01/03	8.8	9.8	7.6	116
Coldfoot	1040	4/30/03	10.0	7.2	7.4	135
Gobblers Knob	2030	4/30/03	11.3	9.2	8.0	141

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Koyukuk	6	98	145
Upper Kuskokwim	3	0	0
Lower Yukon	10	0	0

ARCTIC AND KOTZEBUE SOUND*



Current Basin Conditions

Arctic

The Barrow precipitation gauge received .47 inches in April, which is 157 percent of normal (.3 inches is normal).

Kotzebue

The Red Dog snow course was measured April 10th, and at that time it had 18 inches of snow with 4.8 inches of water content. The 11 year average at the Red Dog snow course is 29 inches of snow and 7.6 inches of water content. This water content is 46 percent of average and 52 percent of last year.

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

Arctic and Kotzebue Sound

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth (inches)	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Kugarak	225	No Report					--	---
Red Dog	950	4/10/03	18	3.5	26	6.7	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	5/01/03	3.5	3.1	5.5	64
Atigun Pass	4800	5/01/03	8.0	7.1	7.0	114
Barrow	25	4/30/03	2.5	2.2	3.3	76
Imnaviat Creek	3050	No Report		2.9	3.4	--
Prudhoe Bay	30	No Report		3.3	4.1	--
Kotzebue Sound						
Kivalina	50	4/30/03	3.7	3.2	--	--
Red Dog**	950	4/30/03	6.4	5.2	7.0	91

** Wyoming Shielded Gauge

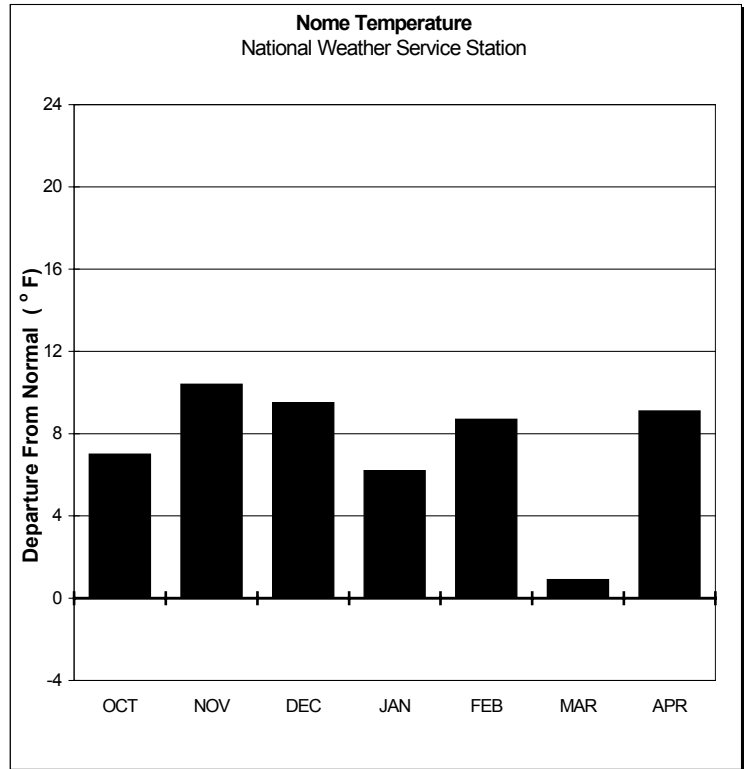
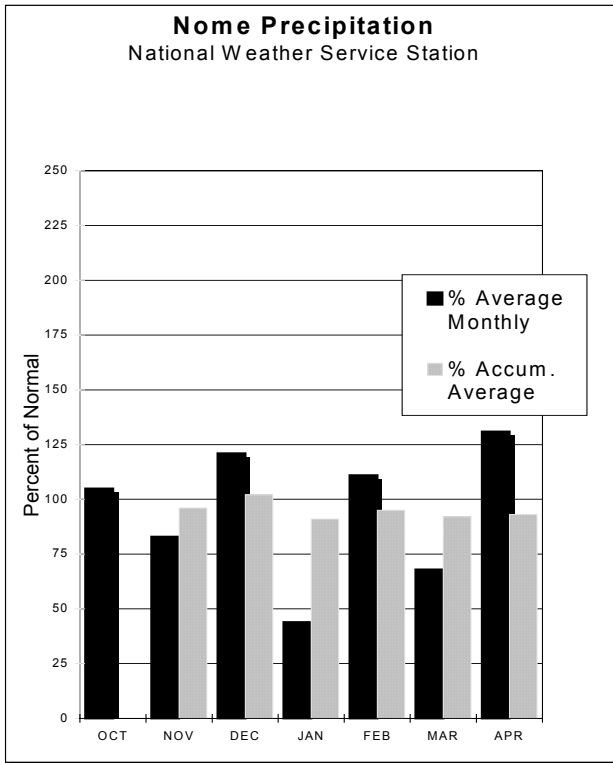
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

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	660	96	790	530
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse	May- Jul	795	655	82	905	405

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Arctic Coast	1	114	76
Dalton Highway	2	113	92

NORTON SOUND/SOUTHWEST DELTA/BRISTOL BAY*



Current Basin Conditions

Norton Sound

There was one inch of snow left on the ground at the Johnson's Camp SNOTEL site the 1st of May, 3 inches at Pargon Creek, and 7 inches at Rocky Point.

Pargon Creek has received 6.9 inches of precipitation since October 1st and Rocky Point has received 5.4 inches.

Southwest Delta/Bristol Bay

Most of the winter this area has had no snow, except at elevation. This is still the situation, no snow.

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

Norton Sound / Southwest Delta / Bristol Bay

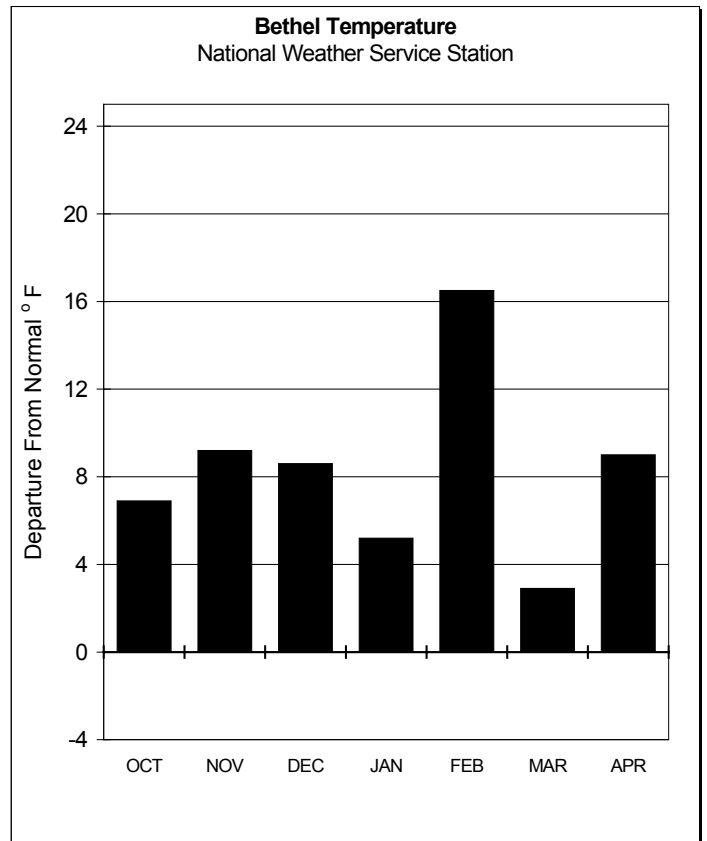
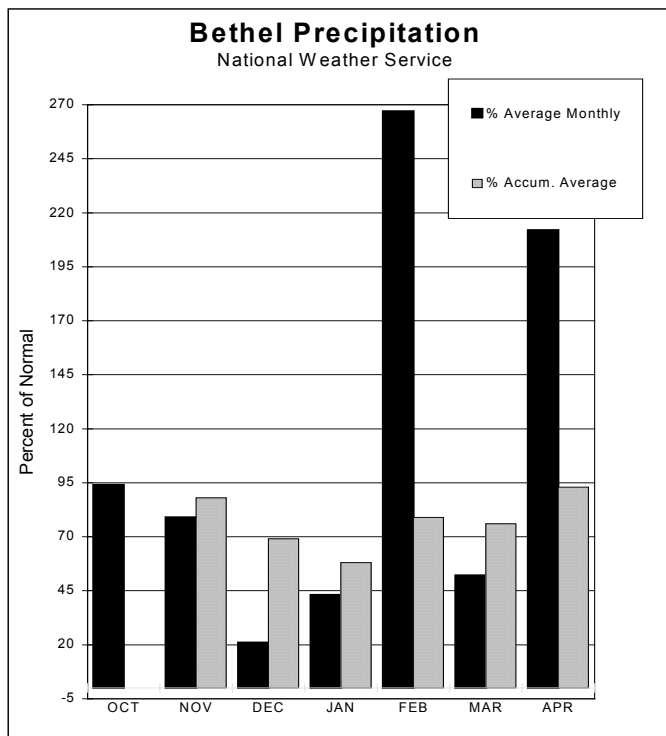
SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth (inches)	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Bristol Bay								
Fishtrap Lake	1800	No Survey			--	---	--	---
Port Alsworth	270	5/01/03	0	0.0	--	---	--	---
Upper Twin Lakes	2000	No Survey			--	---	--	---

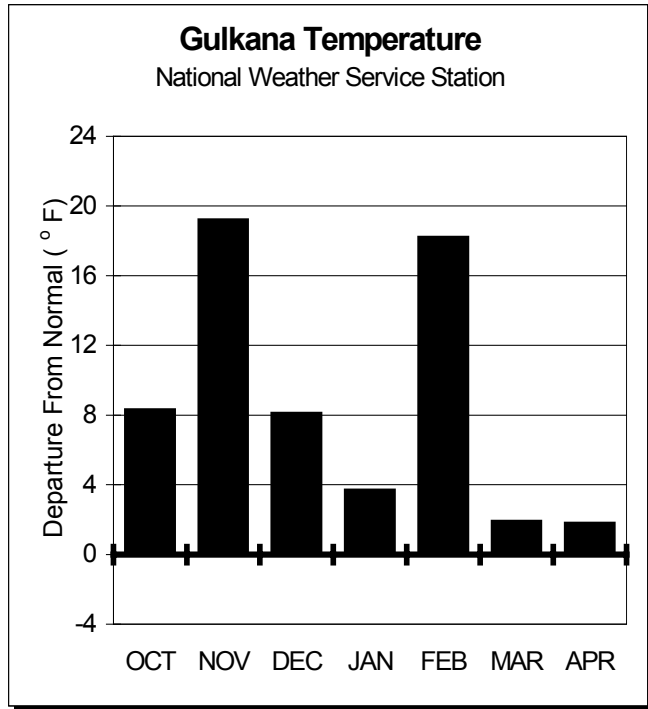
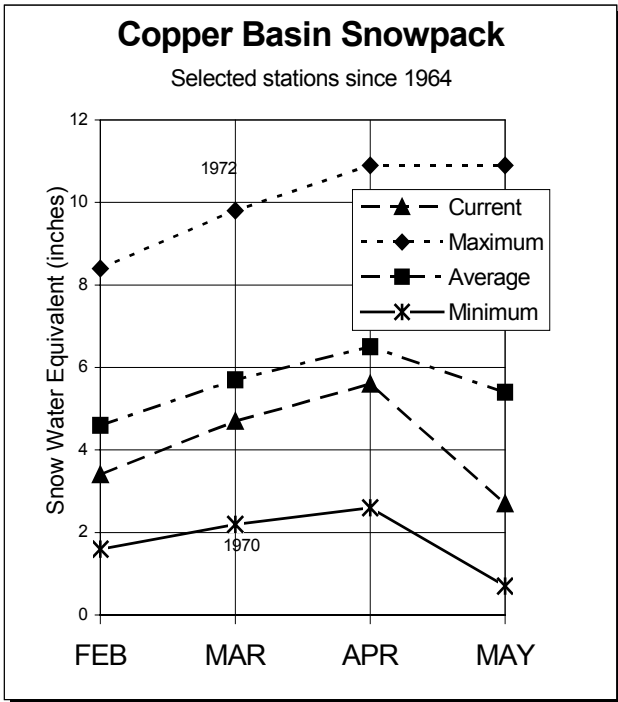
PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Pargon Creek	100	4/30/03	6.9	5.9	---	--
Rocky Point	500	4/30/03	5.4	2.8	---	--



COPPER BASIN*



Current Basin Conditions

The Paxson snow course has 72 percent of normal snow water content and is 114 percent of last year. There is no snow in the Glenallen area extending to south of Kenny Lake and west to Eureka.

The forecasted flow for the Gulkana River near Gulkana for the May through July time period is 380 thousand acre-ft, 85 percent of normal.

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		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth (inches)	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Chistochina	2170	4/29/03	0	0.0	5	1.7	4	1.2
Haggard Creek	2540	4/29/03	8	2.2	12	4.1	18	5.2
Kenny Lake School	1300	5/04/03	0	0.0	--	---	3	0.9
Lake Louise	2400	4/30/03	0	0.0	20	3.9	12	2.9
Little Nelchina	2650	4/30/03	0	0.0	21	4.6	--	---
Mentasta Pass	2430	4/29/03	9	2.6	17	4.4	16	4.8
Paxson	2650	4/29/03	16	5.0	14	4.4	22	6.9
Tazlina	1225	5/04/03	0	0.0	--	---	--	---
Tolsona Creek	2000	4/30/03	0	0.0	17	4.2	5	2.1
Tsina River	1650	5/04/03	17	5.8	34	9.3	41	14.6
Worthington Glacier	2100	5/04/03	32	12.5	56	19.7	61	24.6

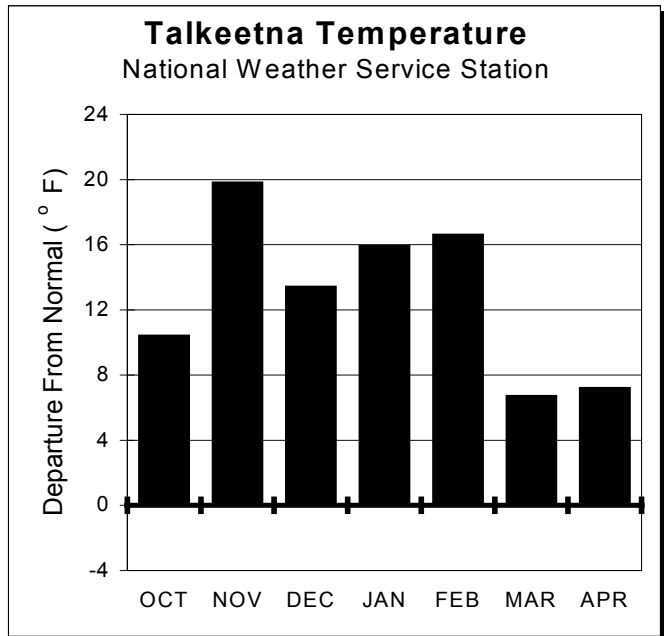
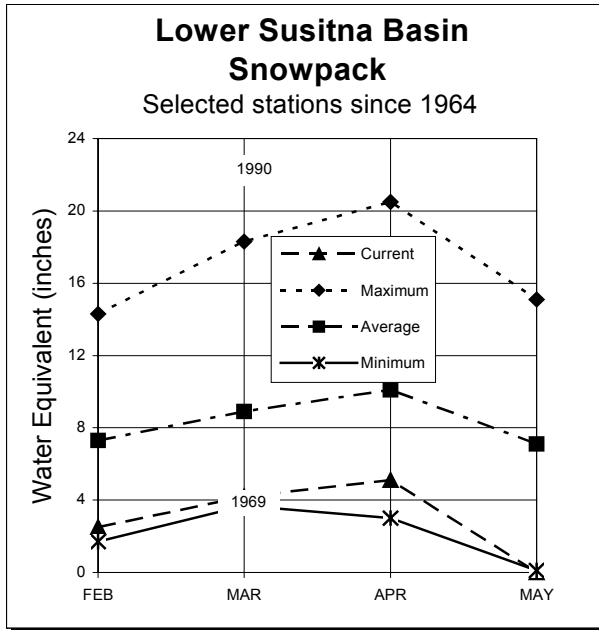
STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Gulkana River at Sourdough	May-Jul	475	380	85	500	260

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Alaska Range	3	101	65
Basin Floor	5	12	15
Chugach Range	1	0	0
Talkeetna Mountains	1	0	0

MATANUSKA - SUSITNA BASINS*



Current Basin Conditions

Snow remains at elevation where there are 55 inches of snow and 22.6 inches of water content at Independence Mine, 83 percent of normal. No snow is along the Parks Highway traveling north until Denali View, where there is 6 inches of snow.

Traveling up the Glenn Highway, Sheep Mountain snow course has no snow.

The Snowmelt Runoff Index for most of the streams in the Susitna Valley is a minus 3, much below average. These streams include Deshka River at the mouth, Montana Creek at the Parks Highway, and Willow Creek near Willow.

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

Matanuska - Susitna Basins

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
					(inches)			
Archangel Road	2200	4/28/03	13	5.2	39	12.1	--	--
Blueberry Hill	1200	4/29/03	18	5.7	42	12.2	43	17.4
Chelatna Lake	1450	4/28/03	14	4.5	30	9.5	33	10.9
Denali View	700	4/29/03	6	2.0	34	10.8	30	12.3
Dutch Hills	3100	4/28/03	67	27.4	62	19.5	74	28.7
E. Fork Chulitna	1800	4/29/03	35	11.4	42	10.6	44	15.7
Eldridge Glacier	3400	4/28/03	24	7.8	New		--	---
Fishhook Basin	3300	4/30/03	44	19.1	67	17.8	61	22.1
Halfway Slough	350	4/29/03	0	0.0	New		--	---
Independence Mine	3550	4/30/03	55	22.6	76	19.8	65	27.1
Lake Louise	2400	4/30/03	0	0.0	20	3.9	12	2.9
Little Susitna	1700	4/28/03	1	0.6	35	10.9	22	9.2
Moose Creek Ranch	450	4/30/03	0	0.0	14	4.8	--	---
Nugget Bench	2010	4/28/03	25	8.3	37	11.1	46	15.3
Ramsdyke Creek	2220	4/28/03	43	15.5	54	18.0	57	21.9
Sheep Mountain	2900	4/30/03	0	0.0	21	5.0	14	3.9
Susitna Valley High	375	4/29/03	0	0.0	20	6.4	14	5.7
Talkeetna Airport	350	4/29/03	0	0.0	22	6.4	16	5.4
Tokositna Valley	850	4/28/03	22	7.5	55	17.0	43	17.0
West Fork Yentna	950	4/28/03	0	0.0	New		--	---
Willow Airstrip	200	4/29/03	0	0.0	17	5.3	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	65	77	79	51
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	May-Jul	1590	1450	91	1690	1210

PRECIPITATION DATA

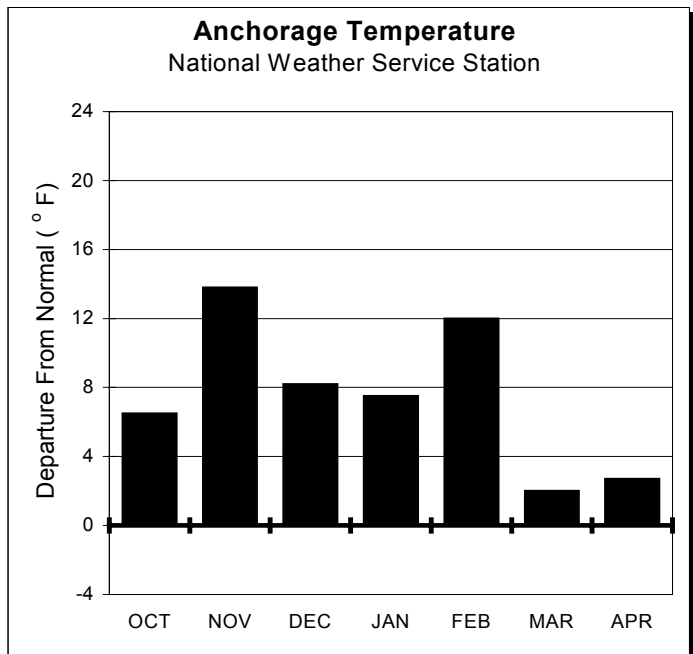
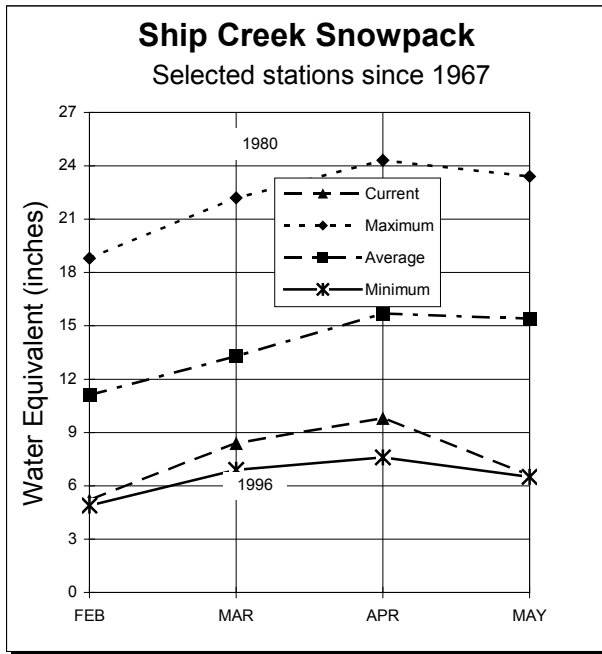
INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (ft.)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Independence Mine	3550	4/30/03	21.8	18.8	29.1	75
Susitna Valley High	375	4/30/03	14.3	8.3	13.4	107

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Lower Susitna	2	0	0
Matanuska/Little Susitna	5	72	62
Peters Hills	4	82	65
Upper Susitna	1	0	0

NORTHERN COOK INLET*



Current Basin Conditions

The Indian Pass snow course had 13.2 inches of water content measured May 2nd; therefore, it is 50 percent of normal, which is 26.5 inches of water content. There is no snow at Anchorage Hillside or S. Fork Campbell Creek snow courses. The Snowmelt Runoff Index (SRI) is a minus 3, much below normal for South Fork Campbell Creek near Spenard.

The Eklutna SNOTEL, Moraine, had no snow on the ground April 28th. The maximum snow depth for the winter at this location was 18 inches on the 5th of January.

The streamflow volume forecast for Ship Creek near Anchorage for the May through July time period, with normal precipitation, is 54 percent of normal, or 31,000 acre-ft.

* 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		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Anchorage Hillside	2080	5/01/03	0	0.0	31	9.5	29	9.9
Indian Pass	2350	5/02/03	33	13.2	60	19.6	72	26.5
Kincaid Park	250	4/30/03	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	10.0
Moraine	2100	4/30/03	0	0.0	New		--	---
Point Mackenzie	200	4/28/03	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.8
Portage Valley	50	4/28/03	0	0.0	34	14.1	19	9.2
South Campbell Creek	1200	5/01/03	0	0.0	20	6.8	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	57.0	31	54	39	23

PRECIPITATION DATA

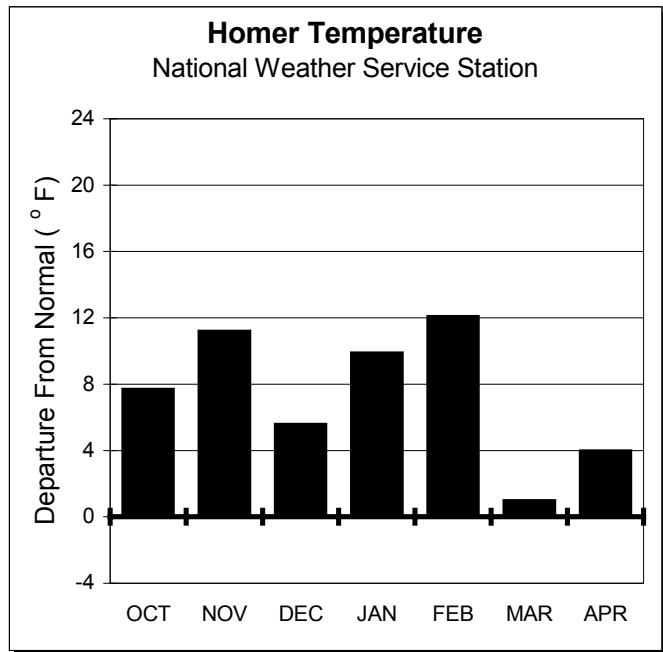
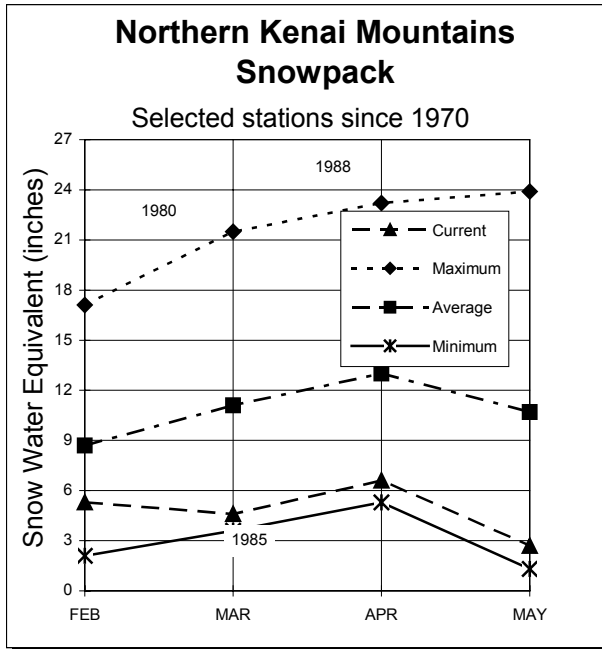
INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Indian Pass	2350	5/02/03	29.6	23.8	23.9	124
Moraine	2100	5/01/03	9.6	New	--	---
Mt. Alyeska	1540	No Report	---	42.7	43.1	---
Point Mackenzie	200	4/30/03	7.6	5.9	8.1	94

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Campbell Creek	2	0	0
Ship Creek	2	45	36
Turnagain Arm	1	58	73

KENAI PENINSULA*



Current Basin Conditions

Most snow courses reported no snow for May 1st. The exceptions are Grandview, 67 percent of normal, Nuka Glacier, 28 percent of normal, and Summit Creek, 64 percent of normal.

The Kenai River had the largest volume flow recorded on record at Cooper Landing for the October through April period. There was 1234 thousand acre-ft of water measured by the USGS gauge. The previous record, 1178 thousand acre-ft, was set in 1979-80 period, while the normal is 545 thousand acre-ft.

The forecasted volume flow for the Kenai River at Cooper Landing for the May through July time period is 92 percent of normal, 815 thousand acre-ft.

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

Kenai Peninsula

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Bertha Creek	950	No Report			51	20.1	49	18.2
Bridge Creek	1300	4/30/03	0	0.0	36	13.8	37	12.3
Cooper Lake	1200	4/30/03	0	0.0	48	16.8	34	12.3
Demonstration Forest	780	4/30/03	0	0.0	6	2.1	21	7.4
Grandview	1100	4/30/03	44	17.5	--	---	80	36.0
Grouse Creek Divide	700	4/30/03	0	0.0	47	17.5	44	16.6
Jean Lake	620	4/30/03	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.5
Kenai Moose Pens	300	4/30/03	0	0.0	11	3.5	1	0.3
Kenai Summit	1390	No Report			30	11.4	30	11.4
McNeil Canyon	1320	4/30/03	0	0.0	28	10.7	21	7.8
Moose Pass	700	4/30/03	0	0.0	12	4.6	7	2.5
Nuka Glacier	1250	4/30/03	24	12.0	110	52.8	93	42.4
Port Graham	300	4/30/03	0	0.0	--	---	--	---
Snug Harbor Road	500	4/30/03	0	0.0	11	3.3	12	2.5
Summit Creek	1400	4/25/03	11	4.3	28	10.2	14	6.7
Turnagain Pass	1880	4/30/03*	82	29.4	115	51.0	95	40.1

*Estimate

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	May-Jul	890	815	92	940	690

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

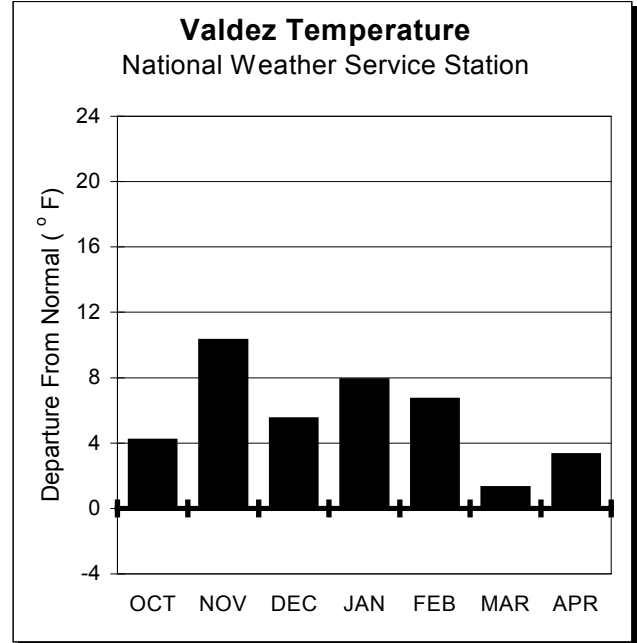
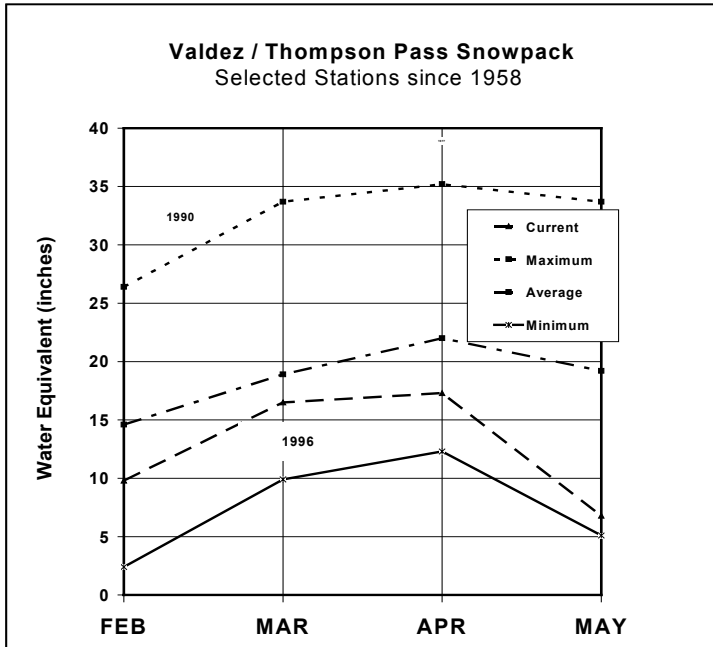
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Cooper Lake	1200	4/30/03	47.8	22.8	25.1	190
Grandview	1100	4/30/03	64.2	44.7	43.1	149
Grouse Creek Divide	700	4/30/03	56.1	36.9	39.9	141
Kenai Moose Pens	300	4/30/03	6.6	7.6	9.2	87
McNeil Canyon	1320	4/30/03	23.7	17.6	17.2	138
Middle Fork Bradley**	2300	4/30/03	71.5	22.6	39.0	183
Nuka Glacier**	1250	4/30/03	104.1	48.3	60.6	172
Summit Creek	1400	4/30/03	25.2	17.6	17.7	142
Turnagain Pass	1880	4/30/03	58.1	44.6	45.8	127

**Wyoming shielded gauge

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Bradley Lake	1	23	28
Ninilchik Dome	2	0	0
Northern Kenai Mountains	7	35	44
Northern Kenai Flats	1	0	0

WESTERN GULF*



Current Basin Conditions

No snow was measured at Valdez or Lowe River snow courses. Sugarloaf Mountain is 55 percent of normal with 15.2 inches of water content, 55 percent of normal.

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

Western Gulf

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth (inches)	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Exit Glacier	400	No Report			38	14.6	--	---
Grouse Creek Divide	700	4/30/03	0	0.0	47	17.5	44	16.6
Low River	600	5/04/03	0	0.0	37	14.0	30	12.0
Nuka Glacier	1250	4/30/03	24	12.0	110	52.8	93	42.4
Sugarloaf Mountain	530	5/01/03	39	15.2	74	29.2	67	27.6
Tsina River	1650	5/04/03	17	5.8	34	9.3	41	14.6
Valdez	50	5/04/03	0	0.0	32	10.2	33	12.6
Worthington Glacier	2100	5/04/03	32	12.5	56	19.7	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	4/30/03	56.1	36.9	39.9	141
Nuka Glacier**	1250	4/30/03	104.1	48.3	60.6	172
Solomon Gulch*	30	4/30/03	49.5	54.0	36.8	136
Sugarloaf Mountain	55	5/01/03	62.4	60.6	37.3	167

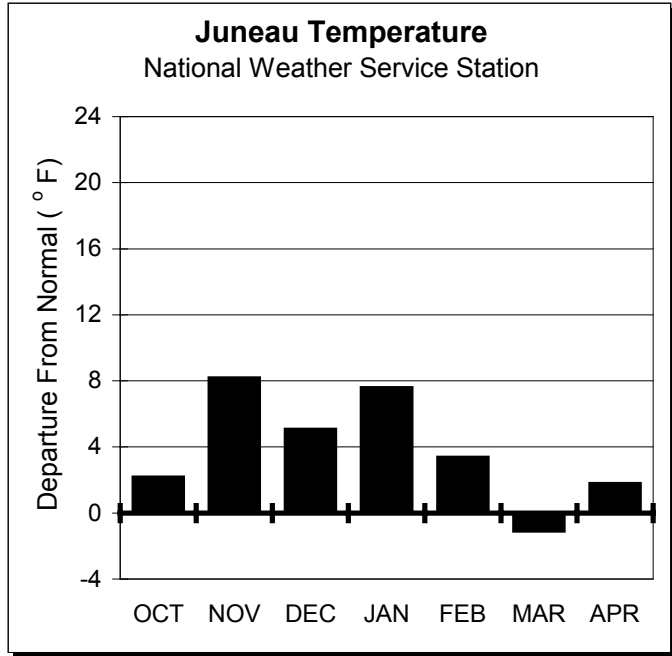
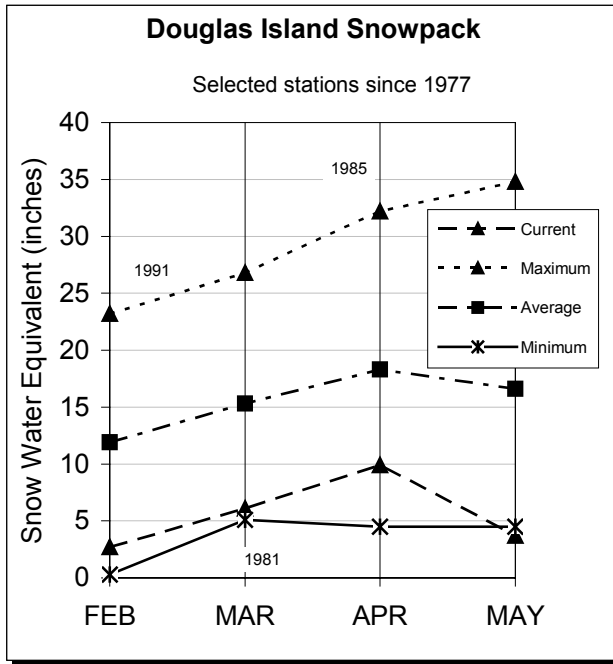
**Wyoming shielded gauge

*Copper Valley Electric Association

WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Low River (Valdez)	3	47	43

SOUTHEAST*



Current Basin Conditions

There is no snow at either Fish Creek or Eagle Crest snow courses, and Cropley Lake is 34 percent of normal on Douglas Island. This is a minimum of record snowpack for Douglas Island for May 1st.

Speel River snow course water content at the Snettisham Hydroelectric project is 39 percent of normal.

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

Southeast

SNOWPACK DATA

Snow Course	Elev. (feet)	Date	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVERAGE	
			Snow Depth	Water Content	Sow Depth	Water Content	Snow Depth	Water Content
Cropley Lake	1650	4/30/03	30	11.2	104	36.6	73	32.8
Eagle Crest	1200	4/30/03	0	0.0	59	28.4	37	15.7
Fish Creek	500	4/30/03	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	1.3
Long Lake	850	No Report			103	45.6	--	---
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	4/30/03	0	0.0	59	22.8	--	---
Petersburg Reservoir	550	4/28/03	0	0.0	25	10.0	6	2.3
Petersburg Ridge	1650	4/28/03	26	9.6	91	37.9	51	22.1
Speel River	280	4/29/03	26	10.2	68	31.2	59	26.1

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	30- Yr Average (1000AF)	50 Percentile	% of Average	Max (1000AF)	Min (1000AF)
Gold Creek near Juneau	May-Jul	31	26.0	84	29.0	22.9

PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1ST

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation (feet)	Date	This Year	Last Year	1971-2000 Ave	% of Average
Long Lake	850	No Report		92.1	--	---
Snettisham	25	4/30/03	96.6	107.8	116.2	83
Swan Lake	50	4/30/03	109.2	95.7	86.6	126

WATERSHED SNOW PACK ANALYSIS

Region / River Basin	No. of Courses Averaged	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
Douglas Island	3	17	22
Petersburg	2	20	40

For further information contact:

NRCS Alaska web site: www.ak.nrcs.gov

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

NRCS Anchorage Support Staff

510 L Street, Suite 270

Anchorage, Alaska 99501-1949

Telephone (907) 271-2424, Extension 113;

Facsimile (907) 271-3951; or e-mail: Richard.McClure@ak.usda.gov

Copper Center Field Office

Joanne Kuykendall, Resource Conservationist

Telephone: (907) 822-4484

Facsimile: (907) 822-4489

e-mail: Joanne.Kuykendall@ak.usda.gov

Delta Junction Field Office

Phil Naegele, District Conservationist

Telephone (907) 895-4241

Facsimile: (907) 895-5003

e-mail: Phil.Naegele@ak.usda.gov

Fairbanks Field Office

Jim Helm, District Conservationist

Telephone (907) 479-3159

Facsimile: (907) 479-6998

e-mail: Jim.Helm@ak.usda.gov

Homer Field Office

Mark Kinney, District Conservationist

Telephone (907) 235-8177

Facsimile: (907) 235-2364

e-mail: Mark.Kinney@ak.usda.gov

Mat-Su Field Office

Calvin Steele, District Conservationist

Telephone (907) 373-6492

Facsimile: (907) 373-7192

e-mail: Calvin.Steele@ak.usda.gov