

Seasonal Outlook

North American Arctic Waters
Summer 2013



By the North American Ice Service

Seasonal outlook for North American Arctic Waters issued by the North American Ice Service on 3 June 2013.

Hudson Bay, Davis Strait and Labrador Coast

Summer temperature and ice outlook.

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

Labrador Coast.

Close to very close pack first-year ice with a trace of old ice within 90 miles of the coast except open drift or less south of Groswater Bay.

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 then bergy water.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Lake Melville.

Open water.

Outlook for June...Open water.

Davis Strait.

Close to very close pack thick first-year ice with a trace of old ice within 120 miles of the coast. Icebergs and ice islands over the area starting in August.

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

Outlook for July...Becoming open drift or less ice during the third week.

Outlook for August...Ice melting completely near mid-month then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Frobisher Bay.

Close pack first-year ice.

Outlook for June...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.

Cumberland Sound.

Close to very close pack first-year ice.

Outlook for June...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 to very close pack first-year ice. Trace of old ice in the eastern entrance.

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

Outlook for July...Becoming open drift or less ice during the second week. Ice melting completely at the end of the third week then bergy water.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Ungava Bay.

Close to very close pack first-year ice.

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

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

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Foxe Basin.

Very close pack first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Becoming close to very close pack ice after mid-month.

Outlook for July...Close to very close pack ice except open drift or less ice over the southeastern section after mid-month.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice except open drift or less ice over the eastern and northern sections during the third week.

Outlook for September...Ice melting completely during the third week then open water.

Hudson Bay.

Close to very close pack first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Close to very close pack ice except open drift or less ice over the northern third during the third week.

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.

Outlook for August...Ice melting completely near mid-month then open water.

Outlook for September...Ice free.

James Bay.

Close to very close pack first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Close to very close pack ice except open drift or less ice over the southern section during the third week.

Outlook for July...Becoming open drift or less ice during the second week except open water over the southern section. Ice melting completely over the northern section during the fourth week.

Outlook for August...Open water.

Table 1: Hudson Bay - Outlook Dates

Arctic Events	Earliest Date (1968-2012)	Latest Date (1968-2012)	Median (1981-2010)	Outlook
Labrador Coast to Cape Chidley Area - Bergy water	25 Jun	27 Aug	21 Jul	9-11 Jul
Davis Strait to Iqaluit Route - Open drift or less	23 Jun	21 Aug	19 Jul	14-16 Jul
Frobisher Bay Area - Bergy water	9 Jul	9 Sep	4 Aug	30 Jul-1 Aug
Davis Strait Area - Bergy water	21 Jul	14 Oct	2 Sep	13-15 Aug
Ungava Bay Area - Bergy water	2 Jul	1 Sep	31 Jul	14-16 Jul
Davis Strait to Nottingham Island Route - Bergy water	29 Jun	5 Sep	25 Jul	8-10 Jul
Hudson Strait Area - Bergy water	13 Jul	9 Sep	4 Aug	20-22 Jul
Davis Strait to Churchill Route - Bergy/open water	6 Jul	5 Sep	26 Jul	17-19 Jul
Nottingham Island to Churchill Route - Open water	5 Jul	21 Aug	17 Jul	17-19 Jul
Hudson Bay Area - Open water	24 Jul	10 Sep	19 Aug	15-17 Aug
Foxe Channel to Hall Beach Route - Open water	16 Aug	9 Oct	29 Aug	20-22 Aug
Foxe Basin Area - Open water	1 Sep	6 Oct	20 Sep	20-22 Sep
James Bay Area - Open water	29 Jun	7 Sep	27 Jul	26-28 Jul

Date: new record set last year

Eastern and Northern Arctic

Summer temperature and ice outlook.

Average air temperatures will be slightly above normal over most locations from June to August except near normal over Baffin Bay. In general, forecast ice events are expected to be near normal over most locations this summer except earlier than normal over Baffin Bay.

Baffin Bay.

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

Outlook for June...Close to very close pack ice except for an area of open drift or less ice between 73°N and 75°N and over the northwestern section during the last week.

Outlook for July...Close to very close pack ice except for an area of bergy water between 73°N and 75°N and over the northwestern section late in the first week.

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

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Pond Inlet.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the third week then very close pack ice.

Outlook for August...Becoming open drift or less ice early in the month. Ice melting completely during the first week then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Kane Basin.

Consolidated first-year ice with 4 tenths of old ice. Icebergs and ice islands throughout the summer.

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

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

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

Kennedy Channel.

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

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the third week then very close pack ice.

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

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

Admiralty Inlet Northern.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing near mid-month. Ice melting completely at the end of the month.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Lancaster Sound.

Very open to open drift first-year ice. Trace of old ice over the eastern section.

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

Outlook for August...Ice melting completely during the second week then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Prince Regent Inlet.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing early in the month then close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for August...Becoming open drift or less ice early in the month. Ice melting completely after mid-month then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Gulf of Boothia.

Very close pack first-year ice with a trace of old ice.

Outlook for July...Becoming close to very close pack ice at the end of the month.

Outlook for August...Becoming open drift or less ice over the northern section near mid-month and over the southern section at the end of the month.

Outlook for September...Ice melting completely during the third week then bergy water.

Pelly Bay.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the third week. Becoming open drift or less ice during the fourth week.

Outlook for August...Ice melting completely early in the month then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Becoming open drift or less ice early in the month.

Barrow Strait.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing over the eastern section during the second week and the western section late in the third week then very close pack ice.

Outlook for August...Becoming open drift or less ice over the eastern section early in the month and over the western section during the second week. Ice melting completely during the fourth week.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Wellington Channel.

Consolidated first-year ice.

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

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

McDougall Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice with 1 tenth of old ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the fourth 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.

Jones Sound.

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

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the fourth 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 early in the month then bergy water.

Norwegian Bay.

Consolidated first-year ice with a trace of old ice. Area of 4 tenths of old ice embedded in the pack ice over the extreme western section.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing over the southern section during the third week and the northern section at the end of the month.

Outlook for August... Ice melting completely over the eastern section near mid-month. Becoming open drift or less ice over the western section during the third week.

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

Eureka 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 second week. Ice melting completely during the fourth week.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Table 2: Eastern Arctic - Outlook Dates

Arctic Events	Earliest Date (1968-2012)	Latest Date (1968-2012)	Median (1981-2010)	Outlook
Baffin Bay Northern Route - Open drift or less - Bergy water	10 Jun 13 Jun	18 Aug 15 Sep	13 Jul 27 Jul	26-28 Jun 6-8 Jul
Baffin Bay Area - Bergy water	10 Aug	7 Oct	6 Sep	26-28 Aug
Frobisher Bay to Home Bay Route - Open drift or less	22 Jul	19 Sep	5 Aug	5-7 Aug
Frobisher Bay to Cape Dyer Route - Open drift or less	24 Jun	15 Sep	25 Jul	22-24 Jul
Pond Inlet Area - Fracture - Bergy water	10 Jul 25 Jul	19 Aug 12 Sep	23 Jul 8 Aug	19-21 Jul 6-8 Aug
Admiralty Inlet Northern Area - Fracture - Bergy water	29 Jun 17 Jul	7 Aug 12 Sep	21 Jul 6 Aug	14-16 Jul 29-31 Jul
Lancaster Sound Area - Fracture	12 Jun	3 Aug	6 Jul	Already fractured
Barrow Strait Eastern Area - Fracture	20 Jun	4 Aug	8 Jul	10-12 Jul
Barrow Strait Western Area - Fracture	5 Jul	19 Aug	24 Jul	19-21 Jul
Wellington Channel Area - Fracture	3 Jul	24 Aug	26 Jul	22-24 Jul
McDougall Sound Area - Fracture	14 Jul	16 Sep	31 Jul	23-25 Jul
Kane Basin Area - Fracture	6 Jun	16 Aug	20 Jul	23-25 Jul
Jones Sound Area - Fracture	6 Jul	16 Aug	29 Jul	26-28 Jul
Norwegian Bay Southern Area - Fracture	12 Jul	30 Aug	29 Jul	20-22 Jul
Norwegian Bay Northern Area - Fracture	14 Jul	31 Aug	4 Aug	31 Jul-2 Aug
Eureka Sound Area - Fracture - Bergy water	9 Jul 7 Aug	31 Aug 29 Aug	1 Aug 18 Aug	28-30 Jul 17-19 Aug
Davis Strait to Thule Route - Open drift or less - Bergy water	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	13 Jul 27 Jul	2-4 Jul 13-15 Jul

Date: new record set last year

Western and Central Arctic

Summer temperature and ice outlook.

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

Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing early in the month then open drift or less ice during the first week. Ice melting completely during the second week then open water.

Outlook for August...Ice free.

Mackenzie Bay to Cape Bathurst.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice. Ice melting completely in Mackenzie Bay after mid-month. Ice fracturing north of Mackenzie Bay during the last week then melting completely at the end of the month.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing east of Mackenzie Bay early in the month then open drift or less during the first week. Ice melting completely during the second week then open water.

Outlook for August...Ice free.

Beaufort Sea south of 75°N.

Very close pack first-year ice with a trace of old ice within 90 miles of the mainland coast. Beyond 90 miles of the coast very close pack old ice except very close pack first-year ice with 2 tenths of old ice west of 143°W.

Outlook for June...Close to very close pack ice with areas of open drift or less ice forming north of the consolidated ice along Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula and west of Banks Island during the second week.

Outlook for July...Close to very close pack ice with large areas of open drift or less ice north of Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula and west of Banks Island. Ice melting completely within 90 miles north of the mainland coast east of 145°W and west of Banks Island during the second week. Ice becoming open drift or less ice within 90 miles of the Alaskan Coast west of 145°W at the end of the month. Close to very close pack ice north of 72°N.

Outlook for August...Open water within 120 miles north of the mainland coast east of 145°W. Open drift or less ice within 120 miles of the coast west of 145°W. Beyond 120 miles of the coast close pack ice.

Outlook for September...Open water within 120 miles north of the mainland coast. Beyond 120 miles north of the coast close pack ice except open drift or less ice west of 145°W.

Arctic Ocean north of 75°N.

Very close pack old and first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Very close pack ice.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift or less ice west of 145°W during the second week.

Outlook for September...East of 140°W close to very close pack ice. West of 140°W open drift or less ice.

Cape Lisburne to Point Barrow.

Very close pack first-year ice.

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 early in the month then open water.

Outlook for September...Ice free.

Amundsen Gulf.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing early in the month then very close pack ice. Becoming open drift or less ice during the last week.

Outlook for August...Ice melting completely during the second week then open water.

Outlook for September...Ice free.

Coronation Gulf.

Consolidated first-year ice.

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

Outlook for August...Open water.

Outlook for September...Ice free.

Queen Maud Gulf.

Consolidated first-year ice.

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

Outlook for August...Becoming open drift or less ice early in the month. Ice melting completely during the second week then open water.

Outlook for September...Ice free.

Victoria Strait.

Consolidated first-year ice.

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

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

Outlook for September...Ice melting completely early in the month then open water.

Larsen Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice.

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

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

Outlook for September...Ice melting completely during the second week then open water.

Peel Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for July...Ice fracturing during the fourth 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 then open water.

M'Clintock Channel.

Consolidated first-year ice. An area of 4 tenths of old ice embedded in the pack ice over the northwestern section.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice.

Outlook for August...Ice fracturing during the first week then close to very close pack ice. Becoming open drift or less ice over the eastern section near mid-month.

Outlook for September...Close to very close pack ice except open water over the eastern section early in the month.

Viscount Melville Sound.

Consolidated old ice over the eastern section. Consolidated first-year ice with isolated areas of 1 tenth of old ice over the western section.

Outlook for July...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 areas of 2 tenths of old ice.

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

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

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

Table 3: Western Arctic - Outlook Dates

Arctic Events	Earliest Date (1968-2012)	Latest Date (1968-2012)	Median (1981-2010)	Outlook
Mackenzie Bay Area - Open water	1 Jun	18 Jul	20 Jun	17-19 Jun
Kugmallit Bay Area - Open water	17 Jun	25 Jul	24 Jun	24-26 Jun
Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula Area - Fracture	18 Jun	17 Jul	1 Jul	30 Jun-2 Jul
Mackenzie Bay to Cape Bathurst Route - Open water	18 Jun	27 Sep	26 Jul	21-23 Jul
Mackenzie Bay to Prudhoe Bay Route - Open drift or less	4 Jul	20 Sep	13 Aug	19-21 Jul
Prudhoe Bay to Point Barrow Route - Open drift or less - Close pack (refreeze)	11 Jul N/A	8 Sep N/A	13 Aug 8 Oct	29-31 Jul 9-11 Oct
Cape Lisburne to Point Barrow Route - Open drift or less - Open water	10 Jun 2 Jul	8 Sep 19 Sep	6 Aug 14 Aug	18-20 Jul 31 Jul-2 Aug
Cape Lisburne to Wainwright Route - Open drift or less	N/A	N/A	29 Jun	1-3 Jul
Barter Island to Prudhoe Bay Route - Open drift or less	N/A	N/A	13 Aug	20-22 Jul
Cape Parry to Taloyoak Route - Open water	1 Aug	20 Sep	12 Aug	6-8 Aug
Amundsen Gulf Area - Fracture - Open water	12 Jun 17 Jul	28 Jul 23 Sep	5 Jul 15 Aug	1-3 Jul 11-13 Aug
Coronation Gulf Area - Fracture - Open water	2 Jul 17 Jul	11 Aug 2 Sep	15 Jul 30 Jul	9-11 Jul 26-28 Jul
Queen Maud Gulf Area - Fracture	5 Jul	18 Aug	20 Jul	20-22 Jul
Larsen Sound Area - Fracture	16 Jul	7 Sep	28 Jul	22-24 Jul
Peel Sound Area - Fracture	11 Jul	2 Sep	29 Jul	26-28 Jul
Viscount Melville Sound Area - Fracture	10 Jul	26 Aug	3 Aug	23-25 Jul
M'Clure Strait Area - Fracture	28 Jun	26 Aug	2 Aug	18-20 Jul

Date: new record set last year