

Seasonal Outlook

North American Arctic Waters
Summer 2012



By the North American Ice Service

Seasonal outlook for North American Arctic Waters issued by the North American Ice Service on 1 June 2012. The next update will be issued on 15 June 2012.

Hudson Bay and approaches

Summer temperature and ice forecasts.

Average air temperatures will be slightly above normal over most locations from June to August except for near normal over western Hudson Bay and in Davis Strait. In general, forecast ice events are expected to be earlier than normal for most locations this summer.

Labrador Coast.

Open drift to close pack first-year ice with belts of old ice north of Cartwright and bergy water south of Cartwright. Icebergs and ice islands throughout the summer.

Outlook for June...Becoming open drift or less ice near mid-month with ice melting completely south of Groswater Bay.

Outlook for July...Ice melting completely north of Groswater Bay during the second week.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Lake Melville.

Very open drift first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Ice melting completely in early June.

Outlook for July...Open water.

Davis Strait.

Very close pack thick first-year ice with belts of old ice. Icebergs and ice islands throughout the summer.

Outlook for June...Becoming close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for July...Becoming open drift or less ice after mid-month.

Outlook for August...Ice melting completely during the third week.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Frobisher Bay.

Close to very close pack thin first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Remaining close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for July...Becoming open drift or less ice near mid-month. Ice melting completely at the end of the month.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Hudson Strait.

Close pack first-year ice with areas of bergy water over the northern section. Belts of old ice over the eastern section. Icebergs and ice islands throughout the summer.

Outlook for June...Becoming open drift to close pack ice.

Outlook for July...Becoming open drift or less ice near mid-month. Ice melting completely during the last week.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Ungava Bay.

Close to very close pack first-year ice. Icebergs and ice islands throughout the summer.

Outlook for June... Remaining close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for July...Becoming open drift or less ice during the second week with belts of old ice. Ice melting completely at the end of the third week.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Foxe Basin.

Close to very close pack first-year ice.

Outlook for June... Remaining close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for July...Remaining close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for August...Becoming open drift or less ice just before mid-month.

Outlook for September...Ice melting completely during the first week.

Hudson Bay.

Close to very close pack first-year ice.

Outlook for June... Remaining close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for July...Becoming open drift or less ice over the northern section during the second week and over the southern section during the last week. Ice melting completely at the end of the month.

Outlook for August...Open water.

James Bay.

Close pack first-year ice with areas of open water over the eastern section.

Outlook for June...Becoming open drift to close pack ice except for ice melting completely over the southern section during the last week.

Outlook for July...Becoming open drift or less ice during the second week. Ice melting completely during the third week.

Outlook for August...Open water.

Eastern Arctic

Summer temperature and ice forecasts.

Average air temperatures will be slightly above normal over the entire area from June to August. In general, forecast ice events are expected to be near normal over most locations this summer.

Baffin Bay.

Very close pack first-year ice. Belts of old ice over the western section. Icebergs and ice islands throughout the summer.

Outlook for July...Becoming close to very close pack ice during the first week. An area between 73°N and 75°N becoming open drift or less ice during the second week and bergy water during the third week.

Outlook for August...Becoming open drift or less ice with a trace of old ice during the first week. Ice melting completely during the fourth week.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Pond Inlet.

Consolidated first-year ice. Isolated icebergs throughout the summer.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the third week.

Outlook for August...Becoming open drift or less ice during the first week. Ice melting completely during the second week.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Admiralty Inlet Northern.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the third week. Ice melting completely at the end of the month.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Lancaster Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice. Belts of old ice over the eastern section. Icebergs and ice islands throughout the summer.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the first week then remaining close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for August...Becoming open drift or less ice during the first week. Ice melting completely during the second week.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Barrow Strait.

Consolidated first-year ice. Icebergs and ice islands throughout the summer.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing over the eastern section during the first week and the western section during the third week.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice during the second week. Ice melting completely at the end of the month.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Wellington Channel.

Consolidated first-year ice. Belts of old ice over the northwestern section.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the third week.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice during the second week. Ice melting completely during the last week.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

McDougall Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice with a trace of old ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing at the end of the month.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice during the third week.

Outlook for September...Very open drift old ice.

Kane Basin.

Consolidated old ice. Icebergs and ice islands throughout the summer.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the last week.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice after mid-month.

Outlook for September...Open drift or less ice.

Jones Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice with a trace of old ice. Icebergs and ice islands throughout the summer.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the last week.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice during the second week. Belts of old ice drifting into the eastern entrance during the third week.

Outlook for September...Open drift or less old ice.

Norwegian Bay.

Consolidated first-year ice. Belts of old ice over the western section.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing over the southern section at the end of the month.

Outlook for August...Ice fracturing over the northern section during the first week then becoming open drift or less ice near mid-month. Ice melting completely over the eastern section during the third week.

Outlook for September...Bergy water over the eastern section. Open drift or less old ice over the western section.

Eureka Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice with a trace of old ice. Icebergs and ice islands throughout the summer.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing at the end of the month.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice near mid-month. Ice melting completely at the end of the second week.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Western Arctic

Summer temperature and ice forecasts.

Average air temperatures will be slightly above normal over the entire area from June to August. In general, forecast ice events are expected to be near normal over most locations this summer except earlier than normal over the southern Beaufort Sea.

Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the first week then becoming open drift or less ice during the third week. Ice melting completely during the last week.

Outlook for August...Open water.

Mackenzie Bay to Cape Bathurst.

Very close pack first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Becoming close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for July...Area of open drift or less ice developing during the second week becoming open water during the third week.

Outlook for August...Open water.

Beaufort Sea south of 75°N.

Very close pack first-year ice with a trace of old ice south of 72°N with an 80 mile wide area of open water over the southeastern section. Very close pack old ice north of 72°N. Ice islands throughout the summer.

Outlook for June...Very close pack ice with a large area of open water north of the consolidated ice along Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula and west of Banks Island. Very close pack old ice north of 72°N.

Outlook for July...Very close pack ice with a large area of open water north of Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula. Very close pack ice conditions north of 72°N.

Outlook for August...Open water within 90 miles north of the coast east of Barter Island. Ice becoming open drift or less ice within 60 miles of the Alaskan Coast west of Barter Island before mid-month. Open drift to close pack old ice north of 72°30'N.

Outlook for September...Open water within 120 miles north of the mainland coast. Open drift to close pack old ice further north.

Arctic Ocean north of 75°N.

Very close pack old and first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Remaining very close pack ice.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for September...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice west of 135W during the first week.

Cape Lisburne to Point Barrow.

Very close pack first-year ice. Belts of old ice west of Point Barrow.

Outlook for July...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice during the third week.

Outlook for August...Ice melting completely during the second week.

Outlook for September...Open water.

Amundsen Gulf.

Consolidated first-year ice except for an area of very close pack first-year ice west of Cape Parry.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the second week then becoming open drift or less ice during the last week.

Outlook for August...Ice melting completely during the first week.

Outlook for September...Open water.

Coronation Gulf.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing near mid-month then becoming open drift or less ice during the third week. Ice melting completely during the last week.

Outlook for August...Open water.

Queen Maud Gulf.

Consolidated first-year ice with a trace of old ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the third week.

Outlook for August...Becoming open drift or less ice during the first week. Ice melting completely during the third week.

Outlook for September...Open water.

Larsen Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice with a trace of old ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the last week.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice near mid-month.

Outlook for September...Ice melting completely during the first week.

Peel Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the last week.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice during the second week.

Outlook for September...Ice melting completely during the first week.

Viscount Melville Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice with belts of old ice.

Outlook for July...Remaining consolidated ice.

Outlook for August...Ice fracturing during the first week then close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for September...Becoming open drift or less ice during the first week.

M'Clure Strait.

Consolidated first-year ice with belts of old ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the last week.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice during the second week.

Outlook for September...Remaining open drift or less old ice.

Note: The Seasonal Summary for the end of winter and spring ice conditions can be found on the CIS web site under Seasonal Summaries. This text will not be part of the Seasonal Outlook starting this summer.