

# Alaska Snow Survey Report



**March 1, 2024**

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**Issued by:**

Terry Cosby, Chief  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Washington, D.C.

**Released by:**

Alan McBee  
State Conservationist  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Palmer, Alaska

**Published by:**

Daniel Fisher, Hydrologist  
Tony DeMarco, Hydrologist  
Austin Hart, Hydrologist  
Keegan Krantz, Hydrologic Technician  
Snow, Water and Climate Staff  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Palmer, Alaska

Cover Photo: Snowmachines are used to transport Snow Surveyors along the Taylor Highway near Mount Fairplay.

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# General Overview

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## 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](#).

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### SnowPack

In a monitoring area as large as Alaska, variability is part of the game. And the snowpack on March 1, 2024, shows some variability. There are places with exceptional snowpack, like Thompson Pass. And there are places with a pathetic snowpack, like Kelly Station in Northwest Alaska. Most of the monitoring area is between those two places, and most of the snowpack is reporting above Normal on March 1, 2024.

The biggest climate story from February 2024 in Alaska is going to be the temperature shift. The temperatures at the beginning of the month will almost surely be the coldest of the year and the most noteworthy cold snaps in several years. Kanuti Lake SCAN, a perennial contender for the coldest station in the network, bottomed out with a low temperature of -62 degrees Fahrenheit. The cold snap broke and two weeks later that same station was above freezing. Stations from north of Fairbanks to Southeast Alaska reported temperatures that exceeded 50 degrees during the middle of February. Melt was measured at several snow courses and automated stations during this period, occurring approximately 6 weeks ahead of schedule.

Snowfall in February favored Southwest Alaska and parts of Southcentral Alaska. In Southwest Alaska the Lower Kuskokwim received ample precipitation and snowfall. February precipitation at the Bethel Airport was more than four times Normal and the snow depth sensor here is reporting way above Normal for the date. These storms were producers for the Lower Yukon as well and considerably above Normal monthly increases were measured at the Aerial Markers in this region. Greater than Normal monthly snowfall was also measured at the stations around Valdez, Seward, portions of the Kenai Peninsula and the Susitna. Much of interior received below normal snowfall for the month.

For most of Alaska, March through May is the climatological dry season. As Alaska heads into its dry season snowpacks throughout the state are generally robust. In the Interior, portions of the Copper and Upper Susitna are reporting historic March 1 snowpack. The stations around Anchorage and Valdez are reporting snowpack way above Normal, in some cases historic. So is that of the Lower Yukon. On the other end, Northwest Alaska, the Upper Yukon and the lower elevations of Southeast Alaska are reporting below Normal snowpack on March 1.

# General Overview, Continued

## SnowPack Continued

Alaska Statewide Snowpack	# of Sites	Basin Index	
		Current Percent of Median	Last Year Percent of Median
Upper Yukon Basin	32	94	113
Central Yukon Basin	12	134	129
Tanana Basin	18	109	143
Koyukuk Basin	7	134	134
Kuskokwim Basin	1	73	153
Copper Basin	22	149	137
Matanuska-Susitna Basin	24	124	127
Northern Cook Inlet	13	138	125
Kenai Peninsula	21	122	97
Western Gulf of Alaska	8	148	103
Southeast Alaska	11	99	121

## Precipitation

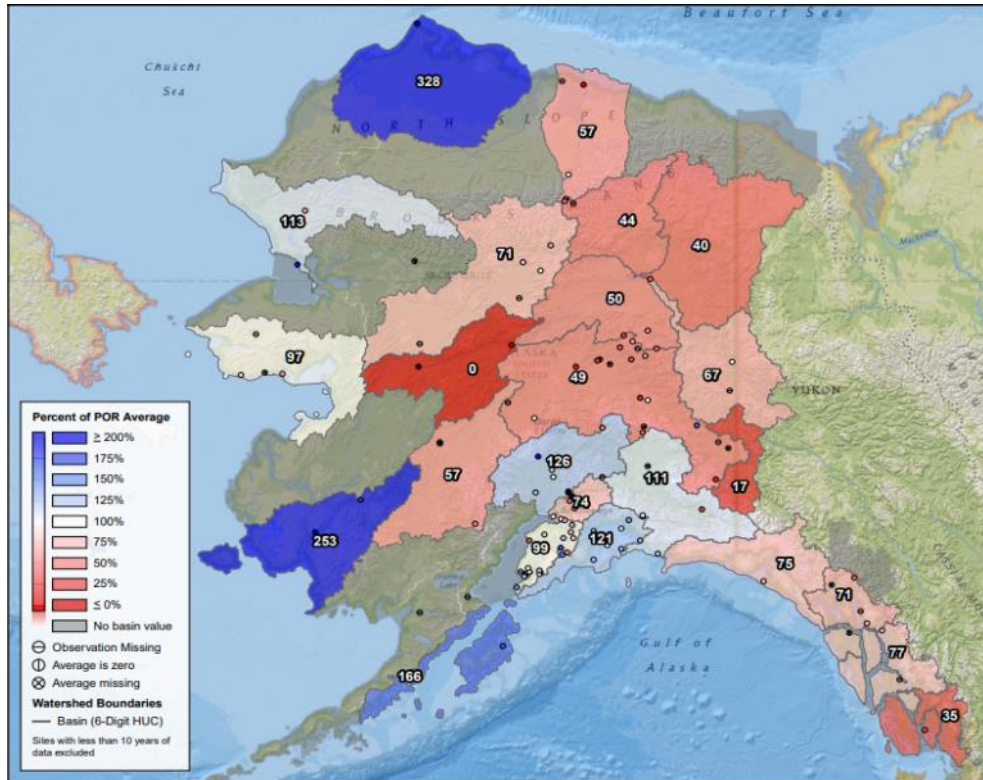
Precipitation trends in February mirror snowfall trends with above Normal Precipitation being reported in Southwest Alaska, the Gulf of Alaska side of the Kenai Peninsula, as well as Valdez and Cordova. Below Normal monthly Precipitation was reported in Southeast Alaska, as well as in the Interior around Fairbanks. With soaring temperatures in the middle of the month some rain was reported.



# Alaska Statewide Precipitation Maps

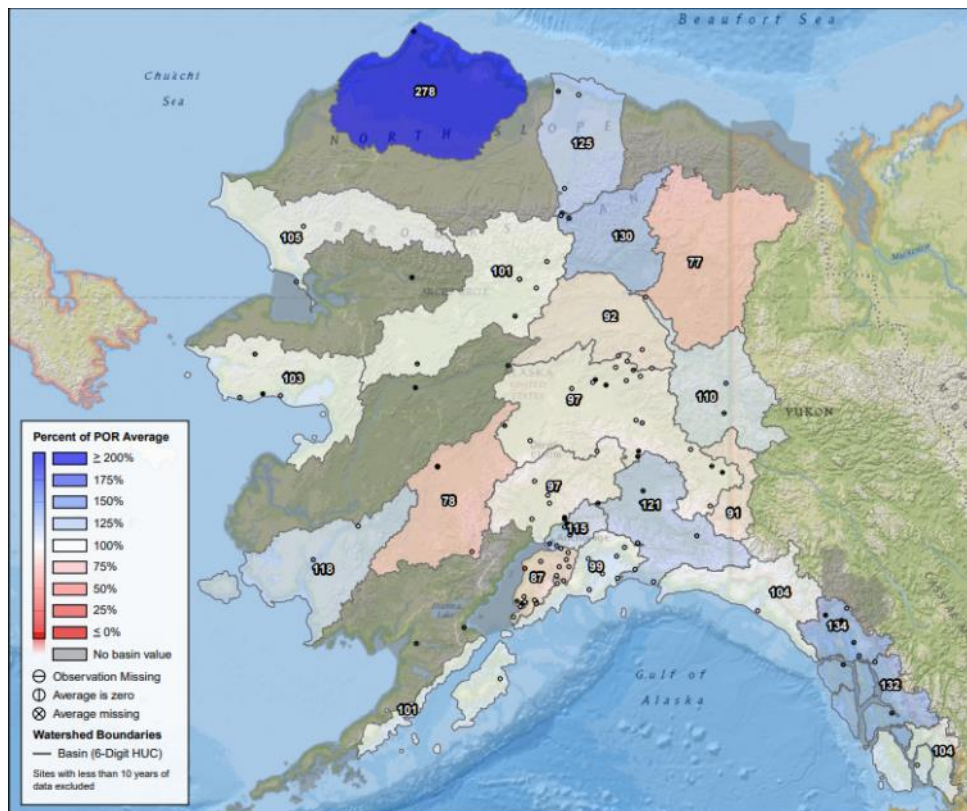
## Monthly Precipitation for February 2024

(% of Period of Record Average)



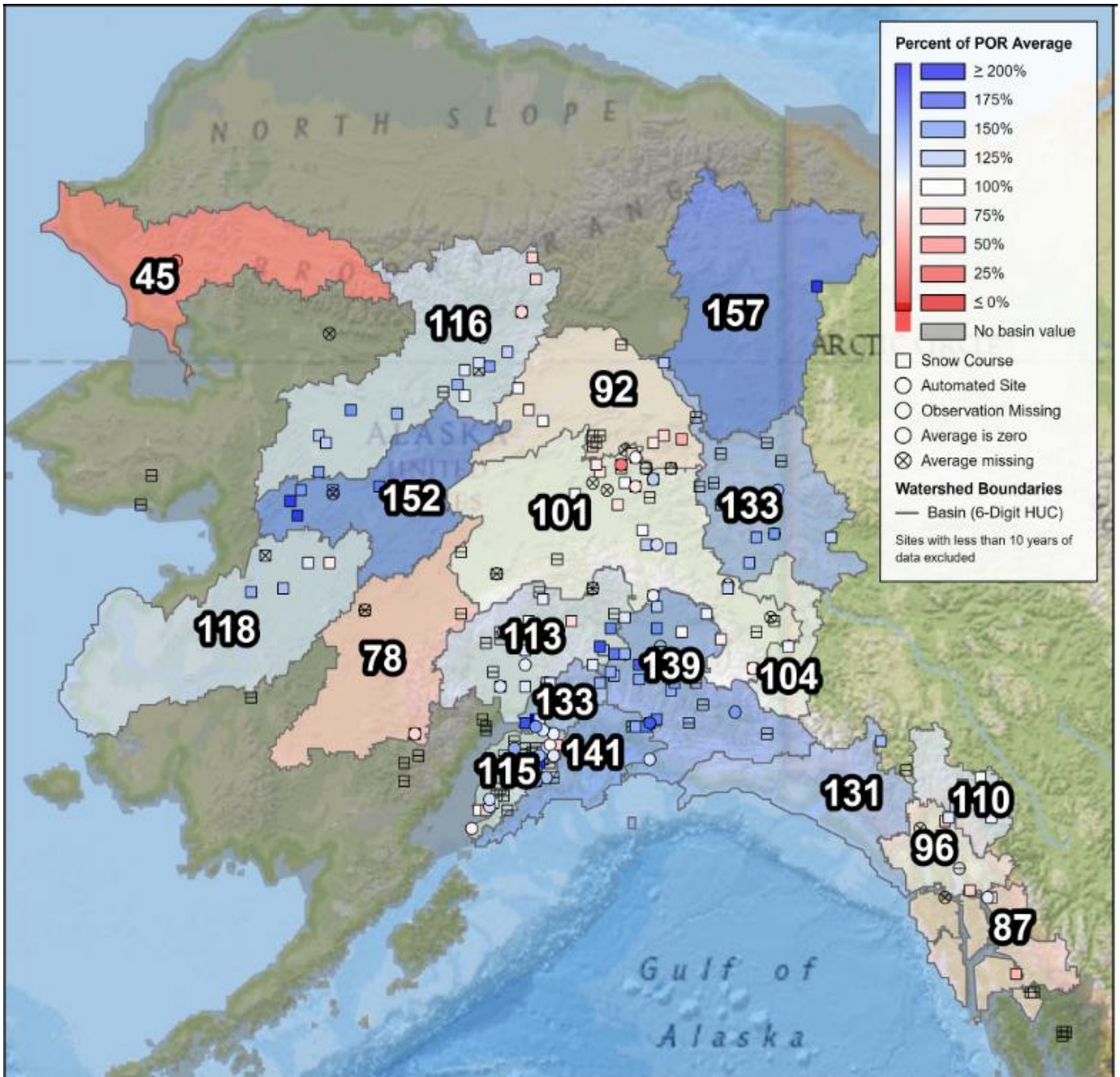
## Water Year-to-date Precipitation (Oct. 1, 2023-Feb 29, 2024)

(% of Period of Record Average)



# Alaska Statewide Snowpack Map

Based on March 1st, 2024 Snow Water Equivalent





# Streamflow Forecasts

<b>FORECAST POINT*</b>	<b>Percent of Ave. Flow</b>	<b>Period</b>
Yukon River at Eagle	101	April - July
Porcupine River nr Int'l Boundary.....	110	April - July
Yukon River near Stevens Village	106	April - July
Tanana River at Fairbanks	105	April - July
Tanana River at Nenana	105	April - July
Little Chena River near Fairbanks	99	April - July
Chena River near Two Rivers	102	April - July
Salcha near Salchaket	101	April - July
Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek	102	April - July
Sagvanirktok River near Pump Station 3	115	April - July
Kuparuk River near Deadhorse	129	April - July
Gulkana River at Sourdough	148	April - July
Little Susitna River near Palmer	113	April - July
Talkeetna River near Talkeetna	105	April - July
Ship Creek near Anchorage	120	April - July
Kenai River at Cooper Landing	104	April - July
Bradley Lake Inflow	—	April - July
Taiya River nr Skagway	114	April - July

## HOW FORECASTS ARE MADE

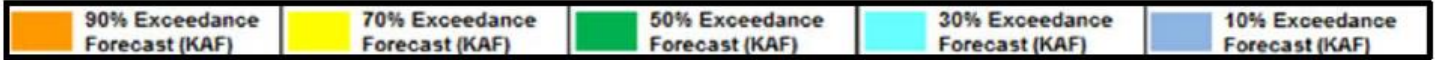
Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of snow water equivalent at selected manual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

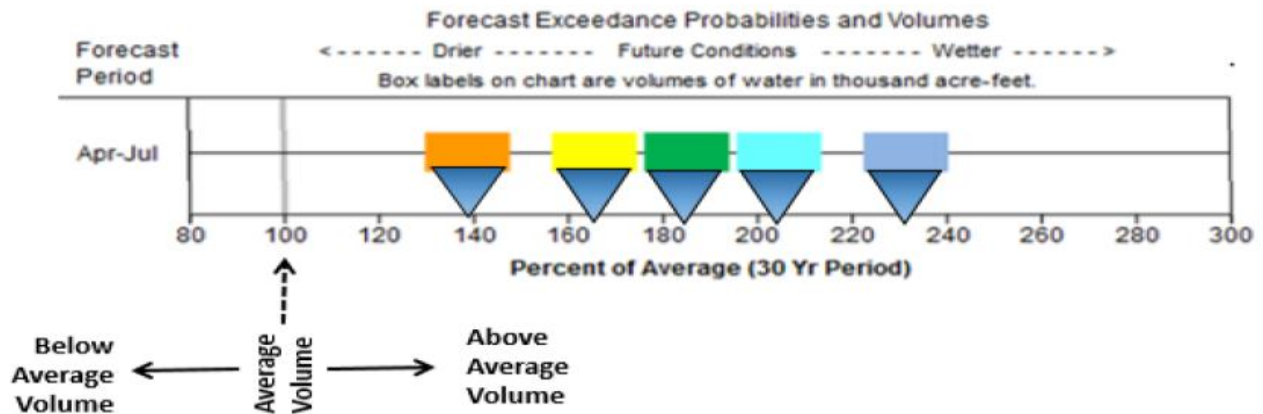
## How to Interpret the Streamflow Forecast Graphic:

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.

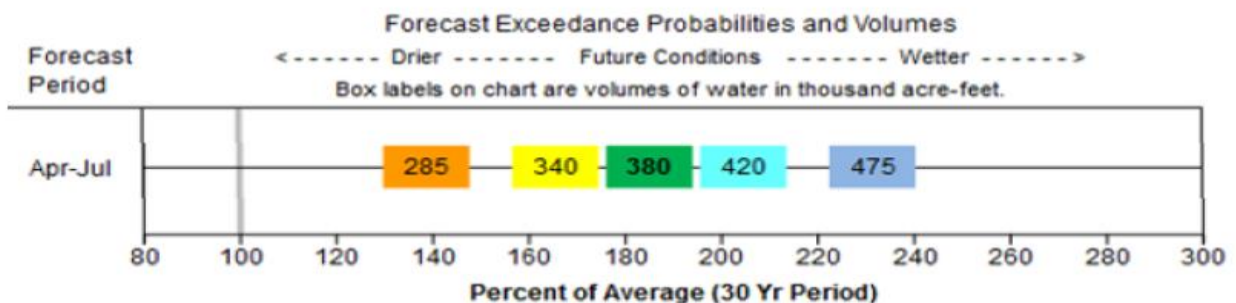


The five colored boxes represent each forecast's five exceedances.

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

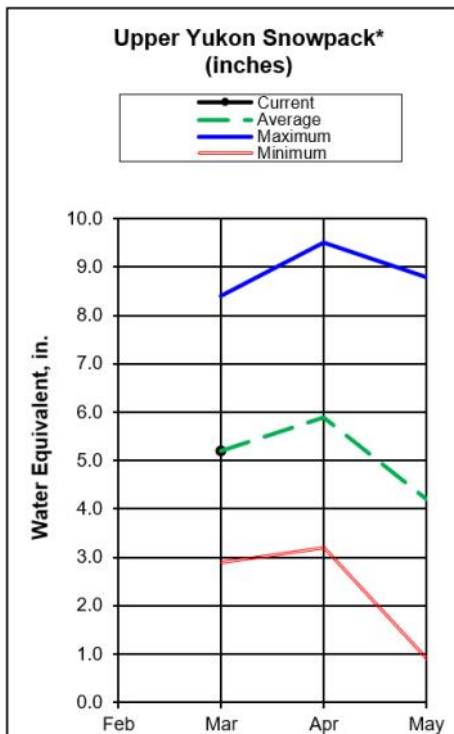
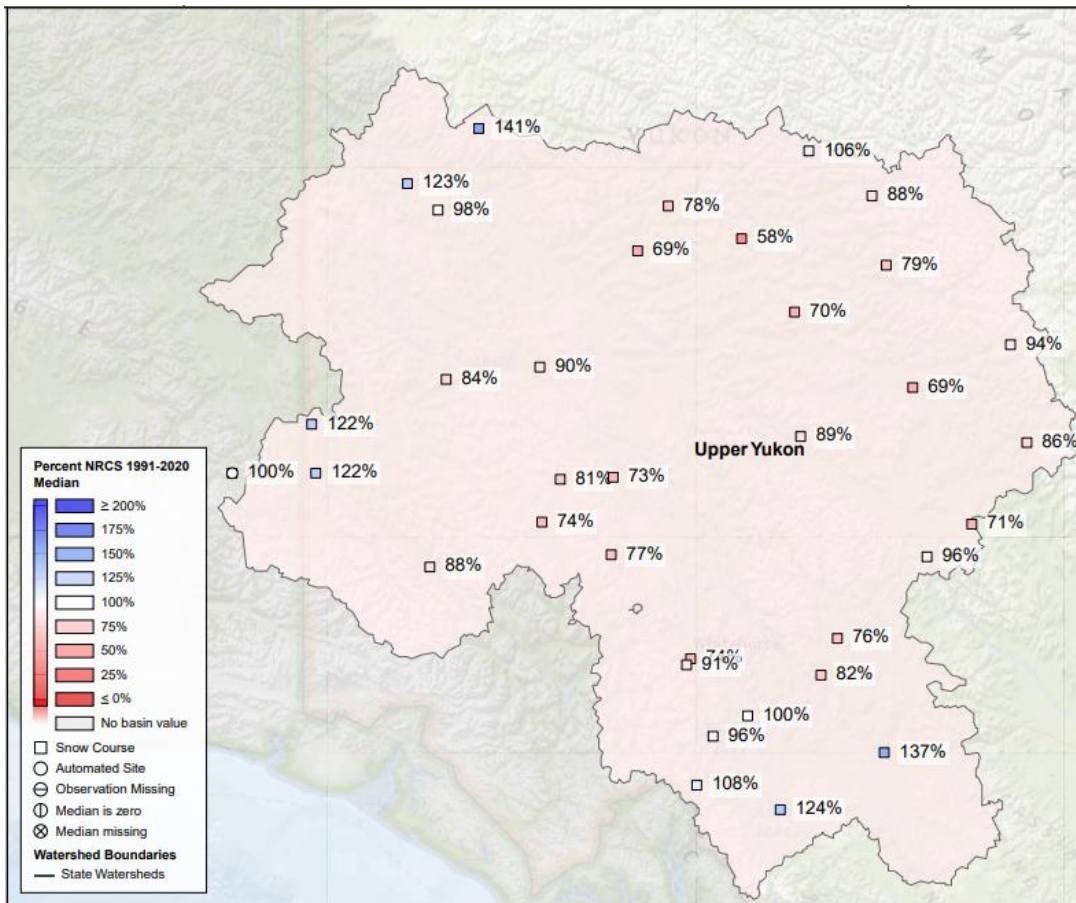


centered above 185% of average. Volumes decrease with drier future conditions (left of green box) and increase with wetter conditions (right of green box).

Forecast graphics for other basins are available at: [https://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/wsf/Fcst\\_Chart/](https://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/wsf/Fcst_Chart/)

# Upper Yukon Basin

## Upper Yukon Snowpack



## Snowpack

Snowpack in the Upper Yukon is below Normal on March 1, 2024. Most snow courses in the Upper Yukon are reporting moderately below normal conditions for the first time since 2019. However, headwater snowpack near Atlin is above normal, as-is the snowpack along the Alaska boarder on the White River and near Dawson. Some measurement sites are well below Normal. Twin Creeks was measured with the least SWE in its forty-six year history. Edwards Lake was measured with the least SWE in its thirty-five year history. The basin index as a whole is reporting 92% of Normal for the date.



# Upper Yukon Basin

## Snowpack Data

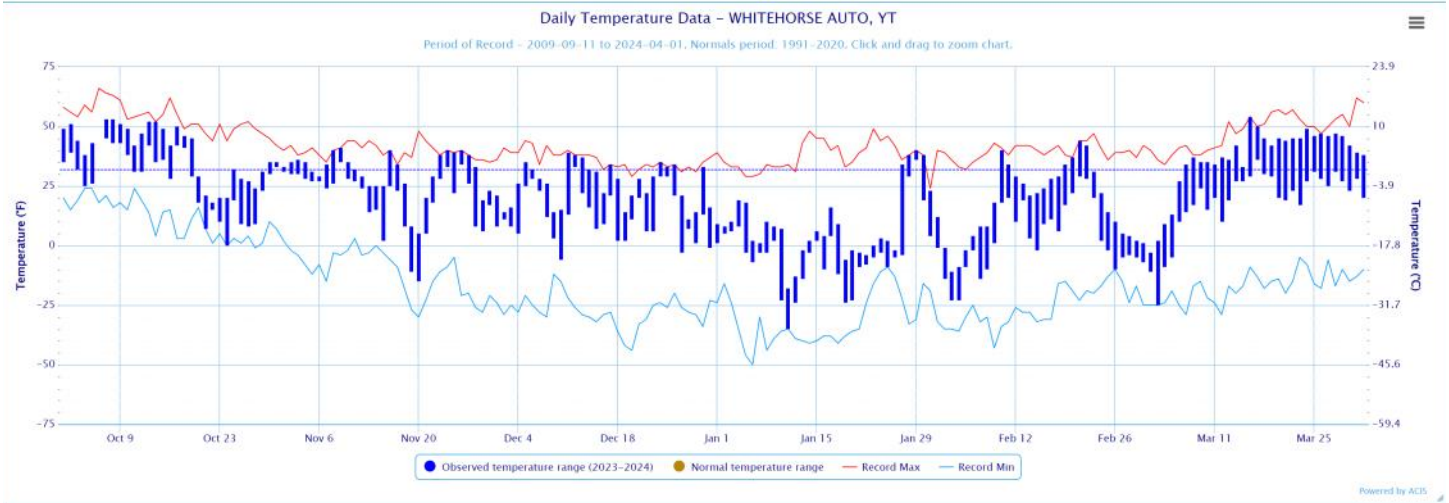
Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Atlin Lake	2395	20	15	4.6	3	124%
Beaver Creek	2150	19	29	3.3	5.4	122%
Blackstone River	1020	26	29	4.6	5	---
Burns Lake	3650	34	39	6.5	8.7	86%
Burwash Airstrip	2660	10	14	1.5	1.9	88%
Calumet	4300	28	36	5	5.9	78%
Casino Creek	3495	23	33	3.6	6.1	84%
Chair Mountain	3500	21	29	3.9	5.2	122%
Chisana SNOTEL	3320	15	26	3.2*	5.8	100%
Edwards Lake	2720	23	29	3.1	5.1	58%
Finlayson Airstrip	3240	20	26	2.7	4.8	71%
Francis River	730	28	32	4.6	6.1	---
Fuller Lake	3695	33	30	6.4	5.7	94%
Grizzly Creek	3200	38	35	8.3	7.8	141%
Hoole River	3400	26	30	4.6	5.7	96%
Hyland	855	32	33	7.4	6.6	---
Jordan Lake	3050	22	30	3.5	5.9	76%
King Solomon Dome	3540	30	36	6.1	8	98%
Log Cabin B.C.	2900	56	45	15.4	12.9	108%
Macintosh	3805	16	27	2.5	4.6	74%
Mayo Airport	1770	14	26	2.5	4.4	69%
Meadow Creek	4050	36	41	8.7	9.3	82%
Midnight Dome	2805	32	35	6.9	7.9	123%
Montana Mtn.	3350	26	25	5.2	5.3	96%
Morley Lake	2700	30	23	6.7	4.6	137%
Mt. Berdoe	3395	21	---	3	---	73%
Mt. McIntyre B	3600	24	29	4.9	5.2	91%
Mt. Nansen	3350	15	23	2.2	3.8	81%
Ogilvie River	550	29	28	5.4	5.4	---
Pelly Farm	1550	14	23	2.6	4.8	90%
Pine Lake Airstrip	995	32	33	7.9	6.3	---
Plata Airstrip	2725	28	30	4.8	6.4	79%
Rackla Lake	3410	35	35	6.6	7.2	106%
Rose Creek Faro	1080	23	26	3.4	4.8	89%
Russell Lake	3480	31	36	5.2	7.5	70%
Satasha Lake	3630	15	---	2.4	---	77%
Summit	985	41	37	11.8	7.6	159%
Tagish	3540	26	28	5.2	5.9	100%
Twin Creeks	2950	27	---	4.2	---	69%
Watson Lake Airport	685	26	24	4.4	3.9	---
Whitehorse Airport	2300	14	22	2.8	4.6	74%
Withers Lake	3200	35	32	6.5	6.9	88%

\*Estimate

# Upper Yukon Basin

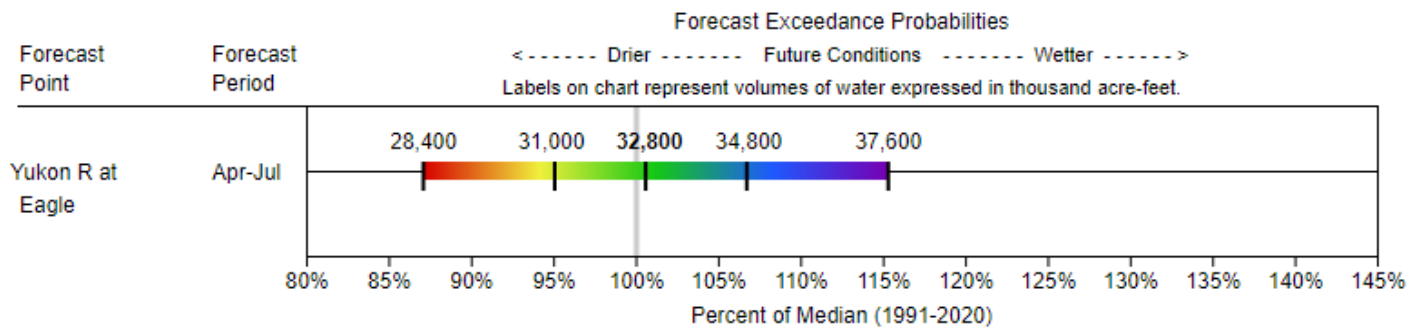
## Temperature Chart

Source: NOAA ACIS

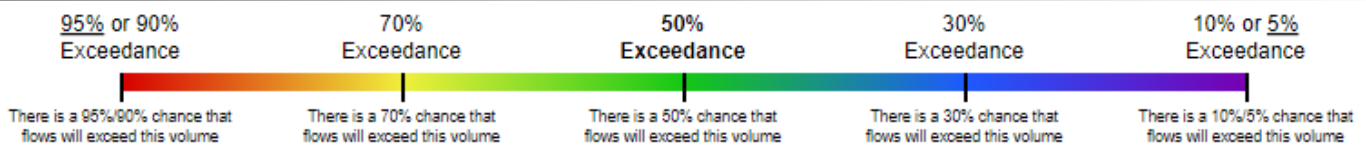


## Streamflow Forecasts

### CENTRAL YUKON Water Supply Forecasts March 1, 2024



### Legend

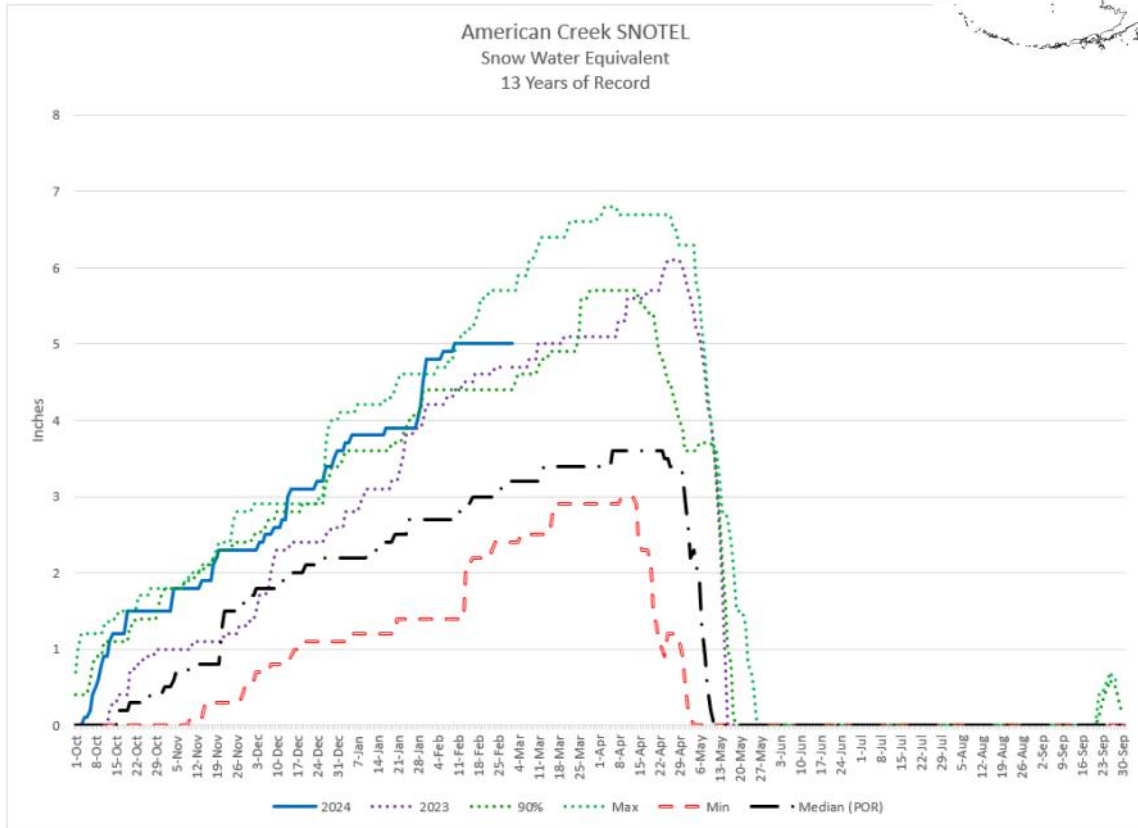


When selected, the following historic streamflow values and statistics will be shown.

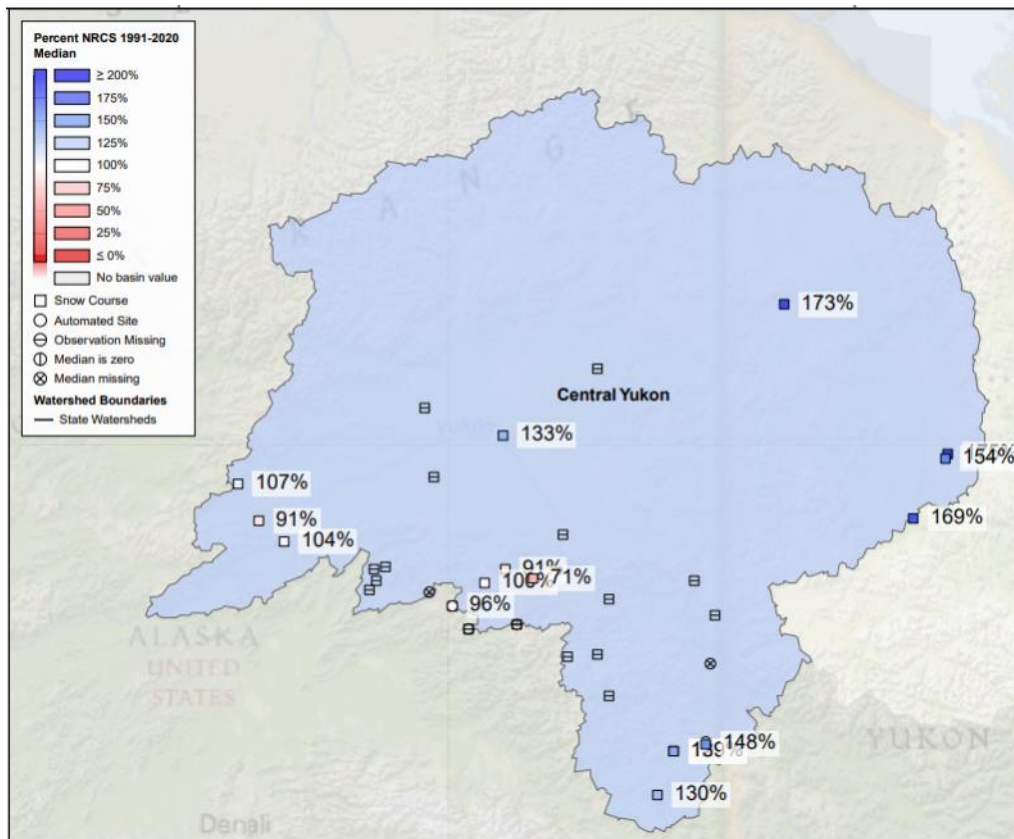
- Period of Record Minimum Streamflow KAF (Year)
- 1991-2020 Normal Streamflow KAF
- Observed Streamflow KAF
- Period of Record Maximum Streamflow KAF (Year)

Some forecasts may be for volumes that are regulated or influenced by diversions and water management.

# Central Yukon Basin

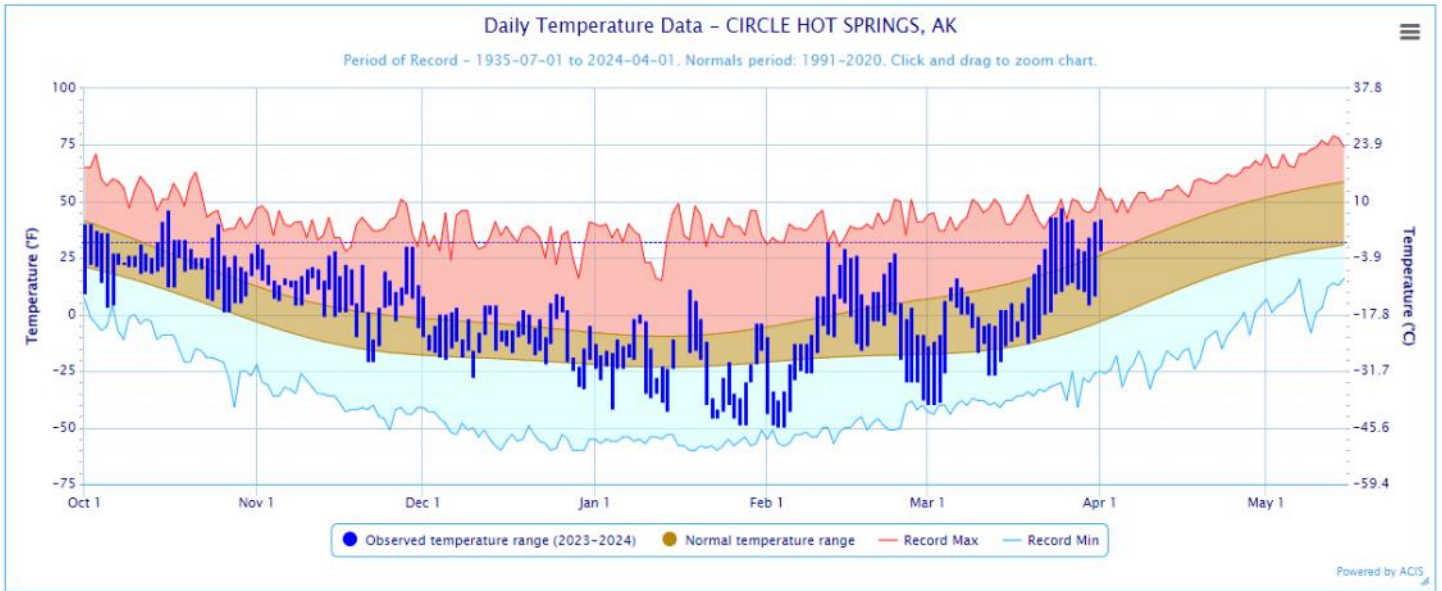


## Snowpack Map



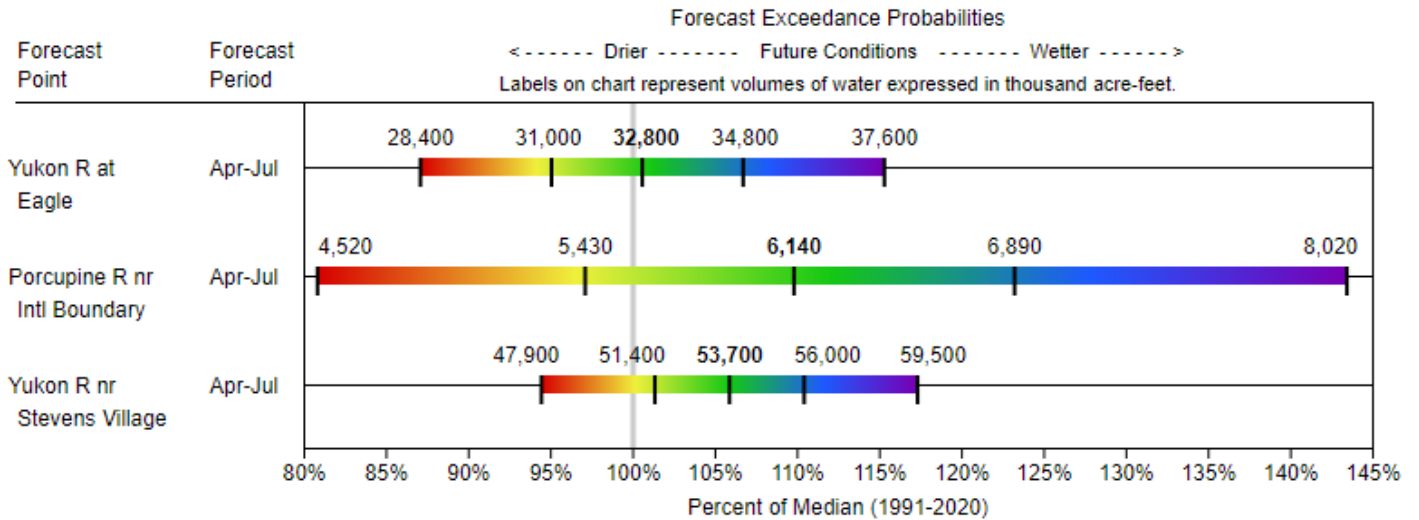
# Central Yukon Basin

## Temperature Chart



## Streamflow Forecasts

### CENTRAL YUKON Water Supply Forecasts March 1, 2024





# Central Yukon Basin

## Snowpack

The snowpack in the Central Yukon is above Normal on March 1, 2024. The most exceptional snowpack is in the upper reaches of the Porcupine, where the Canadian measurements are at or near historic maximum for the date. The Old Crow Snow Course was measured as the highest value in its thirty-five year record. The Forty Mile snow courses are also reporting much above Normal SWE for the date. The 6.8 inches of SWE measured at Boundary is the third highest in fifty-one years of observation. Downstream, the snowpack trends closer to Normal

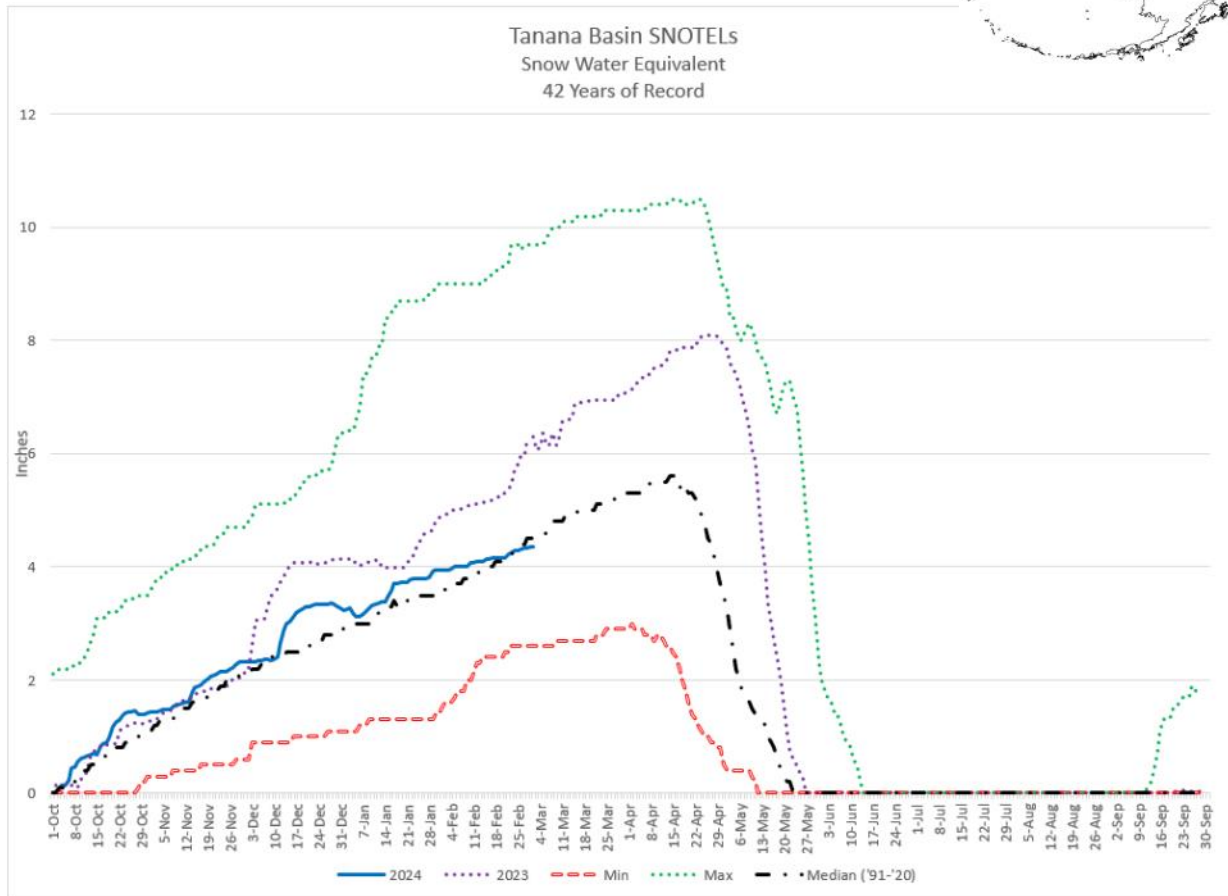
## Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
American Creek SNOTEL	1050	24	24	5	4.7	---
Atigun Pass SNOTEL	4800	31	37	---	---	---
Boundary	3500	32	32	6.8	6.7	148%
Chicken Airstrip	1650	22	23	3.9	4.2	139%
Circle Hot Springs	860	18	21	2.5	3.4	71%
Eagle Plains	2330	38	34	8.6	7	154%
Eagle River	1115	36	28	7	5	175%
Eagle Summit SNOTEL	3650	17	15	---	---	---
Fort Yukon	430	25	---	4	---	133%
Hess Creek	1000	25	---	4.9	---	104%
Lost Chicken Hill	2150	24	24	4.4	4.2	129%
Mt. Fairplay	3100	26	31	5.2	6.6	130%
Mt. Ryan SNOTEL	2800	23	---	5	6.5	96%
Old Crow	980	33	32	7.8	5.4	173%
Ptarmigan Creek	2270	24	28	3.9	4.6	100%
Riffs Ridge	2130	39	36	8.8	7.8	169%
Seven Mile	600	27	---	4.2	---	91%
Stack Pup Creek	1620	20	22	3.1	3.2	91%
Thirty Mile	1350	33	---	7.2	---	107%
Upper Chena SNOTEL	2850	30	36	---	7.8	---
Upper Nome Creek SNOTEL	2520	24	31	4.8	5.2	---

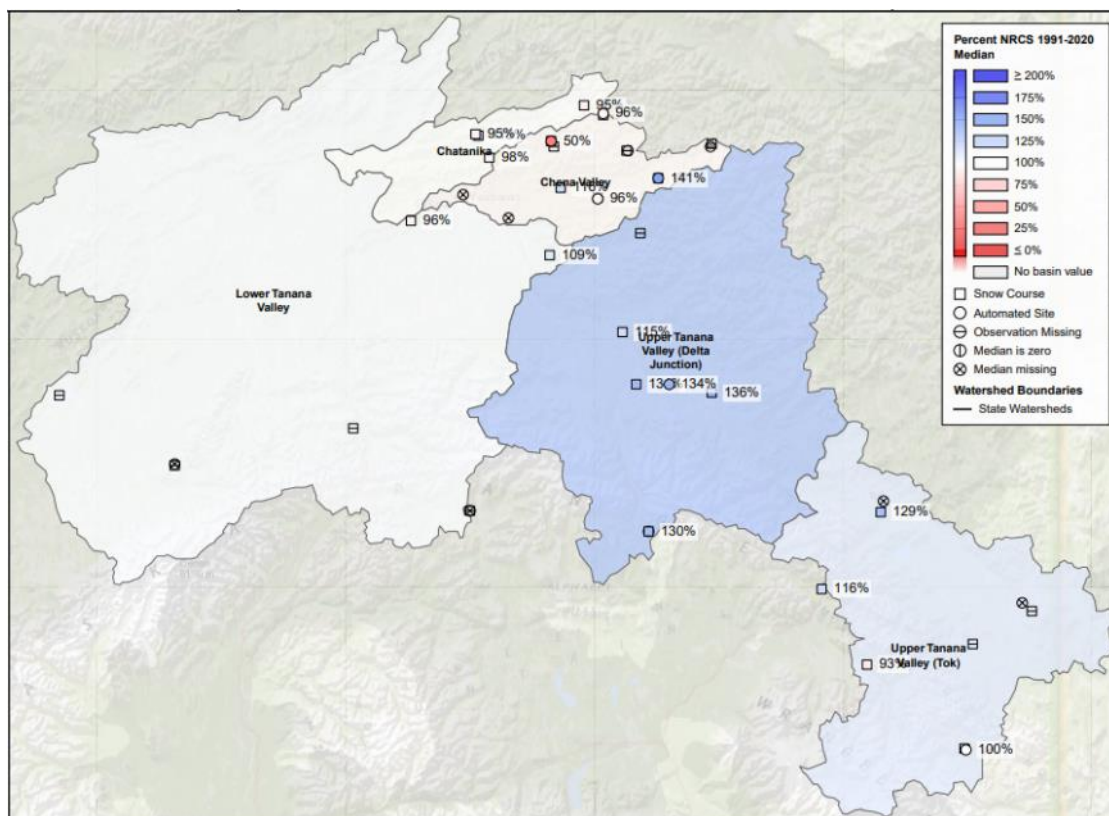
## Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
American Creek	1050	5.2	4.9	---	---
Atigun Pass	4800	6.1	4.9	4.8	127%
Eagle Summit	3650	4.2	5	4.4	95%
Fort Yukon	430	2.4	3.5	3.1	77%
Mt. Ryan	2800	4.6	6	4.4	105%
Upper Chena	2850	6.2	6.4	5.3	117%
Upper Nome Creek	2520	5.4	7.3	5.4	100%

# Tanana Basin



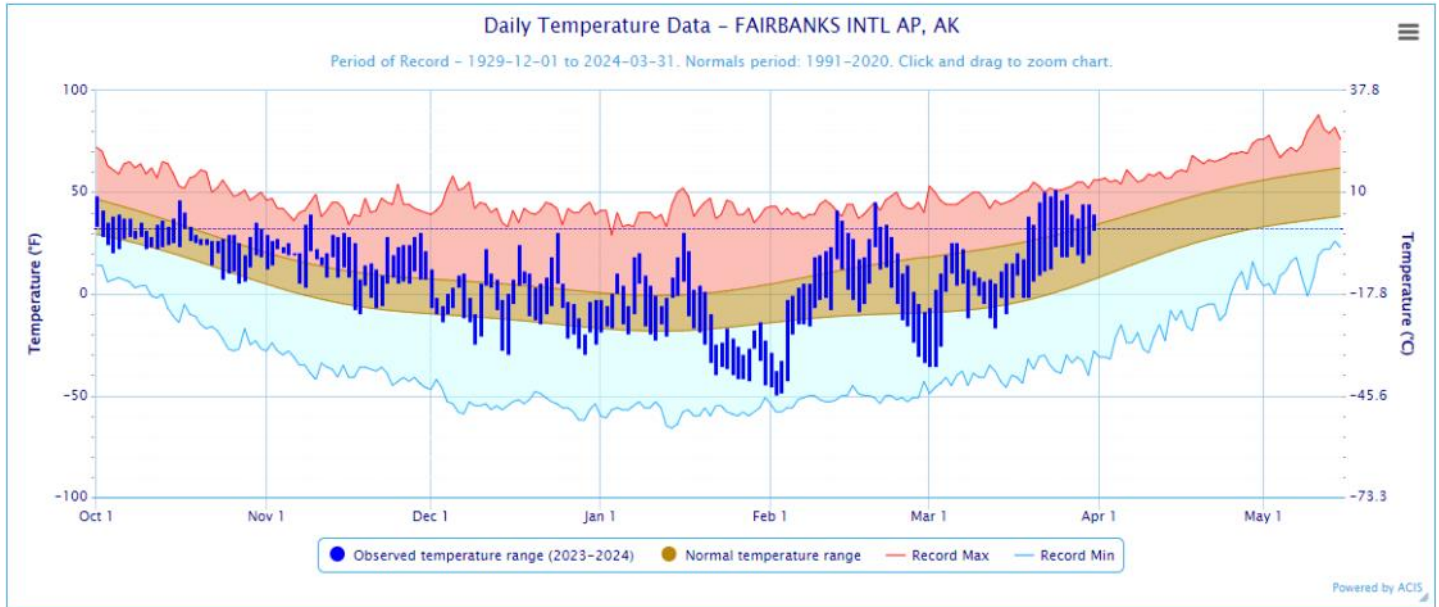
## Snowpack Map



# Temperature Chart

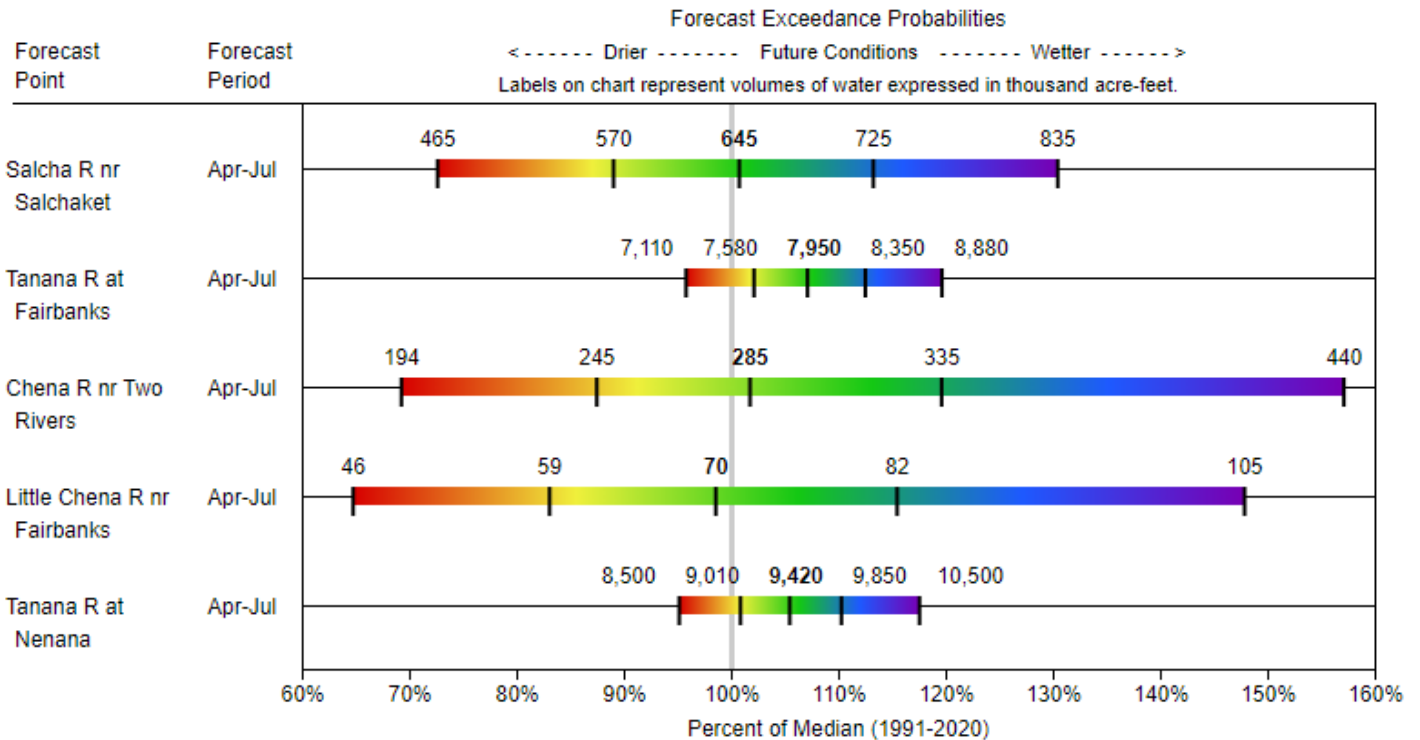
# Tanana Basin

Source: NOAA ACIS



## Streamflow Forecasts

### TANANA Water Supply Forecasts March 1, 2024



## Snowpack

# Tanana Basin

Snowpack in the Tanana Basin is near Normal. Around Tok and Delta Junction stations are above Normal. The measurements in the Chena watershed are mixed with some above and some below Normal for the date. February gains mirror total water year snowfall trends with the stations near Tok and Delta Junction receiving more snow fall than the ones in the Chena basin. Temperatures were the big story this month. Nenana reached a high of 51 degrees Fahrenheit on February 14<sup>th</sup>. As a result Bonanza Creek was measured with less snow on March 1 than on February 1. Still the Basin Index is above Normal.

## Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		1991-2020 % of Normal
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	
Bonanza Creek	1150	21	32	4.4	6.5	96%
Caribou Creek	1250	20	27	4	5.4	95%
Caribou Snow Pillow	900	23	33	4.5	6	118%
Chena Lakes SNOTEL	500	14	25	3.2	5.2	---
Chisana SNOTEL	3320	15	26	3.2*	5.8	100%
Cleary Summit	2230	27	38	5.1	7.2	98%
Colorado Creek	700	24	35	4.3	5.4	116%
Creamers Field SNOTEL	440	17	21	3.6*	4.7	---
Faith Creek	1750	24	31	4	5.4	95%
Fielding Lake SNOTEL	3000	35	39	9.5*	9.5	---
Fielding Lake	3000	45	45	11.2	10.2	130%
Fort Greely	1500	22	27	3.8	5.3	131%
French Creek	1800	25	37	5	7.6	109%
Gerstle River	1200	23	22	3.8	4.2	136%
Granite Crk SNOTEL	1240	23	22	4.3	4.9	134%
Kantishna SNOTEL	1550	30	34	5.9*	6.6	---
Little Chena Ridge SNOTEL	2000	15	25	2.2*	5.5	50%
Look Eyrie SNOTEL	5040	109	142	---	---	---
Lost Creek	3030	15	---	2.7	---	93%
Mentasta Pass	2430	27	---	5.8	---	116%
Monahan Flat SNOTEL	2710	33	31	6.9	5.7	---
Mt. Ryan SNOTEL	2800	23	---	5	6.5	96%
Munson Ridge SNOTEL	3100	30	40	6.6*	8.4	96%
Nenana SNOTEL	415	19	28	---	---	---
Paradise Hill SNOTEL	2010	15	21	2.8*	4.2	---
Shaw Creek Flats	980	18	22	3	3.7	115%
Teuchet Creek SNOTEL	1640	---	24	4.8*	5.2	141%
Tok SNOTEL	1630	17	26	3.6	5.3	---
Tok Junction	1650	24	30	4	6	129%
Upper Chena SNOTEL	2850	30	36	---	7.8	---
Upper Nome Creek SNOTEL	2520	24	31	4.8	5.2	---

\*Estimate

## Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Chena Lakes	500	3.3	---	---	---
Chisana	3320	3.2	5.8	3.2	100%
Creamers Field	440	3.8	4.1	---	---
Fielding Lake	3000	9.3	11.5	---	---
Granite Crk	1240	5	4.8	3.4	147%
Kantishna	1550	5.1	7.2	5	102%
Little Chena Ridge	2000	4.7	5.9	4.4	107%
Monahan Flat	2710	7.9	8.3	6.9	114%
Mt. Ryan	2800	4.6	6	4.4	105%
Munson Ridge	3100	5.8	7.6	6.4	91%
Nenana	415	3.8	5.8	---	---
Paradise Hill	2010	3.1	5	---	---
Teuchet Creek	1640	4.1	5.1	3.8	108%
Tok	1630	3.7	5.7	---	---
Upper Chena	2850	6.2	6.4	5.3	117%
Upper Nome Creek	2520	5.4	7.3	5.4	100%



# Western Interior Basins



## Snowpack

### Koyukuk

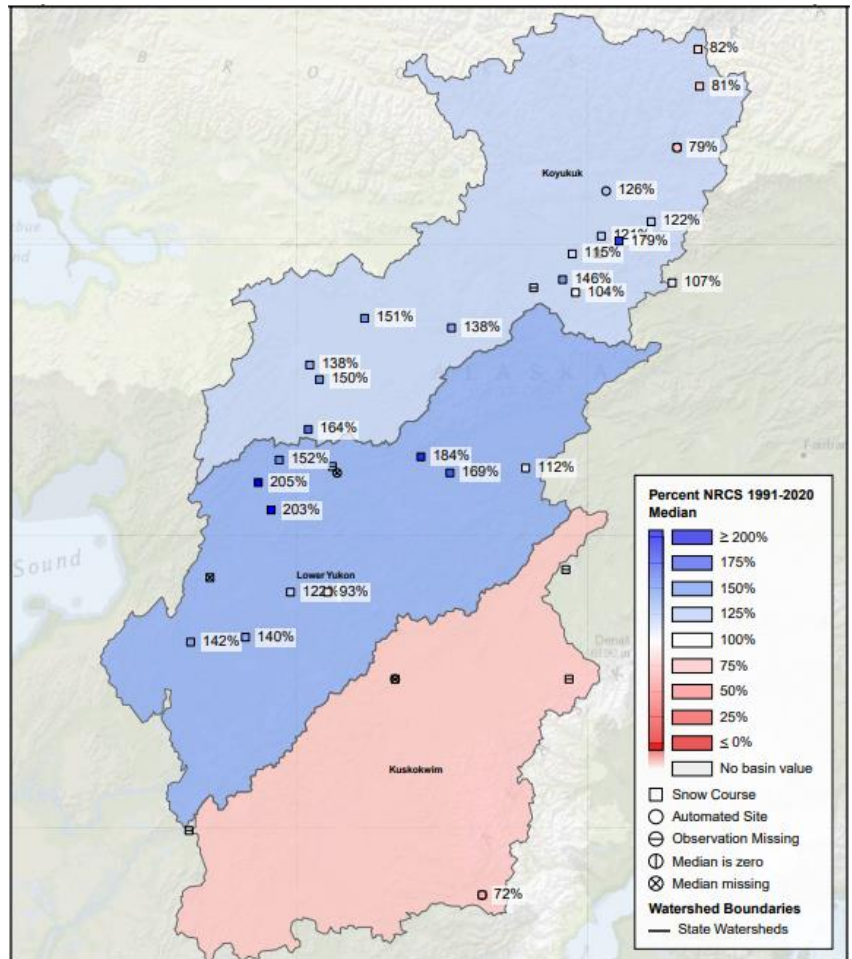
The Koyukuk basin has near Normal snowpack on March 1, 2024. In the upper reaches of the basin the snow courses in the Brooks Range along the Dalton Highway are reporting below Normal snowpack. As one travels downstream measurements increase, both in absolute value and in comparison, to Normal. At the confluence with the Yukon Aerial Markers are approaching period-of-record maximum.

### Kuskokwim

Data points in the Kuskokwim are a mixed bag regarding snowpack on March 1, 2024. Snowpack was likely above Normal on February 1, and in the places where it was preserved it continues to be above Normal. Telaquana Lake SNOTEL reached a high of 50 degrees Fahrenheit in the middle of February. The Snow Course was measured with less snow in March than it was in February and is now below Normal. At McGrath, temps were more moderate snowpack remains above Normal. Lower in the basin, Aniak and Bethel both reported February precipitation that was much above Normal and snow depths indicate above Normal snowpack.

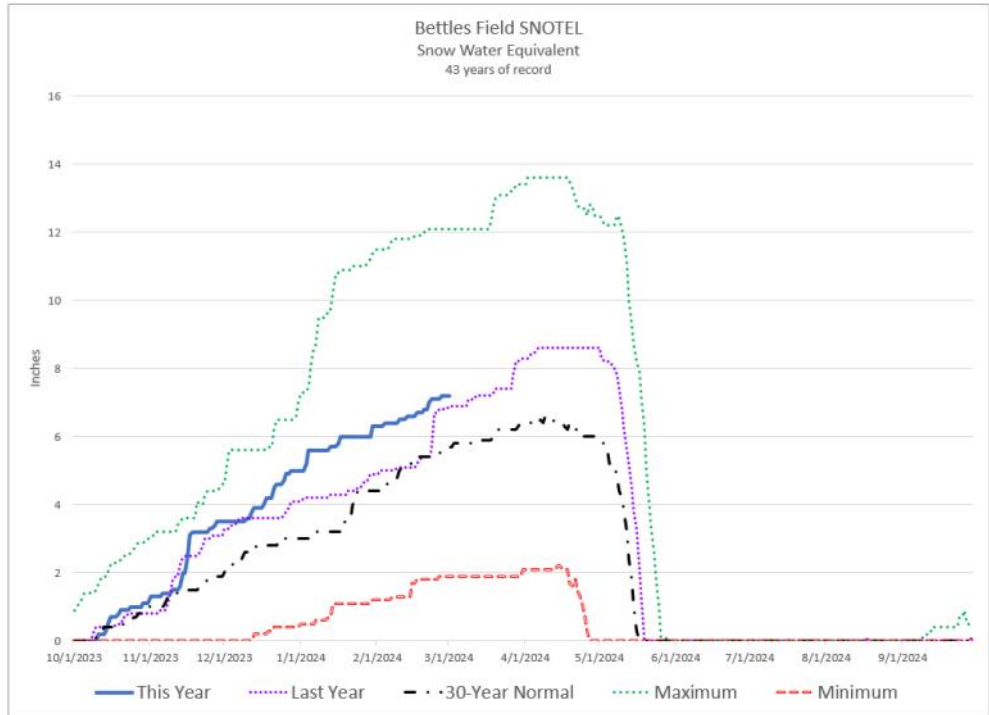
### Lower Yukon

Snowpack in the Lower Yukon is above Normal on March 1, 2024. JR Slough and Nine Mile Island Aerial Markers were read as period-of-record maximum values. Deer Creek and Pike Trap Lake were read as their second highest. All of the measurements in this region are reporting higher than Normal snowpack for the date.



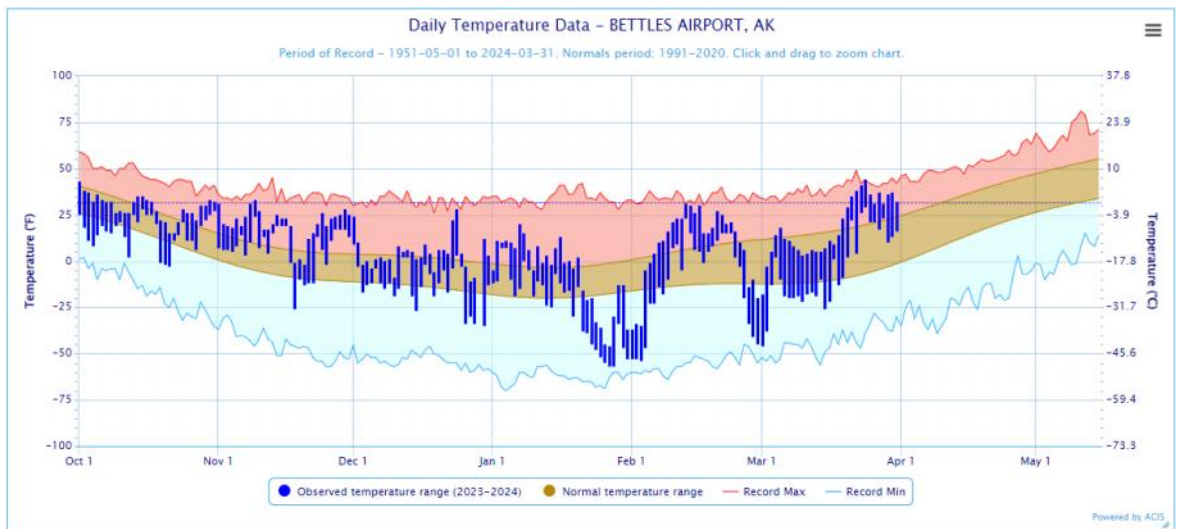
# Western Interior Basins

## Snowpack Chart



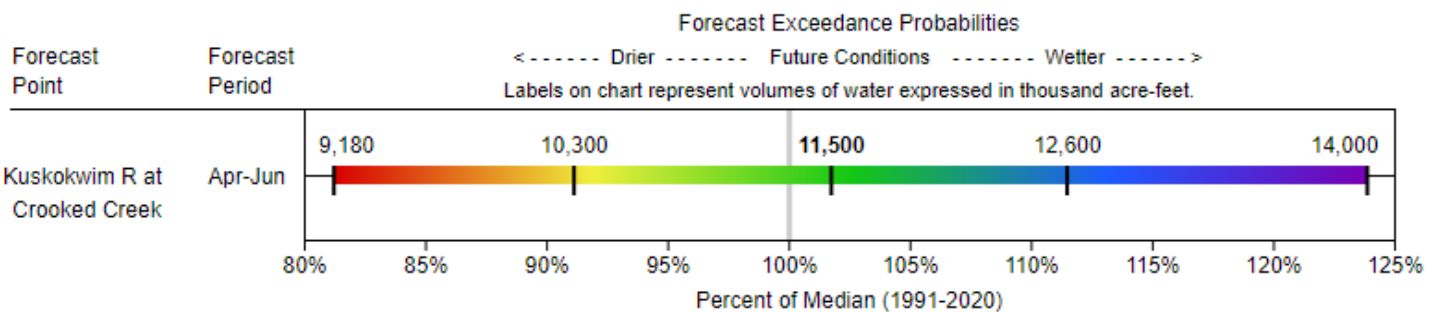
## Temperature Data

Source: NOAA ACIS



## Streamflow Forecasts

### WESTERN INTERIOR Water Supply Forecasts March 1, 2024



# Western Interior Basins

## Snowpack Data

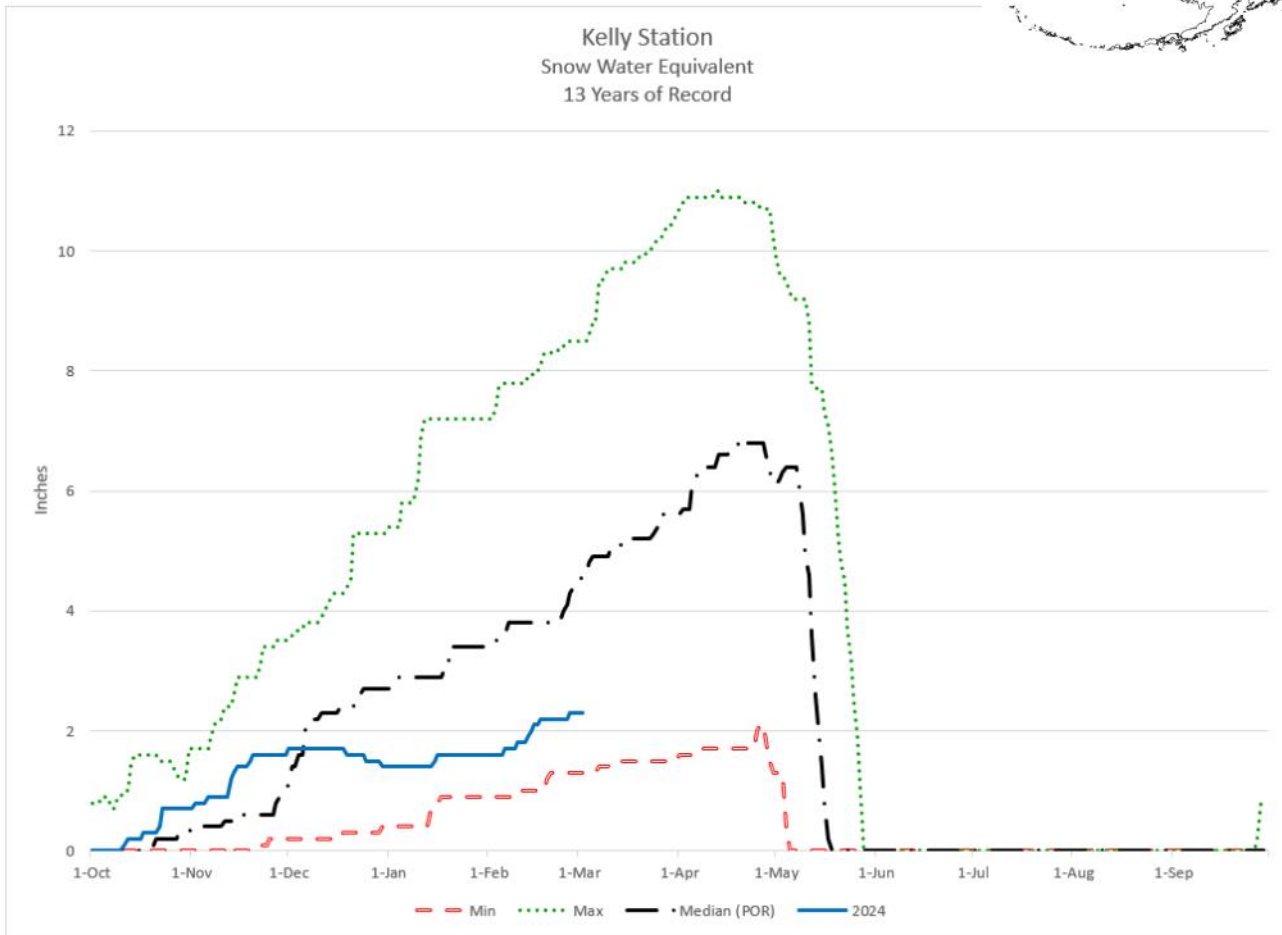
Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
<b>Koyukuk</b>						
Bettles Field SNOTEL	640	30	32	7.2*	6.9	126%
Bonanza Forks	1200	30	---	6.2	---	122%
Cloverleaf	170	31	44	7.2*	8.7	150%
Coldfoot SNOTEL	1040	24	28	4.6	5	79%
Coldfoot	1040	27	---	4.6	---	---
Colville Bend	170	33	42	7.3*	8.7	138%
Disaster Creek	1550	22	---	3	---	81%
East Chalatna	430	18	---	3.8*	---	---
Gobblers Knob SNOTEL	2030	0	1	---	---	---
Huggins Creek	290	36	38	8.3*	7.5	138%
Jr Slough	160	39	38	8.2*	7.7	164%
Kaldoyeit	750	36	---	7.5*	---	179%
Kanuti Chalatna	670	31	---	6.2*	---	115%
Kanuti Kilolitna	550	24	---	4.8*	---	104%
Minnkokut	580	37	---	7.5*	---	121%
Nolitna	560	38	---	7.9*	---	146%
Table Mountain	2200	20	---	3.3	---	83%
Thirty Mile	1350	33	---	7.2	---	107%
Treat Island	190	29	30	7.4*	5.9	151%
<b>Kuskokwim</b>						
Aniak SNOTEL	80	23	---	---	---	---
McGrath SNOTEL	340	32	45	6.8*	9.7	---
Telaquana Lake	1550	16	32	2.9	6.1	73%
Telaquana Lake SNOTEL	1275	14	29	4.3*	6.4	---
<b>Lower Yukon</b>						
Bullfrog	100	54	44	11.6*	9	---
Deer Creek	195	49	40	10.7*	7.9	184%
Galena AK SNOTEL	410	24	28	5.9*	5.8	---
Hozatka Lake SNOTEL	206	21	29	---	---	---
Little Mud River	855	25	28	4.8*	5.4	112%
Lower Nowitna River	205	33	33	7.1*	6.7	169%
Middle Innoko	150	45	41	9.5*	8.7	140%
Ninemile Island	140	60	39	12.3*	7.9	205%
Pike Trap Lake	130	24	21	6.1*	4	203%
Squirrel Creek	150	49	44	10.2*	8.9	152%
Upper Innoko	180	31	39	6.7*	8.1	93%
Wapoo Hills	220	54	43	9.0*	8.3	122%
Yankee Slough	100	55	52	11.8*	11.3	142%

\*Estimate

## Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
<b>Koyukuk</b>					
Bettles Field	640	5.7	6.9	6.2	92%
Coldfoot	1040	4.6	6.4	4.8	96%
Gobblers Knob	2030	6.2	6.3	5.5	113%
<b>Kuskokwim</b>					
Aniak	80	8.9	11.9	4.7	189%
McGrath	340	6.8	10.8	---	---
Telaquana Lake	1275	5.6	7.7	---	---
<b>Lower Yukon</b>					
Galena AK	410	5.6	6.6	---	---
Hozatka Lake	206	4.6	6.6	---	---

# Arctic and Kotzebue Sound



## Snowpack

### Arctic

On March 1, 2024, the stations along the Dalton Highway are reporting above Normal precipitation for the water year. Sagwon SNOTEL has received 3.5 inches of precipitation since October 1, and is 140% of average. The Utqiagvik Airport, which averages 1.38" over its period of record for the date, has received 3.84" of precipitation since October 1, making it the wettest year in ninety-one years of observation. Since most precipitation since October 1 should be snowfall it's likely the Arctic has above average snowpack. The snow depth sensors at the stations along the Dalton Highway support this, although snow is notoriously difficult to measure in this environment.

### Kotzebue

The Kotzebue region has few points that provide snow and precipitation data. Kelly Station SNOTEL is one of the few measurements in the state that is reporting below Normal snowpack on March 1, 2024. The 2.3 inches of SWE the station is reporting is approximately half of Normal snowpack for the date. Dahl Creek was installed last year and is reporting less snowpack than it was at this date in 2023, but it's close and at the time it was believed that that was a deep snowpack for the region. The airport in Kotzebue has collected well above average precipitation for the year, although nearly half of this was recorded in October and might be rain. All we can say for certain about the snowpack around Kotzebue is that the snowpack at Kelly Station is below Normal on March 1, 2024.



# 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
<b>Arctic</b>						
Atigun Pass SNOTEL	4800	31	37	---	---	---
Dahl Creek SNOTEL	260	32	43	7.3*	9	---
Imnaviat Creek SNOTEL	3050	28	18	---	---	---
Prudhoe Bay SNOTEL	30	18	11	---	---	---
Sagwon SNOTEL	1000	16	12	---	---	---
<b>Kotzebue Sound</b>						
Kelly Station SNOTEL	310	18	37	2.3*	7.6	50%

\*Estimate

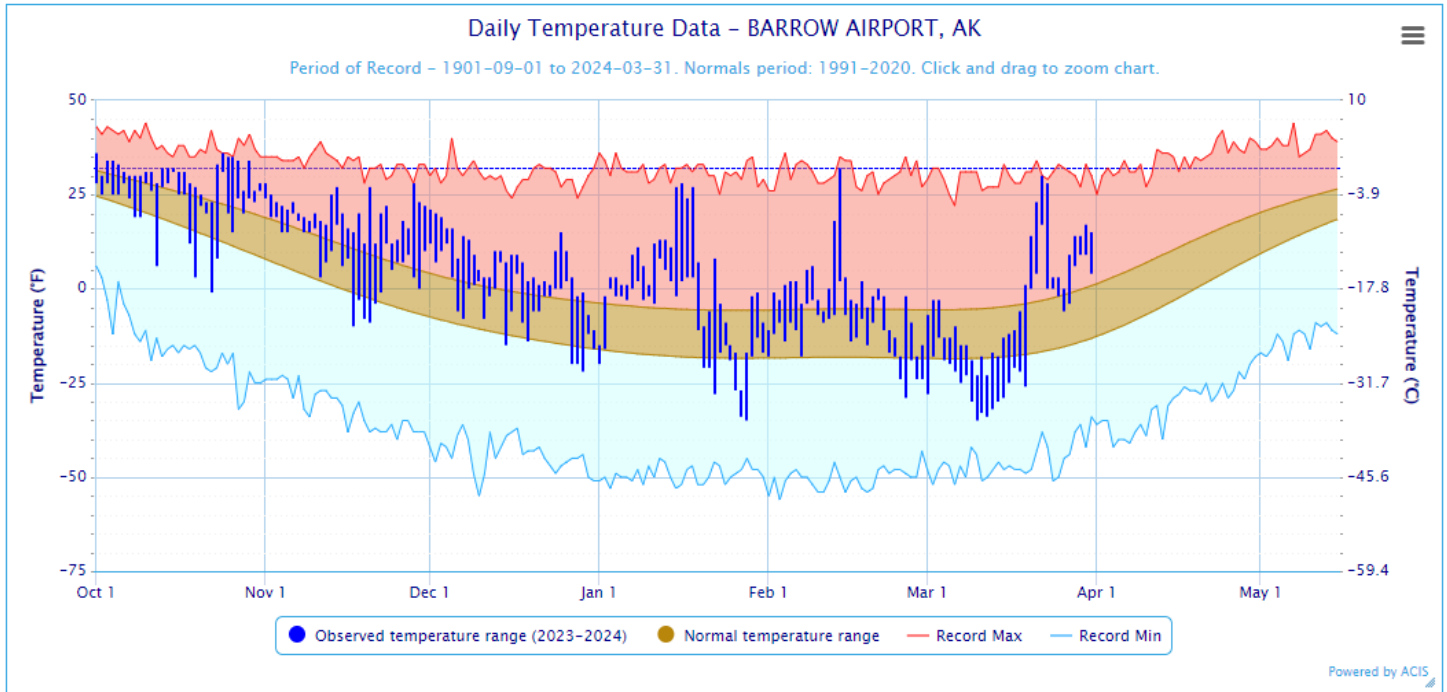
## Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
<b>Arctic</b>					
Atigun Pass	4800	6.1	4.9	4.8	127%
Dahl Creek	260	7	10	---	---
Imnaviat Creek	3050	3.3	3.1	2.4	138%
Prudhoe Bay	30	2.8	2.6	2.3	122%
Sagwon	1000	3.5	2.8	2.5	140%
<b>Kotzebue Sound</b>					
Kelly Station	310	4.7	8.6	5.1	92%

# Arctic and Kotzebue Sound

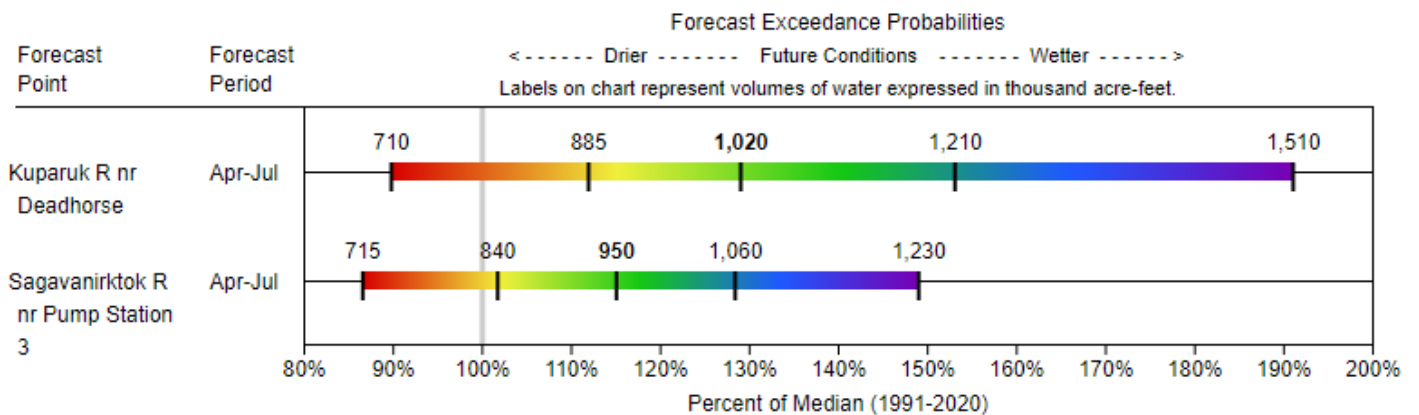
## Temperature Data

Source: NOAA ACIS



## Streamflow Forecasts

### ARCTIC AND NORTHWEST Water Supply Forecasts March 1, 2024

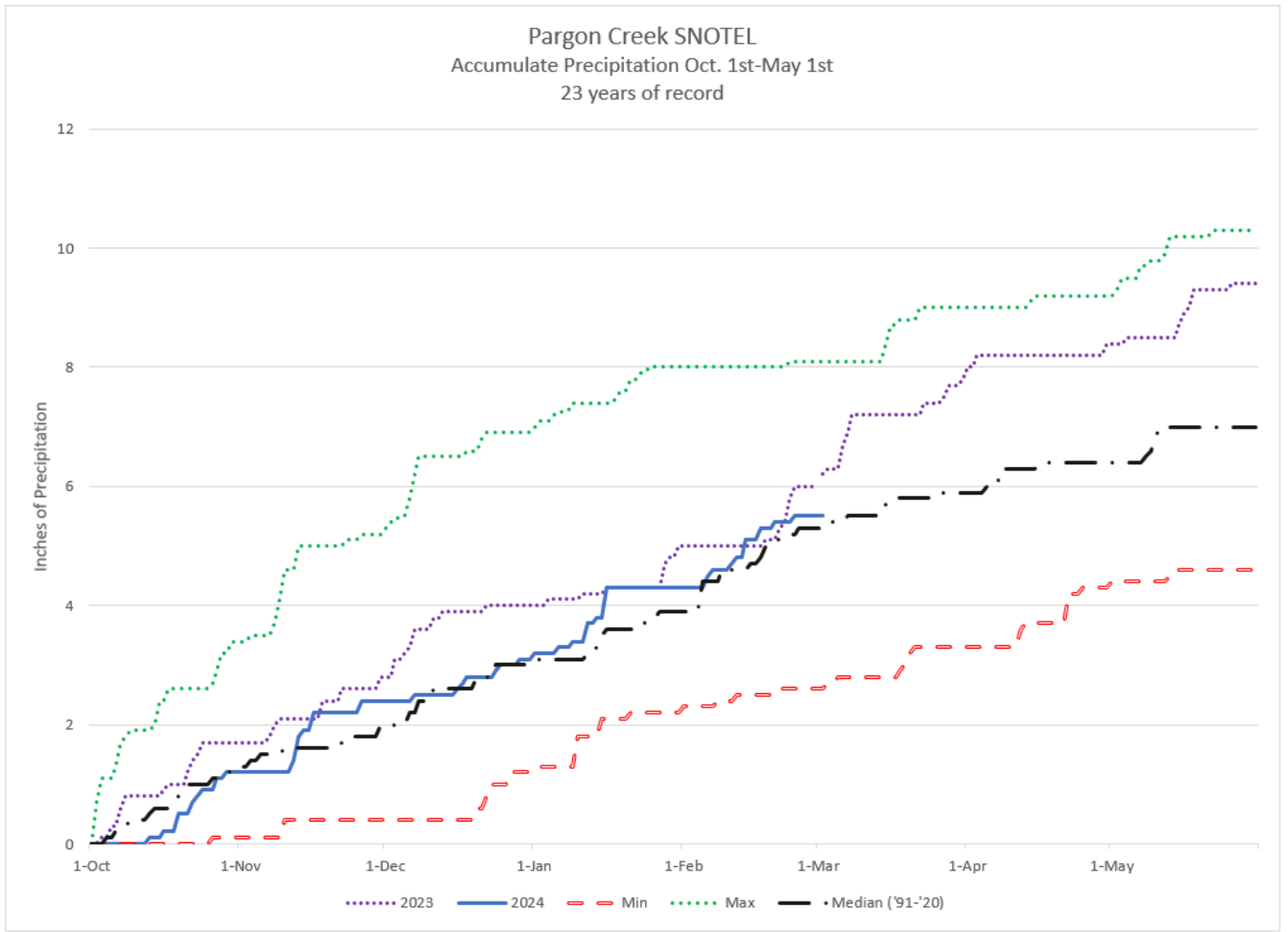


# Norton Sound/Y-K Delta/Bristol Bay



## Snowpack

Precipitation sites on the Seward Peninsula are a mixed bag. The Nome airport is reading well above its period-of-record average for the date. Pargon Creek is near Normal. And Rocky Point is reading below.



# Norton Sound/Y-K Delta/Bristol Bay

## Precipitation Data

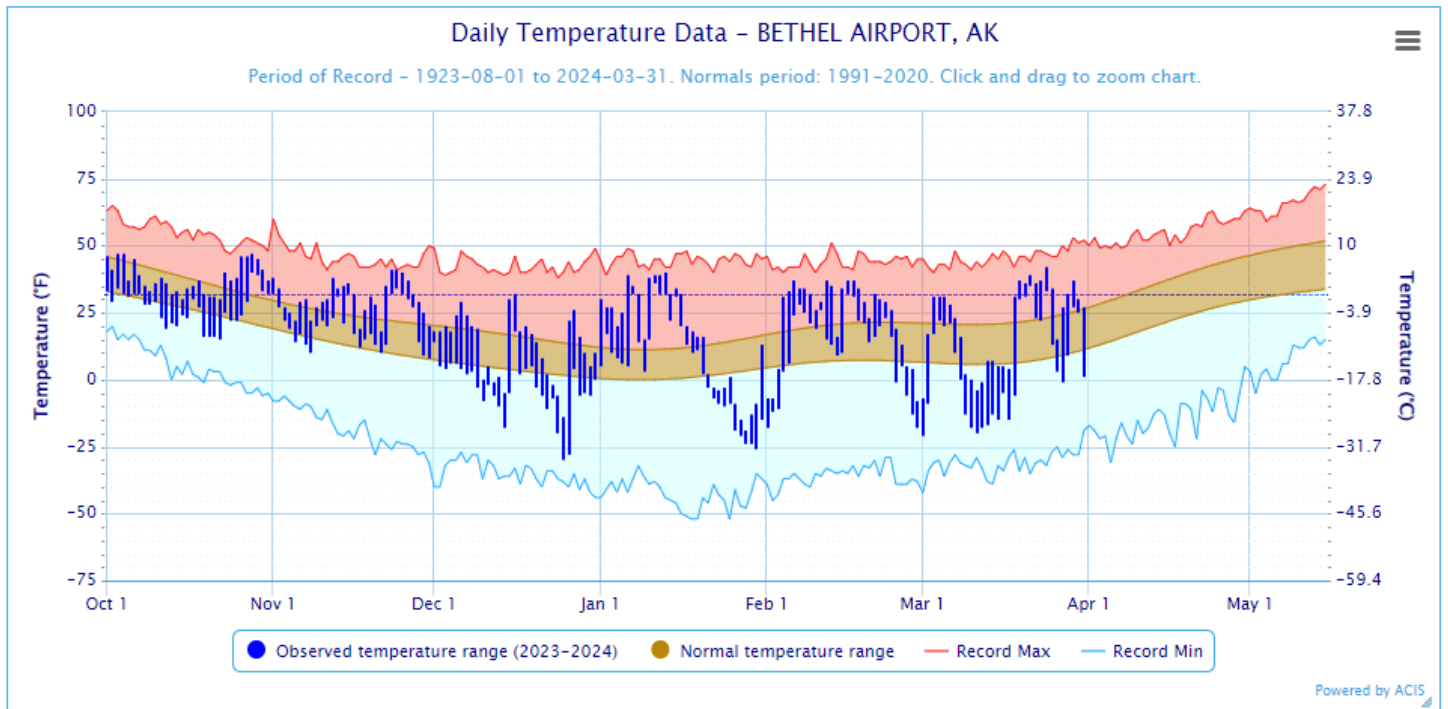
Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Aniak	80	8.9	11.9	4.7	189%
Johnsons Camp	25	2.9	1.5	---	---
Pargon Creek	100	5.5	6.2	5.3	104%
Rocky Point	250	3.1	4.2	5.1	61%

## Snowpack Data

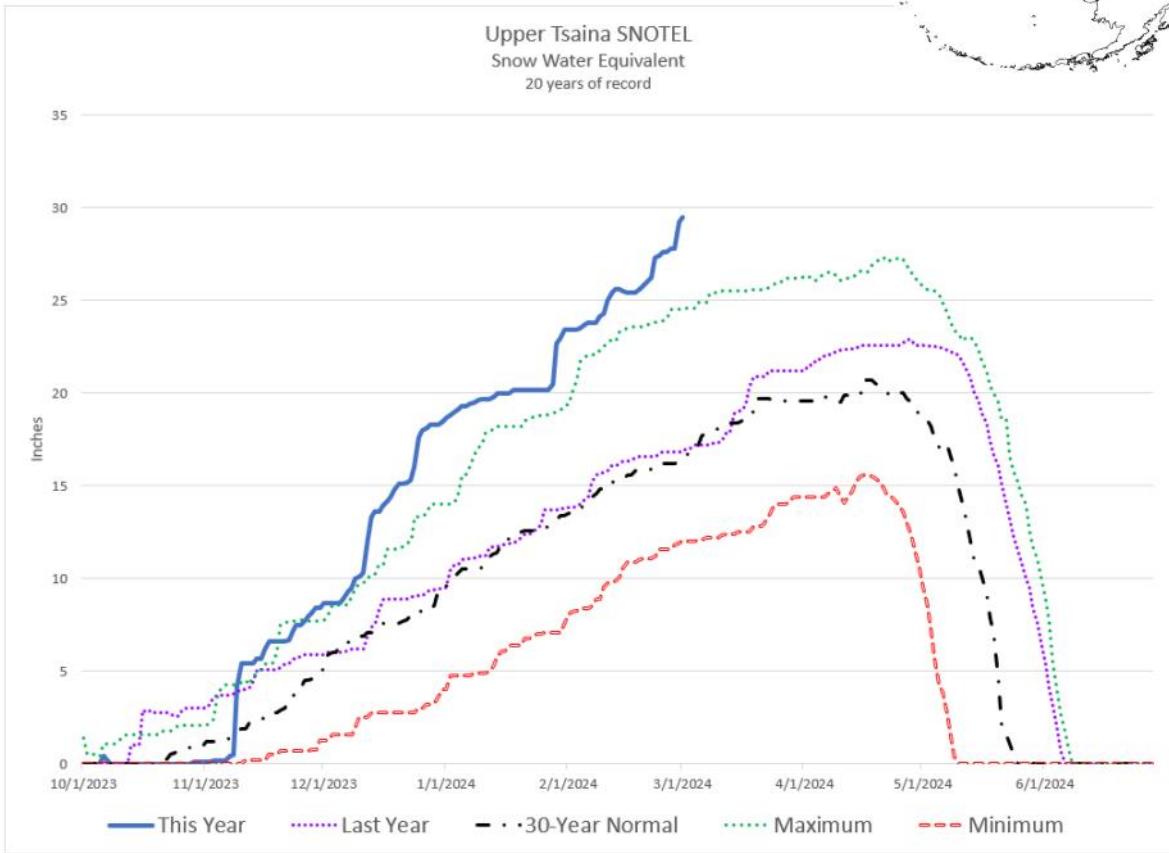
Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Aniak SNOTEL	80	23	---	---	---	---
Johnsons Camp SNOTEL	25	15	---	---	---	---
Pargon Creek SNOTEL	100	14	14	---	---	---
Rocky Point SNOTEL	250	30	30	---	---	---

## Temperature Data

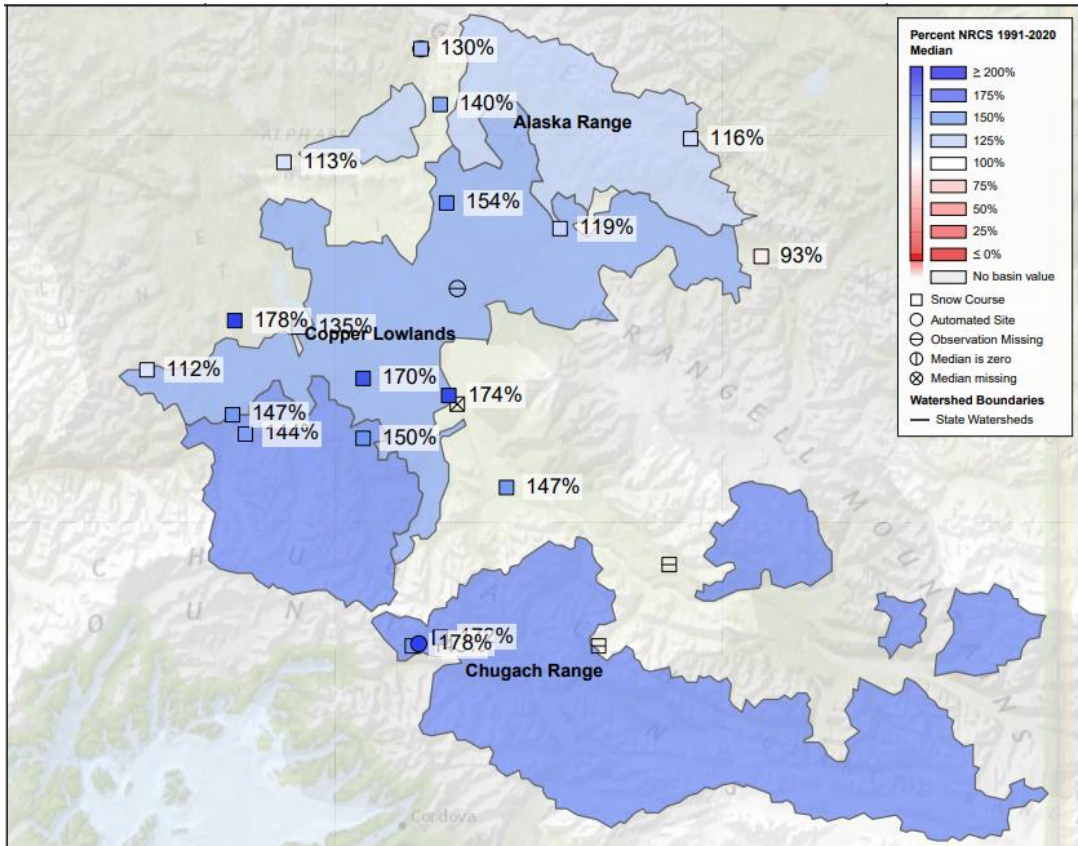
Source: NOAA ACIS



# Copper Basin



## Snowpack Map

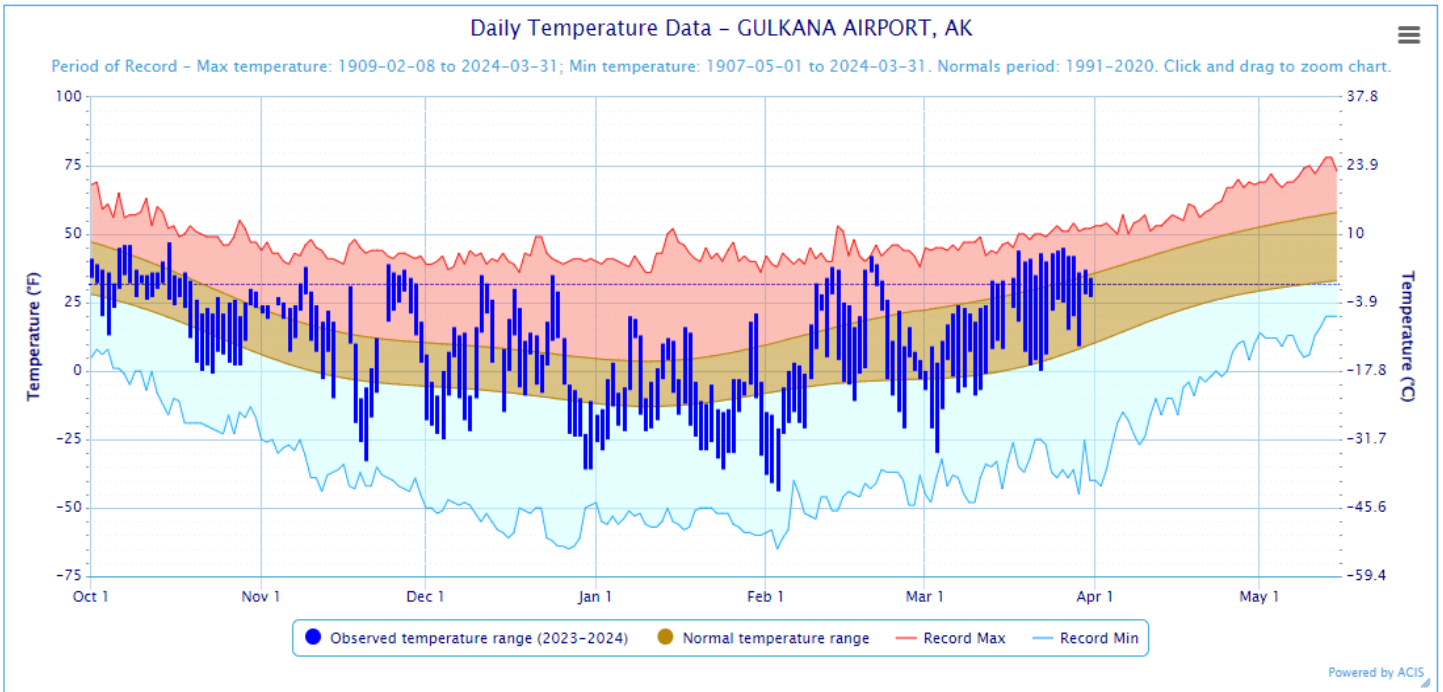




# Copper Basin

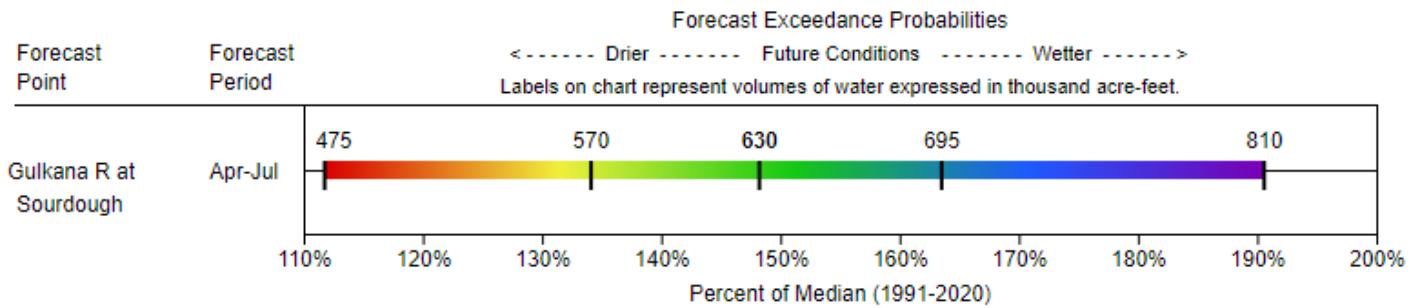
## Temperature Chart

Source: NOAA ACIS



## Streamflow Forecasts

### COPPER RIVER Water Supply Forecasts March 1, 2024



# Copper Basin

## Snowpack

On March 1, 2024, the Copper River Basin remains the crown jewel of the Alaska Snow Survey network. Every measurement in this basin is reading above Normal and includes several period-of-record maximums. Many of these records are the same as last month, including Upper Tsaina and May Creek SNOTELS and the Sanford River Aerial Marker. The mid-February heat wave was felt in the lower elevations of this basin and Kenny Lake School which was a record last month, was measured with less SWE on March 1 than it was on February 1. However, its measurement remains above Normal. Towards Thompson Pass, the Tsaina River Snow Course, which wasn't able to get measured last month, is reporting the second highest SWE in fifty-two years of observation. The Copper River Snowpack on March 1 is remarkable.

Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020
Chistochina	1950	22	33	3.8	7.3	119%
Copper Center	1264	30	---	6.5	---	---
Curtis Lake	2850	35	41	7.1*	8.6	178%
Dadina Lake	2160	33	35	7.9	6.8	146%
Fielding Lake	3000	45	45	11.2	10.2	130%
Fielding Lake SNOTEL	3000	35	39	9.5*	9.5	---
Gulkana River SNOTEL	1830	27	36	---	8.5	---
Haggard Creek	2540	36	46	8	10.5	154%
Horsepasture Pass	4300	33	32	6.3*	8.1	113%
Horsepasture Pass SNOTEL	4300	32	34	---	---	---
Kenny Lake School	1300	23	27	4.7	5.7	147%
Lake Louise	2400	27	38	5.4	8.4	135%
Little Nelchina	2650	29	37	6.3	6.8	147%
Look Eyrie SNOTEL	5040	109	142	---	---	---
Lost Creek	3030	15	---	2.7	---	93%
Lowe River	600	69	48	22.9	13.7	157%
May Creek SNOTEL	1610	29	35	7.4*	7.3	168%
Mentasta Pass	2430	27	---	5.8	---	116%
Monsoon Lake	3100	30	38	6.2	7.8	113%
Mt. Eyak SNOTEL	1405	---	73	23.7*	24.9	123%
Nicks Valley SNOTEL	4280	136	82	---	---	---
Paxson	2650	37	47	8.1	10.6	140%
Sanford River	2280	39	38	9.7*	8.2	187%
St. Anne Lake	1990	32	33	6.6	7.4	150%
Tazlina	1250	28	29	6.1	6.7	174%
Tolsona Creek	2000	30	35	6.8	7.2	170%
Tsaina River	1650	77	55	23.2	16.1	172%
Twin Lakes	2400	33	36	7.2*	7.7	144%
Upper Tsaina River SNOTEL	1750	97	58	29.5	16.8	178%
Worthington Glacier	2100	94	69	31.4	21.7	145%

\*Estimate

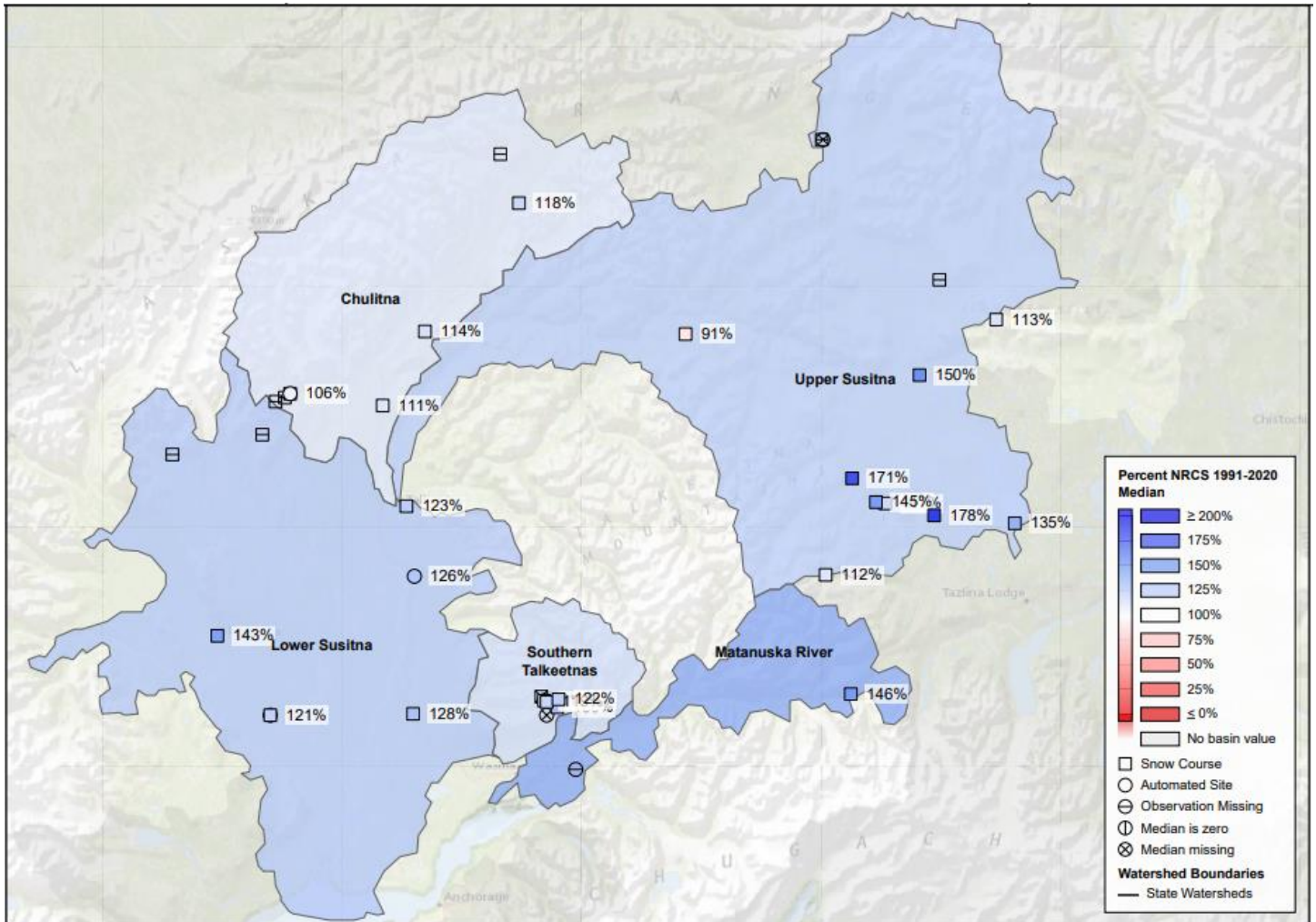
## Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Fielding Lake	3000	9.3	11.5	---	---
Gulkana River	1830	7.1	9	---	---
May Creek	1610	9.8	10.9	5.8	169%
Mt. Eyak	1405	75.9	70.2	63.6	119%
Upper Tsaina River	1750	30	23.9	23.5	128%

# Matanuska—Susitna Basin



## Snowpack Map

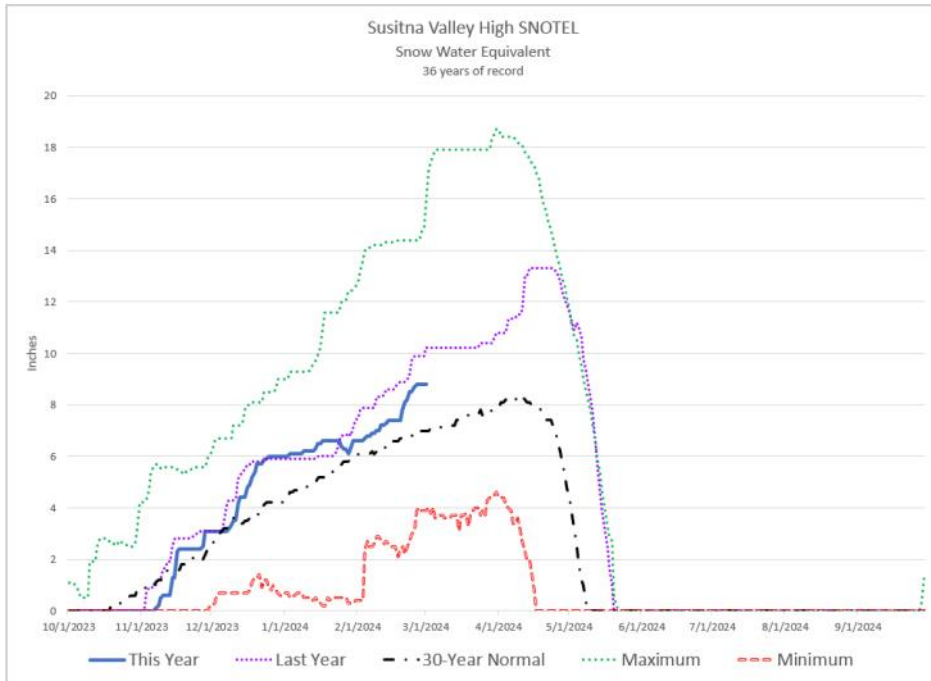


## Snowpack

Snowpack in the Matanuska and Susitna basins is above Normal on March 1, 2024. In the upper reaches of the Susitna, on the eastern side of the Talkeetna Mountains, record snowpack is being reported at several Aerial Markers. The 6.5 inches of SWE estimated at the Square Lake Aerial Marker is a fifty-eight-year record. Closer to the coast the snowpack is less exceptional compared to Normal, even if absolute values far exceed the upper reaches. Fishhook Basin was measured with nearly triple the SWE as Square Lake, however its 18.2 inches is 119% Normal and in the top third in its sixty-one years of observation. Sheep Mountain, the sole measurement in the Matanuska basin, is above Normal for the date.

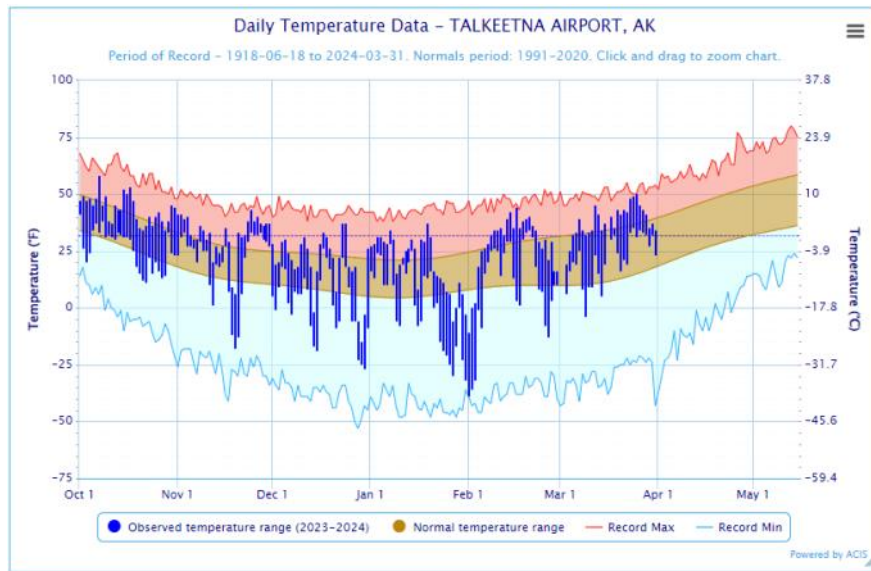
Mountain snow course, was measured at 167% normal and the sixth highest in sixty-six years of observation.

# Matanuska—Susitna Basin



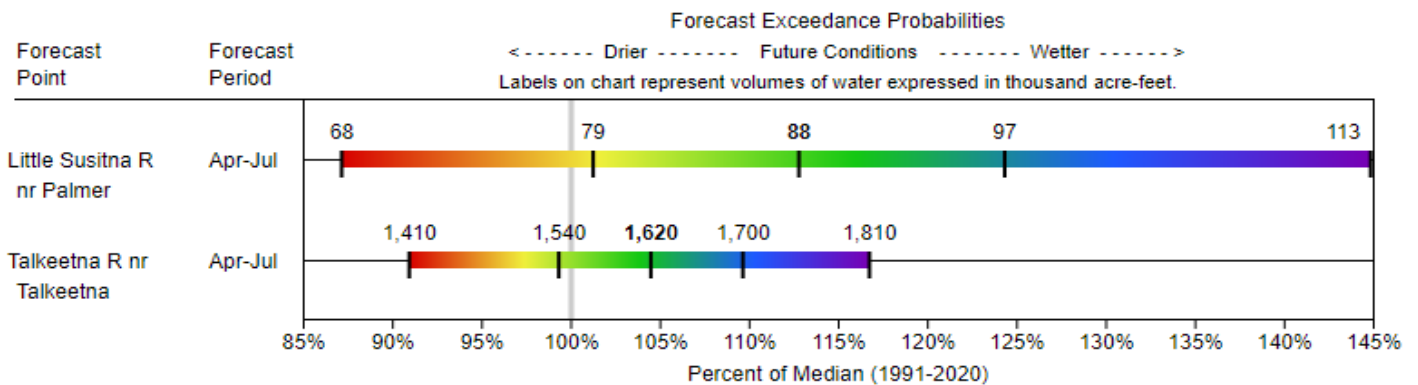
## Temperature Data

Source: NOAA ACIS



## Streamflow Forecasts

### MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BASINS Water Supply Forecasts March 1, 2024



# 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	160	46	43	11.4	11.5	121%
Alexander Lake SNOTEL	160	39	42	9.3	8.5	---
Archangel Road	2200	47	53	13.2	14.9	122%
Birthday Pass	4020	100	82	32	25.6	---
Blueberry Hill	1200	50	52	13.2	11.6	114%
Curtis Lake	2850	35	41	7.1*	8.6	178%
Denali View	700	41	42	10.2	9	111%
E. Fork Chulitna	1770	49	44	12.9	9.8	118%
Fishhook Basin	3300	59	66	18.2	19.6	119%
Fog Lakes	2120	23	32	4.1*	6	91%
Frostbite Bottom SNOTEL	2700	51	53	15.3	15.1	---
Horsepasture Pass	4300	33	32	6.3*	8.1	113%
Horsepasture Pass SNOTEL	4300	32	34	---	---	---
Independence Mine	3550	68	69	20.9	20.9	110%
Independence Mine SNOTEL	3550	56	69	18.5	21.2	---
Lake Louise	2400	27	38	5.4	8.4	135%
Little Susitna	1700	45	50	12	13.2	130%
Monahan Flat SNOTEL	2710	33	31	6.9	5.7	---
Monsoon Lake	3100	30	38	6.2	7.8	113%
Moraine SNOTEL	2100	35	27	8.8	6	157%
Sheep Mountain	2900	30	37	7	8	146%
Skwentna	160	51	39	13.3	9.4	143%
Spring Creek SNOTEL	580	0*	7	---	---	---
Square Lake	2950	31	33	6.5*	6.2	171%
Susitna Valley High SNOTEL	375	30	42	8.8*	10.2	126%
Talkeetna	350	31	36	7.4	8.4	123%
Tokositna Valley SNOTEL	850	---	51	13.0*	12.2	106%
Tyone River	2400	30	31	6.6*	6	150%
Upper Oshetna River	3150	29	33	5.8*	6.1	145%
Upper Sanona Creek	3100	32	30	5.6*	5.4	117%
Willow Airstrip	200	32	44	7.3	9.7	128%

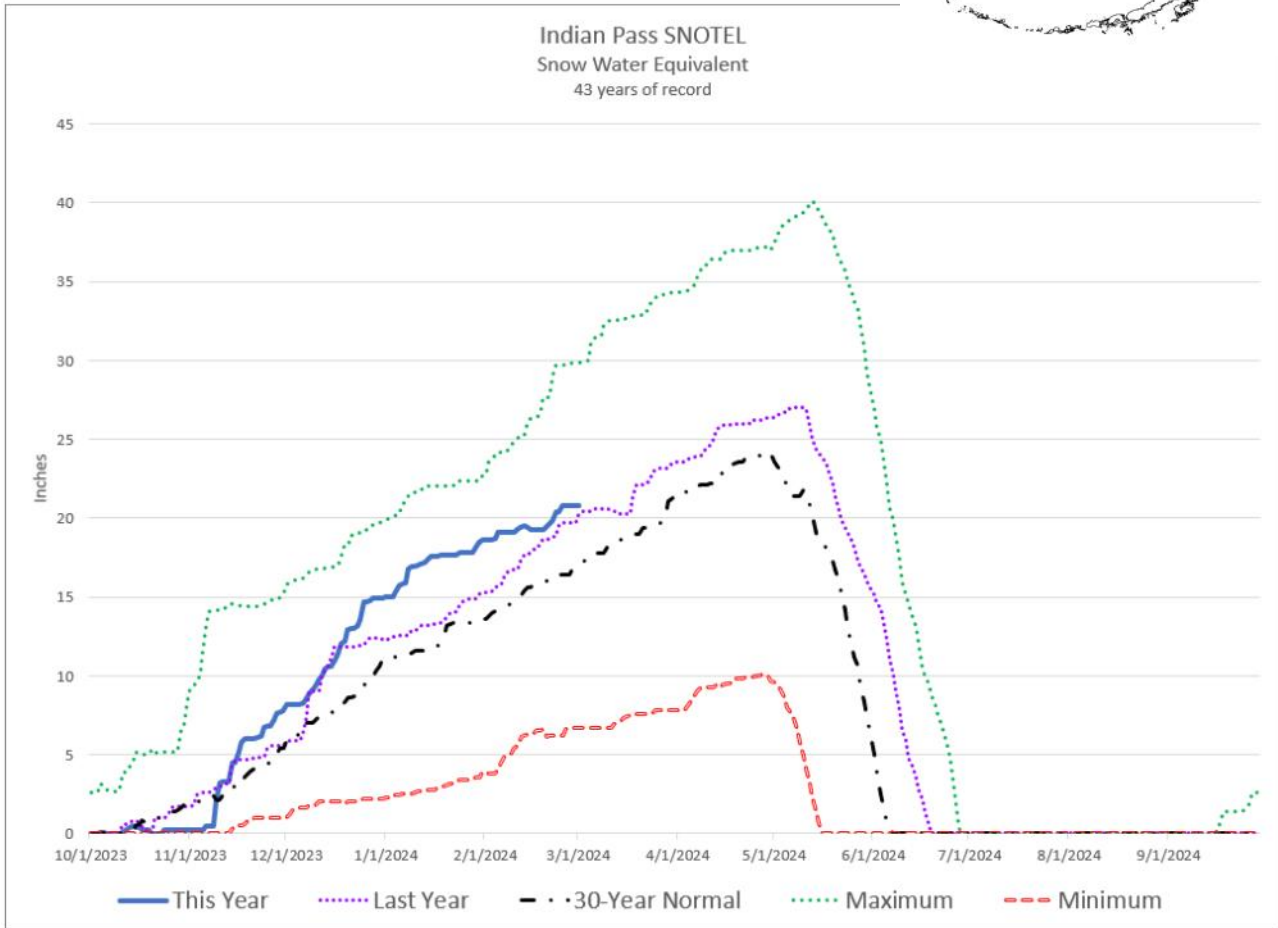
\*Estimate

## Precipitation Data

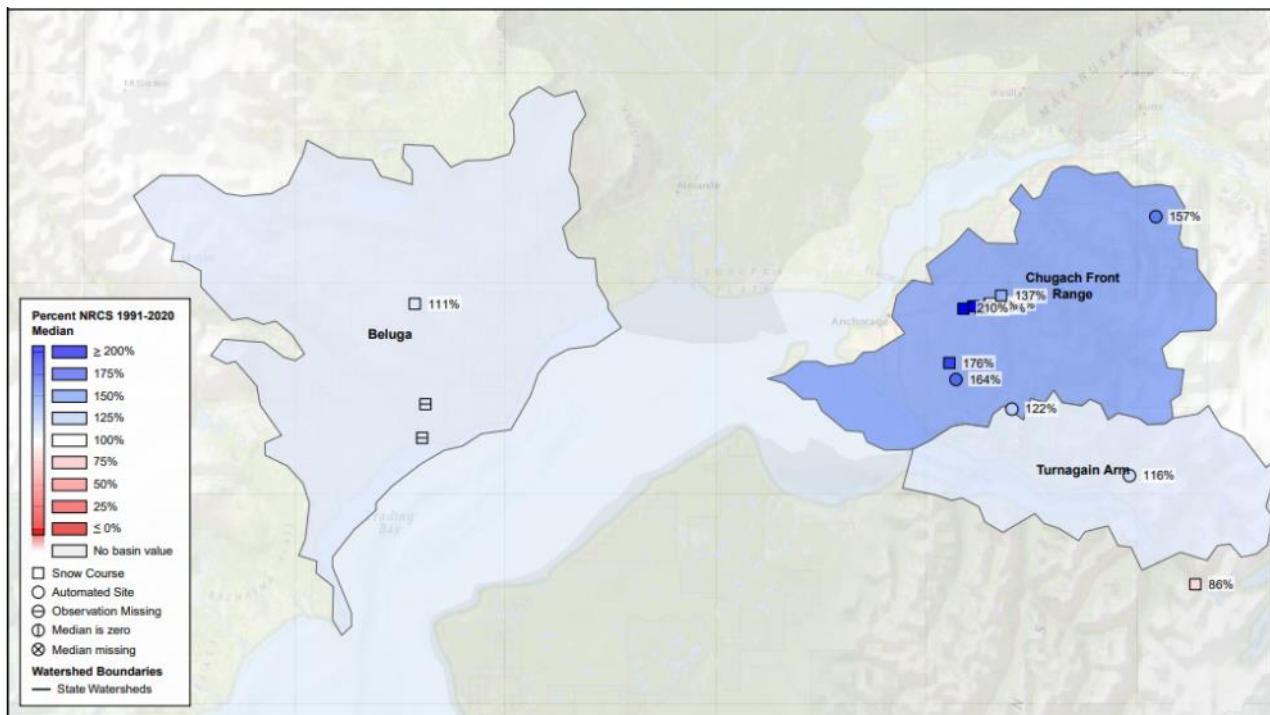
Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Alexander Lake	160	13.7	14.5	---	---
Frostbite Bottom	2700	17.1	16.7	---	---
Independence Mine	3550	18	18.9	15	120%
Monahan Flat	2710	7.9	8.3	6.9	114%
Moraine	2100	12.3	8.6	9.3	132%
Spring Creek	580	8.7	8.4	---	---
Susitna Valley High	375	11.1	13.8	10.1	110%
Tokositna Valley	850	16.2	20	18.1	90%



# Northern Cook Inlet



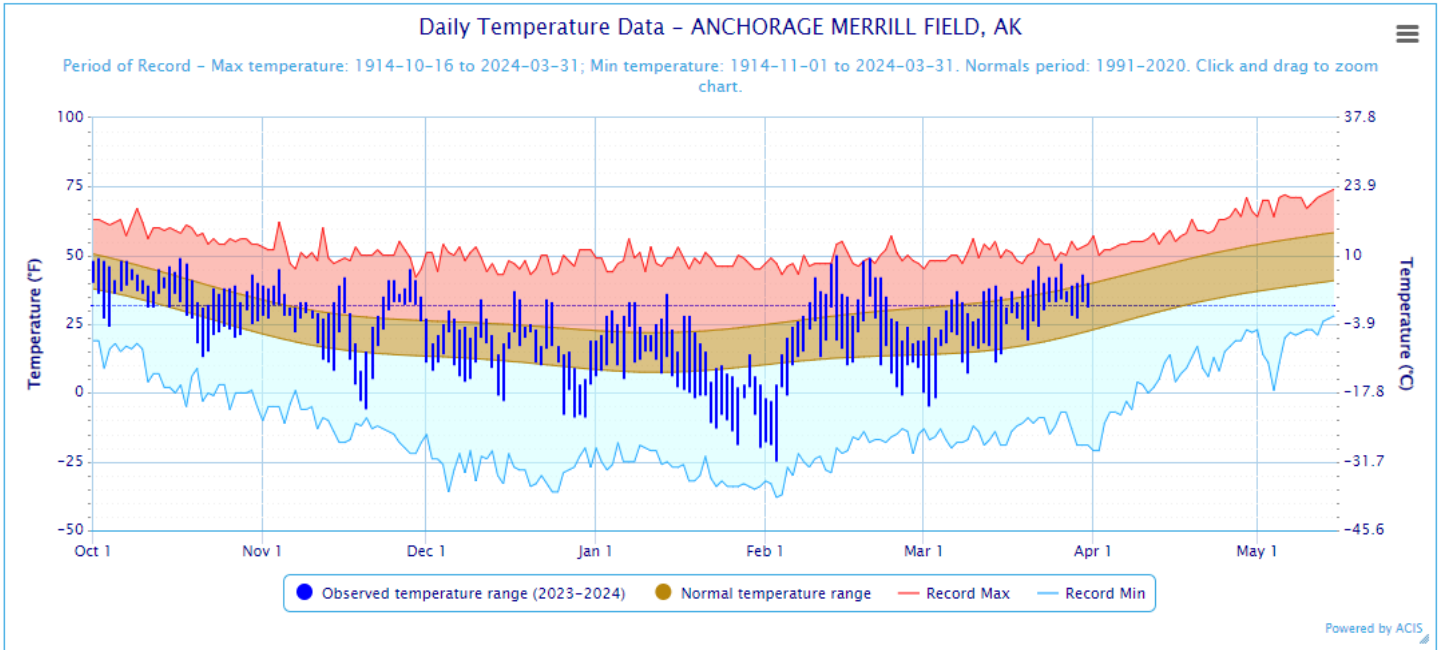
## Snowpack Map



# Northern Cook Inlet

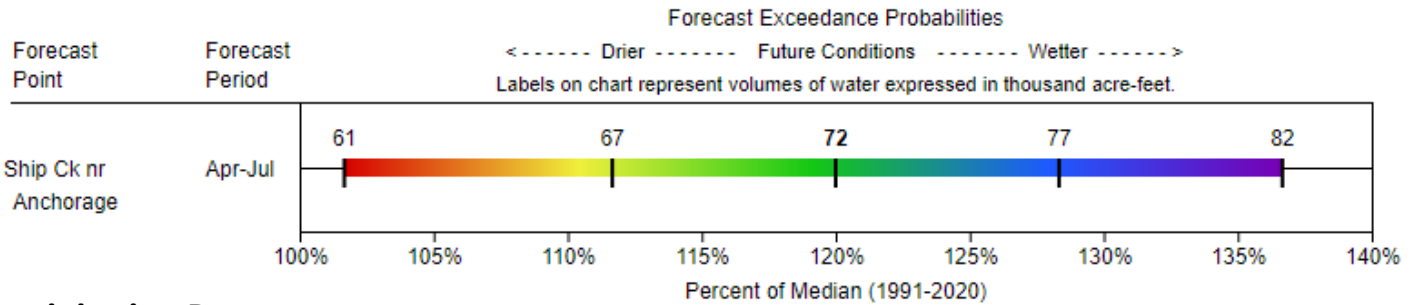
## Temperature Data

Source: NOAA ACIS



## Streamflow Forecasts

### NORTHERN COOK INLET Water Supply Forecasts March 1, 2024



## Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Anchorage Hillside	2080	17	13.4	12.1	141%
Frostbite Bottom	2700	17.1	16.7	---	---
Indian Pass	2350	27.6	25.2	21.6	128%
Moraine	2100	12.3	8.6	9.3	132%
Mt. Alyeska	1540	35.9	29	37.6	95%
Spring Creek	580	8.7	8.4	---	---

# Northern Cook Inlet

## Snowpack

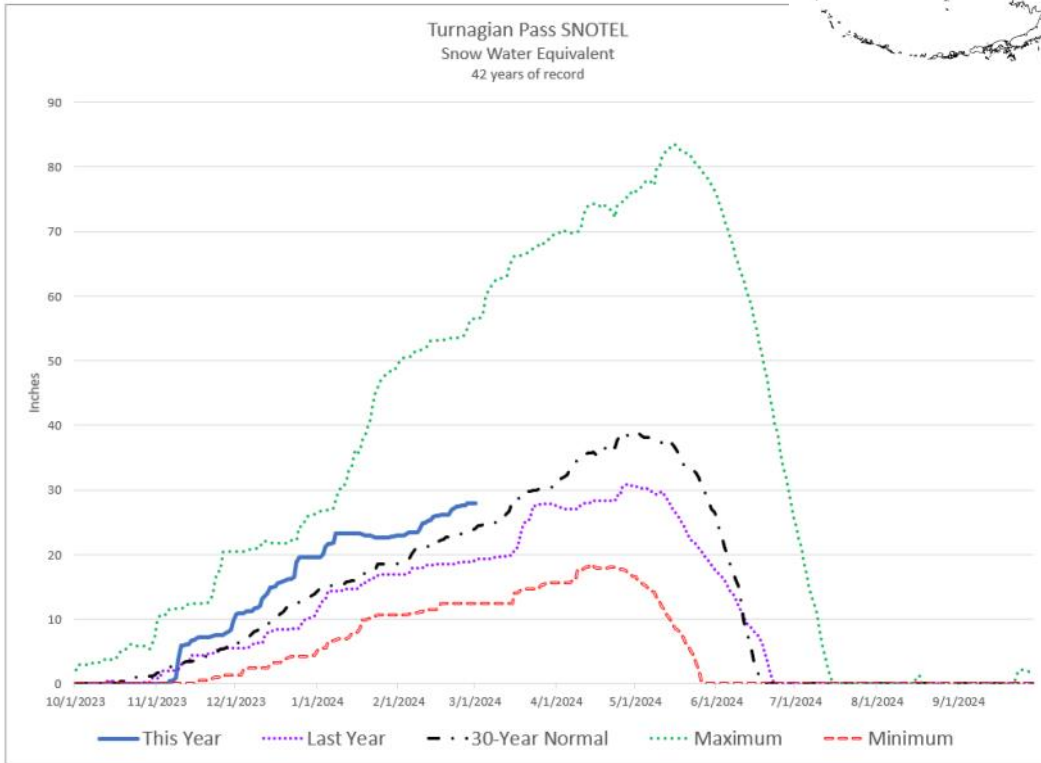
Despite the middle of the month being exceptionally warm and windy, with a few automated stations reporting melt, the North Cook Inlet snowpack continues to boast near record snowpack on March 1, 2024. The snowpack in this region is most exceptional in the lower elevations around Anchorage. There are five snow courses that go up the Arctic Valley Road and have been measured on March 1 for roughly sixty years. The 8.2 inches of SWE measured at 500 feet ASL at Arctic Valley #1 is an all-time record. The 13 inches of SWE measured at 3000 feet ASL at Arctic Ski Bowl is above Normal but nowhere near the record 25 inches of SWE measured in 2012. Similarly, the Kincaid Snow Course was measured with exceptional snowpack, as was South Campbell Creek. Indian Pass and Mt. Alyeska have above Normal snowpack.

## Snowpack Data

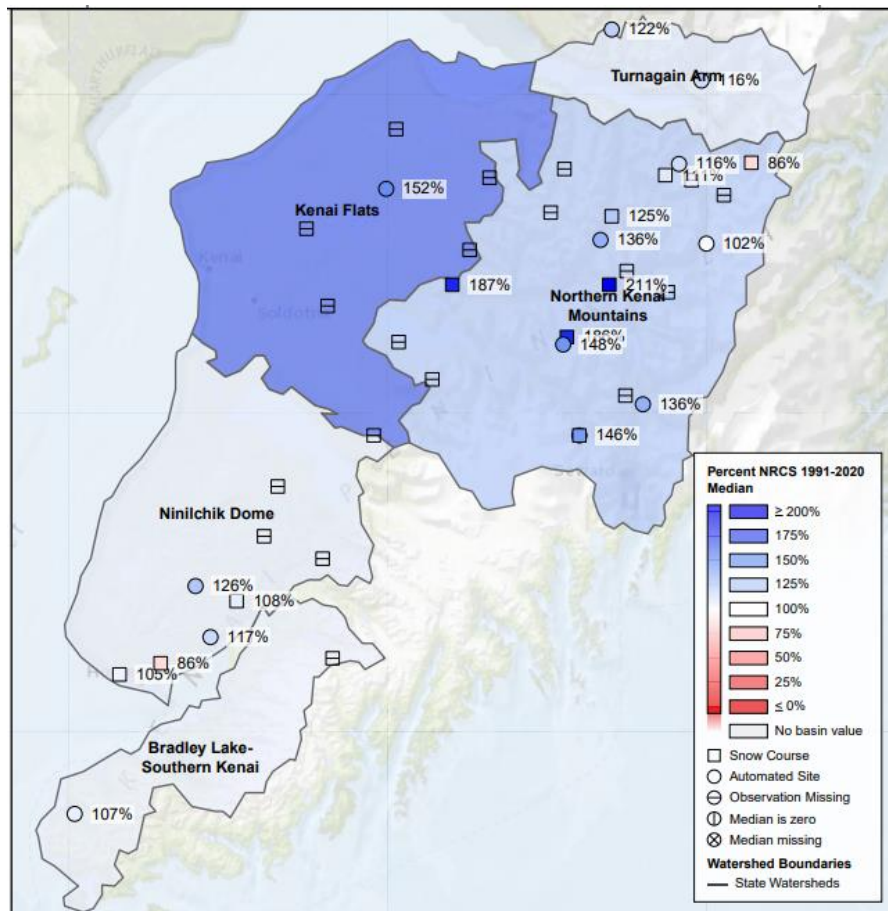
Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		1991-2020 % of Normal
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	
Anchorage Hillside SNOTEL	2080	45	41	12.5*	10.6	164%
Arctic Ski Bowl	3000	37	50	13	18.8	137%
Arctic Valley 1	500	26	28	8.2	7.4	210%
Arctic Valley 2	1000	31	34	9.3	8.8	207%
Arctic Valley 3	1450	35	37	10.5	10.3	159%
Arctic Valley 4	2030	33	35	9.5	9.6	148%
Frostbite Bottom SNOTEL	2700	51	53	15.3	15.1	---
Indian Pass SNOTEL	2350	68	67	20.8*	20.2	122%
Kincaid Park	250	27	30	7.4	7.7	195%
Little Susitna	1700	45	50	12	13.2	130%
Lone Ridge	1675	85	70	26.4*	20.7	111%
Mcneil River SGS SNOTEL	140	16	---	---	---	---
Moraine SNOTEL	2100	35	27	8.8	6	157%
Mt. Alyeska SNOTEL	1540	78	56	27.7*	16.6	116%
Portage Valley	50	28	27	9.6	6.1	86%
South Campbell Creek	1200	37	36	9.5	8.5	176%
South Fork Eagle River	2165	47	48	10.2	11.8	
Spring Creek SNOTEL	580	0*	7	---	---	---

\*Estimate

# Kenai Peninsula



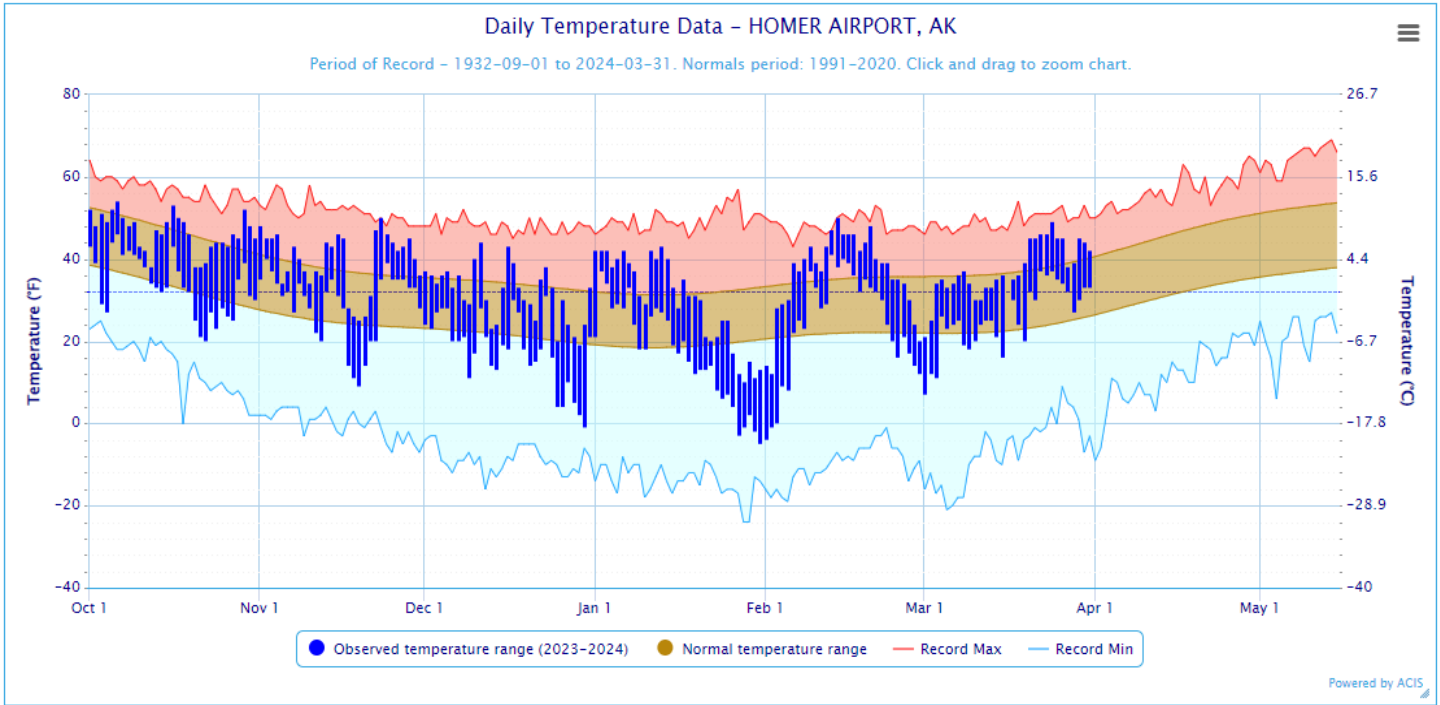
## Snowpack Map



# Kenai Peninsula

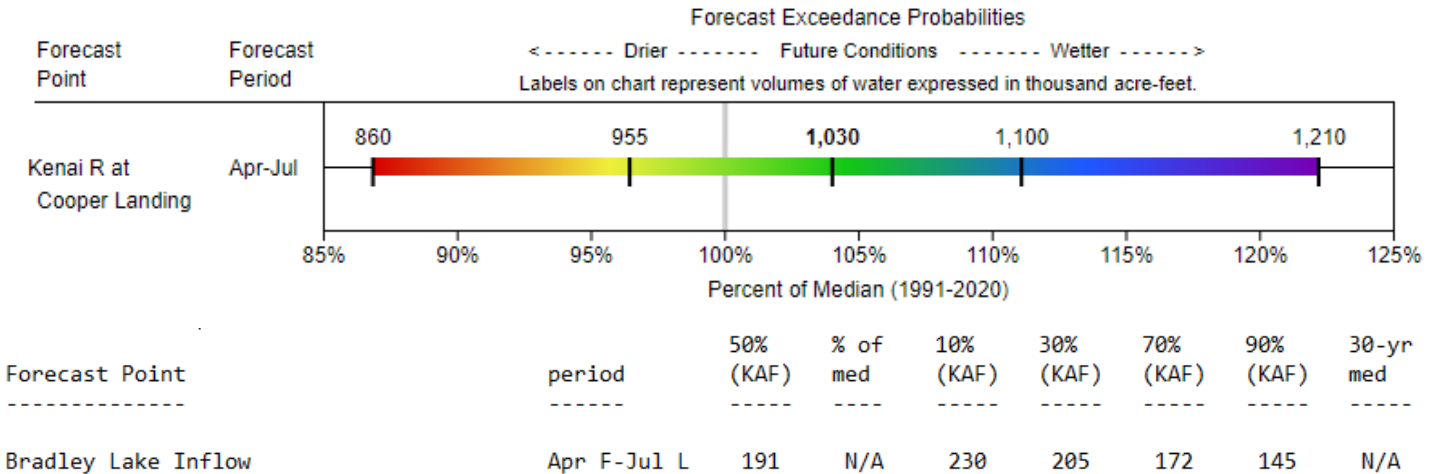
## Temperature Chart

Source: NOAA ACIS



## Streamflow Forecasts

### KENAI PENINSULA Water Supply Forecasts March 1, 2024





# Kenai Peninsula

## Snowpack

Snowpack on the Kenai Peninsula is mostly above Normal on March 1, 2024. Snow measurements are most exceptionally above Normal in the central Kenai and are bookended by two below normal measurements on either side of the Peninsula. The Portage snow course felt the brunt of the mid February melt down, lost SWE over the month, and is now reporting slightly below Normal snowpack for the date. Near Homer measurements also likely took a loss mid-month. The measurements ultimately made increases over the whole month, and other than the Bridge Creek Snow Course, are reporting near Normal snowpack for the date. After the melt down a storm track that favored the central Kenai took aim and contributed to March 1 measurements that are well above Normal at Moose Pass, Cooper Lake, Snug Harbor and Kenai Summit.

## Snowpack Data

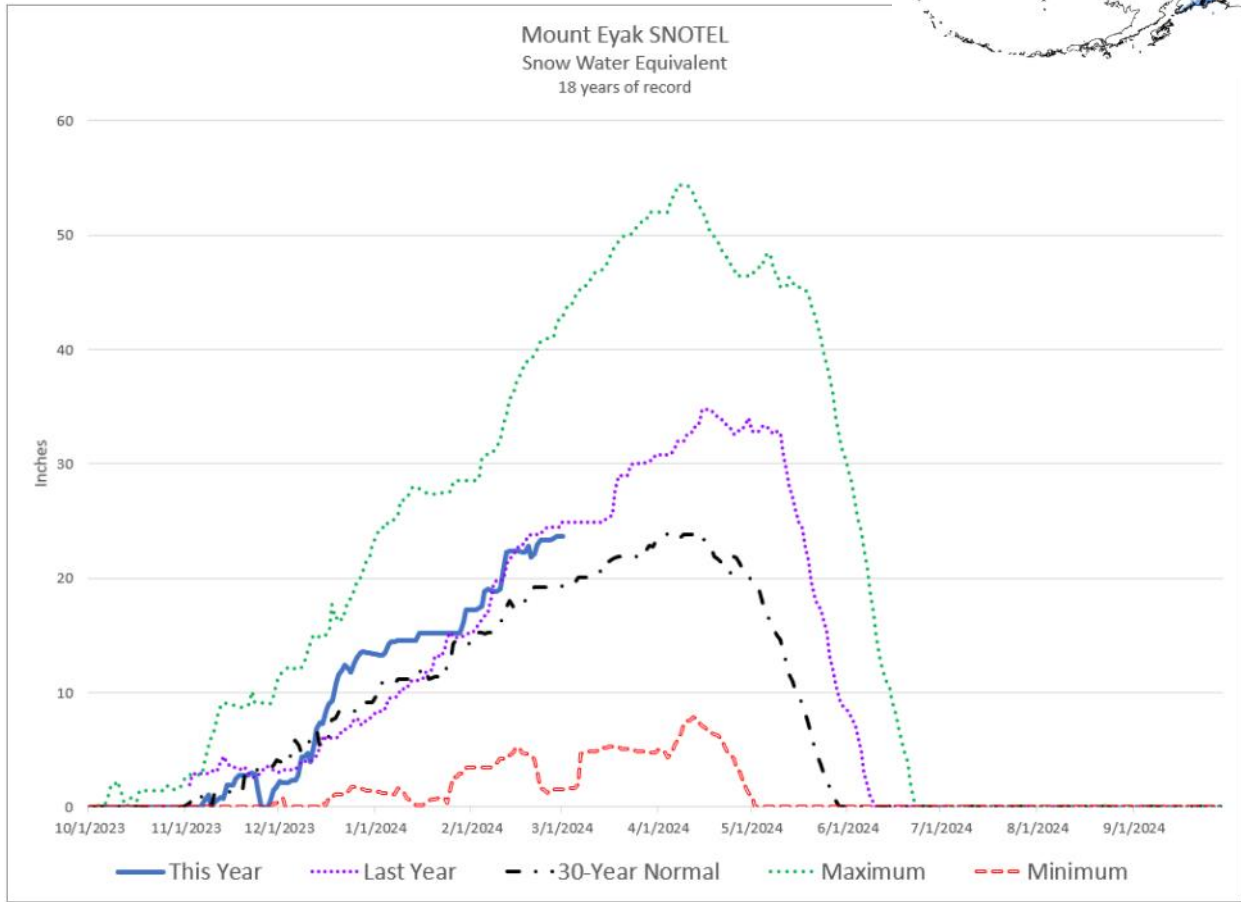
Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		1991-2020 % of Normal
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	
Anchor River Divide SNOTEL	1653	44	41	12.3*	10	126%
Bertha Creek	950	50	40	15.4	12	111%
Bridge Creek	1300	32	31	8.2	7.2	86%
Cooper Lake SNOTEL	1200	55	45	18.3*	11.1	148%
Demonstration Forest	780	29	30	6.6	6.8	105%
Eagle Lake	1400	41	32	10.8	7.8	108%
Exit Glacier	400	57	55	18.8	15	146%
Exit Glacier SNOTEL	400	60	56	17.4*	15.1	---
Grandview SNOTEL	1100	72*	67	24.6*	19.4	102%
Grouse Creek Divide SNOTEL	700	66	46	18.0*	13.3	136%
Indian Pass SNOTEL	2350	68	67	20.8*	20.2	122%
Jean Lake	620	23	23	5.8	5.5	187%
Kenai Moose Pens SNOTEL	300	22	28	6.1*	6.8	153%
Kenai Summit	1390	53	46	15.3	13.8	125%
Lower Kachemak Creek SNOTEL	1915	50	46	---	---	---
Mcneil Canyon SNOTEL	1320	32	33	10.2*	8.6	117%
Middle Fork Bradley SNOTEL	2300	47	26	---	---	---
Moose Pass	700	41	36	11.4	9.7	211%
Mt. Alyeska SNOTEL	1540	78	56	27.7*	16.6	116%
Nuka Glacier SNOTEL	1250	67	67	---	---	---
Port Graham SNOTEL	300	17*	---	6.2*	10.9	107%
Portage Valley	50	28	27	9.6	6.1	86%
Snug Harbor Road	500	26	22	7.8	5.1	186%
Summit Creek SNOTEL	1400	46	41	12.5*	9	136%
Turnagain Pass SNOTEL	1880	89	68	27.9*	19.2	116%

\*Estimate

## Precipitation Data

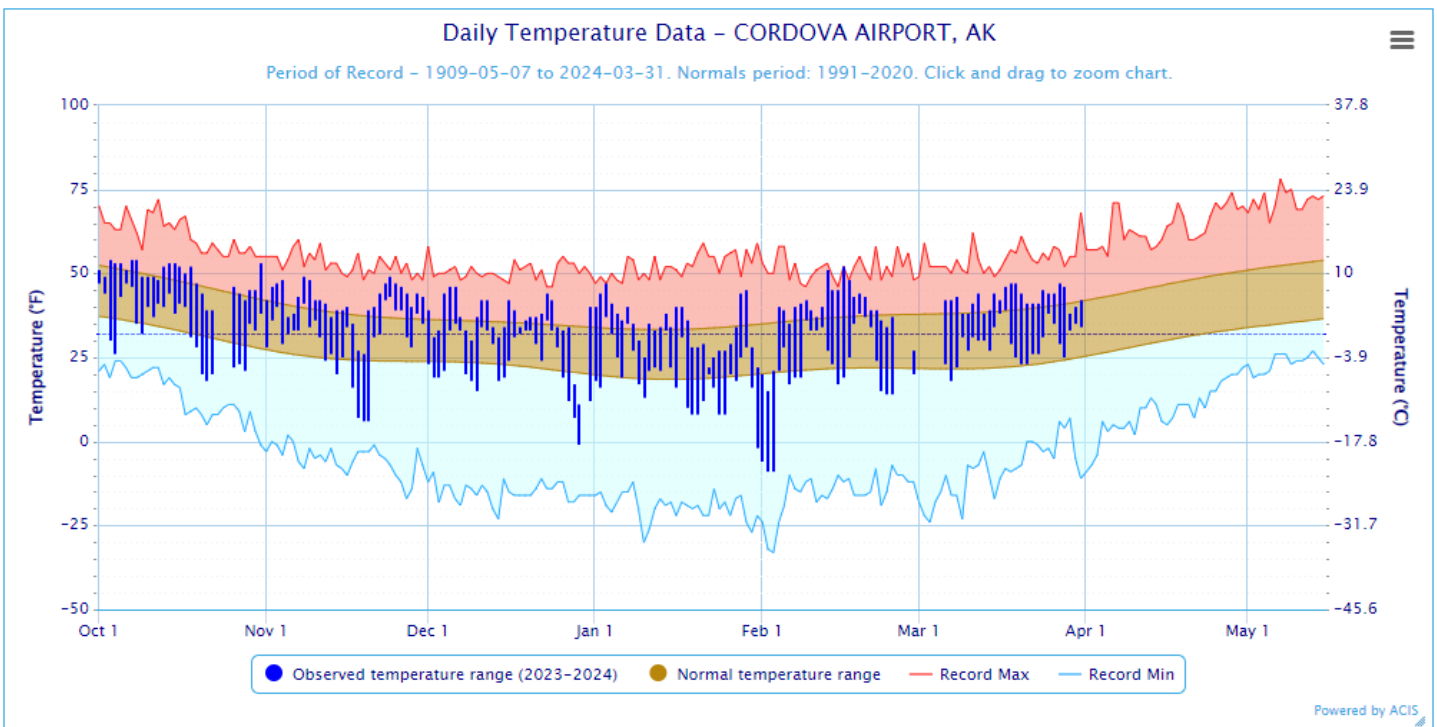
Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Anchor River Divide	1653	13.7	12.1	16.4	84%
Cooper Lake	1200	23.4	17.2	22.4	104%
Exit Glacier	400	39.8	29.4	---	---
Grandview	1100	30.7	28.4	35.7	86%
Grouse Creek Divide	700	25	23.3	32.8	76%
Indian Pass	2350	27.6	25.2	21.6	128%
Kenai Moose Pens	300	8.4	8.4	7.4	114%
Lower Kachemak Creek	1915	23	20.4	---	---
Mcneil Canyon	1320	12.9	10.1	15.2	85%
Middle Fork Bradley	2300	25.2	19.6	27.3	92%
Mt. Alyeska	1540	35.9	29	37.6	95%
Nuka Glacier	1250	29	27.8	44.8	65%
Port Graham	300	37.1	31.6	42.4	88%
Summit Creek	1400	16.2	13	15	108%
Turnagain Pass	1880	28.6	24.4	31.6	91%

# Western Gulf – Prince William Sound



## Temperature Chart

Source: NOAA ACIS



# Western Gulf – Prince William Sound

## Snowpack

Snowpack in the Western Gulf is above Normal on March 1, 2024. The snowpack around Valdez, a place known for massive snowfall, is massive this year. The Valdez and Lowe River snow courses have been measured for over fifty years and are both boasting well above Normal snowpack. The nearly 23 inches of SWE measured at Lowe River is the fourth highest in fifty-two years of observation. Temperatures at the stations near Seward and Cordova soared in the middle of February. Mt. Eyak was roasting with a high of 54 degrees Fahrenheit on Valentine’s Day. Grouse Creek Divide and Mt. Eyak both reported decreases in snowpack during this hot snap, even though total SWE increased over the month. These increases were not as exceptional as the measurements around Valdez, but all stations made gains and the snowpack of the Western Gulf is above Normal.

## Snowpack Map



# Western Gulf — Prince William Sound

## Snowpack Data

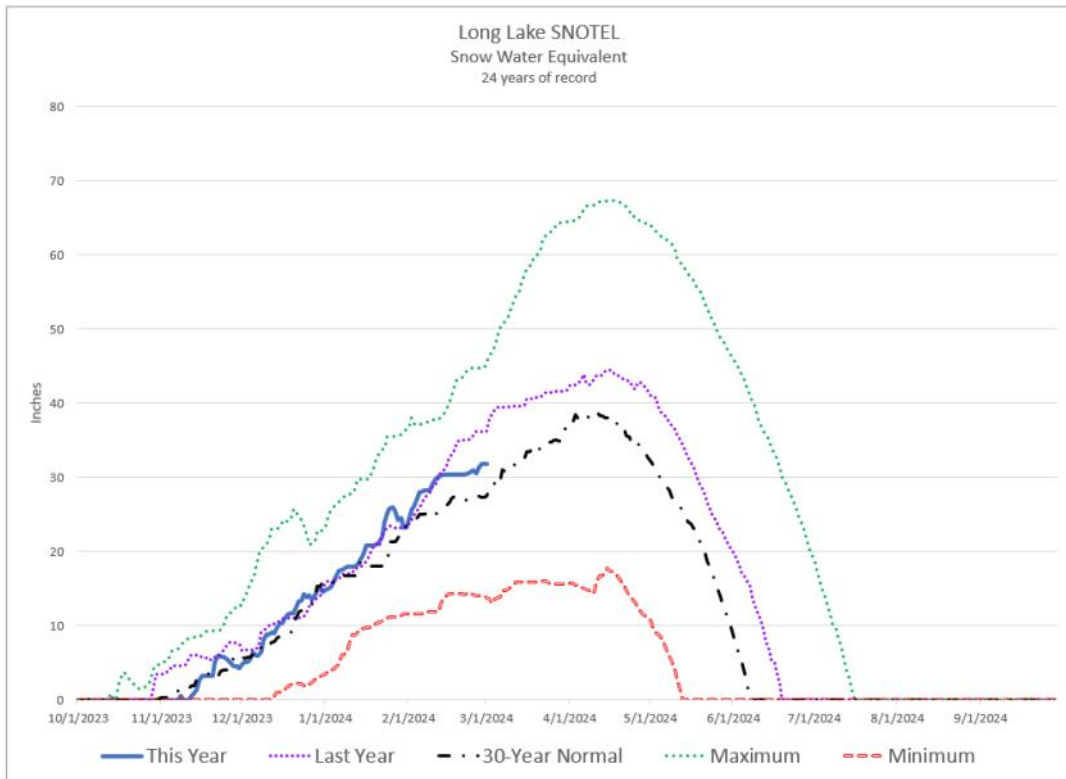
Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Cooper Lake SNOTEL	1200	55	45	18.3*	11.1	148%
Esther Island SNOTEL	50	39	51	---	---	---
Exit Glacier	400	57	55	18.8	15	146%
Exit Glacier SNOTEL	400	60	56	17.4*	15.1	---
Grouse Creek Divide SNOTEL	700	66	46	18.0*	13.3	136%
Lowe River	600	69	48	22.9	13.7	157%
Mt. Eyak SNOTEL	1405	---	73	23.7*	24.9	123%
Nicks Valley SNOTEL	4280	136	82	---	---	---
Nuka Glacier SNOTEL	1250	67	67	---	---	---
Sugarloaf Mtn SNOTEL	550	85	62	---	---	---
Tsaina River	1650	77	55	23.2	16.1	172%
Upper Tsaina River SNOTEL	1750	97	58	29.5	16.8	178%
Valdez	50	64	44	20.4	11.5	155%
Worthington Glacier	2100	94	69	31.4	21.7	145%

\*Estimate

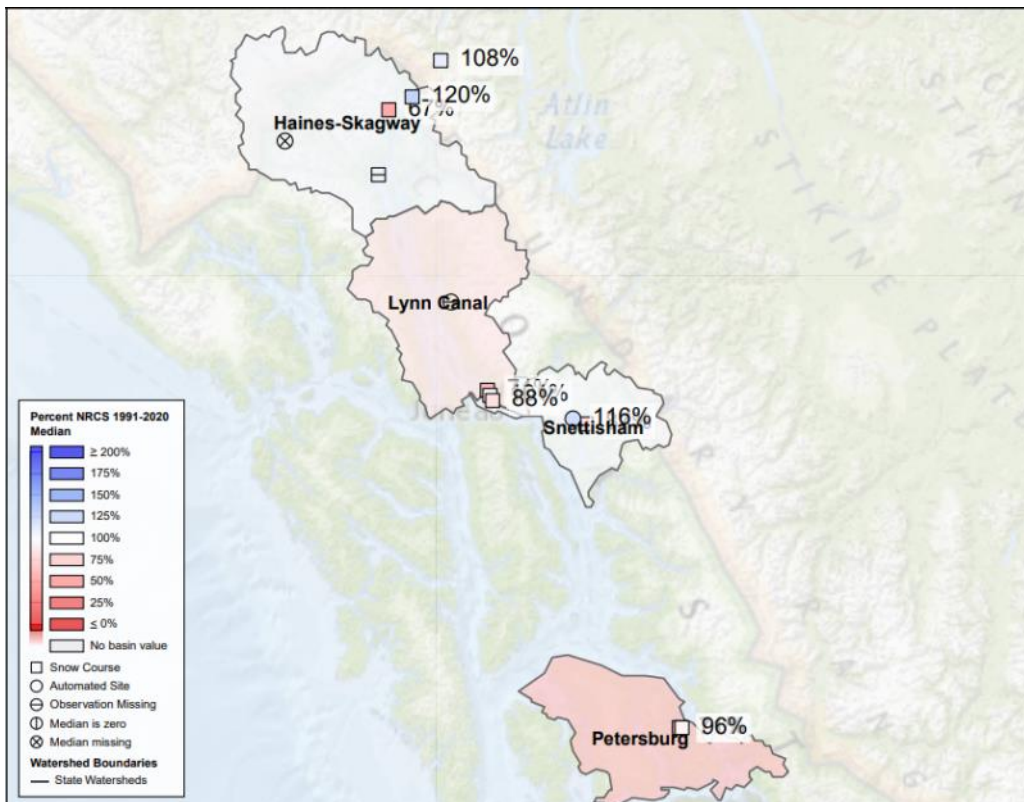
## Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Cooper Lake	1200	23.4	17.2	22.4	104%
Esther Island	50	73.6	65.2	76.4	96%
Exit Glacier	400	39.8	29.4	---	---
Grouse Creek Divide	700	25	23.3	32.8	76%
Mt. Eyak	1405	75.9	70.2	63.6	119%
Nuka Glacier	1250	29	27.8	44.8	65%
Sugarloaf Mtn	550	44.8	39.4	36.6	122%
Upper Tsaina River	1750	30	23.9	23.5	128%

# Southeast



## Snowpack Map

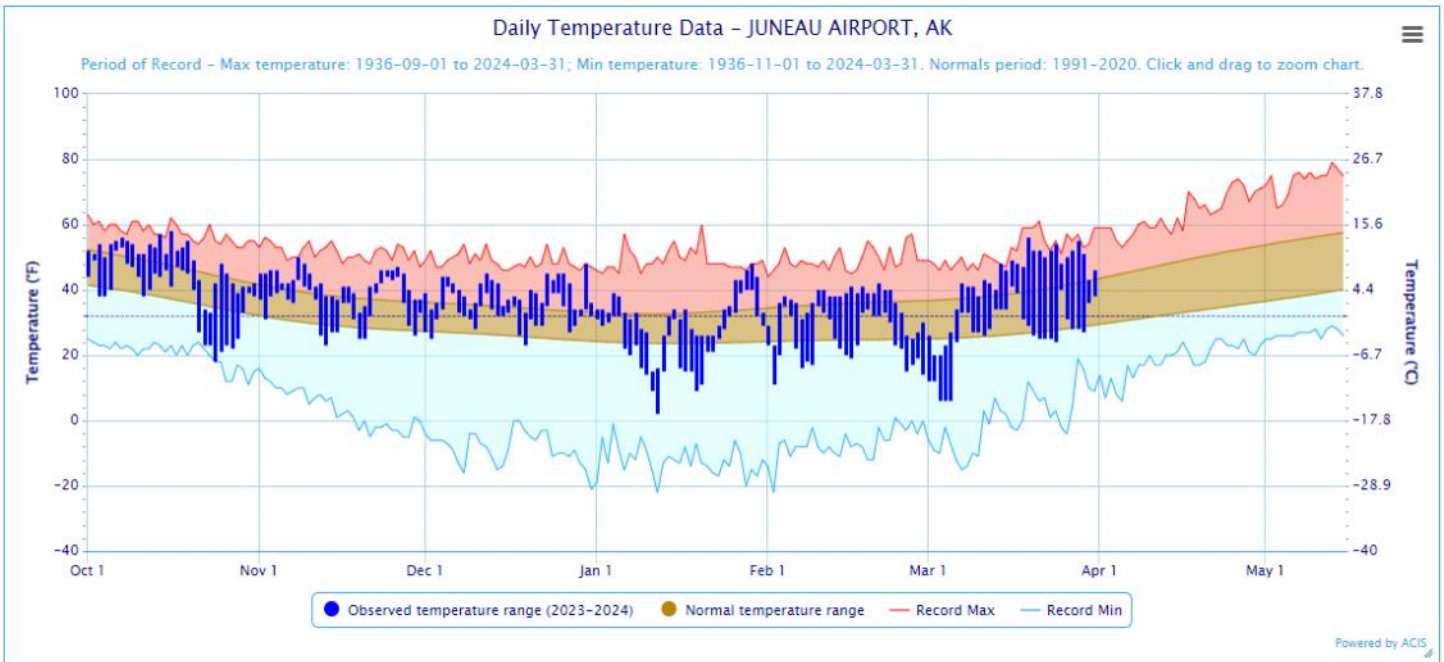




# Southeast

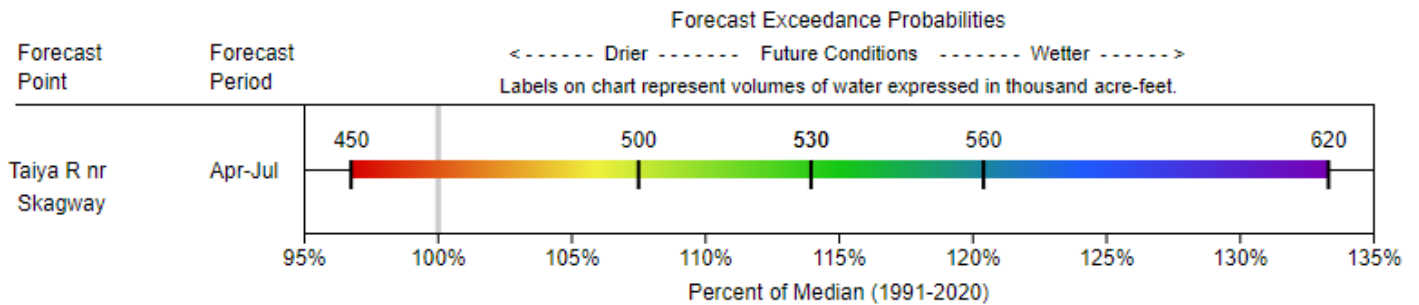
## Temperature Data

Source: NOAA ACIS



## Streamflow Forecasts

### SOUTHEAST Water Supply Forecasts March 1, 2024



# Southeast

## Snowpack

The snowpack in Southeast Alaska is trending similar to last month with below Normal snowpack at lower elevations, and Normal to above Normal at higher elevations. Coming off the heels of the snowiest January on record in Juneau, February snowfall was less exceptional. On the northern panhandle, January precipitation was paltry and snow measurements were similar to what they were measured at last month. Headed south, above Normal monthly gains were made, however these gains were not enough to counter the deficit at lower elevations and the snow measurements taken below 1000 feet elevation are all below Normal. Water year-to-date precipitation and Long Lake and Moore Creek Bridge is still the highest on record despite below average February precipitation.

## Snowpack Data

Site Name	Elev.	Snow Depth (in)		Water Content (in)		
		Current	Last Year	Current	Last Year	1991-2020 % of Normal
Cropley Lake	1650	63	100	20.2	28.7	88%
Eagle Crest	1200	50	77	13.2	19.4	101%
Fish Creek	500	8	23	2.3	6.1	74%
Flower Mountain SNOTEL	2510	76	57	28.3*	18.5	---
Heen Latinee SNOTEL	2065	56	66	---	19.6	---
Hoonah SNOTEL	1550	77	---	24	---	---
Log Cabin B.C.	2900	56	45	15.4	12.9	108%
Long Lake SNOTEL	850	---	112	31.8	36.2	116%
Moore Creek Bridge SNOTEL	2250	69	57	---	---	---
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	54	58	20.2*	17.3	120%
Mount Ripinsky SNOTEL	2500	107	---	---	---	---
Petersburg Reservoir	550	19	39	4.6	9.3	96%
Petersburg Ridge, S.	1650	52	96	12.9	28.5	71%
Speel River	280	70	83	23.2	26.8	87%
Summit	985	41	37	11.8	7.6	159%
West Creek	475	25	29	6.8	6.9	67%

\*Estimate

## Precipitation Data

Site Name	Elev.	Inches Accumulated since October 1st			
		This Year	Last Year	1991-2020 Normal	% of Normal
Hoonah	1550	43.5	---	---	---
Long Lake	850	114.8	100.2	85.3	135%
Moore Creek Bridge	2250	31.9	26.3	23.8	134%

**For further information contact:**

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

NRCS Snow Survey Office  
Daniel Fisher, Hydrologist  
800 East Palmer-Wasilla Highway, Suite 100  
Palmer, Alaska 99645  
Telephone: (907) 761-7746  
Facsimile: (907) 761-7790  
E-mail: Daniel.Fisher2@usda.gov

Fairbanks Hub Office  
Elizabeth Bezinque, Conservationist  
Telephone: (907) 479-3159 x 1010  
Facsimile: (855) 833-8625  
E-mail: Elizabeth.Bezinque@usda.gov

Homer Work Unit  
Karin Sonnen, Range Management Specialist  
Telephone: (907) 235-8177 x 103  
Facsimile: (855)711-9098  
E-mail: Karin.Sonnen@usda.gov

Central Hub Office  
Troy Hildreth, District Conservationist  
Telephone: (907) 373-6492  
Facsimile: (855) 705-9788  
E-mail: Troy.Hildreth@usda.gov