2010 Sea Ice Outlook July Report

Ron Lindsay and Jinlun Zhang Applied Physics Laboratory, University of Washington

End of June: According to our model retrospective simulations, the ice in the Arctic has continued to thin at a remarkable rate. The statistical method based on the PIOMAS model analysis now is projecting a new record low ice extent. The best predictors are G1.0 (area with less than 1.0 m of ice) and G0.4 (area with less than 0.4 m of ice) which give nearly identical results. Using the same one as last month (G1.0) **the predicted extent is 3.96 +/-0.34 million square kilometers**. The R2 value for this predictor is 0.84, which now indicates a high degree of skill in the forecast. Here is the diagnostic plot for this month:

Predictions for September 2010 from June

Observed and Predicted Ice Extent from the Sea Ice Index



