SEA ICE PREDICTION NETWORK (SIPN)
Template for Pan-Arctic Sea Ice Outlook Core Contributions
June 2015 Report

*REQUIRED

1. *Contributor Name(s)/Group – how you would like your contribution to be labeled in the report (e.g., Wiggins et al.)

   Kay/Bailey/Holland (NCAR/CU)

2. *"Executive summary" about your Outlook contribution (max 300 words)
   Say in a few sentences what your Outlook contribution is and why. To the extent possible, use non-technical language.

An informal pool of 30 climate scientists in early June 2015 estimates that the September 2015 ice extent will be 4.39 million sq. km. (stddev. 0.45, min. 3.25, max. 5.15). Since its inception 8 years ago, the NCAR/CU sea ice pool has easily rivaled much more sophisticated efforts based on statistical methods and physical models to predict the September monthly mean Arctic sea ice extent (e.g. see appendix of Stroeve et al. 2014 in GRL doi:10.1002/2014GL059388 ; Witness the Arctic article by Hamilton et al. 2014 http://www.arcus.org/witness-the-arctic/2014/2/article/21066). We think our informal pool provides a useful benchmark and reality check for Sea Ice Prediction efforts based on more sophisticated physical models and statistical techniques.

3. *Type of Outlook projection
   ___dynamic model ___statistical _x__heuristic ____mixed or other: (specify)

If you use a model, please specify:
Model Name ____
Components of the model: Atmosphere__, Ocean__, Ice__, Land__,
For models lacking an atmosphere or ocean, please describe the forcing: ___

4. *September monthly average projection (extent in million square kilometers. To be consistent with the validating sea ice extent index from NSIDC, if possible please first compute the average concentration for the month and then compute the extent as the sum of area of all cells > 15%.)

   The September 2015 monthly mean ice extent will be 4.39 million sq. km. (stddev. 0.45, min. 3.25, max. 5.15).

5. *Short explanation of Outlook method (max 300 words)
   In addition, we encourage you to submit a more detailed Outlook, including discussions of uncertainties/probabilities, including any relevant figures, imagery, and references.
   If this is a model contribution, please include method of method of initialization and variable used.

An informal pool of 30 climate scientists in early June 2015 estimates that the September 2015 ice extent will be 4.39 million sq. km. (stddev. 0.45, min. 3.25, max. 5.15). Guesses were collected by sending an e-mail out to the scientists.

6. Projection uncertainty/probability estimate for September extent (only required if available with the method you are using)

The standard deviation, min, and max of our guesses serve as our uncertainty estimate: stddev. 0.45, min. 3.25, max. 5.15

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

The uncertainty estimate is based on the scatter in entries in our informal pool.