

Sea Ice Outlook  
2020 August Report  
Individual Outlook

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**Name of contributor or name of contributing organization:**

NSIDC Hivemind

**Is this contribution from a person or group not affiliated with a research organization?**

**Name and organization for all contributors. Indicate primary contact and total number of people who may have contributed to your Outlook, even if not included on the author list.**

Walt Meier, walt@nsidc.org, and 17 other employees at NSIDC

**Do you want your June contribution to automatically be included in subsequent reports?  
(If yes, you may still update your contribution via the submission form.)**

Include this submission in both the July and August reports.

**What is the type of your Outlook projection?**

Heuristic

**Starting in 2017 we are accepting both pan-Arctic and pan-Antarctic sea ice extent (either one or both) of the September monthly mean. As in 2016, we are also collecting Alaskan regional sea ice extent. To be consistent with the validating sea ice extent index from NSIDC, if possible, please first compute the average sea ice concentration for the month and then compute the extent as the sum of cell areas > 15%.**

**a) Pan-Arctic September extent prediction in million square kilometers.**

4.36

**b) same as in (a) but for pan-Antarctic. If your method differs substantially from that for the Arctic, please enter it as a separate submission.**

**c) same as in (b) but for the Alaskan region. Please also tell us maximum possible extent if every ocean cell in your region were ice covered.**

**"Executive summary" of your Outlook contribution (using 300 words or less) describe how and why your contribution was formulated. To the extent possible, use non-technical language.**

The approach is heuristic expert elicitation method based on entries to an informal NSIDC sea ice contest. Interested employees submitted their guesses and the ensemble average of all guesses. There were 18 total entries, with an average guess of 4.26 million sq km for the September average.

**Brief explanation of Outlook method (using 300 words or less).**

The approach is heuristic expert elicitation method based on entries to an informal NSIDC sea ice contest.

**Tell us the dataset used for your initial Sea Ice Concentration (SIC).**

Guesses were based on the NASA Team algorithm extents from the NSIDC Sea Ice Index, Version 3 ([http://nsidc.org/data/seaice\\_index/](http://nsidc.org/data/seaice_index/)).

**Tell us the dataset used for your initial Sea Ice Thickness (SIT) used. Include name and date.**

**If you use a dynamic model, please specify the name of the model as a whole and each component including version numbers and how the component is initialized:**

[DynamicModelType]

**If available from your method.**

**a) Uncertainty/probability estimates:**

**Median**

**Ranges**

**Standard Deviations**

0.26 million sq km

**b) Brief explanation/assessment of basis for the uncertainty estimate (1-2 sentences).**

Uncertainty is based on the standard deviation of the 18 guesses.

**c) Brief description of any post processing you have done (1-2 sentences).**