

Sea Ice Outlook  
2018 August Report  
Individual Outlook

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

MPAS-CESM

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

false

**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.**

Steven Cavallo, University of Oklahoma. Nicholas Szapiro, University of Oklahoma. William Skamarock, NCAR.

Primary contact: Nick Szapiro

**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.)**

false

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

Dynamic Model

**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.**

4.2

**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.**

17.4

**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.**

0.6

**"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.**

Our August outlook is an experiment with a fully coupled dynamical atmosphere-sea ice-ocean-land-river model and small initial condition ensemble. Focusing on Arctic SIE, larger (smaller) initial SIE lead to larger (smaller) September SIE. Small perturbations to the initial atmosphere create a spread of 0.1 M sq. km.

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

Using CESM-CAM-MPAS (v2.0.b05), an Arctic-refined (~90-25 km) atmospheric mesh is coupled to ~1 degree other components. For the control, the atmosphere is cold-started from GFS initial conditions (0.25 degree) on 2018-07-30 and the other components startup from a spun-up restart of CESM Large Ensemble member 006 in 2021 (to match the expected 2018 Arctic SIE from CESM-LE and NSIDC). An additional atmospheric IC ensemble member is from perturbing the initial GFS resolution (0.5 degree). Non-atmospheric IC ensemble members use CESM-LE members 005 and 007 for the other components. A 15% threshold on the daily model sea ice concentration is used to calculate extent. Simulations are in 2018 using an RCP 8.5 forcing.

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

Restarts of CESM Large Ensemble members 005, 006, and 007 using 2021-07-30.

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

Restarts of CESM Large Ensemble members 005, 006, and 007 using 2021-07-30.

**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:**

Coupled

**If available from your method.**

**a) Uncertainty/probability estimates:**

**Median**

4.2, 17.4, 0.6

**Ranges**

3.6-4.8, 17.2-17.8, 0.57-0.66

**Standard Deviations**

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

Small initial condition ensemble

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

Monthly mean extent is the average of daily extents