



LEO Alaska Webinar Summer 2024 Climate Review Fall 2024 Climate Outlook

Rick Thoman
Alaska and Arctic Climate Specialist
rthoman@alaska.edu
September 24, 2024

Summer 2024 Alaska Highlights

- Western Alaska
 - Excessive storminess in July & August
 - Severe coast flooding Kukso coast Aug 16-19, ex-typhoon Ampil Aug 21
- North Slope
 - All-time record high temperatures central North Slope coast early August
- Interior
 - Early summer wildfire and smoke
- Southcentral
 - Rainy, especially July



August 19 Tuntutuliak Flooding
Credit: C. Ondola and KYUK

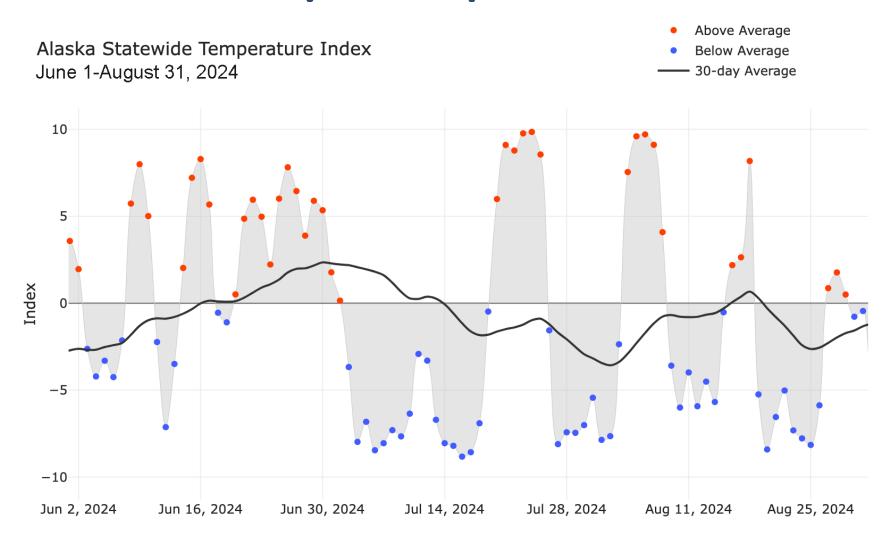
Summer 2024 Alaska Highlights

- Southeast
 - Record high July rainfall Juneau
 - Mendenhall River flooding early August
 - Ketchikan landslide
 - Moderate drought southern Southeast since early July

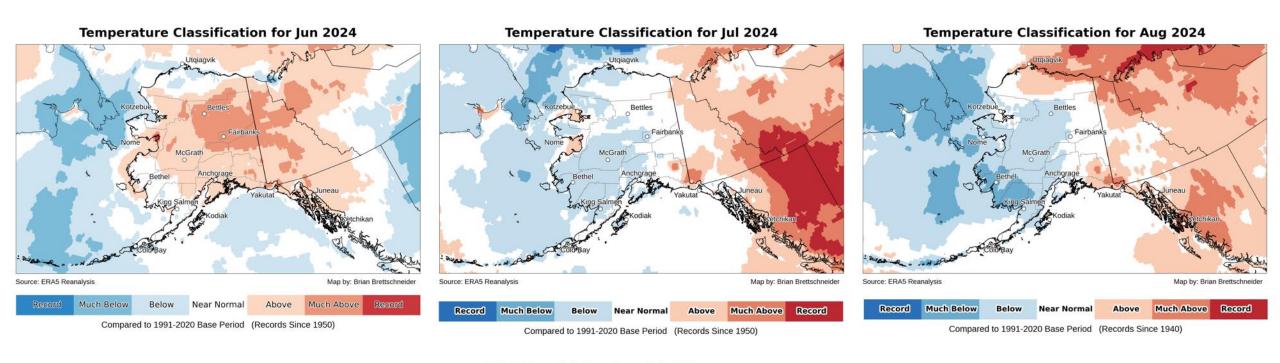


Image credit:
Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

Alaska Daily Temperature Index

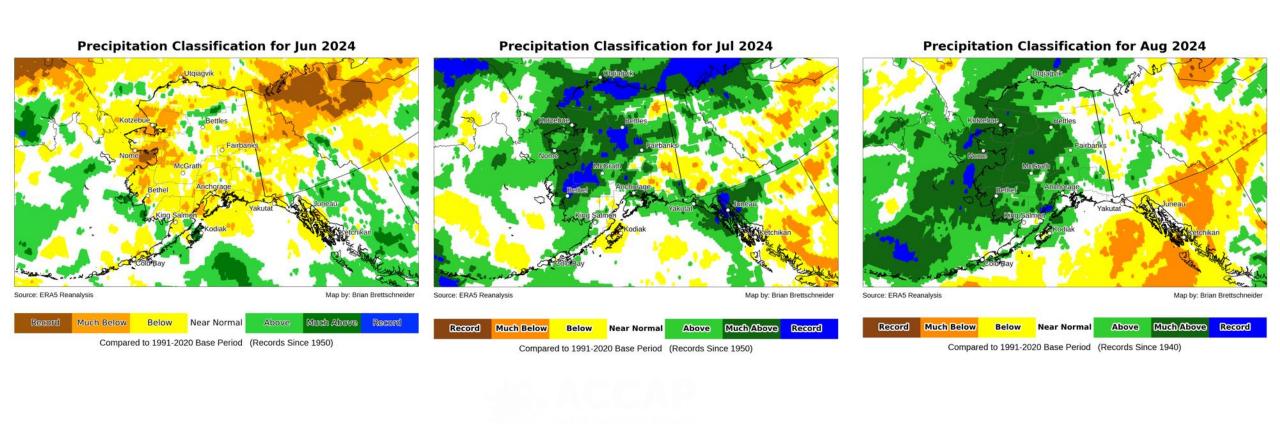


Summer 2024 Temperature



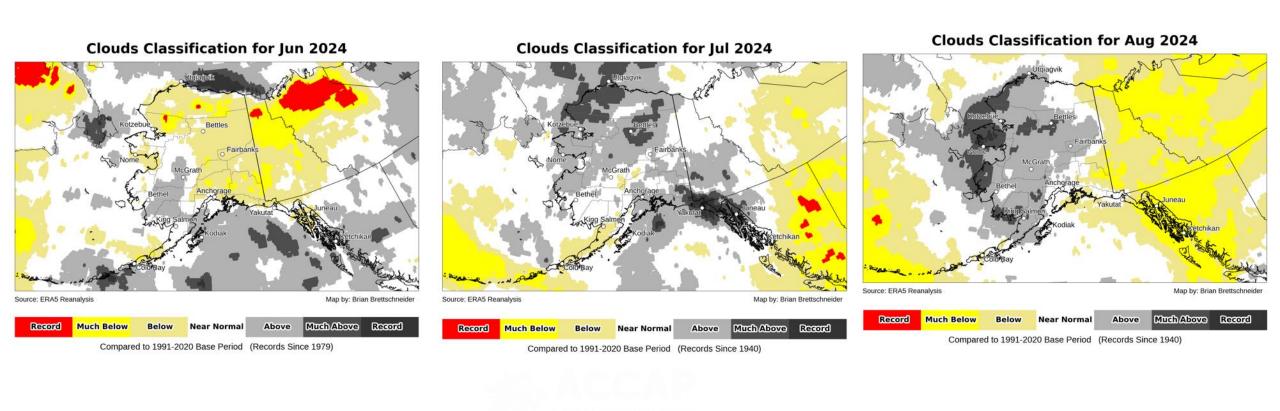
Data: ERA5 courtesy of EMCWF/Copernicus 1991-2020 Baseline

Summer 2024 Precipitation



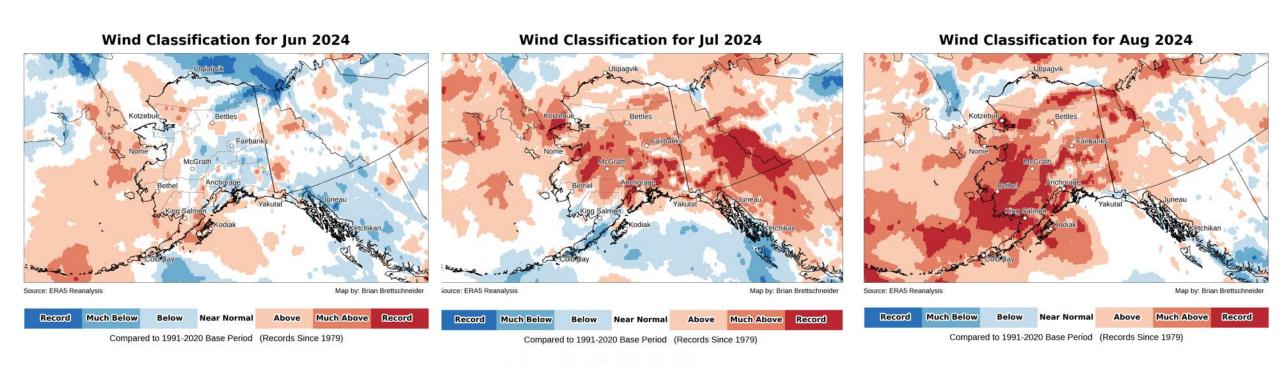
Data: ERA5 courtesy of EMCWF/Copernicus 1991-2020 Baseline

Summer 2024 Cloudiness



Data: ERA5 courtesy of EMCWF/Copernicus 1991-2020 Baseline

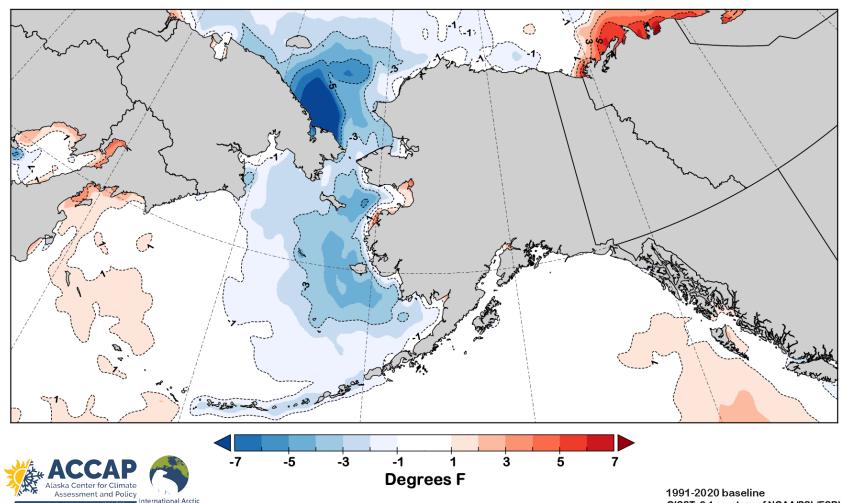
Summer 2024 Wind



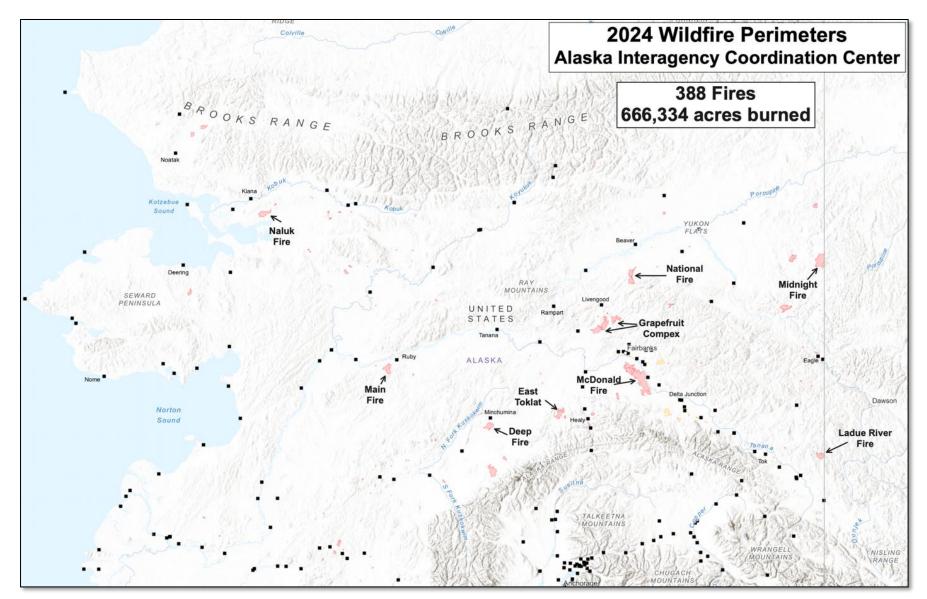
Summer 2024 sea surface temperatures

Average Sea Surface Temperature Departure from Normal

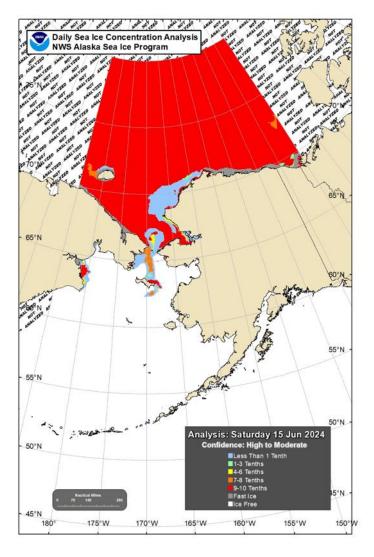
June-August 2024

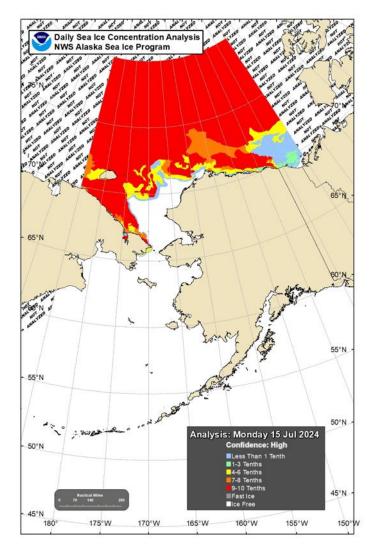


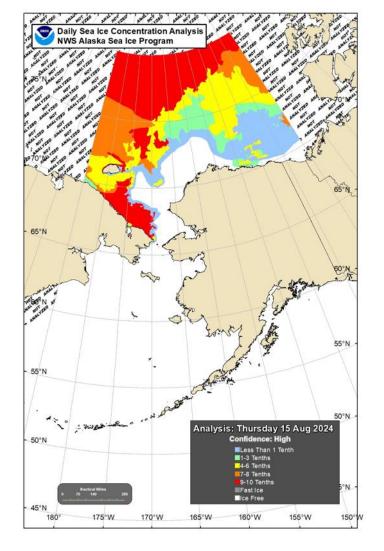
2024 Alaska Wildfire



Sea Ice Extent: Summer 2024

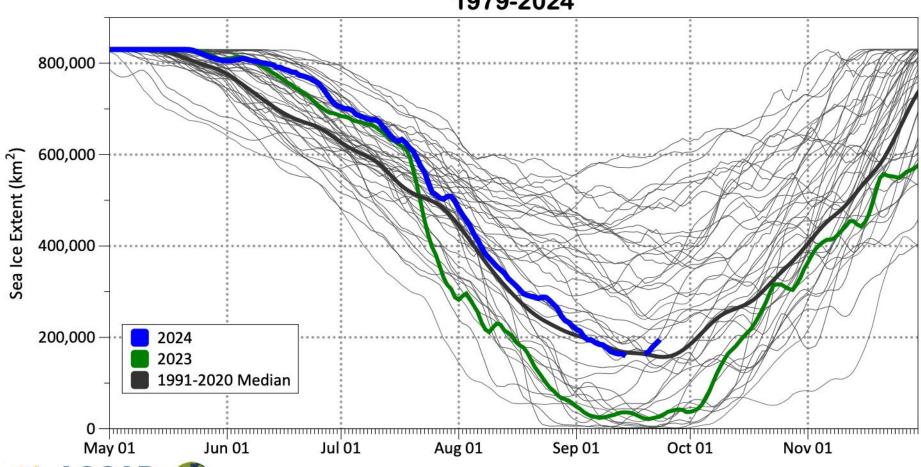






Chukchi Sea Ice Extent

Chukchi Sea Daily Ice Extent 1979-2024

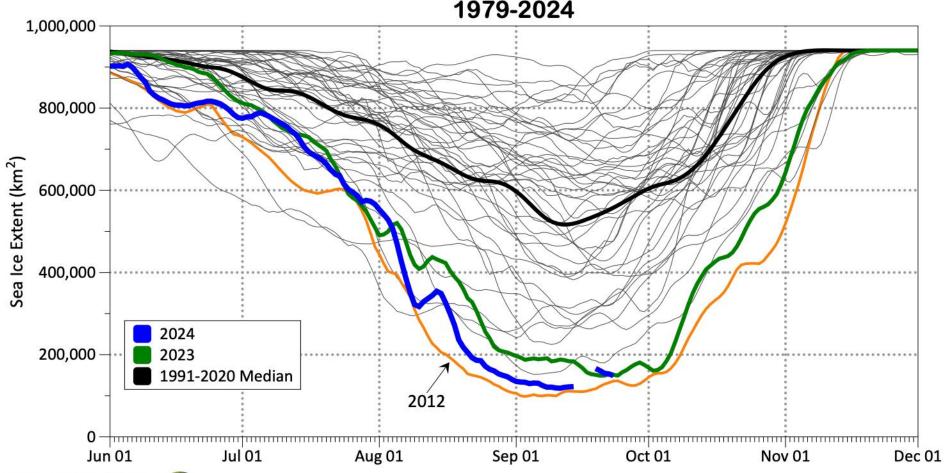




Data source: NSIDC Sea Ice Index, Version 3 Updated through September 23, 2024

Beaufort Sea Ice Extent







Data source: NSIDC Sea Ice Index, Version 3 Updated through September 23, 2024



Fall 2024 Outlooks

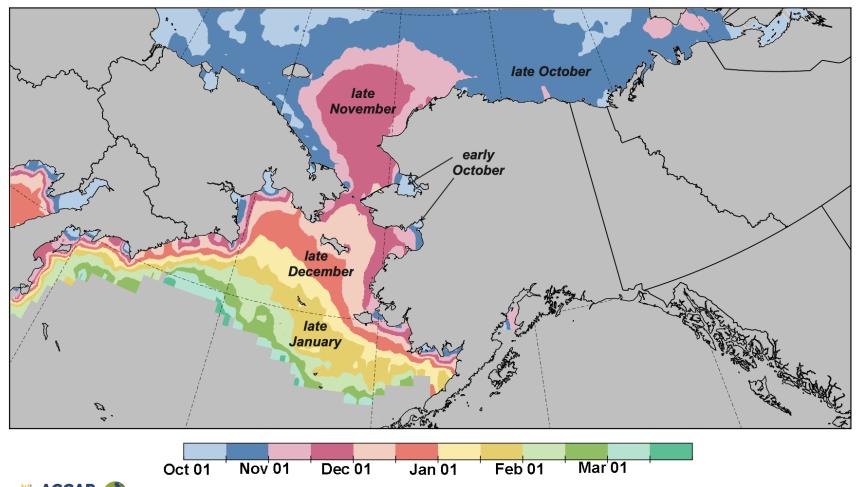
- Arctic Sea Ice Experimental Outlook
 - NOAA/Climate Prediction Center
- Alaska and past La Niñas
- Autumn Temperature and Precipitation



Sea Ice Outlook: Fall/Winter 2024

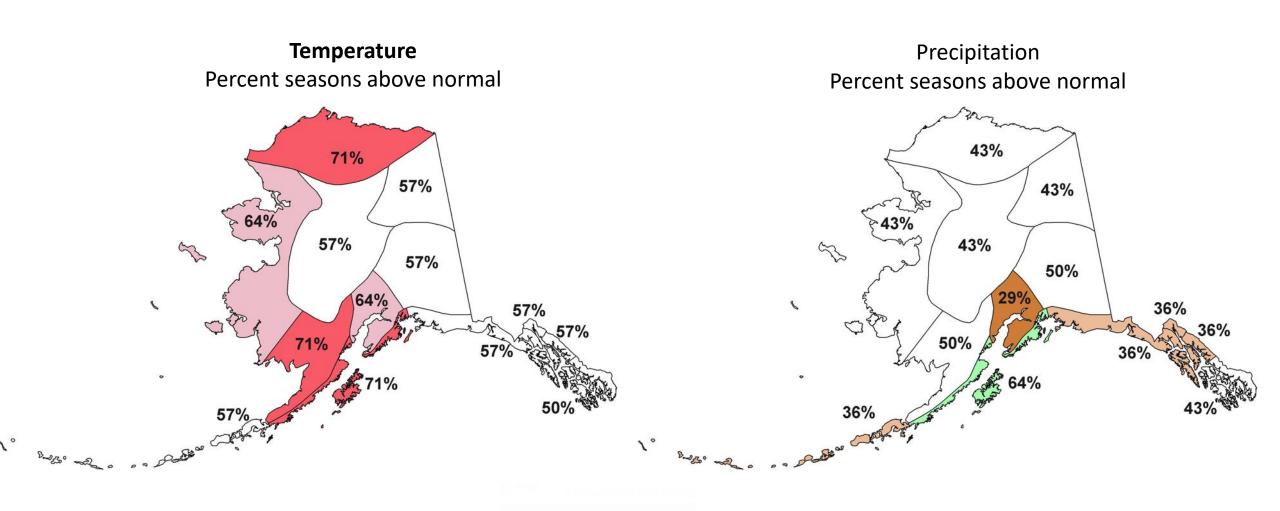
Freeze-up: first date sea ice concentration ≥15 percent

Autumn/Winter 2024-25

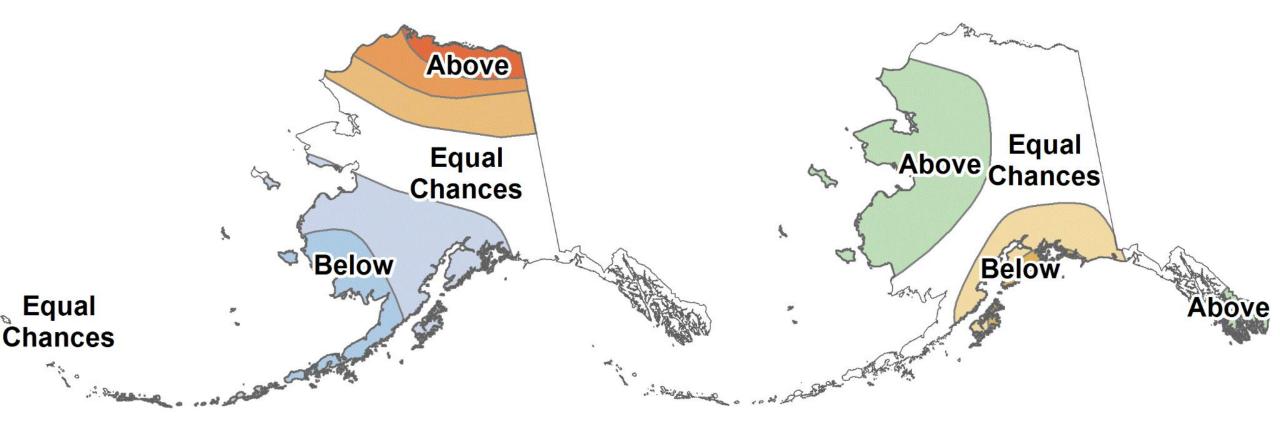




La Niña and Alaska Autumns



Fall 2024 NOAA Climate Prediction Center Outlooks



Average Temperature

Total Precipitation

Thanks very much Questions?



June 17th: McDonald Fire from Ft. Wainwright
Credit: K. Hefington, BLM AFS

