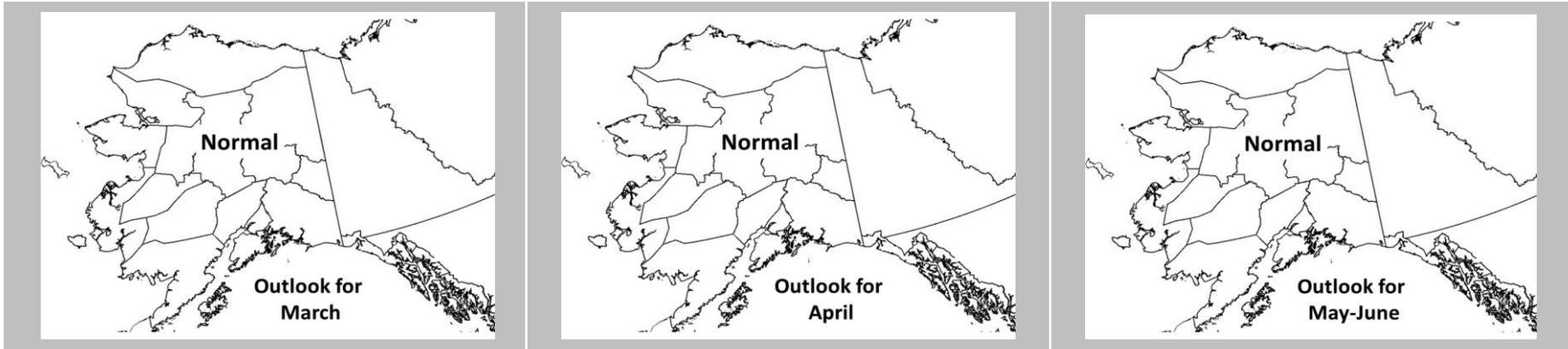


Alaska Monthly Fire Potential Outlook



Forecast:

- Alaska is out of fire season, but will be entering it in late April or early May. The forecast for March through June is for normal fire activity.
- **Factors:**
- The U.S. Drought Monitor shows a wide swath of abnormally dry from the coast of Norton Sound, across the Southwest Interior, through the Anchorage area and Kenai Peninsula. However, since the snowpack in most areas of Southwest Alaska are from 1-2 feet, it seems unlikely this dry area is an issue. There is also an area of abnormally dry identified over the Panhandle, which seems reasonable as there is little snow on the ground at many locations there. On the opposite end of the spectrum, much of the Interior has a very deep snowpack this season.
- Outlook maps are forecasting warmer than normal temperatures along the north and west coasts, and parts of the western Interior. Those warmer than normal conditions are expected to hold into the spring months and expand inland, encompassing the western Interior, as well. Moving into early summer, there are no reliable indicators that tell whether the season will be active or slow.

Calculations of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating system are suspended due to snow cover and freezing temperatures, and will begin as areas become snow free and warm up.