



Spring Breakup Outlook for Alaska

Valid May 30, 2025

[Alaska-Pacific River Forecast Center](https://www.weather.gov/aprfc)

Next Product Issuance: As Needed

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EXPERIMENTAL PRODUCT

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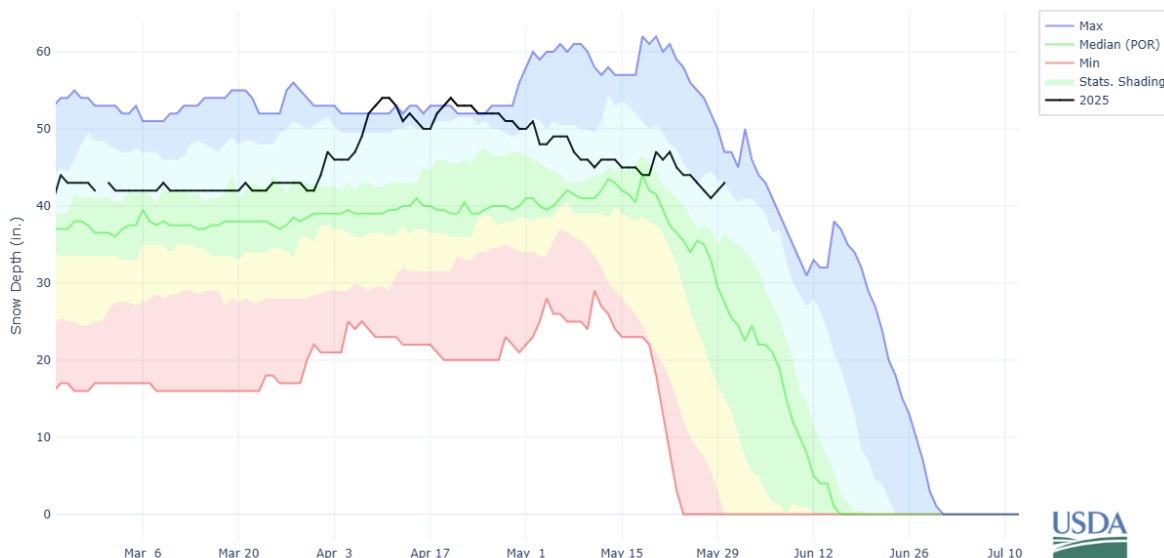
Statewide Summary

The flood risk for North Slope rivers is increasing due to above average late season snowpack combined with the potential for a rapid warm-up in early June. Breakup has largely concluded for areas south of the Brooks Range. Attention has now shifted to breakup on the North Slope, where winter conditions persist and snowmelt has been minimal to nonexistent.

North Slope

Snowpack remains widespread across the North Slope, with snow depths varying between 1 to 2 feet with nearly 4 feet reported at Atigun Pass (4,800 ft)—well above average for this time of year. Snow depth gauges across the region show little to no indication of spring melt as temperatures have remained below freezing. The graph below illustrates a delayed onset of snowmelt on the North Slope. Starting next week, temperatures are expected to moderate some, initiating ice decay and snowmelt at lower elevations. As June progresses, the likelihood of a rapid temperature increase also rises.

ATIGUN PASS, AK (957) SNOW DEPTH



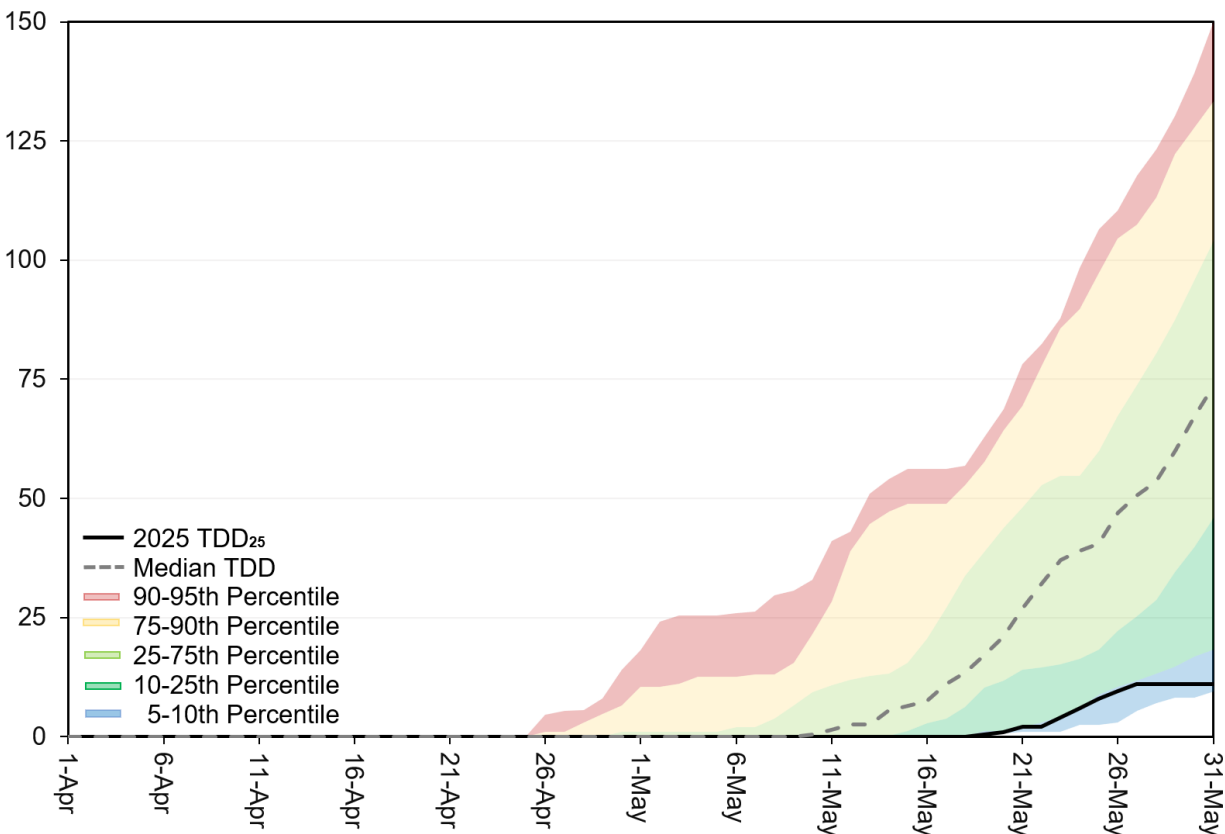


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Atigun Pass (4800 ft) current snow depth plot (black) compared to median (green)
The graphic below captures the cold temperatures the North Slope has seen this spring. Thawing degree days are well below average for late May. These cold temperatures allow ice to maintain integrity and inhibit snow melt.

Utqiagvik (PABR) TDD Analysis



Porcupine Basin

The Porcupine River broke up at Old Crow on 23 May, 2025. An ice jam on 24 May led to a crest of 57.7 ft which resulted in moderate flooding at Old Crow. As this ice and water moved across the border, Fort Yukon saw water conditions near bankfull late this week. However, there was minimal ice noted passing by Fort Yukon and Stevens Village. We continue to monitor this area of the potential of snowmelt flooding, but the threat remains low.

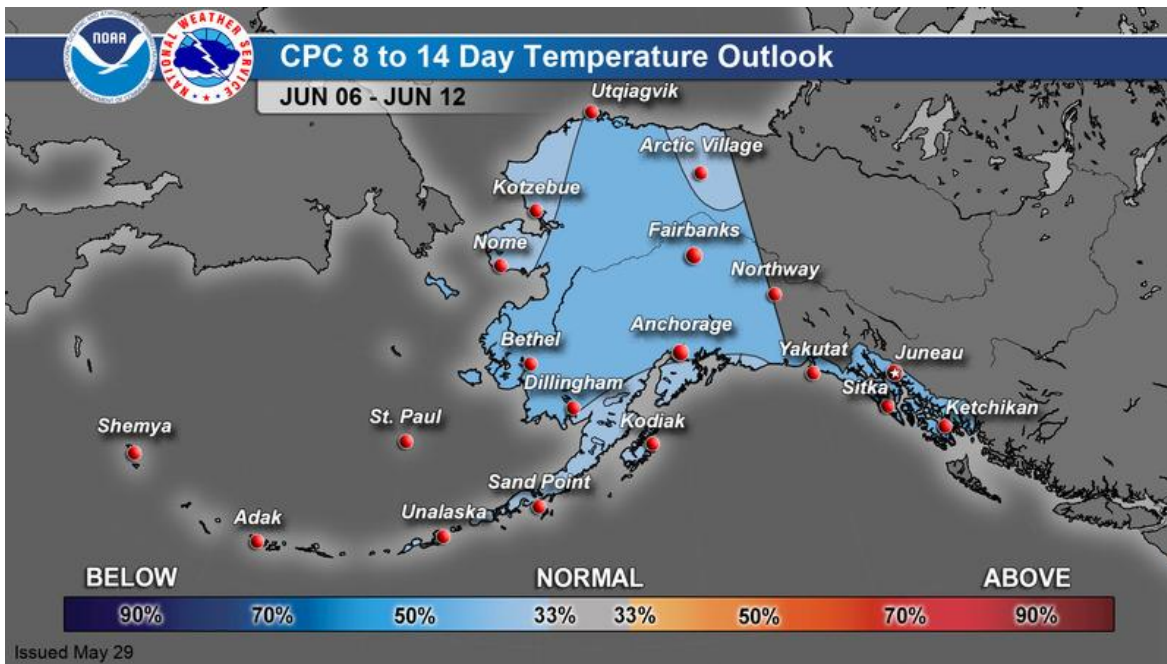
Climate

Climate Prediction Center (CPC) guidance indicates that below-average temperatures are likely to persist into the second week of June (see below), likely causing gradual snowmelt and ice decay.



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Summary of 2025 Breakup Dates

**** indicates date of actual breakup in 2025**

Tanana-Fairbanks				
River-Reach	Location	Median Breakup Date	Years of Record	2025 Breakup Date
Chena River				
	Chena Lakes Project			4/23**
Tanana River				
	Northway	4/26	32	4/25**
	Salcha	4/26	3	4/28**
	Fairbanks	4/30	22	4/30**
	Nenana	4/30	45	4/27**
	Manley HS	5/3	33	5/2**



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Yukon River				
River-Reach	Location	Median Breakup Date	Years of Record	2025 Breakup Date
Yukon River (Upper)				
	Dawson, YT	5/4	45	4/30**
	Eagle	5/4	45	5/1**
	Circle	5/9	41	5/5**
	Fort Yukon	5/11	41	5/6**
	Beaver	5/11	28	5/12**
	Stevens Village	5/11	26	5/13**
	Rampart	5/12	28	5/13**
Yukon River (Mid)				
	Tanana	5/8	40	5/8**
	Ruby	5/9	39	5/7**
	Galena	5/11	44	5/8**
	Koyukuk	5/10	18	5/9**
	Nulato	5/12	27	5/9**
	Kaltag	5/12	39	5/10**
	Anvik	5/14	36	5/12**
Yukon River (Lower)				
	Holy Cross	5/14	38	5/12**
	Russian Mission	5/15	38	5/12**
	Marshall	5/15	33	5/12**
	Pilot Station	5/13	28	5/12**
	Mountain Village	5/15	38	5/13**
	Alakanuk/Emmonak	5/20	39	5/17**



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Kuskokwim River				
River-Reach	Location	Median Breakup Date	Years of Record	2025 Breakup Date
Kuskokwim River				
	Nikolai	4/23	39	4/22**
	McGrath	5/4	45	5/3**
	Stony River	5/2	37	4/27**
	Sleetmute	5/1	36	4/27**
	Red Devil	5/3	39	4/28**
	Crooked Creek	5/4	39	4/28**
	Aniak	5/5	42	5/1**
	Kalskag	5/5	36	5/5**
	Tuluksak	5/7	33	5/2**
	Akiak	5/8	39	5/7**
	Kwethluk	5/5	13	5/6**
	Bethel	5/9	45	5/6**
	Napakiak	5/10	30	5/8**



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Southeast-Southcentral				
River-Reach	Location	Median Breakup Date	Years of Record	2025 Breakup Date
Southeast				
Kenai River				
Anchor River		4/17	16	Early April**
Matanuska River				
Susitna River				
	Gold Creek	5/2	9	4/25**
	Sunshine	5/2	36	4/28**
Talkeetna				
	Talkeetna	4/28	5	4/24**
Yentna River				
	Lake Creek	5/1	33	4/23**
Skwentna River				
	Skwentna	4/30	30	4/24**
Copper River				
	Gakona	5/1	36	4/29**
	Gulkana	5/1	34	4/29**



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North Slope-Northwest				
River-Reach	Location	Median Breakup Date	Years of Record	2025 Breakup Date
Koyukuk River				
	Bettles	5/10	43	5/16**
	Allakaket	5/11	38	5/12**
	Hughes	5/11	38	5/13**
Seward Peninsula				
	Buckland	5/18	35	5/15**
Kobuk River				
	Kobuk	5/14	40	5/16**
	Shungnak	5/16	32	5/16**
	Ambler	5/16	38	5/22**
Noatak River				
	Noatak	5/19	27	5/20**
Brooks Range				
	Colville at Umiat	5/25	22	5/22-5/28
	Colville at Colville Village	6/3	23	5/31-6/6



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The next Spring Breakup Outlook will be published as needed.

For more detail and to see the Flood Potential Map refer to the APRFC website at:
<https://www.weather.gov/aprfc/floodpotential>

This product is experimental. For more information and to submit comments, please contact:

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