

Climate and Health E-News

Raising Awareness about Climate Change and Public Health in the Circumpolar North

No. 102, February 17, 2012

Circumpolar Climate Events Map – See this week's news events including: *Alaska heat wave, West Nile Virus in England, and extreme rain storm related flooding in Newfoundland.* [Center for Climate and Health](#)

Jökulhlaup - findings from last year's glacier flood in Juneau *February 10, 2012.* Ask folks who live near the Juneau's Mendenhall River and they'll likely be able to tell you exactly where they were the day billions of gallons of glacial melt water flooded their neighborhood. [Juneau Empire](#)

Alaska's glaciers losing 46 billion tons of ice each year *February 12, 2012.* According to a study published in the journal [Nature](#), Alaska is the second biggest contributor to glacier-fed sea level rise outside of Greenland or Antarctica, producing 8.5% of the world's annual glacier shrinkage. [Alaska Dispatch](#)

Extreme water shortages projected for southern states *February 15, 2012.* A study in the Journal of Environmental Science and Technology concludes that seven in ten U.S. counties may face fresh water shortages by 2050. The shortages would be driven by population increases and climate change related drought. [ScienceDaily](#)

Canada Inuit's perform risky mussel harvest under sea ice *January 25, 2011.* The people of Kangiqsujaq, near Hudson Strait go to great lengths to add variety to their diet of seal meat. During extreme low tides, they go beneath the ice to harvest mussels. But poor ice conditions are making it increasingly hard to find ice safe enough to venture beneath. [BBC](#)

Video of the Week: *Gathering mussels under the Arctic sea ice.* This two minute clip from BBC's *Human Planet* series documents a mussel gathering excursion under the ice by the Kangiqsujaq Inupiat in Canada. [YouTube](#)

Climate and Health E-News is received around the circumpolar north by people who are interested in climate change impacts and public health. For back issues click [here](#). To subscribe or unsubscribe, please click [here](#).

Regards - Mike

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Safe, Healthy, Sustainable Communities