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Natural  
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Conservation  
Service

# Alaska

# Basin Outlook Report

# MARCH 1, 2002



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## GENERAL OVERVIEW

### Snowpack

The Norton Sound from Nome south received a greater than normal monthly increment of snow water content bringing the region up from the 50-70 to the 70-90 percent of normal category. The other area north of the Alaska Range was Tok, which increased 1.1 inches for the month; normal is 0.6 inches. This region remains 130 percent of normal. The Fairbanks area remains in the 50 percent of normal category. This is basically Fairbanks south and west to Lake Minchumina and north to the White Mountains. South Central region has the Kenai Mountains and the Gulf Coast Mountains on the Kenai Peninsula much above normal. Grouse Creek Divide snow course water content 12 miles north of Seward is 154 percent of normal. In Southeast, the Petersburg snow courses went from 124 percent of normal to 175 percent of normal with Petersburg Ridge setting a record for this date. The snow course received 16.2 inches of water content for the month of February and currently has 35.2 inches, 162 percent of normal.

### Precipitation

The regions with the greater than normal precipitation for the month followed similar trends as the snowpack. These regions are Norton Sound, Upper Tanana Valley, Gulf Coast of the Kenai Peninsula, including Homer, and all of Southeast Alaska.

### Temperature

The North Slope, indicated by Barrow, was just 0.5 of a degree Fahrenheit (F) below the normal monthly average. The rest of the state appeared to be above normal with Eagle showing the largest departure above normal at 14.9 degrees F.

## STREAMFLOW

Streamflow forecasts of snowmelt runoff are as follows:

<u>Forecast Point</u>	<u>Percent of Average Flow</u>	<u>Forecast Period</u>
Yukon River at Eagle	104	Apr-Jul
Yukon River nr Stevens Village	100	Apr-Jul
Tanana River at Fairbanks	100	Apr-Jul
Tanana River at Nenana	95	Apr-Jul
Little Chena River nr Fairbanks	71	Apr-Jul
Chena River nr Two Rivers	74	Apr-Jul
Salcha nr Salchaket	78	Apr-Jul
Sagvanirktok River nr Pump Station 3	85	Apr-Jul
Kuparuk River nr Deadhorse	85	Apr-Jul
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek	105	Apr-Jun
Gulkana River at Sourdough	90	Apr-Jul
Little Susitna River nr Palmer	81	Apr-Jul
Talkeetna River nr Talkeetna	86	Apr-Jul
Ship Creek nr Anchorage	90	Apr-Jul
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	108	Apr-Jul
Gold Creek nr Juneau	106	Apr-Jul

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

# Basin Outlook Reports and Federal - State - Private Cooperative Snow Surveys

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*For more water supply and resource management information, contact:*

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## *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 snowcourses 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.

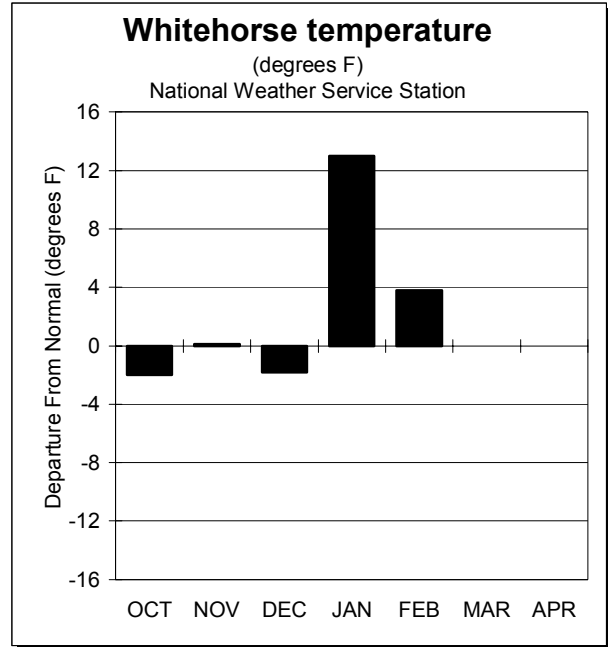
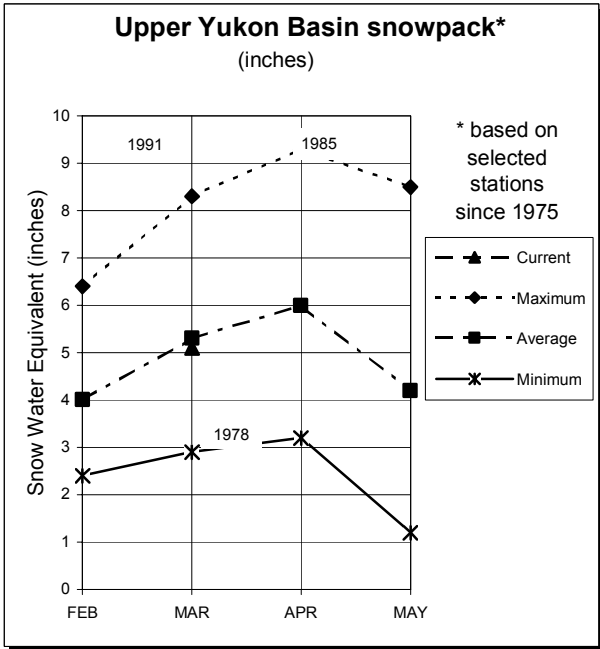
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# Upper Yukon Basin

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

With the above normal snow water equivalent in the coastal range, the Yukon River at Eagle is predicted to flow 4 percent above average for the April through July time period. The Log Cabin snow course is 134 percent of normal and Meadow Creek is 123 percent of normal.

North and west of Whitehorse the river basins are below normal with the Stewart and Pelly at 71 percent.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Anchorage: (907) 271-2424.

# Upper Yukon Basin

## SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
Arrowhead Lake	3680	2/27/02	22	3.7	--	---	32	6.6
Atlin	2400	2/26/02	23	4.4	18	3.1	21	4.4
Beaver Creek	2150	2/25/02	21	3.4	20	4.0	17	2.9
Burns Lake	3650	2/28/02	32	6.3	35	7.6	33	7.4
Burwash Airstrip	2660	2/25/02	12	2.1	11	2.1	10	1.6
Calumet	4300	3/01/02	27	5.3	36	8.3	33	6.7
Casino Creek	3500	3/04/02	26	3.8	28	5.1	24	4.0
Chair Mountain	3500	2/25/02	19	2.8	22	4.3	19	3.3
Duke River	4800	2/27/02	15	2.6	23	3.3	21	3.7
Edwards Lake	2720	2/27/02	24	4.6	30	6.5	29	5.9
Finlayson Airstrip	3240	2/28/02	20	3.0	18	2.7	26	4.5
Fuller Lake	3700	2/27/02	26	4.5	28	5.4	29	6.0
Grizzly Creek	4000	3/04/02	28	5.9	33	6.7	22	4.1
Hoole River	3560	2/28/02	22	3.6	20	3.8	23	4.6
Jordan Lake	3050	2/28/02	25	4.4	24	4.8	24	4.7
King Solomon Dome	3550	2/25/02	26	4.2	34	7.0	29	5.9
Log Cabin (B.C.)	2880	2/26/02	55	17.1	48	11.6	47	12.8
Mayo Airport	1620	3/01/02	19	2.2	21	3.6	18	3.1
MacIntosh	3800	3/04/02	21	3.2	15	2.5	19	3.6
Meadow Creek	4050	2/25/02	44	11.1	35	9.4	38	9.0
Midnight Dome	2800	2/25/02	22	3.6	28	5.5	27	5.3
Montana Mountain	3340	2/26/02	25	5.2	18	2.6	24	5.1
Morley Lake	2700	2/26/02	24	4.8	22	5.0	24	5.3
Mount Nansen	3250	3/04/02	18	2.4	14	1.9	16	2.6
Mt. Berdoe	3390	3/04/02	25	4.3	21	4.1	21	3.7
Mt. McIntyre B	3700	2/28/02	23	4.8	24	4.5	26	5.2
Pelly Farm	1550	2/25/02	15	2.3	15	2.3	17	3.0
Plata Airstrip	2500	2/27/02	22	3.7	28	5.7	30	6.4
Rackla Lake	3410	2/27/02	26	4.8	--	--	33	7.0
Russell Lake	3480	2/27/02	30	6.5	34	6.9	36	7.0
Satasha Lake	3620	3/04/02	21	3.2	18	2.2	21	3.8
Tagish	3540	2/27/02	26	5.9	20	3.2	24	4.8
Twin Creeks	2950	2/27/02	28	5.1	28	5.9	31	6.6
White River	2500	No survey	--	---	--	---	15	2.4
Whitehorse Airport	2300	2/28/02	20	3.7	19	3.9	18	3.5
Williams Creek	2800	3/04/02	20	3.1	22	3.9	18	3.0
Withers Lake	3200	2/27/02	28	4.9	40	9.8	36	8.2

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX *	MIN **
Yukon River At Eagle	Apr- Jul	34200	35585	104	121	87

\* Max is 90 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

\*\* Min is 10 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

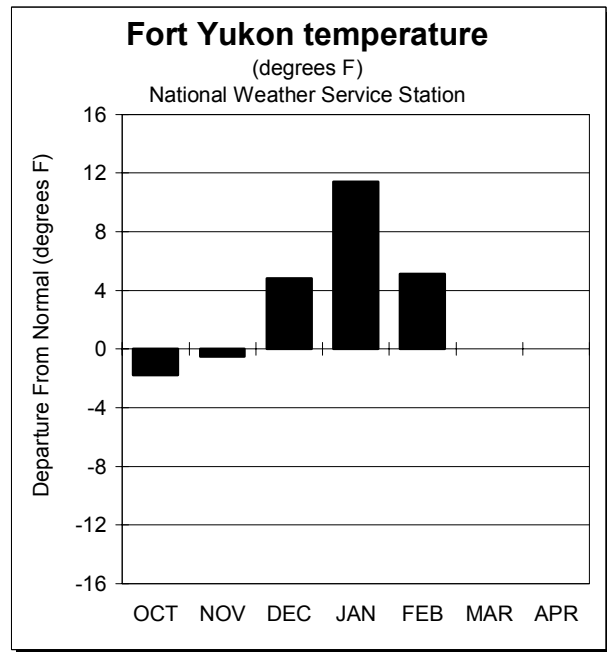
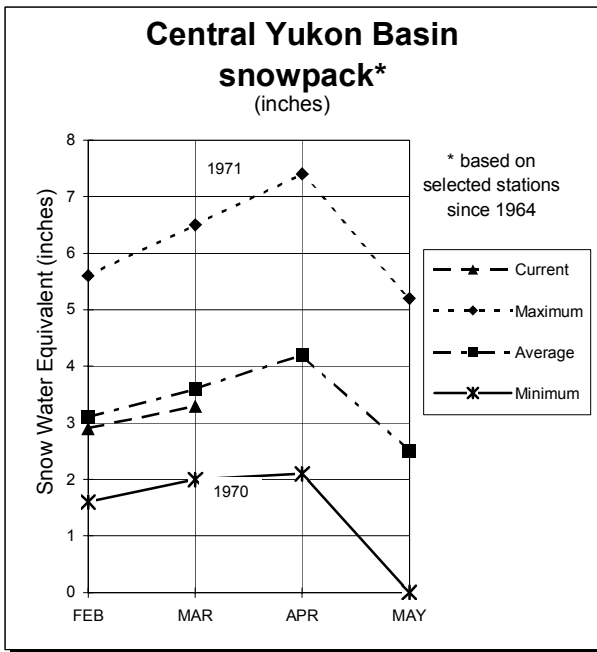
## WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

REGION / RIVER BASIN	# COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEAR AS LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Above Whitehorse/ Tetlin	9	128	112
Dawson	3	77	86
Stewart/ Pelly	12	73	71
White River	6	91	102



# Central Yukon Basin

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

The western edge of the basin along the Dalton Highway is near to above normal, with the Seven Mile course 113 percent of normal and Hess Creek 94 percent. The White Mountain snow course water contents are 64 percent of normal and the water contents from Fort Yukon to Eagle (Mission Creek) are near 70 percent of normal. Precipitation at Eagle Summit is 12 percent greater than last year with 3.7 inches having accumulated since October 1<sup>st</sup>.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Fairbanks: (907) 479-3159.

# Central Yukon Basin

## SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
Borealis	1330	2/28/02	16	2.8	21	3.4	27	4.4
Boundary	3500	2/27/02	20	4.0	22	4.6	24	4.6
Cathedral Creek	1800	3/01/02	18	2.5	New	---	--	---
Chicken Airstrip	1650	2/27/02	16	2.8	17	3.3	16	2.7
Circle City	600	3/01/02	17	2.3	23	3.4	25	3.9
Circle Hot Springs	860	3/01/02	16	2.5	22	3.3	22	3.7
Coal Creek	1000	3/01/02	15	1.8	New	---	--	---
Copper Creek	2000	3/01/02	14	2.7	New	---	--	---
Fort Yukon	425	3/05/02	14	2.4	23	4.4	19	3.2
Fossil	1400	2/28/02	16	3.0	22	3.9	28	4.7
Graphite Lake	600	3/04/02	11	1.5	20	3.4	--	---
Hess Creek	1000	2/28/02	22	4.5	28	5.0	25	4.8
Lower Beaver Creek	400	3/04/02	18	2.9	24	4.2	--	---
Mission Creek	900	2/28/02	14	2.4	18	3.5	18	3.6
Mt. Fairplay	3100	2/27/02	20	4.0	21	4.3	20	3.8
Old Crow	840	3/01/02	23	3.7	35	6.8	24	3.9
Riff's Ridge	2130	2/23/02	21	3.1	32	6.4	27	5.1
Seven Mile	600	2/28/02	27	5.2	30	5.2	26	4.6
Step Mountain	2850	3/01/02	0	0.0	New	---	--	---
Thirty Mile	1350	2/28/02	31	6.5	29	8.2	35	7.2
Vunzik Lake	500	3/04/02	19	3.2	16	2.7	--	---
Windy Gap	1900	2/28/02	17	3.0	27	4.8	31	5.2
Wolf	1300	2/28/02	17	3.0	24	3.9	27	4.2

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX *	MIN **
Yukon River At Stevens Village	Apr- Jul	48200	47975	100	113	86

\* Max is 90 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

\*\* Min is 10 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

## PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup>

PRECIPITATION GAUGE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	71- 2000 AVE	% OF AVERAGE
Atigun Pass**	4800	2/28/02	4.9	4.8	5.0	98
Chandalar Shelf**	3300	2/28/02	4.4	4.6	4.6	96
Eagle Summit	3650	3/01/02	3.7	3.3	--	---
Fort Yukon	430	--	--	--	---	---
Mission Creek	900	2/28/02	2.5	5.6	4.6	54

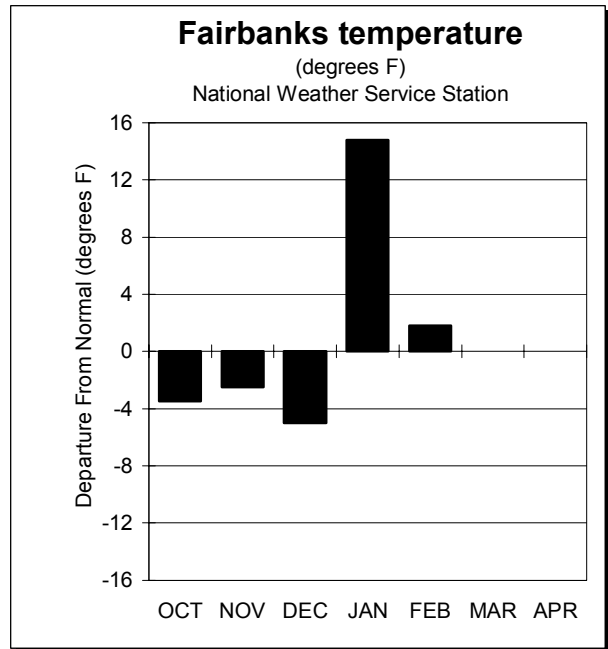
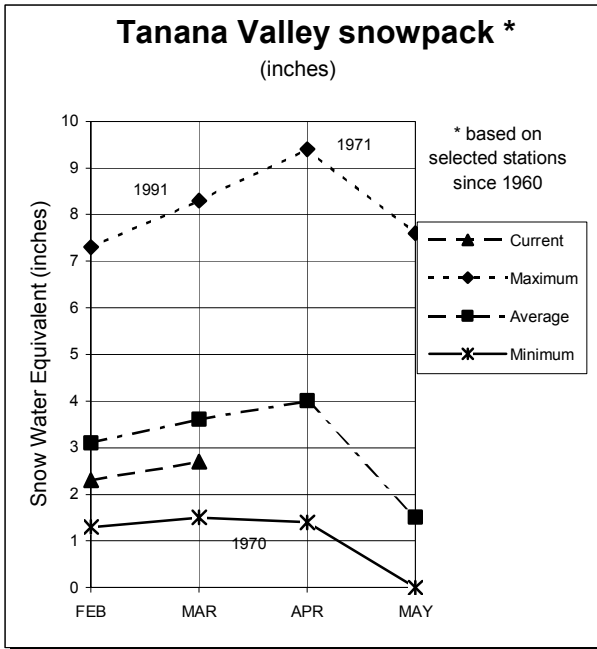
\*\*Wyoming Gauge

## WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

REGION / RIVER BASIN	# COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEAR AS LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Forty Mile	4	84	90
Porcupine (Canada)	4	74	64
Yukon Flats	3	76	85

# Tanana Basin

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

Three snow course water contents in the Tanana region remain less than 50 percent of normal, Fairbanks Field Office is at 44 percent, Bonanza Creek is at 43 percent, and Cleary Summit is at 47 percent. Moving southeast to Tok from Delta Junction, the snow courses water content increases; Tok is 141 percent of normal.

The Chena River near Two Rivers is predicted to flow 73 percent of normal for the April through July time period, 196,000 acre-ft.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Fairbanks: (907) 479-3159 or Delta Junction: (907) 895-4241.

# Tanana Basin

## SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
Bonanza Creek	1150	2/27/02	11	2.0	16	3.5	23	4.7
Caribou Creek	1250	No survey	--	---	--	--	24	4.6
Caribou Snow Pillow	900	No survey	--	---	--	--	24	4.5
Cleary Summit	2230	3/01/02	17	2.8	24	4.3	29	6.0
Colorado Creek	700	3/02/02	18	2.3	16	3.5	23	4.4
Edgar Creek	2400	3/04/02	21	4.1	--	--	--	---
Fairbanks F.O.	450	3/01/02	13	1.8	17	2.8	23	4.1
Faith Creek	1900	3/02/02	16	2.4	20	3.1	27	4.4
Fielding Lake	3000	2/27/02	24	5.4	30	7.9	41	10.2
Fort Greely	1500	2/27/02	13	2.7	17	3.3	18	3.2
French Creek	1800	2/26/02	17	3.7	20	4.6	26	5.9
Gerstle River	1200	2/27/02	14	2.7	16	3.0	19	3.0
Gold King	1700	3/03/02	22	3.5	--	---	--	---
Granite Creek	1240	2/28/02	13	2.6	--	---	19	3.5
Jatahmund Lake	2180	2/28/02	18	3.1	21	3.7	--	---
Kantishna	1550	2/26/02	15	2.8	26	4.4	--	---
Lake Minchumina	730	2/26/02	15	2.1	16	2.2	21	4.0
Mentasta Pass	2430	2/27/02	18	3.7	26	5.4	26	5.8
Paradise Hill	2200	2/28/02	20	3.5	21	3.4	--	---
Ptarmigan Airstrip	2400	3/05/02	9	1.9	--	---	--	---
Ptarmigan Creek	2230	3/02/02	16	2.5	20	2.9	17	3.1
Rock Creek Bottom	2250	2/26/02	14	2.8	--	--	--	---
Rock Creek Ridge	2600	No survey	--	--	15	2.6	---	--
Shaw Creek Flats	980	2/26/02	13	2.5	14	2.5	17	3.1
Tok Junction	1650	2/27/02	22	4.5	22	4.1	19	3.2
Upper Wood River	2400	3/04/02	19	3.1	--	--	--	---

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX *	MIN **
Tanana River at Fairbanks	Apr- Jul	7100	7110	100	113	88
Little Chena River nr Fairbanks	Apr- Jul	78	55	71	102	39
Chena River nr Two Rivers	Apr- Jul	270	200	74	114	34
Salcha River nr Salchaket	Apr- Jul	625	485	78	115	40
Tanana River at Nenana	Apr- Jul	9000	8510	95	110	79

\* Max is 90 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

\*\* Min is 10 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

## PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup>

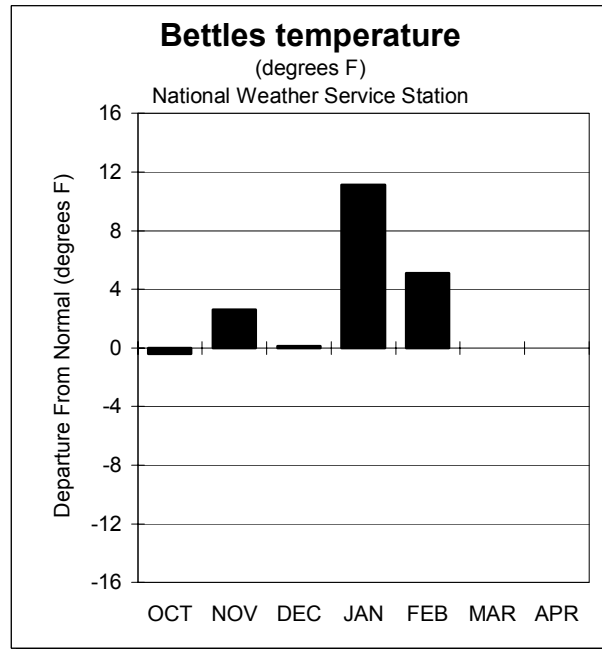
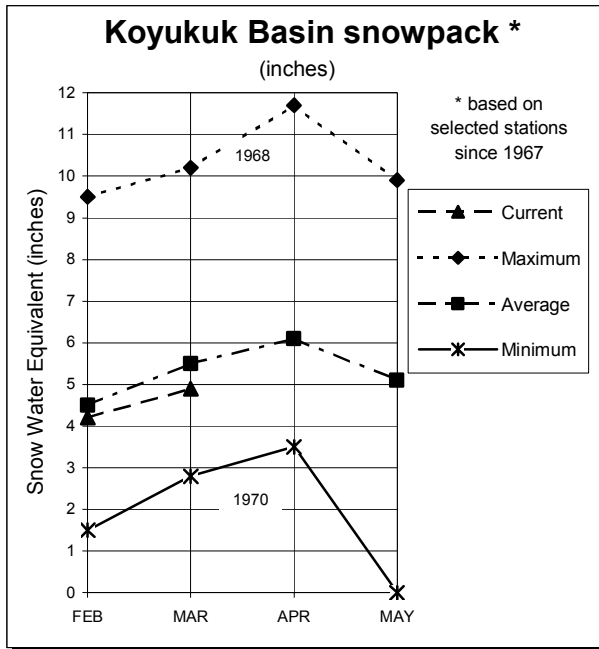
PRECIPITATION GAUGE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	71- 2000 AVE	% OF AVERAGE
Fairbanks Field Off.	450	3/01/02	2.1	2.8	4.2	50
Granite Creek	1240	2/28/02	2.3	2.3	3.5	66
Monument Creek	1850	2/28/02	3.0	3.0	4.0	75
Mt. Ryan	2800	2/28/02	2.9	4.0	5.9	49
Munson Ridge	3100	2/28/02	4.0	4.1	6.5	62
Rhoads Creek	1240	2/28/02	2.3	2.0	3.2	72

## WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

REGION / RIVER BASIN	# COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEAR	AS LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Chatanika	--	--	--	--
Chena Basin	3	71	54	
Lower Tanana Valley	7	90	59	
Mid Tanana Valley (Delta Jct)	5	77	67	
Upper Tanana Valley (Tok)	2	97	125	

# Western Interior Basins

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

In the Kuskokwim river basin, Lake Minchumina snow course water content is 52 percent of normal, McGrath dropped to 74 percent and Purkeypile appears to be near 83 percent of normal.

To the north the Koyukuk Basin snow course water equivalents vary from 106 percent of normal at Lake Todatonten to 90 percent of normal at Table Mountain with the five snow courses average being 94 percent for the basin.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Anchorage: (907) 271-2424.

# Western Interior Basins

## SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
<b>KOYUKUK</b>								
Bettles Field	640	No report	--	--	30	5.8	30	6.1
Bonanza Forks	900	2/28/02	24	4.9	28	5.0	26	5.1
Coldfoot	1040	2/28/02	24	5.1	28	4.8	30	6.0
Disaster Creek	1550	3/01/02	23	3.7	22	3.5	22	3.6
Kaldoyeit	580	3/01/02	22	4.5	14	2.4	--	---
Kanuti Chalatna	550	3/01/02	27	5.3	28	5.0	--	---
Kanuti Kilolitna	550	3/01/02	28	5.8	24	4.1	--	---
Lake Todatonten	550	2/25/02	31	5.4	27	5.0	27	5.1
Minnkokut	580	3/01/02	34	6.1	32	6.2	--	---
Nolitna	560	3/01/02	27	5.5	28	5.2	--	---
Table Mountain	2200	3/01/02	21	3.3	23	5.0	23	4.1
<b>KUSKOKWIM</b>								
Lake Minchumina	730	2/26/02	15	2.1	16	2.2	21	4.0
McGrath	340	3/07/02	23	4.2	28	5.9	30	5.7
Purkeypile Mine	2030	2/26/02	18	3.8	25	4.6	21	4.6
Telaquana Lake	1550	3/01/02	23	4.5	14	2.9	--	---
Two Lakes	1150	No survey	--	---	--	---	--	---
Upper Twin Lakes	2000	3/01/02	30	5.5	28	6.4	--	---
<b>LOWER YUKON</b>								
Grouch Creek	220	No survey	--	--	22	3.5	--	---
Holikachuk	100	3/06/02	43	9.7	34	7.8	--	---
Horsefly Creek	180	3/06/02	36	7.9	22	2.9	--	---
Innoko Inn	200	3/06/02	26	4.5	22	3.0	--	---
Menotl Creek	380	3/06/02	46	10.8	45	11.7	--	---
Middle Innoko	150	3/06/02	42	9.5	27	6.2	--	---
Tozikaket	600	2/25/02	20	3.2	18	4.0	22	3.9
Upper Innoko	180	3/06/02	34	7.7	36	7.9	--	---
Wapoo Hills	220	3/06/02	33	7.5	26	5.5	--	---
Yankee Slough	100	3/06/02	45	10.3	38	9.1	--	---
Yetna River	120	No Report	--	--	26	6.0	--	---

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX *	MIN **
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek	Apr- Jul	10500	11000	105	138	72

\* Max is 90 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

\*\* Min is 10 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

## PRECIPITATION DATA

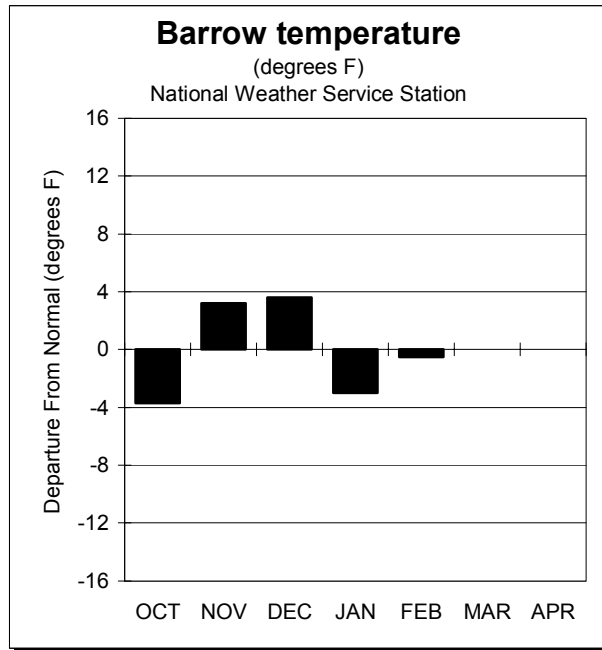
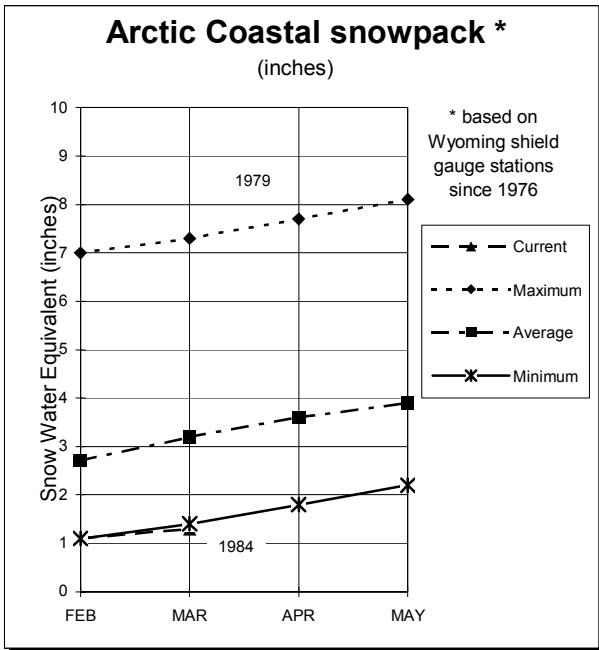
PRECIPITATION GAUGE	ELEVATION	DATE	INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1 <sup>st</sup>			
			THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	71- 2000 AVE	% OF AVERAGE
Bettles Field	640	No Report	---	5.0	5.7	81
Coldfoot	1040	2/28/02	5.1	5.0	5.5	93
Gobblers Knob	2030	2/28/02	6.9	3.3	6.1	113

## WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

REGION / RIVER BASIN	# COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEAR AS LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Koyukuk	5	96	94
Upper Kuskokwim	4	93	80

# Arctic and Kotzebue Sound

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

### Arctic

A record low precipitation is still being set at Barrow with the total caught at 1.2 inches since October 1<sup>st</sup>. No report from the Prudhoe Bay gauge.

### Kotzebue

The Kugaruk snow course received little snow this past month and the Red Dog precipitation gauge went up .4 inches to 3.0 inches for the year, 59 percent of normal.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Anchorage: (907) 271-2424.

# Arctic and Kotzebue Sound

## SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
<b>March</b>								
Kugarak	225	3/02/02	18	3.7	New	---	--	---

## PRECIPITATION DATA

PRECIPITATION GAUGE	ELEVATION	DATE	INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1 <sup>st</sup>		71- 2000 AVE	% OF AVERAGE
			THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR		
<b>ARCTIC</b>						
Atigun Camp	3400	2/28/02	2.2	1.7	4.5	49
Atigun Pass	4800	2/28/02	4.9	4.8	7.8	63
Barrow	25	2/28/02	1.2	1.7	2.6	46
Imnaviat Creek	3050	2/28/02	2.4	2.4	3.4	71
Prudhoe Bay	30	No Report	---	---	3.4	--
<b>KOTZEBUE SOUND</b>						
Red Dog	950	2/28/02	3.0	3.4	5.1	59

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX *	MIN **
Kuparuk River nr Deadhorse	Apr- Jul	795	674	85	115	55
Sagvanirtok River nr Pump Station 3	Apr- Jul	685	580	85	106	64

\* Max is 90 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

\*\* Min is 10 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

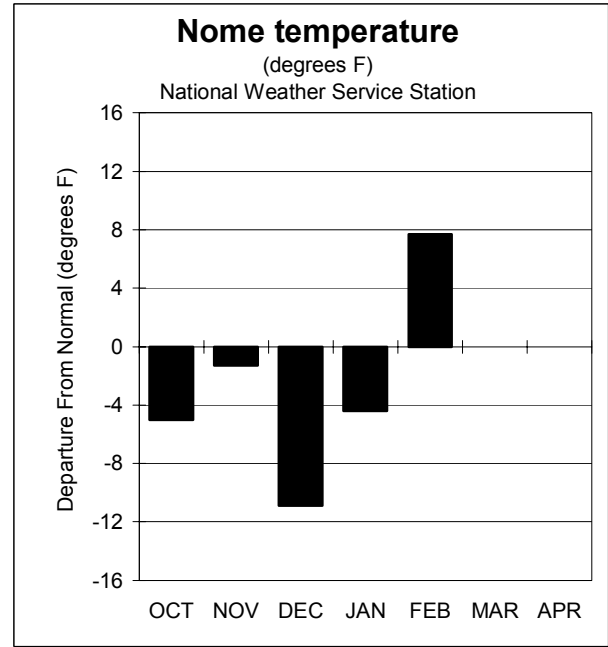
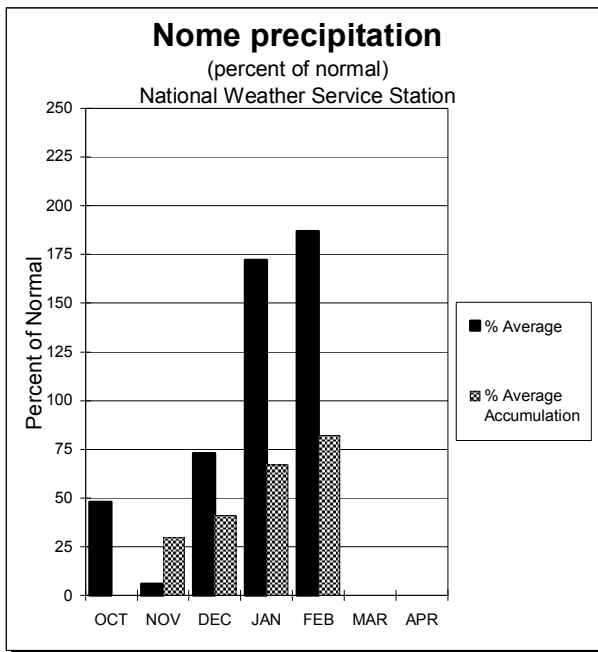
## WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

REGION / RIVER BASIN	# COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEAR AS LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Arctic Coast	1	71	46
Dalton Highway	3	107	60



# Norton Sound / Southwest Delta / Bristol Bay

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

### Norton Sound

UAF's Reindeer Research Program SNOTEL site snow depth went up 8 inches to 19 inches the month of February. The precipitation went to 1.2 inches.

### Southwest Delta / Bristol Bay

Port Alsworth has significantly more snow than last year, almost twice as much water content. Fishtrap Lake and Upper Twin Lakes are 71 percent and 86 percent of last year, respectively.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Nome: (907) 443-6096.

# Norton Sound / Southwest Delta / Bristol Bay

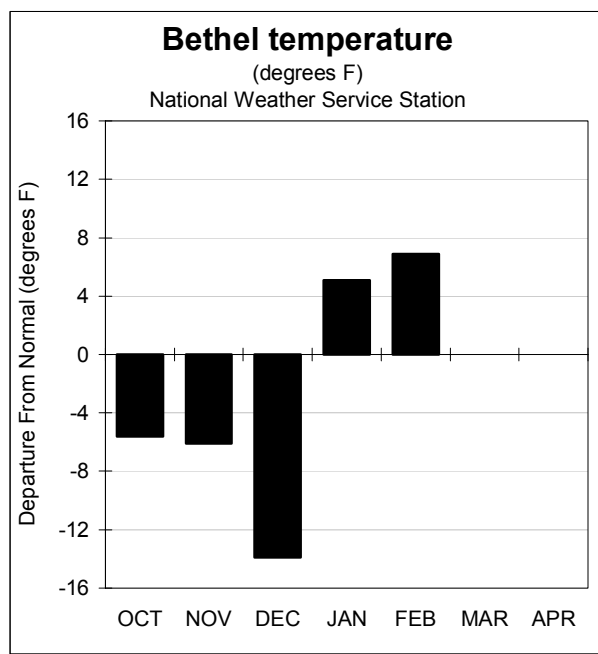
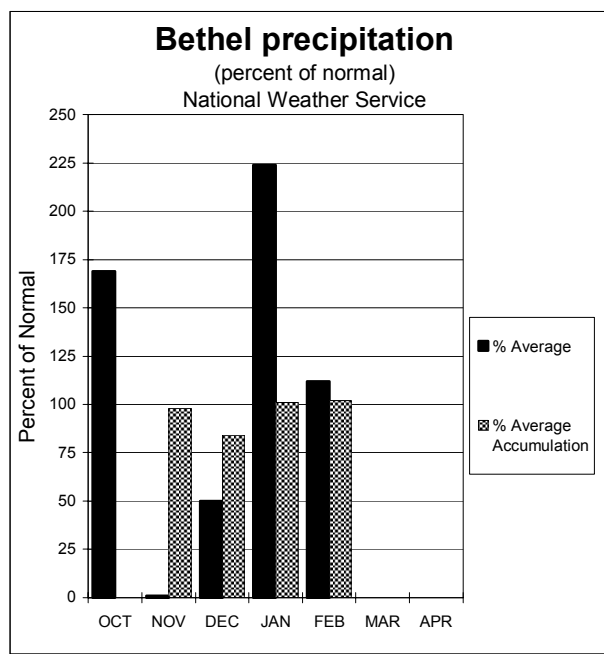
## SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
<b><u>BRISTOL BAY</u></b>								
Brooks Camp	150	No survey	--	---	--	---	--	---
Fishtrap Lake	1800	3/01/02	42	9.6	50	13.6	--	---
Port Alsworth	270	3/01/02	20	5.9	11	3.1	--	---
Three Forks	900	No survey	--	---	--	---	--	---
Upper Twin Lakes	2000	3/01/02	30	5.5	28	6.4	--	---

## PRECIPITATION DATA

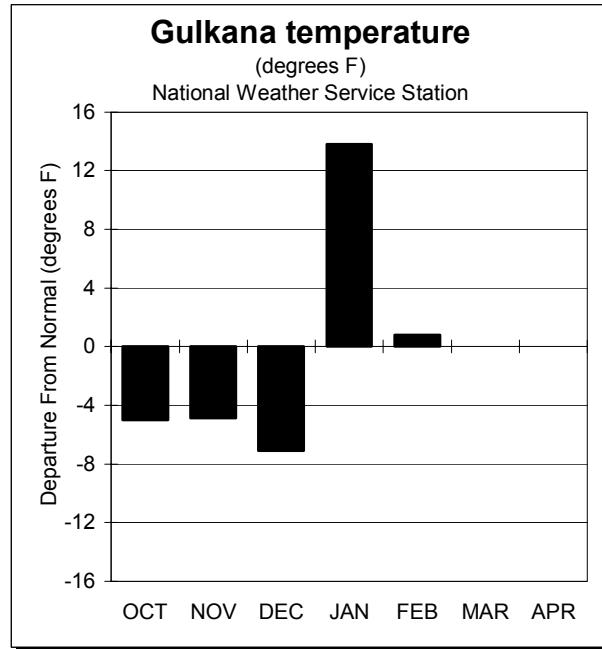
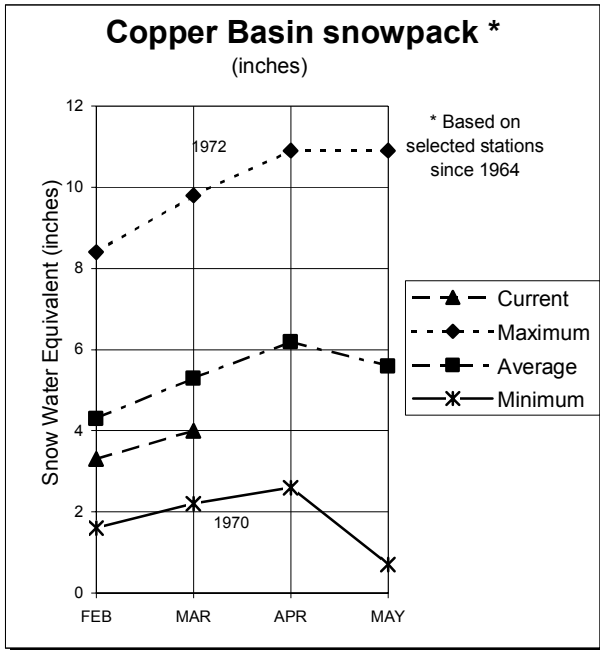
INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1 <sup>st</sup>						
Precipitation Gauge	Elevation	Date	This Year	Last Year	71-2000 Ave	% of Average
<b><u>NORTON SOUND</u></b>						
Pargon Creek	100	2/28/02	3.5	3.6	---	---

\*Katmai National Park and Preserve



# Copper Basin

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

Tazlina and Kenny Lake snow water contents received 150 percent increase this month. Even with this they are still below normal. For the rest of the basin, most had a less than 50 percent increase for the month of February. The Basin's percent of average reflect this, varying from 61 percent to 76 percent of average.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Delta Junction: (907) 895-4241 or Anchorage (907) 271-2424.

## Copper Basin

### SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
Chistochina	2170	2/27/02	14	2.6	17	3.1	22	3.5
Dadina Lake	2160	No survey	--	---	--	---	29	5.1
Haggard Creek	2540	2/27/02	21	4.6	26	5.4	27	5.6
Horsepasture Pass	4300	2/27/02	22	4.2	33	7.5	28	5.6
Kenny Lake School	1300	3/05/02	19	2.5	12	2.3	18	3.4
Lake Louise	2400	2/26/02	19	3.1	25	4.7	22	4.0
Little Nelchina	2650	2/26/02	19	3.4	30	5.9	--	---
Mentasta Pass	2430	2/27/02	18	3.7	26	5.4	26	5.8
Monsoon Lake	3100	No survey	--	---	--	---	28	5.6
Paxson	2650	2/27/02	21	4.6	27	5.8	31	6.6
Sanford River	2280	No survey	--	---	--	---	28	5.4
St. Anne Lake	1990	2/27/02	19	3.4	30	6.2	25	4.9
Tazlina	1220	3/06/02	24	3.4	12	2.2	--	---
Tolsona Creek	2000	2/26/02	17	2.7	25	4.9	22	3.8
Tsaina River	1650	3/05/02	54	12.1	67	16.4	56	15.7
Twin Lakes	2400	2/27/02	21	3.6	32	6.7	31	5.9
Worthington Glacier	2100	3/05/02	72	21.9	91	27.8	68	21.6

### STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX *	MIN **
Gulkana River at Sourdough	Apr- Jul	475	450	90	121	58

\* Max is 90 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

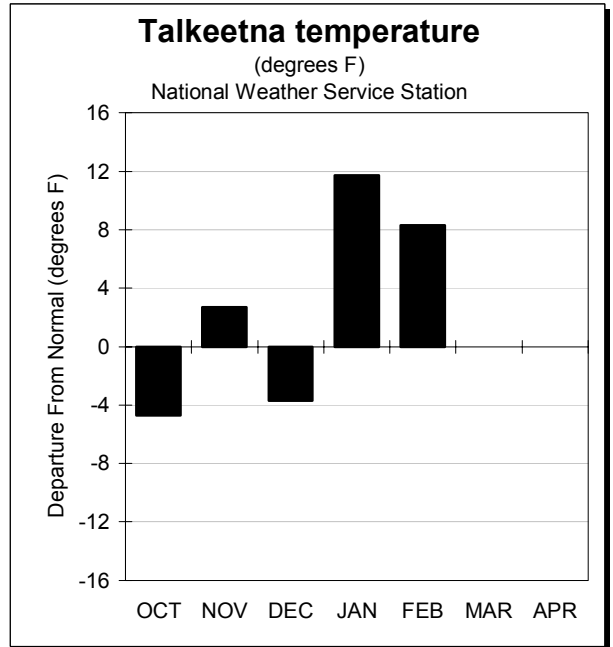
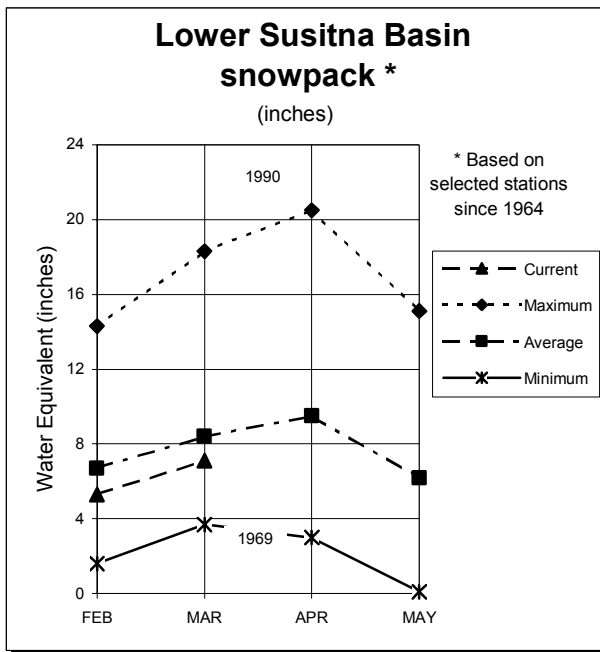
\*\* Min is 10 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

### WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

REGION / RIVER BASIN	# COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEAR	AS LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Alaska Range	3		72	61
Basin Floor	5		68	76
Chugach Range	3		59	67
Talkeetna Mountains	3		56	76
Wrangell Mountains	No Report		--	---

# Matanuska - Susitna Basins

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

The Little Susitna and Independence Mine snow course water contents are both 66 percent of normal. The forecasted volume flow for the Little Susitna River is 81 percent of normal for the April through July period, with normal precipitation.

The Peters Hill snow courses south of Mt. McKinley are 82 percent of normal. Nugget Bench has the highest percent of normal water content at 93 percent.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Wasilla: (907) 373-6492.

## Matanuska - Susitna Basins

### SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
Alexander Lake	160	3/05/02	42	10.0	46	11.7	43	10.7
Archangel Road	2200	2/25/02	36	8.5	44	10.3	47	13.5
Bentalit Lodge	150	no survey	--	---	41	9.4	--	---
Blueberry Hill	1200	2/27/02	28	6.0	56	15.3	53	13.8
Chelatna Lake	1650	3/04/02	38	9.0	32	7.8	42	10.0
Clearwater Lake	2650	2/27/02	19	3.4	29	5.5	26	5.1
Denali View	700	2/27/02	25	5.0	47	11.8	46	11.4
Dutch Hills	3100	3/04/02	60	16.0	74	25.2	76	23.0
E. Fork Chulitna	1800	2/27/02	30	6.4	51	12.5	51	12.7
Fishhook Basin	3300	3/04/02	44	12.8	--	--	58	17.7
Fog Lakes	2120	2/27/02	20	3.2	21	4.1	26	5.3
Independence Mine	3550	3/04/02	50	14.0	--	--	68	21.2
Lake Louise	2400	2/26/02	19	3.1	25	4.7	22	4.0
Little Susitna	1700	2/25/02	32	7.6	37	8.8	42	11.6
Monahan Flat	2710	2/27/02	23	3.8	33	7.1	34	7.4
Moose Creek Ranch	450	2/26/02	17	3.3	--	---	--	---
Nugget Bench	2010	3/04/02	46	12.0	--	---	51	12.9
Ramsdyke Creek	2220	3/04/02	60	16.0	70	21.0	66	18.9
Sheep Mountain	2900	2/26/02	21	3.9	37	8.3	26	5.4
Skwentna	160	3/05/02	36	8.8	47	11.4	43	10.5
Square Lake	2950	3/01/02	19	3.2	20	4.2	22	3.8
Susitna Valley High	500	2/27/02	25	5.6	30	6.0	39	8.3
Talkeetna	350	2/27/02	19	4.2	30	6.6	32	7.6
Tokositna Valley	850	3/04/02	61	14.0	74	21.5	61	15.7
Tyone River	2500	2/28/02	25	4.5	22	4.1	--	---
Willow Airstrip	200	2/27/02	24	5.4	17	4.0	30	6.9

### STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX *	MIN **
Little Susitna River nr Palmer	Apr- Jul	86	65	81	98	64
Talkeetna River nr Talkeetna	Apr- Jul	1630	1407	86	103	69

\* Max is 90 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

\*\* Min is 10 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

### PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup>

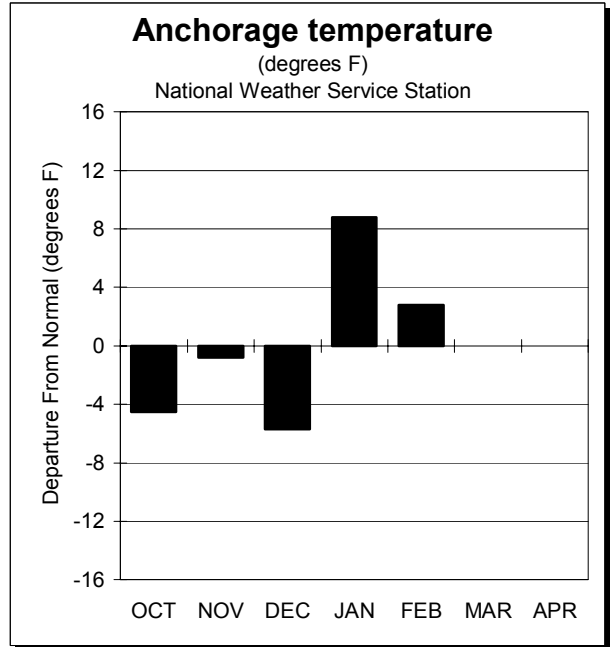
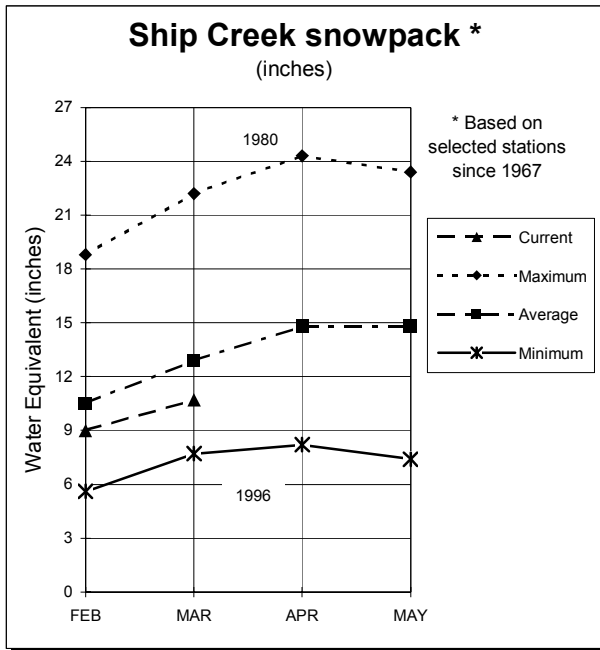
PRECIPITATION GAUGE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	71- 2000 AVE	% OF AVERAGE
Independence Mine	3550	--	---	--	--	--
Susitna Valley High	375	2/28/02	5.1	8.3	10.3	50

### WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

REGION / RIVER BASIN	# COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEAR AS LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Lower Susitna	4	84	80
Matanuska/ Little Susitna	5	74	67
Peter Hills	4	74	82
Upper Susitna	4	59	64

# Northern Cook Inlet

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

Most of the region, from low elevation to higher elevation measurements, is near normal and had a normal increase in water content from last month. Indian Pass snow water content is 76 percent of normal and is the factor that reduces the forecasted flow for Ship Creek. The April through July volume is predicted to be 52,000 acre-ft, 90 percent of normal, with normal precipitation for the period.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office:  
Wasilla: (907) 373-6492 Anchorage: (907) 272-2424.

# Northern Cook Inlet

## SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
Anchorage Hillside	2080	2/27/02	34	8.9	34	8.2	35	8.9
Arctic Ski Bowl	3000	3/05/02	44	14.3	27	7.4	28	11.9
Arctic Valley #1	500	3/05/02	20	4.9	10	2.5	17	3.9
Arctic Valley #2	1000	3/05/02	27	6.4	15	3.0	20	4.6
Arctic Valley #3	1450	3/05/02	29	6.6	25	5.5	28	6.9
Arctic Valley #4	2030	3/05/02	25	5.7	26	4.9	27	6.9
Chuitna Plateau	1540	3/05/02	75	26.5	103	38.6	65	20.8
Congahbuna Lake	500	3/05/02	31	8.1	--	---	32	8.9
Granite Point	250	3/05/02	8	2.5	--	---	22	5.6
Indian Pass	2350	3/01/02	48	14.9	82	27.3	64	19.7
Kincaid Park	250	3/01/02	17	4.0	16	3.2	--	---
Lone Ridge	1680	3/05/02	69	23.5	99	37.1	79	28.8
Mt. Alyeska	1540	3/01/02	90	30.1	--	---	94	30.7
Point Mackenzie	200	2/27/02	21	4.3	17	3.4	21	4.8
Portage Valley	50	2/27/02	46	13.4	19	4.8	39	12.9
South Campbell Creek	1200	2/27/02	24	6.1	19	4.6	26	6.2

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX *	MIN **
Ship Creek nr Anchorage	Apr- Jul	58	52	90	112	67

\* Max is 90 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

\*\* Min is 10 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

## PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup>

PRECIPITATION GAUGE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	71- 2000 AVE	% OF AVERAGE
Indian Pass	2350	2/28/02	18.2	24.6	22.0	83
Mt. Alyeska	1540	3/01/02	39.5	40.0	37.7	105
Point Mackenzie	200	2/26/02	4.0	5.7	7.4	54

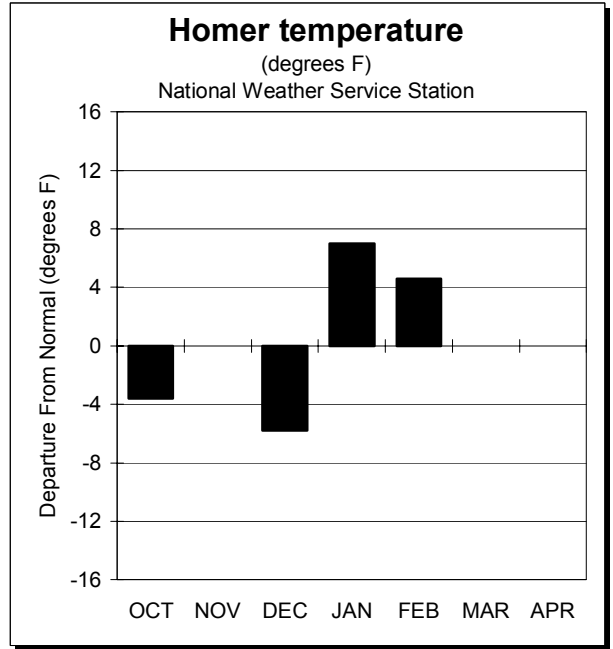
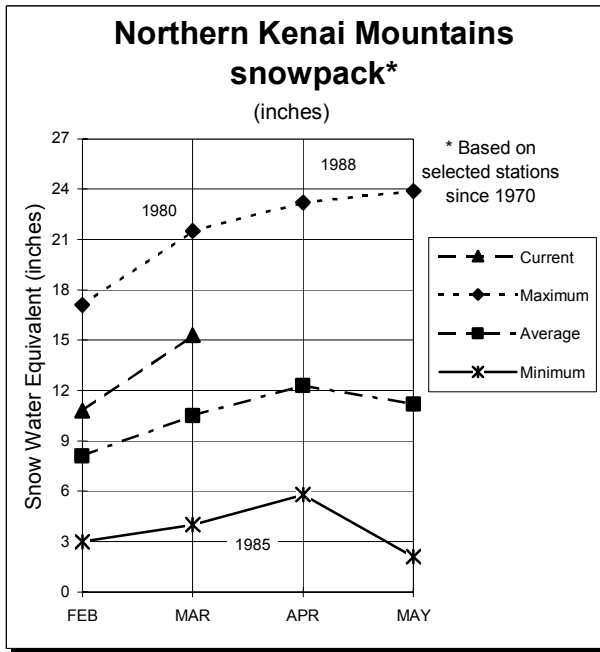
## WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

REGION / RIVER BASIN	# COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEAR AS LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Beluga	3	68	96
Campbell Creek Headwaters	2	117	99
Ship Creek	3	78	84
Turnagain Arm	1	72	98



# Kenai Peninsula

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

Nuka Glacier snow course above Bradley Lake is 185 percent of normal water content, within 4 inches of last year's record. On the rim above Homer, the snow course water contents are 8 percent greater than last year with the McNeil Canyon having 3.3 inches more, 125 percent of last year. The Northern Kenai Mountains are 2 percent ahead of last year with the lower elevation snow courses, like Moose Pass, being much above last year's record. The Kenai River is predicted to flow, for the April - July period, at 108 percent of normal, with normal precipitation for the period.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Homer: (907) 235-8177.

# Kenai Peninsula

## SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
Bertha Creek	950	2/26/02	74	20.5	58	18.3	51	14.7
Bridge Creek	1300	2/28/02	58	16.2	56	15.3	38	10.2
Cooper Lake	1200	2/28/02	66	19.5	62	20.5	47	13.2
Demonstration Forest	780	2/28/02	38	9.5	20	5.7	28	7.7
Eagle Lake	1400	2/27/02	68	17.5	60	17.8	38	10.7
Grandview	1100	2/28/02	85	27.1	96	31.0	75	24.7
Grouse Creek Divide	700	2/28/02	73	23.3	54	16.5	51	15.1
Jean Lake	620	2/28/02	22	6.0	12	2.8	17	3.8
Kenai Moose Pens	300	3/05/02	20	4.5	12	3.3	17	3.8
Kenai Summit	1390	2/26/02	49	14.0	64	16.6	44	12.3
McNeil Canyon	1320	2/28/02	53	16.4	45	13.1	36	9.5
Moose Pass	700	2/26/02	35	11.3	24	8.2	22	6.3
Nanwalek	500	No survey	--	---	--	---	--	---
Nuka Glacier	1250	2/27/02	125	49.7	123	53.7	69	26.9
Port Graham	300	3/04/02	35	12.9	--	---	--	---
Snug Harbor Road	500	2/28/02	26	6.6	10	3.0	20	5.1
Summit Creek	1400	2/26/02	44	11.0	52	14.7	38	10.4
Turnagain Pass	1880	2/28/02	120	42.5	144	52.7	92	29.2

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX *	MIN **
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	Apr- Jul	925	1000	108	120	97

\* Max is 90 percentile of subsequent precipitation events  
 \*\* Min is 10 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

## PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup>

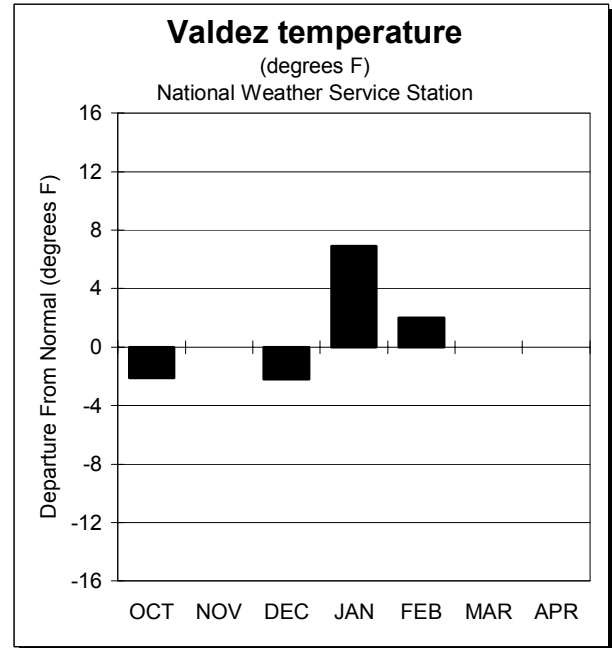
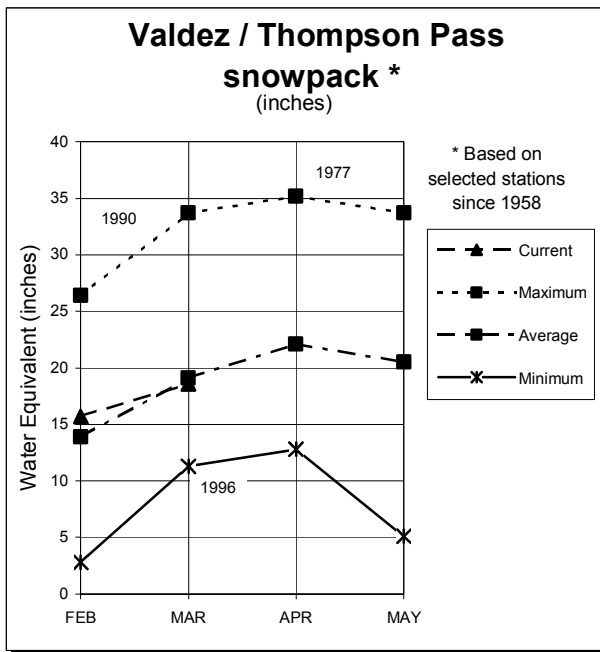
PRECIPITATION GAUGE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	71- 2000 AVE	% OF AVERAGE
Cooper Lake	1200	2/28/02	22.5	30.3	20.7	109
Grandview	1100	2/28/02	36.5	53.6	33.1	110
Grouse Creek Divide	700	2/28/02	35.8	56.9	30.6	117
Kenai Moose Pens	300	3/05/02	5.4	7.1	7.3	81
McNeil Canyon	1320	2/28/02	17.3	20.4	136	127
Middle Fork Bradley	2300	No Report	---	42.4	30.6	---
Nuka Glacier	1250	No Report	---	69.5	48.1	---
Port Graham	300	3/04/02	37.8	49.1	---	---
Summit Creek	1400	3/01/02	17.4	20.2	14.3	122
Turnagain Pass	1880	2/28/02	37.2	53.9	33.2	112

## WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

REGION / RIVER BASIN	# COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEAR AS LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Bradley Lake	1	93	185
Ninilchik Dome	3	108	165
Northern Kenai Mountains	7	102	136
Northern Kenai Flats	1	136	118

# Western Gulf

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

The Sugarloaf Mountain snow course water content is 90 percent of normal. This site above the Solomon Gulch Hydroelectric plant has received 90 percent of normal precipitation since October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Valdez and Worthington Glacier snow course water contents are near normal, while Lowe River is above and Tsina River is below.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Delta Junction: (907) 895-4241.

# Western Gulf

## SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
Exit Glacier	400	3/08/02	67	22.8	53	16.6	--	----
Grouse Creek Divide	700	2/28/02	73	23.3	54	16.5	51	15.1
Lowe River	600	2/05/02	61	16.9	54	14.8	53	15.1
Nuka Glacier	1250	2/27/02	125	49.7	123	53.7	69	26.9
Sugarloaf Mountain	530	2/27/02	72	20.9	101	24.2	79	23.3
Tsina River	1650	3/05/02	54	12.1	67	16.4	56	15.7
Valdez	50	2/05/02	54	14.5	59	16.4	51	15.5
Worthington Glacier	2100	3/05/02	72	21.9	91	27.8	68	21.6

## PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup>

Precipitation Gauge	Elevation	Date	This Year	Last Year	71-2000 Ave	% of Average
Grouse Creek Divide	700	2/28/02	35.8	56.9	30.6	117
Nuka Glacier**	1250	delayed	---	69.5	48.1	---
Solomon Gulch	36	2/28/02	32.0	44.2	35.2	91
Sugarloaf Mountain	530	2/25/02	31.9	47.3	35.4	90

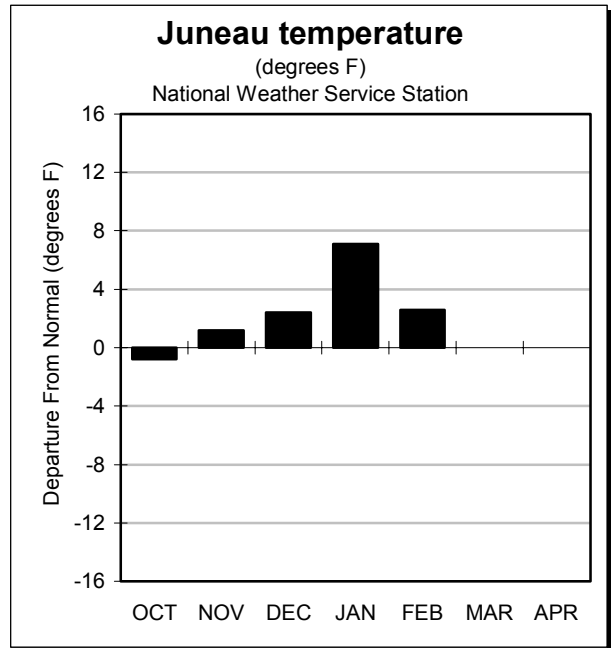
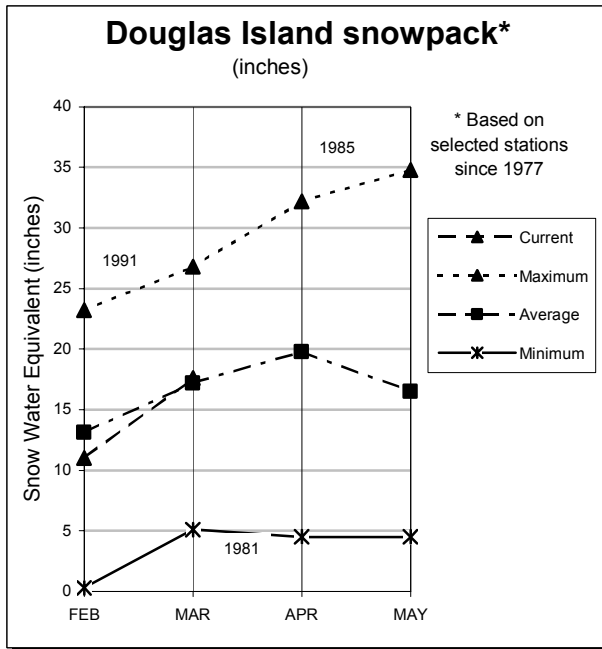
\*\*Wyoming Shielded Gauge  
Copper Valley Electric Association

## WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

REGION / RIVER BASIN	# COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEAR AS LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Lowe River (Valdez)	4	77	109

# Southeast

March 1, 2002



## SNOWCOVER:

Petersburg Ridge with 35.2 inches of water content is a record high in its 24<sup>th</sup> year of measurement. Petersburg Reservoir with 13.0 inches of water content is its 3<sup>rd</sup> highest measurement, with 1982 and 1991 being higher. On Douglas Island all three snow courses are above normal water content with Eagle Crest at 125 percent of normal.

For more information contact your Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Anchorage: (907) 271-2424.

# Southeast

## SNOWPACK DATA

SNOWCOURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR		LAST YEAR		1971-2000 AVE.	
			SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT
Cropley Lake	1650	2/28/02	111	26.3	--	---	70	23.9
Eagle Crest	1000	2/28/02	68	20.0	--	---	48	16.1
Fish Creek	500	2/28/02	21	6.6	--	---	20	6
Long Lake	1020	3/01/01	53	15.9	53	15.9	--	---
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	2/28/02	72	15.8	79	23.5	--	---
Petersburg Reservoir	550	2/28/02	51	13.0	0	0.0	18	5.8
Petersburg Ridge	1650	2/28/02	112	35.2	49	14.5	65	21.8
Speel River	280	2/28/02	96	32.0	42	15.3	75	26.8

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	30- YR AVERAGE (1000AF)	50 PERCENTILE	% OF AVERAGE	MAX *	MIN **
Gold Creek nr Juneau	Apr-Jul	33.0	35	106	120	92

\* Max is 90 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

\*\* Min is 10 percentile of subsequent precipitation events

## PRECIPITATION DATA

INCHES ACCUMULATED SINCE OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup>

PRECIPITATION GAUGE	ELEVATION	DATE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	71- 2000 AVE	% OF AVERAGE
Long Lake	820	2/02/02	65.5	79.5	--	---
Snettisham	25	2/28/02	97.0	85.9	95.2	102
Swan Lake	50	2/28/02	85.2	78.5	77.8	109

## WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS

REGION / RIVER BASIN	# COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEAR AS LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Douglas Island	3	197	115
Petersburg	2	332	175
Snettisham	--	--	---



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**Alaska**  
**Basin Outlook Report**  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Anchorage, AK

