

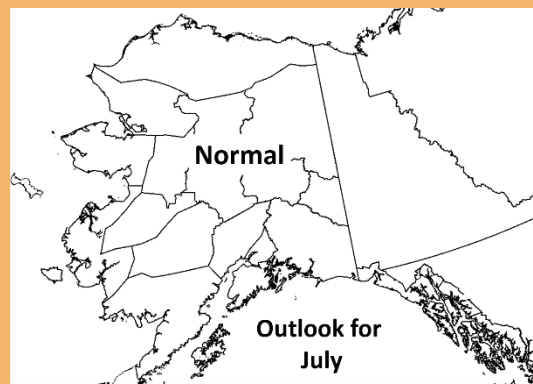
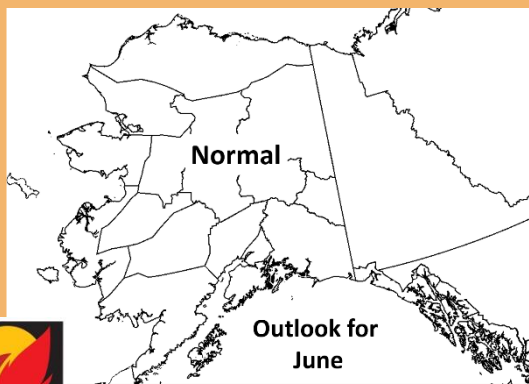
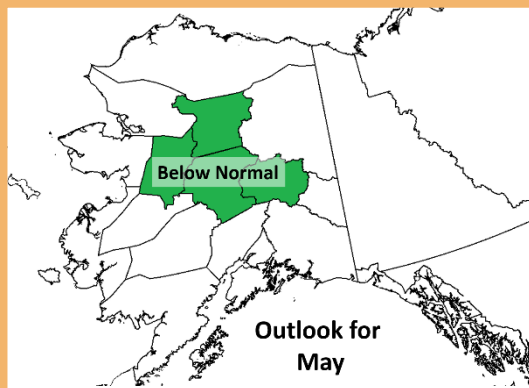
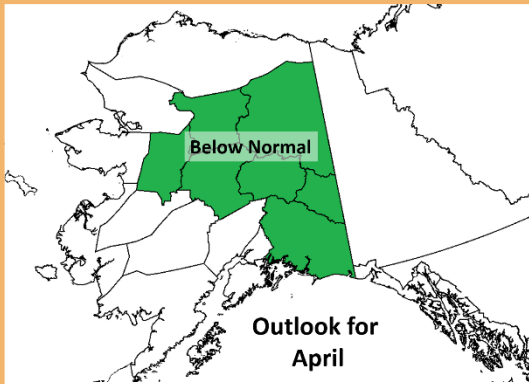
Alaska Monthly Fire Potential Outlook

Forecast:

- Alaska will be entering fire season later than normal in the interior in late April and May due to heavy snowpack. The forecast for June and July is for normal fire activity.

Factors:

- The U.S. Drought Monitor has a swath of abnormally dry from the coast of Norton Sound, to the Southwest Interior, the Anchorage area and Kenai. Since the snowpack in most areas of Southwest Alaska are from 1-2 feet, it seems unlikely this dry area is an issue. An area of abnormally dry is identified over the Panhandle. On the opposite end of the spectrum, much of the Interior has a very deep snowpack this season.
- Outlook maps show cooler than normal in the Panhandle and a small portion of SE mainland AK and warmer than normal in far western AK and AK Peninsula in April. Wetter than normal conditions are forecast for western and northern AK with drier in SE mainland AK and Panhandle. The summer as a whole is expected to be warmer than normal with a chance of above normal precipitation across northern AK. After the later than normal snowmelt in the interior there are no reliable indicators that tell whether the season will be active or slow.



- ▶ Calculations of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating system will begin in April in the south as areas become snow free and warm up.