August 4, 2009

Dear Climate and Health List Serve:

Here are some Alaska climate updates and articles that are currently in the news. Click on the link for more information.

- **Senator Begich introduces package of bills related to the Arctic (ADN August 4). Begich called for a coordinated Arctic research plan that will guide policy decisions including an increase in Arctic infrastructure, new icebreakers and Coast Guard facilities, research to make oil spill recovery possible, research to address health problems of Arctic people, and creating an Arctic Adaptation Fund to address climate related impacts.**
- **Interior fires advance; resources running low (ADN August 4) Fire have burned about 2 million acres across Alaska so far this year. The most active fire season on record was 2004, when more than 700 wildfires consumed roughly 6.6 million acres.**
- **Canada wildfires send thick haze to Juneau (J.E. August 3) The hottest July on record in the Yukon's history combined with minima precipitation has resulted in 107 this season. Whitehorse is blanketed with smoke as is Dawson City, Watson Lake, Teslin, Haines and Juneau.**
- **ANTHC performed a survey of climate impacts in Kivalina last week. One observation was potential effects to drinking water quality from erosion of the Wulik River (photo). Like other rivers in the northwest, melting permafrost is accelerating erosion. These findings will be included in an upcoming Climate Change Assessment Report for Kivalina.**

We have updated our map at the Center for Climate and Health and you can find links to these stories and other recent climate events and information at our website.

http://www.anthc.org/chs/ces/climate/index.cfm

Regards - Mike

Michael Y. Brubaker
Director, Center for Climate and Health
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
4000 Ambassador Drive, C-DCHS
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
907-729-2464
mbrubaker@anmc.org

Safe, Healthy, Sustainable Communities

Note: If you would like to be removed from our list serve, just send me an e-mail.