

September 2009 Regional Sea Ice Outlook: July Report
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Region: High Arctic

As of 28 June there are 7 ice mass balance buoys deployed in the Arctic as indicated in the map below. At the start of June melting had not yet begun at the sites. Early in June air temperatures rose above freezing at the two southernmost sites (2007J, 2009B) initiating surface melt. Air temperatures at the northernmost buoys gradually warmed during June and ranged between 0 and -2 C by the end of the month. Data from the NPEO buoy (2009A) show that during the month of June there was 0.1 m of snow melt at the surface, but there was still a 0.4 m deep snow cover at the end of the month. The two southernmost buoys each had 0.12 m of bottom ablation. This is a region where large amounts of bottom melt were observed in both 2007 and 2008. All the other buoys showed modest growth during June of a few centimeters.

