



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A) Weekly Weather and Tundra Travel Report

Bureau of Land Management Alaska, Arctic District Office  
Data pulled week of December 8, 2022.

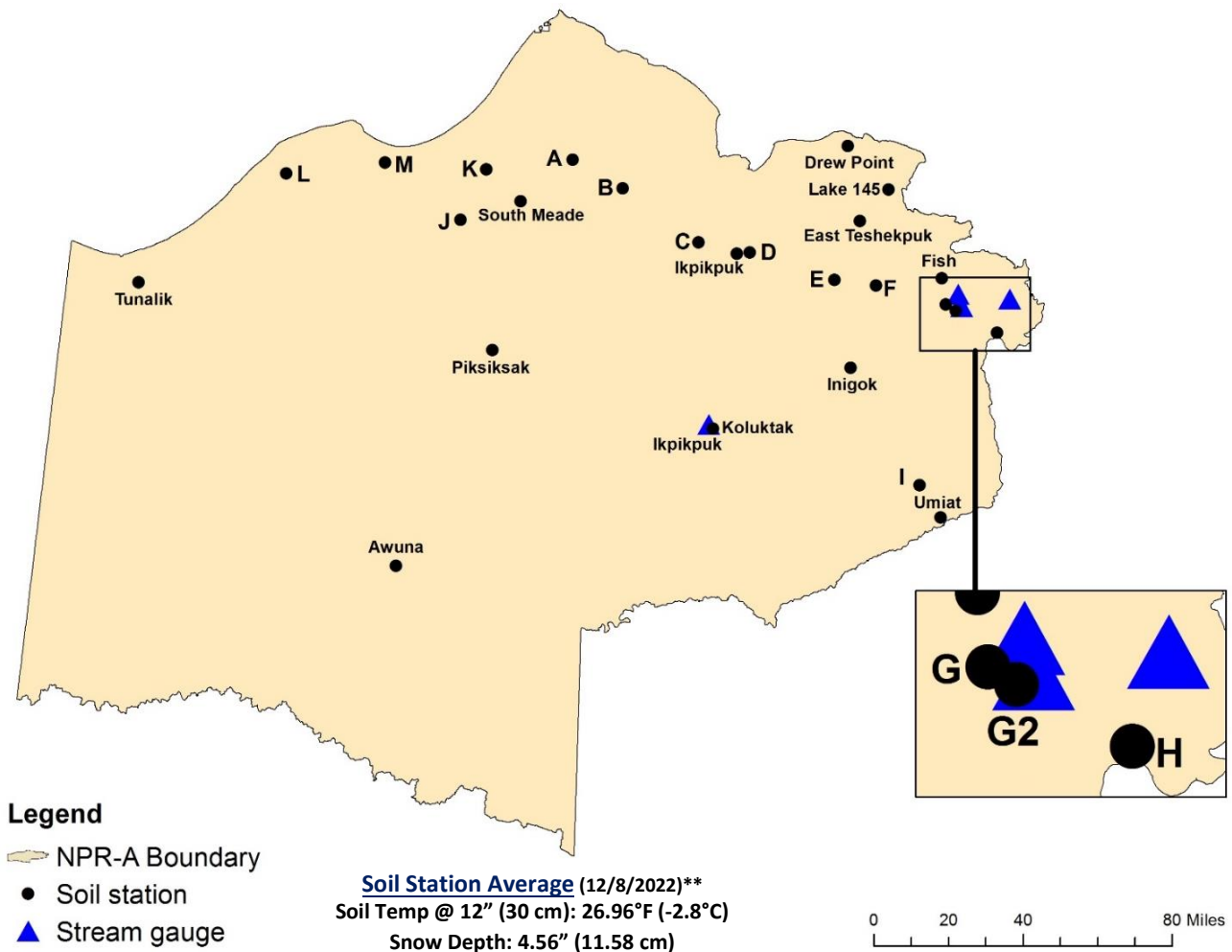
## BACKGROUND

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Alaska and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) maintain a network of monitoring stations across the NPR-A. These stations report real-time data\* on snow and soil conditions that may be used to help support the planning of tundra travel within NPR-A. For reference, the tundra may be considered open for off-road travel when snow depths average a minimum of 6 inches (15 cm) and the ground is frozen to a minimum of 23°F (-5°C) at 12 inches (30 cm). The number of stations reporting, and the dates of their last report may vary throughout the winter due to telemetry delays or failures. Station locations are depicted on the map above. \*The data shown is considered raw data and is reported "as-is". The weekly soil station average is calculated using only data from stations that have successfully transmitted for that reporting week.

## CONCLUSION

Due to an unseasonably warm week on the North Slope, soil at 12 inches (30 cm) depth now averages 26.96°F (-2.8°C), which has risen 1.26°F since last week and has not yet reached sufficient freezing temperatures for overland travel. Snow depths have dropped slightly from the rain to an average of 4.56" (11.58cm) down 0.14" since last week. Among actively reporting soil station sites, average snow depth has not yet reached the 6" minimum for off-road travel. Smaller streams and larger rivers within the NPR-A are continuing to freeze but have had some flow recently.

For more information, contact BLM Alaska Arctic District Office Staff, Matthew Ferderbar: [mferderbar@blm.gov](mailto:mferderbar@blm.gov) or Katie Drew: [ksdrew@blm.gov](mailto:ksdrew@blm.gov).



[Soil Station A \(70cm cable\)](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 20.03°F  
Snow Depth: 0.79"

[Soil Station D \(70cm cable\)](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 27.16°F  
Snow Depth: 1.97"

[Soil Station G2 \(270cm cable\)](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 25.47°F  
Snow Depth: 1.57"

[Soil Station J](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 21.24°F  
Snow Depth: 1.97"

[Soil Station M](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 23.94°F  
Snow Depth: 5.12"

[Soil Station Awuna](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": \*  
Snow Depth: \*

[Soil Station Fish Creek](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 24.44°F  
Snow Depth: 4.0"

[Soil Station Koluktak](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 29.35°F  
Snow Depth: 4.53"

[Soil Station B \(70cm cable\)](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 31.3°F  
Snow Depth: 3.54"

[Soil Station E \(240cm cable\)](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 25.21°F  
Snow Depth: 2.76"

[Soil Station H \(270cm cable\)](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 23.57°F  
Snow Depth: \*

[Soil Station K](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 26.92°F  
Snow Depth: 9.05"

[Soil Station Drew Point](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 21.74°F  
Snow Depth: 4.17"

[Soil Station Ikpikpuk](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": \*  
Snow Depth: 5.63"

[Soil Station Lake 145](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 27.73°F  
Snow Depth: \*

[Inigok RAWs](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 32.0°F  
Snow Depth: 2.0"

[Soil Station C \(70cm cable\)](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 31.59°F  
Snow Depth: 7.87"

[Soil Station G \(310cm cable\)](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 31.50°F  
Snow Depth: 9.84"

[Soil Station I \(350cm cable\)](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 30.24°F  
Snow Depth: 5.51"

[Soil Station L](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 25.86°F  
Snow Depth: 6.69"

[Soil Station E Teshekpuk](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 24.26°F  
Snow Depth: 2.64"

[Soil Station Inigok](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 30.27°F  
Snow Depth: 6.81"

[Soil Station Piksiksak](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 29.39°F  
Snow Depth: 3.23"

[Soil Station Umiat](#)

Soil Temp @ 12": 29.84°F  
Snow Depth: 6.02"

[Stream Gauge Fish Creek](#)

Water Stage Height (Stage 2): 14.8' (above MSL)  
Water Temp (Temp 1): 32.0°F  
Air Temp (1-week high): 36.14°F  
Air Temp (1-week low): 1.04°F  
Air Temp (1-week avg): 18.59°F  
Max Wind Speed (1-week high): 39.3 MPH

[Stream Gauge Judy Creek](#)

Water Stage Height (Stage 2): 21.8' (above MSL)  
Water Temp (Temp 1): 22.46°F  
Air Temp (1-week high): 35.42°F  
Air Temp (1-week low): -2.02°F  
Air Temp (1-week avg): 16.7°F

[Stream Gauge Ikpikpuk River](#)

Water Stage Height: (Stage 2) 13.4' (above MSL)  
Water Temp (Temp 1): 32°F  
Air Temp (1-week high): 37.4 °F  
Air Temp (1-week low): 0.68°F  
Air Temp (1-week avg): 19.04°F  
Max Wind Speed (1-week high): 36.6 MPH

[Stream Gauge Ublutuoch River](#)

Water Stage Height (Stage 2): 7.65' (above MSL)  
Water Temp (Temp 1): 31.8°F  
Air Temp (1-week high): 35.06°F  
Air Temp (1-week low): -4.0°F  
Air Temp (1-week avg): 15.53°F



This November 24, 2022 photo depicts the last transmitted image of river ice conditions along the Colville River near Ocean Point. Photo courtesy of partner Fresh Eyes on Ice.