

# WEATHER FORECAST FUNNEL

## Data Sources and Links

2020 Southcentral Snow and Avalanche Workshop - Kyle Van Peurse - National Weather Service

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### 1-2 Weeks Out

- Climate Prediction Center Outlooks (Seasonal, monthly, and weekly): [www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

### 6-10 Days Out

- Hemispheric/regional long wave patterns
  - Tropical Tidbits Ensemble 500 mb height anomaly chart: <https://www.tropicaltidbits.com/analysis/models/?model=gfs-ens&region=npac&pkg=z500a>
  - Tropical Tidbits Ensemble precipitable water anomaly chart: [https://www.tropicaltidbits.com/analysis/models/?model=gfs-ens&region=npac&pkg=mslp\\_pwata](https://www.tropicaltidbits.com/analysis/models/?model=gfs-ens&region=npac&pkg=mslp_pwata)
    - Look for agreement between other models for confidence

### 3-5 Days Out

- State scale, individual weather systems.
- Start looking at deterministic weather models:
  - Tropical Tidbits surface pressure and rain/snow chart: [https://www.tropicaltidbits.com/analysis/models/?model=gfs&region=ak&pkg=mslp\\_pc\\_pn\\_frzn](https://www.tropicaltidbits.com/analysis/models/?model=gfs&region=ak&pkg=mslp_pc_pn_frzn)
    - Models available: GFS, NAM 32km, CMC, and RGEM
  - Windy.com maps
    - Can compare GFS, NAM, and Euro models
- NWS Point and Click Forecast: <https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lon=-149.15&lat=60.79>
  - Link above is for Turnagain Pass. Click anywhere on map to change location. Scroll down for hourly weather forecast graph. No snow amounts past day 3.
- NWS Forecast Discussion: <https://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=NWS&issuedby=AFC&product=AFD&format=CI&version=1&glossary=1>
  - Scroll to bottom for Long Range section

### 1-2 Days Out

- Mountain range scale, local effects, more details (snow amounts, etc..)
- High Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR) model: <https://rapidrefresh.noaa.gov/hrrr/ALASKA/>
  - My favorite fields:
    - **Composite Reflectivity** (simulated radar)

- **Total Precip**
  - **Total Snowfall**
- NWS Point and Click Forecast. Snow/precip amounts included up through day 3
- NWS Forecast Discussion – Short Term section (Days 1-3) for Southcentral
- NWS Mountain Recreation Forecast:  
<https://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?issuedby=AER&product=REC&site=afc>

### Night Prior/Morning of

- Slope scale forecasting. Nowcast, previous/current conditions
- Check Mountain Recreation Forecast, Point and Click, and Forecast Discussion again
- College of DuPage Satellite Page: <https://weather.cod.edu/satrad/?parms=continental-Alaska>
  - My favorite loops:
    - **Lower Level WV** (Water vapor, overall large-scale pattern)
    - **Visible** (Only good during daylight hours)
    - **NT Microphysics** (Good during nighttime hours)
    - **Day Cloud Phase** (Only during daylight hours. Good distinction b/t low/med/high clouds, land, and snow)
- Radar: [https://radar.weather.gov/Conus/alaska\\_loop.php](https://radar.weather.gov/Conus/alaska_loop.php)
- NWS Weather Station Map: <https://www.wrh.noaa.gov/map>
- CNFAIC Weather Station Table: <https://www.cnfaic.org/wx/wxmap.php#weather-map-table>
- NWS Alaska Snow Depth Map: [www.weather.gov/aprfc/Snow\\_Depth](http://www.weather.gov/aprfc/Snow_Depth)

### Other Useful Links

- CNFAIC Weather Page: <https://www.cnfaic.org/wx/weather.php>
- HPAC Weather Page: <https://hpavalanche.org/weather/>
- NWS SWE Map: [https://www.weather.gov/aprfc/nrcs\\_AK\\_SWE](https://www.weather.gov/aprfc/nrcs_AK_SWE)
  - Similar to the Snow Depth Map but for Snow Water Equivalent
- Alaska Freezing Level Forecast Maps: <https://www.weather.gov/aprfc/frzlvs2>
- Statewide 7-Day Observed/Forecast Precipitation Maps:  
[https://www.weather.gov/aprfc/qpe\\_qpfViewer](https://www.weather.gov/aprfc/qpe_qpfViewer)