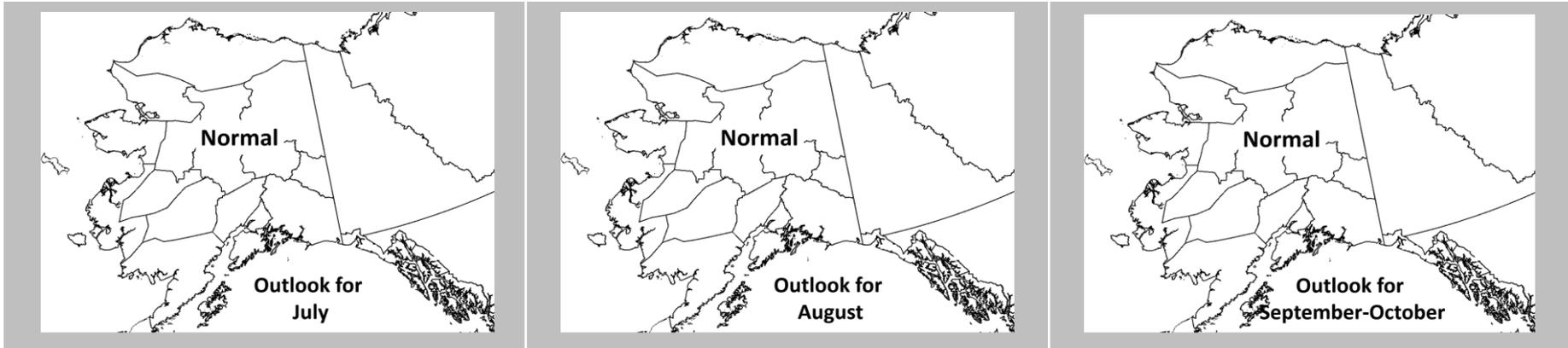


Alaska Monthly Fire Potential Outlook



Forecast:

- The forecast for July through October is for normal fire activity. Though it's been a slow season start, warmer than normal temperatures are expected for the rest of the summer. And though it is quite likely that we will have a below normal season due to the current lack of fire activity, there are not enough indicators that the ensuing months will keep activity significantly below normal. Periods of warm and dry weather could bring the state into high potential in a week's time.

Factors:

- June has seen quite variable weather with lightning activity gearing up, but a wet pattern has kept ignitions to a minimum. The Upper Yukon Valley has been the driest region over the past month with the greatest potential for long lasting fires if ignitions occur. Thus far lightning has been accompanied by ample precipitation.
- After a June with cooler, variable weather, July is expected to start warm, with an increased chance of above normal precipitation in the west. Temperatures for July are showing a preference for above normal over all of mainland Alaska with the greatest chances for warmer temperatures in the southwest. August through October continue in the same vein.

Calculations of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating system show greatest fuel dryness and fire potential in the fine surface fuels are greatest in the Upper Yukon Valley. Other parts of northern Alaska also show elevated dryness and potential. The deeper layers, such as Duff Moisture Code (DMC), show only near normal for this time in the season.