

SEA ICE PREDICTION NETWORK (SIPN)

Template for Pan-Arctic Sea Ice Outlook Core Contributions June Report (Using May Data)

**Required*

1. *Contributor Name(s)/Group: Paul Beckwith

2. *Type of Outlook projection
___model ___statistical _X_heuristic

If you use a model, please specify:

Model Name _____

Components of the model: Atmosphere___, Ocean___, Ice___, Land___, Coupler___

For non-coupled model: Ice ___, Ocean___, Forcing___

3. *September monthly average projection (in million square kilometers): 3.25

4. *Short explanation of Outlook method (1-3 sentences)

Outlook based on behavior of sea ice in previous years, and meteorological conditions and temperature anomalies over Arctic over the past winter and those expected over the summer months.

5. Projection uncertainty/probability estimate (only required if available with the method you are using)

+ - 0.5

6. Short explanation/assessment of basis for the uncertainty estimate in #5 (1-2 sentences)

Examination of sea ice extent fluctuations over previous years.

7. * "Executive summary" about your Outlook contribution

The large year-to-year variability in the sea ice extent makes this sort of prediction very dicey. Behavior of the sea ice over the past winter and the spring and the large positive temperature anomalies in the Arctic (as high as 20 degrees C over large regions in the past winter) suggest that an extent near that of the 2012 minimum may occur again if there is large export of sea ice out to the Atlantic Ocean via the Fram Strait.