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WELCOME TO THE ALASKA COCORAHNS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter will discuss Spring and Summer '22 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.



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!





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-21 Eagle River 2.6 ESE
- AK-AB-38 Eagle River 7.8 SE
- AK-AB-43 Eagle River 11.5 ESE
- AK-AB-51 Anchorage 4.5 E
- AK-AB-52 Anchorage 4.7 SSW
- AK-AB-55 Anchorage 7.6 SSE
- AK-AB-60 Anchorage 2.1 SSW
- AK-AB-62 Anchorage 8.3 SSE
- AK-AB-65 Anchorage 5.1 SSW
- AK-AB-71* Anchorage 3.6 ESE
- AK-BC-4 Sleetmute 1.4 SSE
- AK-FN-11 Fairbanks 7.2 ENE
- AK-FN-13 Fairbanks 7 NNE
- AK-FN-15 Fairbanks 5.7 N
- AK-FN-16 Fairbanks 4.4 W
- AK-FN-19 North Pole 1 N
- AK-FN-31 Fairbanks 7.2 NNE
- AK-FN-32 Fairbanks 6.3 W

*** New observer as of Spring-Summer '22.**

THANK YOU

(continued from previous page):

AK-FN-33 Fairbanks 12.1 W	AK-MS-12 Talkeetna 7.6 S
AK-FN-35* Fairbanks 18.9 WNW	AK-MS-14 Wasilla 2.7 NW
AK-FN-38 Fairbanks 18.4 WNW	AK-MS-15 Mosquito Lake 1.0 WSW
AK-FN-39 Anaktuvuk Pass 63.8 NE	AK-MS-19 Trapper Creek 8.5 SSW
AK-FN-41* Salcha 1.5 SSW	AK-MS-21 Palmer 7.1 WSW
AK-HB-2 Haines 0.5 NNE	AK-MS-22 Chickaloon 1.7 WSW
AK-HB-3 Haines 0.3 N	AK-MS-25* Palmer 2.7 SW
AK-HB-6* Mosquito Lake 5.7 SSE	AK-PW-1 Edna Bay 13.8 SE
AK-JB-11 Juneau 5.6 NW**	AK-PW-9 Thorne Bay 0.6 S
AK-JB-16 Juneau 15.7 NW**	AK-SF-3 Tok 1.7 NE
AK-KP-3 Soldotna 5.1 E	AK-SF-5* Delta Junction 6.5 NW
AK-KP-6 Soldotna 2.3 ESE	AK-VC-6 Paxson 10.8 SSE
AK-MS-11 Palmer 1.7 WNW	AK-VC-8 Glennallen 3.2 NE

****Note the corrected locations for the Juneau Borough observations.**

*** New observers as of Spring-Summer '22.**

NEW REPORTS IN THE VICINITY OF FAIRBANKS

AK-FN-35 (Fairbanks 18.9WNW)

AK-FN-41 (Salcha 1.5SSW)

AK-FN-38 (Fairbanks 18.4WNW)

AK-FN-32 (Fairbanks 6.3W)

AK-FN-33 (Fairbanks 12.1W)

AK-FN-31 (Fairbanks 7.2NNE)

AK-FN-35 (Fairbanks 18.9WNW)

AK-FN-39 (Anaktuvuk 63.8NE)

AK-FN-19 (North Pole 1.0N)

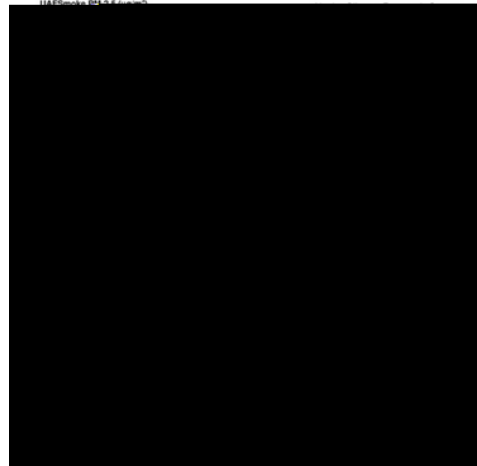
Thanks to Erin Billings and Martin Stuefer for coordination and setup of gauges and observations in the Fairbanks area/borough. This area has been the most active for new observers over the last 2 years!



PICTURES OF THE SEASON



Kennicott River near McCarthy, Aug. 6.



UAF Smoke Prediction, Aug 25, 2022 at 18z



Grizzlies at the AK Wildlife Conservation Center, June 5



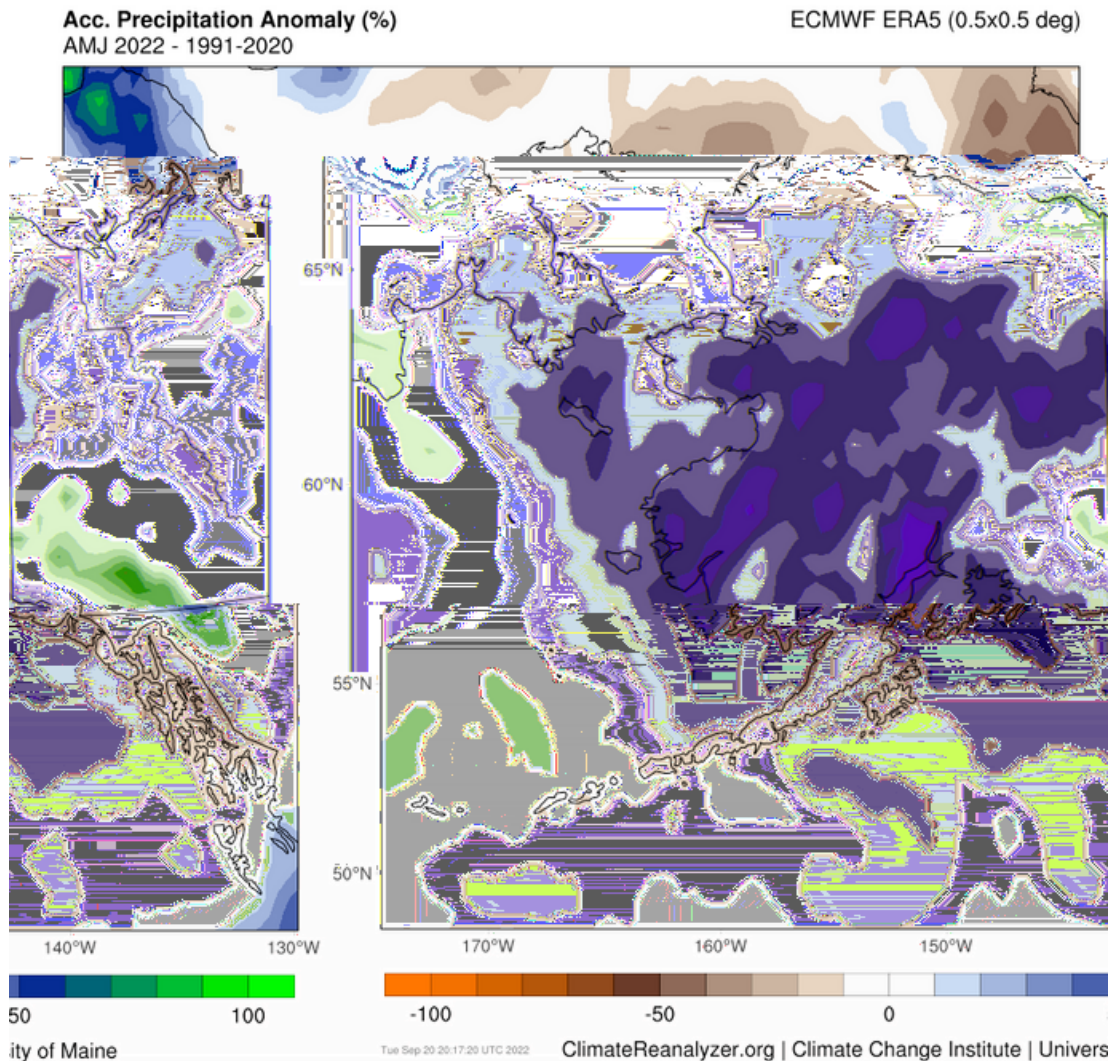
Wildfire south of Coldfoot July 5

Have a photo to share? Send it to us at the contact information at the end of this newsletter!

THE WEATHER IN SPRING/SUMMER 2022

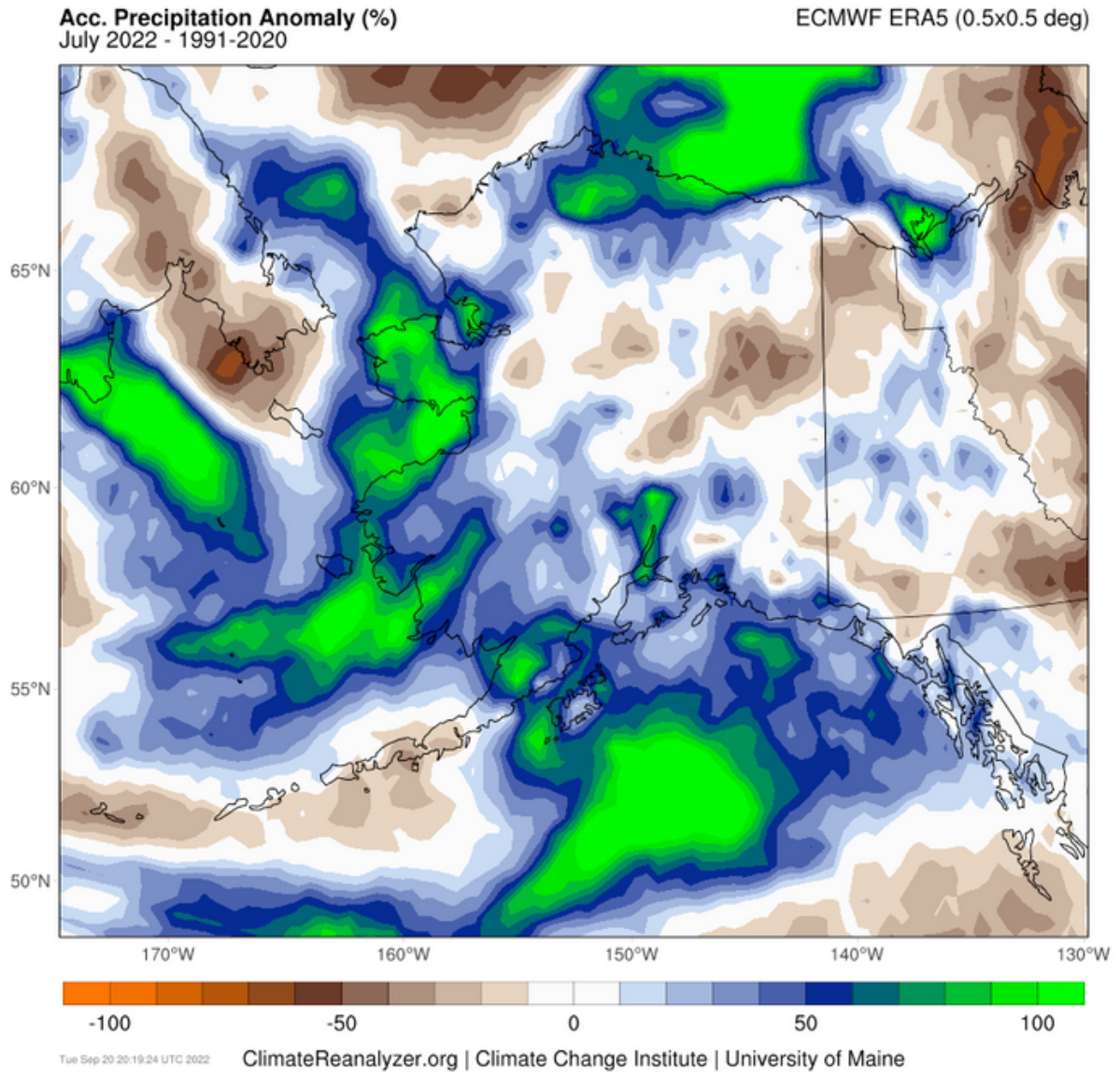
Apr-Jun 2022

DRY!! Much of AK experienced much drier than average conditions during Spring 2022. Only isolated areas of the extreme northeast and southeastern border with the Yukon saw greater-than-average precipitation. The abnormally dry pattern reversed observed heavy snowfall during much of last winter over much of the south; however the dry trend over the northwestern portions matched drier-than-average conditions over the far northwest observed last winter. An active early summer wildfire season was experienced as a result of the dry weather over portions of the interior.



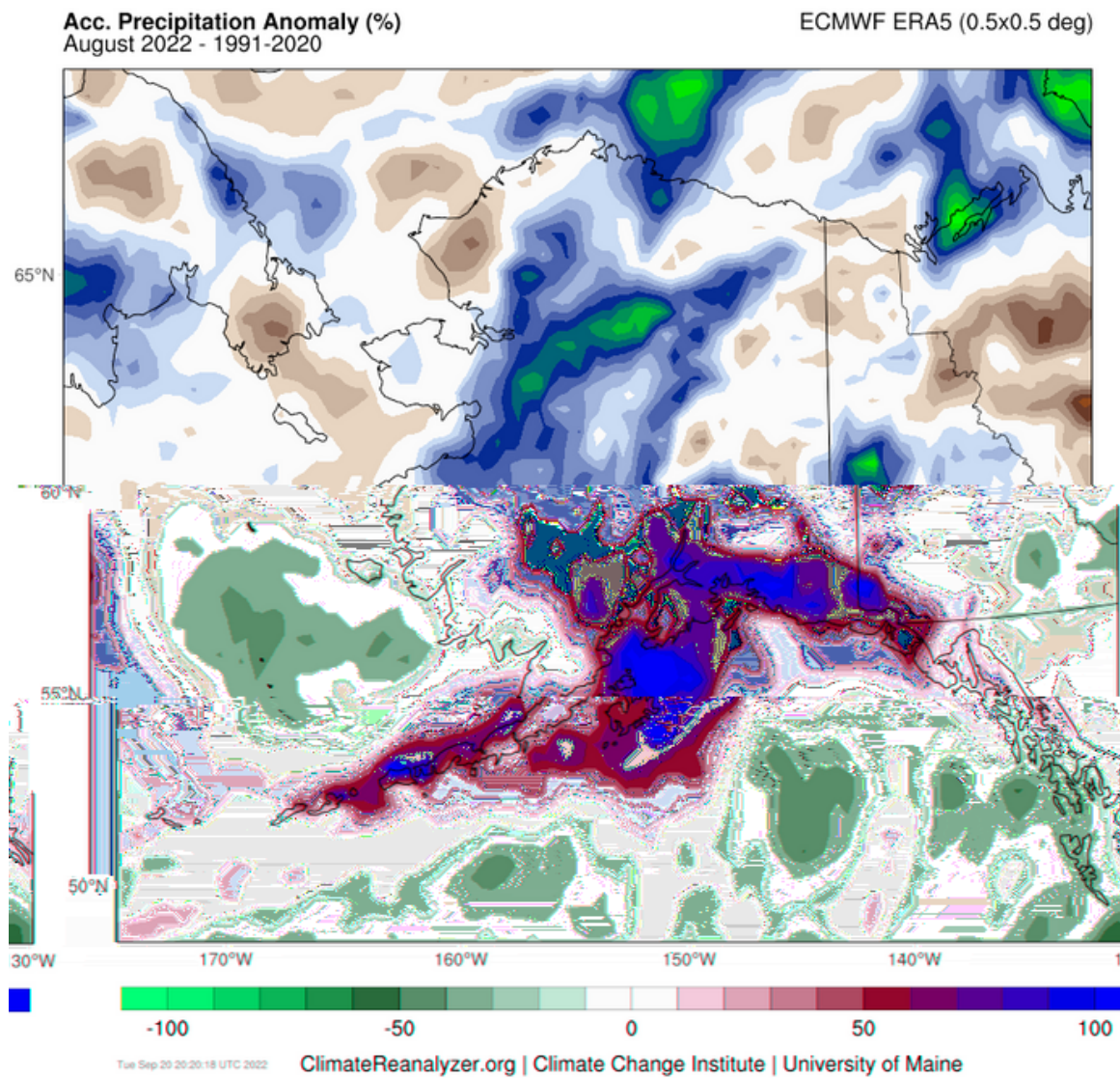
THE WEATHER IN SPRING/SUMMER 2022

July 2022:



THE WEATHER IN SPRING/SUMMER 2022

August 2022:



THE WEATHER IN SPRING/SUMMER 2022

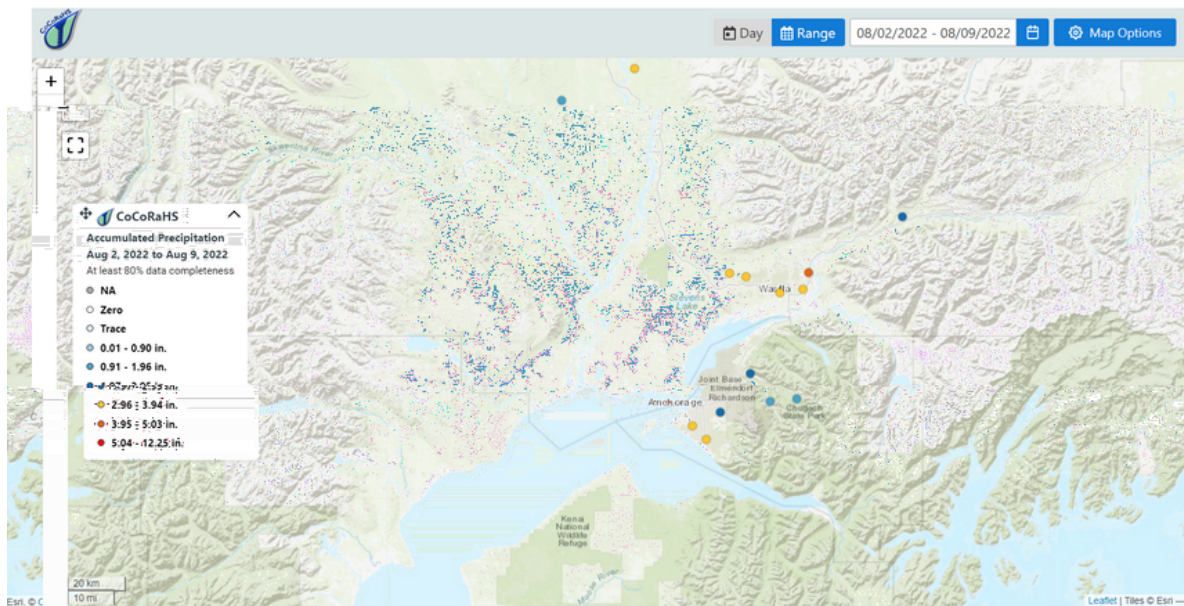
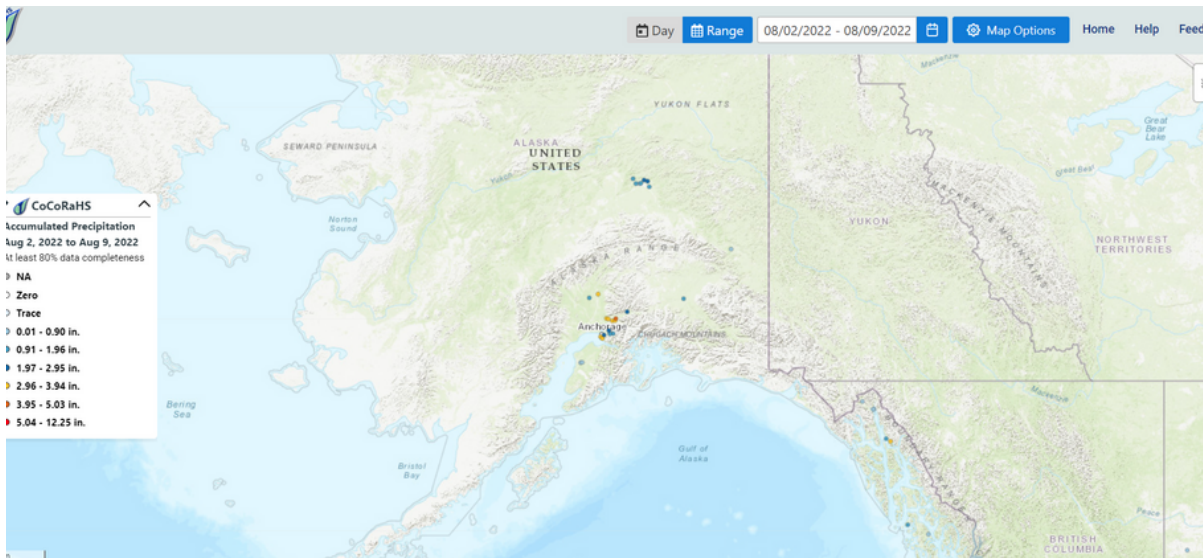
SUMMARY: the most noteworthy aspects of the July/August plots are the rebound in precipitation amounts over the southern portions of mainland Alaska. This continued during Sept. with near-record amounts of 2-month rainfall from the Anchorage bowl eastward to the coastal regions of extreme southeast mainland AK (this is our wet season for this region, but rainfall in 2022 was about twice the average). The moist recovery also included portions of NW mainland AK although not nearly so dramatic. Also this can be said for much of the central/northern interior for August.

Some CoCoRaHS observers recorded **well over 15" of rain over south-central AK during the period spanning from about July 10 to the third week of Sept !!!!!**

Other areas: generally the Aleutians had a dry July but a moist August. Much of the west coast saw the opposite...a moist July but an average to dry August. Over the eastern border region with the Yukon, generally about average to slightly below average rain amount totals were observed in July/August. For the SE panhandle, the 2-month totals were just about average (with the exception of the far southern areas that were very dry in Aug); some portions of the northern panhandle measured above-average values for these 2 months.

THE WEATHER IN SPRING/SUMMER 2022

Here is an illustration of the anomalously heavy rainfall over the southcentral portion of AK during the second half of summer 2022. The values are shown for much of the CoCoRaHS viewing area (for one week in Aug) in the top plot; then zoomed in the 2nd plot. Many observers reported well over 3" rainfall during this period; 15+'' for the 75 days up to Sept 20 was common.



REMINDERS

Please report zeros! Recording no precipitation is just as important as recording any amount >0. During the winter things get a bit complicated....remember to remove your gauge's inner shell before the snows start.

SNOW and ICE:

Your snowfall measurements are of critical importance to monitoring these conditions. In particular, for snowfall, ice storms, and drought-related measurements, the measurements are crucial as the public, scientists and interested parties monitor actual conditions on the ground in areas that are sparsely populated. If you need equipment replacement or have special needs, send a note to the appropriate Coordinator (listed below).

Review Measurement Training! The CoCoRaHS website has plenty of snow measurement resources in the [“Training Slide Shows”](#) link on the left of the main page. Learn about gauge placement, measuring liquid equivalent, as well as the potential complicating effects of nearby trees and gauges that are not mounted properly.



Image of a yard in South Anchorage on Jan. 15, 2022

SPREAD THE WORD!



CoCoRaHS
The Community Collaborative Rain,
Hail and Snow Network



Help measure rain!



WANTED!

**VOLUNTEERS OF ALL AGES
TO HELP SCIENTISTS STUDY STORMS**

Measure precipitation in your own backyard with CoCoRaHS!

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 the final page of this newsletter.

Thank you for your help!

Links:

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

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

CONTACTS

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