

Seasonal Outlook

North American Arctic Waters
Summer 2016



By the North American Ice Service

Seasonal outlook for North American Arctic Waters issued by the North American Ice Service on 1 June 2016.

Hudson Bay, Davis Strait and Labrador Coast

Summer temperature and ice outlook.

Average air temperatures are forecast to be near normal over most locations from June to August except above normal over northern Foxe Basin, southeastern Hudson Bay and western Hudson Strait. Temperatures are forecast to be below normal over Davis Strait.

In general, forecast ice events are expected to be near normal for most locations this summer except earlier than normal over Labrador Coast, Northern Davis Strait, Hudson Strait, and Foxe Basin.

Southern Labrador Coast.

Bergy water except close pack first-year ice including a trace of old ice in the extreme northwestern section.

Outlook for June...Ice becoming very open to open drift ice during the second week and melting completely during the third week.

Outlook for July...Bergy water.

Northern Labrador Coast.

Close to very close pack first-year ice including a trace old ice.

Outlook for June...Ice becoming open drift ice late in the third week and very open drift in the fourth week.

Outlook for July...Very open drift ice melting completely in early in the first week then bergy water.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Lake Melville.

Very open drift first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Ice melting completely early during the first week then open water.

Outlook for July...Ice free.

Southern Davis Strait.

Close to very close pack first-year ice including a trace of old ice.

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

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

Outlook for August...Very open drift ice melting completely during the first week then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Northern Davis Strait.

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

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

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

Outlook for August...Very open drift ice melting completely during the second week then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Frobisher Bay.

Very open drift first-year ice except consolidated first-year ice in the western section and in shallow bays. Close to very close pack first-year ice over extreme southwestern sections.

Outlook for June... Close to very close pack ice except consolidated ice in the western section and in shallow bays.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice over the western section and in shallow bays fracturing during the first week. Elsewhere close pack ice becoming open drift ice during the first week and very open drift ice during the third week.

Outlook for August...Very open drift ice melting completely during the first week then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Cumberland Sound.

Very close pack first-year ice except very open drift first-year ice over western sections. Consolidated first-year ice along the coast

Outlook for June... Very close pack ice except very open drift ice over western sections. Consolidated ice along the coast

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice along the coast fracturing during the first week. Elsewhere very open drift except open drift to close pack ice over the eastern section. Ice becoming very open drift ice over the region during the fourth week.

Outlook for August...Very open drift ice melting completely during the second week.

Hudson Strait.

Close to very close pack first-year ice except very open to open drift first-year ice along the northern coast. A trace of old ice embedded in the pack ice over the northeastern section.

Outlook for June...Close to very close pack ice except very open to open drift ice along the northern coast.

Outlook for July...Open drift to close pack ice becoming very open drift ice during the second week. Ice melting completely during the fourth week then bergy water.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Ungava Bay.

Close to very close pack first-year ice except very open drift ice along parts of the coast.

Outlook for June...Ice becoming open drift to close pack ice during the fifth week.

Outlook for July...Ice becoming very open drift ice during the second week. Ice melting completely during the third week then bergy water.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Foxe Basin.

Very close pack first-year ice except very open drift first-year ice in the extreme western section. Consolidated first-year ice along the coast.

Outlook for June... Close to very close pack ice except very open drift ice over the extreme western section. Consolidated ice along the coast.

Outlook for July...Close to very close pack ice except very open drift ice over the extreme western section. Consolidated ice along the coast. Ice becoming open drift ice from Charles Island to eastern Foxe Channel during the second week.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice except very open to open drift ice over the extreme northwestern and southeastern sections. Ice becoming very open to open drift ice over the region during the fourth week.

Outlook for September...Very open drift ice melting completely during the fourth week.

Northwestern Hudson Bay.

Very open drift first-year ice except very close pack first-year ice over southern and extreme eastern sections.

Outlook for June... Very open drift ice except close to very close pack ice over southern and extreme eastern sections.

Outlook for July...Very open drift ice except for open drift to close pack ice over southern and extreme eastern sections. Ice melting completely over the area during the second week then open water.

Outlook for August...Ice free.

Eastern Hudson Bay – James Bay.

Very close pack first-year ice except very open drift first-year ice along parts of the James Bay coast.

Outlook for June...Close to very close pack ice except very open drift ice along parts of the James Bay coast. Ice becoming open drift ice along the eastern coast of Hudson Bay and in southern James Bay during the second week.

Outlook for July... Over the southwestern section close to very close pack ice becoming open drift to close pack ice during the second week. Elsewhere very open to open drift ice. Ice melting completely over the region during the fourth week then open water.

Outlook for August...Ice free.

Southwestern Hudson Bay.

Very close pack first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Very close pack ice.

Outlook for July...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift ice in the northern section during the second week.

Outlook for August...Open water except open drift ice in the southwestern section melting completely in during the second week then ice free.

Eastern and Northern Arctic

Summer temperature and ice outlook.

Average air temperatures are forecast to be above normal over most locations from June to August except near normal over southwestern Baffin Bay.

In general, forecast ice events are expected to be earlier than normal over most locations this summer except for near normal over Pond and Navy Board Inlets, Admiralty Inlet, Wellington Channel, McDougall Sound, and Western Kane Basin.

Northern Baffin Bay.

Very open drift first-year ice including a trace of old ice except very close pack first-year ice including a trace of old ice in the southern section.

Outlook for June... Very open drift ice over the northern section. Elsewhere close to very close pack ice becoming close pack to open drift ice during the fourth week.

Outlook for July...Very open to open drift ice. Ice melting completely over the southern section during the fourth.

Outlook for August...Bergy water except very open drift ice in the extreme northwestern section.

Southwestern Baffin Bay.

Very close pack first-year ice including a trace of old ice. Narrow areas of 1 tenth of old ice in the southern section. Consolidated ice along the Baffin Island coast

Outlook for July...Close to very close pack ice except consolidated ice along the Baffin Island coast.

Outlook for July...Close to very close pack ice. Consolidated ice along the Baffin Island coast fracturing during the fourth week.

Outlook for August ...Very open drift ice in the northern section. Elsewhere close pack ice becoming very open to open drift during the first week. Ice melting completely during the third week then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Pond and Navy Board Inlets.

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

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice fracturing during the third week and becoming open drift to close pack ice during the fourth week.

Outlook for August...Open drift ice melting completely during the first week then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Admiralty Inlet.

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

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

Outlook for August...Open drift ice melting completely during the first week then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Lancaster Sound.

Very open to open drift first-year ice including a trace of old ice.

Outlook for June...Very open to open drift ice.

Outlook for July...Very open drift ice melting completely during the third week then bergy water.

Outlook for August...Bergy water.

Barrow Strait.

Consolidated first-year ice including a trace of old ice except for consolidated old ice in the extreme southwestern section.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice fracturing during the second week then close to very close pack ice. Ice becoming open drift ice over the eastern section during the second week.

Outlook for August...Over the eastern section very open drift ice. Elsewhere close to very close pack ice becoming open drift to close pack ice during the third week.

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

Prince Regent Inlet.

Close to very close pack first-year ice including a trace of old ice except for consolidated ice in the central section.

Outlook for June...Close to very close pack ice except consolidated ice in the central section fracturing during the second week.

Outlook for July...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift ice over the northern section during the second week.

Outlook for August...Over the southern section close to very close pack ice becoming open drift ice during the first week. Elsewhere very open drift ice. Ice melting over the area during the fifth week then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

Gulf of Boothia.

Very close pack first-year ice including a trace of old ice except consolidated old ice along parts of the coast.

Outlook for June...Very close pack ice except consolidated ice along parts of the coast.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice fracturing near the end of July. Elsewhere close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift ice over the northern section during the third week. Ice becoming open drift to close pack ice elsewhere during the fifth week.

Outlook for September...Ice melting completely over the northern section during the first week. Elsewhere open drift to close pack ice.

Wellington Channel.

Consolidated first-year ice including up to 2 tenths of old ice.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

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

Outlook for August...Close pack ice becoming very open drift ice during the first week. Ice melting completely during the fifth week then bergy water.

Outlook for September...Bergy water.

McDougall Sound.

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

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice fracturing during the fourth week then close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for August...Close pack ice becoming very open drift ice.

Outlook for September...Very open drift ice during the first week.

Jones Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice including up to 1 tenth of old ice except very open drift first-year ice including a trace of old ice in the extreme eastern section.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice except for very open drift ice in the eastern section.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice except for very open drift ice in the extreme eastern section.

Consolidated ice fracturing during the third week then close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for August...Close pack ice becoming open drift ice during the first week and very open drift ice during the second week.

Outlook for September...Very open drift ice.

Norwegian Bay.

Consolidated old and first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

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

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming very open drift ice over the northern section during the third week. Over the southern section ice becoming close pack to open drift ice during the fourth week.

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

Eureka Sound.

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

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice fracturing during the third week then becoming close pack to open drift ice during the fourth week.

Outlook for August...Open drift ice becoming very open drift ice during the second week.

Outlook for September...Very open drift ice.

Western Kane Basin.

Consolidated old ice except very open drift young ice over the extreme southern section.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

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

Outlook for August...Close pack ice becoming open drift ice during the first week.

Outlook for September...Open drift to close pack ice.

Western and Central Arctic

Summer temperature and ice outlook.

Average air temperatures are forecast to be above normal over most locations from June to August.

In general, forecast ice events are expected to be earlier than normal over most locations this summer.

Southeastern Beaufort Sea.

Very open drift first-year ice including a trace of old ice except consolidated first-year ice along the coast.

Outlook for June... Very open drift ice except consolidated ice along the coast fracturing during the second week and becoming open drift ice during the third week.

Outlook for July... Very open drift ice melting completely during the first week then open water.

Outlook for August... Ice free.

Amundsen Gulf.

Consolidated first-year ice except open water in the extreme western section.

Outlook for June... Consolidated ice fracturing during the second week then close to very close pack ice.

Outlook for July... Close pack ice becoming very open to open drift during the first week and melting completely during the third week.

Outlook for August... Open water.

Outlook for September... Ice free.

Prince of Wales Strait.

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

Outlook for June... Consolidated ice.

Outlook for July... Consolidated ice fracturing during the second week then open drift to close pack ice

Outlook for August... Very open to open drift ice.

Outlook for September... Very open drift ice melting completely during the second week.

Northern Alaskan Coast.

Very open drift first-year ice except close pack first-year ice over western sections. Consolidated first-year ice along the coast.

Outlook for June... Very open drift first-year ice except close pack ice over western sections. Consolidated ice along the coast fracturing during the fourth week.

Outlook for July... Very open drift ice except close to very close pack ice along the coast and over western sections. Ice becoming open drift ice along the coast over eastern sections during the third week.

Outlook for August... Open drift ice melting completely during the second week then open water.

Outlook for September... Ice free.

Western Alaskan Coast.

Very open drift first-year ice except close to very close pack ice over extreme northeastern and extreme western sections. Open drift to close pack first-year ice along parts of the coast.

Outlook for June...Over extreme western sections ice becoming open drift during the second week and melting during the third week. Over eastern sections ice becoming open drift ice during the fourth week.

Outlook for July...Open water except open drift ice over eastern sections melting completely during the first week then open water.

Outlook for August...Ice free.

Outlook for September...Ice free.

Northern Beaufort Sea south of 75°N.

Close to very close pack old ice except for very open drift old ice over extreme southern and extreme eastern section. Consolidated first-year ice including trace of old ice along the Banks Island coast.

Outlook for June... Close to very close pack ice except for very open drift ice over extreme southern and extreme eastern section. Consolidated ice along the Banks Island coast.

Outlook for July... Close to very close pack ice except for very open drift ice over southern and extreme eastern sections. Consolidated ice along the Banks Island coast fracturing during the first week.

Outlook for August... Close to very close pack ice except for very open drift over southern and extreme eastern regions. Ice becoming open drift ice over western sections during the third week.

Outlook for September...Very open to open drift ice except close pack ice over the northeastern section.

Arctic Ocean north of 75°N.

Very close pack old ice.

Outlook for June...Very close pack ice.

Outlook for July...Very close pack ice.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift to close pack ice over the extreme southern section during the third week.

Outlook for September... Close to very close pack ice except very open to open drift ice over the southern and southwestern sections.

Dolphin and Union Strait

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice fracturing during the first week then becoming very open drift ice during the second week. Ice melting completely during the third week.

Outlook for August...Ice free.

Coronation Gulf.

Consolidated first-year ice.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice fracturing during the first week then becoming very open to open drift ice during the second 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 except consolidated old ice in the extreme northeastern section.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice fracturing during the second week becoming open drift to close pack ice during the fourth week.

Outlook for August...Open drift ice melting completely during the second week then open water.

Outlook for September...Ice free.

Victoria Strait – Larsen Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice including a trace of old ice except for consolidated old ice in the eastern and southern sections of Victoria Strait.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

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

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

Outlook for September...Very open drift ice.

Peel Sound.

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

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

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

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift ice over the northern section during the second week and over the southern section during the fourth week.

Outlook for September...Very open drift ice. Ice melting completely in the southern section during the first week then open water.

M'Clintock Channel.

Consolidated old and first year ice.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice fracturing near the end of July.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice. Ice becoming very open to open drift ice over the eastern section near mid-August.

Outlook for September...Very open drift ice except close to very close pack ice over the western section.

Viscount Melville Sound.

Consolidated first-year ice including a trace of old ice except consolidated old ice over the eastern and extreme southwestern sections.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

Outlook for July...Consolidated ice fracturing during the fourth week.

Outlook for August...Close to very close pack ice becoming open drift ice along the northern and eastern sections near mid- August.

Outlook for September...Close pack ice except very open drift ice in the northern and eastern sections.

M'Clure Strait.

Consolidated first-year ice including a trace of old ice except consolidated old ice in the southern section.

Outlook for June...Consolidated ice.

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

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

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