

ALASKA CoCoRaHS NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Alaska CoCoRaHS Newsletter!

This newsletter will discuss Autumn '21 updates to the Alaska Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network.

Thank you for submitting your daily precipitation reports! This newsletter's purpose is to inform all of the volunteers about weather events in Alaska, and to talk about current events and opportunities.

- 1 **Observer Recognition/
New Observers**
- 2 **Fall 2021
Weather**
- 3 **Director Visit
and new Haines
observers**
- 4 **Water Year
Summaries**
- 5 **Spread the
Word!**
- 6 **Misc/Contacts**



Thank you!

We greatly appreciate our volunteers for taking the time to report their precipitation measurements to us!

A special thank you goes out to those who have been consistently reporting for the last few months, and some new observers:

AK-AB-71 *

AK-AB-69 *

AK-AB-52

AK-JB-11

AK-AB-60

AK-AB-21

AK-JB-15 *

AK-FN-16

AK-MS-21 *

AK-VC-6

AK-PW-1

AK-MS-14

AK-AB-68 *

AK-AB-51

AK-HB-3 *

AK-AB-43

AK-FN-13

AK-AB-62

AK-AB-65

AK-FN-19

AK-PW-9 *

AK-FN-32 *

AK-KP-6 *

AK-HB-5 *

Additional Support

We would also like to thank the Canadian Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) and Local Environmental Observer (LEO) network for their support of CoCoRaHS Alaska!



Active/new observers (cont'd)

AK-MS-19

AK-HB-2 *

AK-MS-11

AK-FN-29

AK-AB-38

AK-FN-15

AK-FN-18

AK-SF-3

AK-FN-31 *

AK-MS-12

AK-BC-4

AK-AB-55

AK-KP-3

AK-HB-4 *

AK-MS-15

AK-FN-33 *

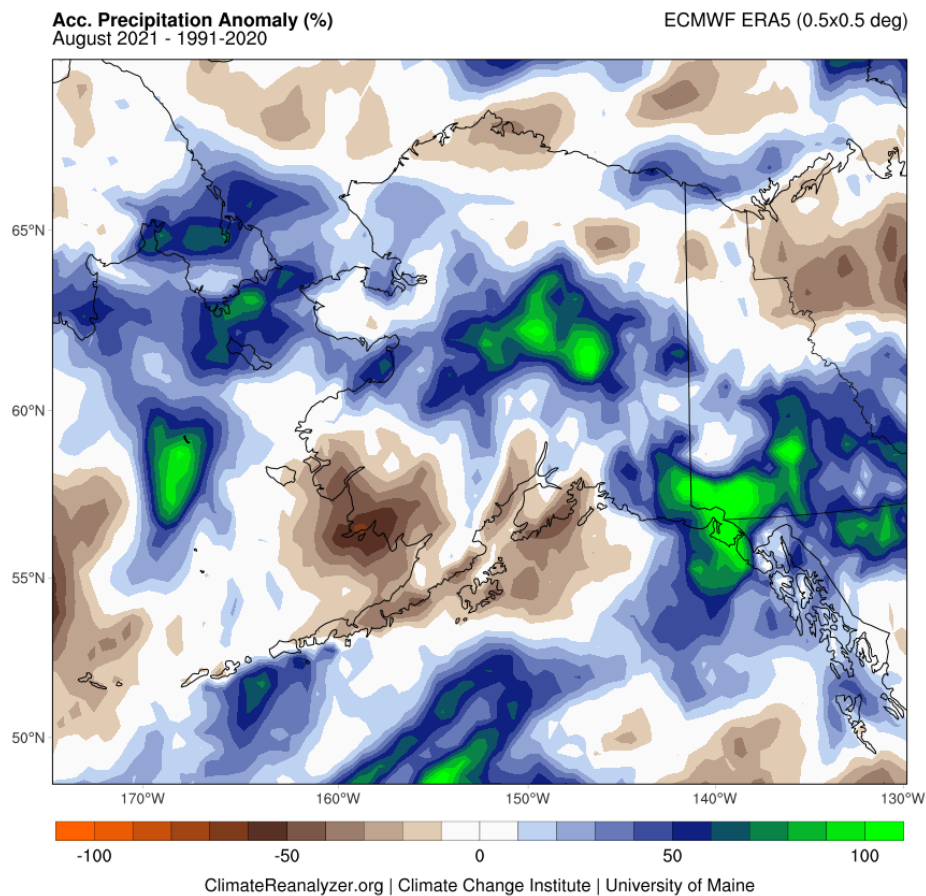
AK-BB-1 *

* New observer as of Summer '21.

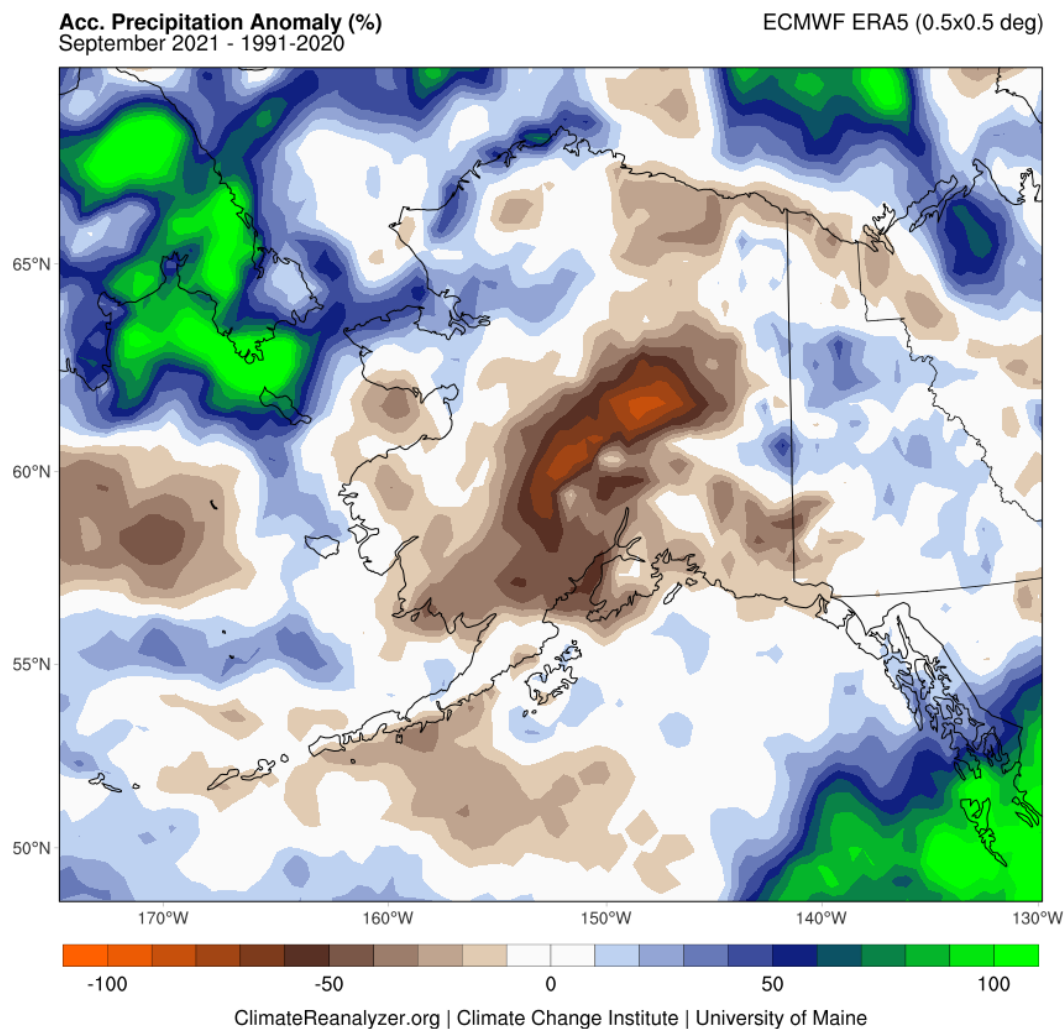


The Weather in Fall 2021: Accumulated Precip

August: much of southwest AK and portions of the south central were relatively dry compared to average (over the last 30 years), and portions of the interior and the mountains around Yakutat were relatively wet.



September: Much of the south central and interior was dry. The only areas with relatively wet readings were the far southeast portion of the panhandle, extreme northwest AK, and portions of the eastern border with the Yukon.

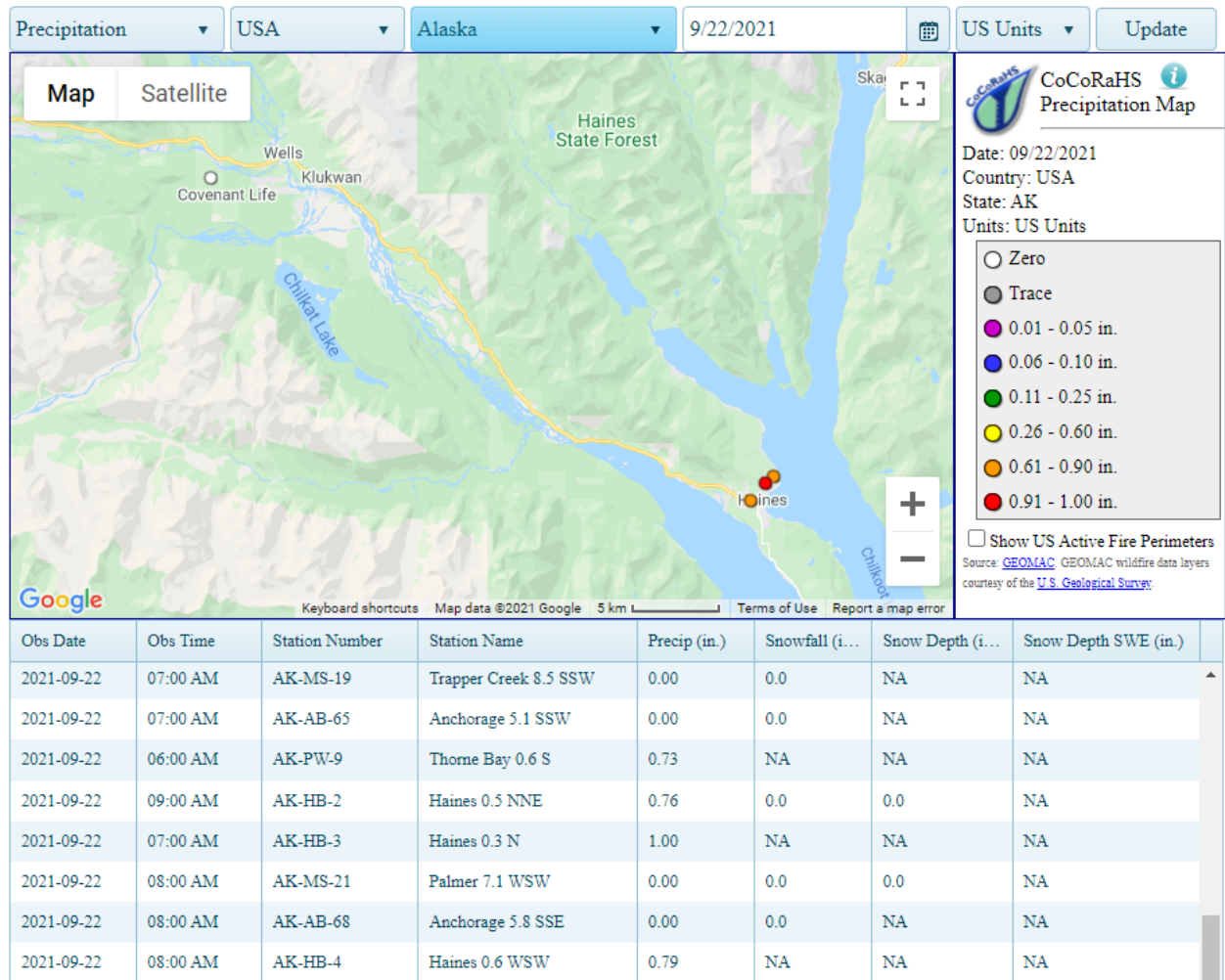


Fact of Interest: Your CoCoRaHS obs become part of the NWS national climate database once you reach 100 obs (total) at your location!!!!

CoCoRaHS National Coordinator **Henry Reges** visited The Last Frontier during late August 2021.

- Met with Alaska Coordinators in Fairbanks, Anchorage and Juneau, as well as some observers from Talkeetna
- Visited schools, libraries and other public venues for CoCoRaHS recruiting
- Distributed CoCoRaHS brochures
- Got a birdseye view of the interior and south coastal during his tour

New Members in the vicinity of Haines



New Members in the vicinity of Haines

*Thanks to **Steve Wishstar** and **Erik Stevens**
of the Haines Science Center and the Haines Avalanche Center: setup of
gauges and observations in the Haines area; station numbers
AK-HB-2, AK-HB-3, AK-HB-4, AK-HB-5*

*Distribution of gauges in the Haines area was possible thanks to the
Canadian CEC and LEO network.*



Water Year Summaries

From your login page, click on “My Account” on blue tabs near the top. You will see a list of the history of your Water Year totals (Oct. 1 – Oct. 31) for your years of observing. Simply click on the Report for a series of informational tables. The term “Water Year” comes from hydrology scientists, and represents the water season for 1 entire year of snowpack and melting. Here’s one example (abbreviated) from 2021:

STATION LIST

OVERVIEW

CHARTS

DAYS IN WATER YEAR

DAILY PRECIP OBS

MULTIDAY PRECIP OBS

HAIL OBS

Station Overview

Station Location

Station Number:

AK-AB-55

Station Name:

Anchorage 7.6 SSE

Elevation:

220 ft.

County:

Anchorage, AK

Latitude:

61.111287

Longitude:

-149.845998

Download as Excel File

Water Year Overview

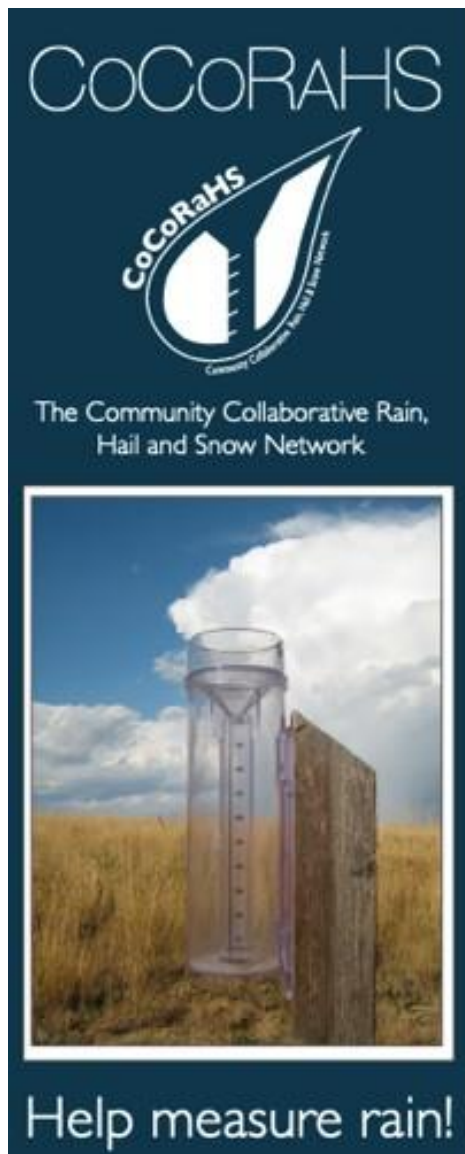
Year-Month	Total Precip Sum	Days Covered by All Obs	Daily Precip Sum	Daily Obs Count	Multiday Precip Sum	Days Converved by Multiday Obs	Multiday Obs Count	Days with Precip	Days with Trace	Total Snowfall	Days with Snowfall	Days with Snow on Ground
Oct 2020	1.87	30	1.87	30	0.00	0	0	10	3	2.3	4	9
Nov 2020	1.71	30	1.71	30	0.00	0	0	12	6	14.7	12	28
Dec 2020	1.97	31	1.97	31	0.00	0	0	16	7	21.2	13	31
Jan 2021	1.23	31	1.23	31	0.00	0	0	9	13	6.5	9	31
Feb 2021	0.66	28	0.66	28	0.00	0	0	13	8	11.6	12	28
March 2021	1.86	31	0.99	22	0.87	9	1	9	3	13.3	9	22
April 2021	0.33	30	0.33	30	0.00	0	0	7	0	1.4	4	24
May 2021	0.70	30	0.70	30	0.00	0	0	6	4	0.0	0	0

*This is an automated **summary** of the past year’s precipitation observations, including Total precipitation (at the bottom of the table), total obs counts by month, #days covered by multi-day obs, #days with precipitation, #traces, total snowfall, #days with snowfall, and #days with snow on the ground. There are also graphs with this info displayed by month, and a graph showing accumulated precip through the year.*

Also listed are daily totals.

Continue to Spread the Word!

We need to recruit more observers, and to continue to train, for measuring precipitation in Alaska's unique terrain!



Do you know someone in your community who is interested in weather and measurement? Please introduce them to CoCoRaHS and contact your CoCoRaHS coordinator, listed on page 12.

Thank you for your help!

Links:

- [CoCoRaHS brochure](#)
- [CoCoRaHS "Wanted" Flyer](#)

Reminders

Please report zeros! Recording no precipitation is just as important as recording any amount >0 .



Review Snow Training! Snowfall measurement takes more patience and time than rainfall, but the CoCoRaHS website has plenty of resources in the [“Training Slideshows”](#) link on the left of the main page. Learn the use of the snowboard and having an extra outer gauge shell!



CONTACTS

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