

Climate and Health E-News

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

No. 135, October 26, 2012

Circumpolar Climate Events *Google Map* - Click [here](#) for this month's map or visit our [archive](#).

Local Environmental Observer (LEO) *Google Map* - Click [here](#) for this month's map or visit our [archive](#).

Evaluating potential causes of Alaska king salmon crash *October 23, 2012*. Since peaking in 2006, salmon returns have declined in most of the monitored watersheds of Alaska. Last month the U.S. Department of Commerce declared king salmon failures in Cook Inlet and the Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers. According to fisheries biologist Kate Meyers, the two leading hypotheses for declines of Chinook salmon in the ocean are climate change and fishing. [Associated Press](#)

(Note: see this [link](#) for information about the 2008 West Coast king salmon fishery failure.)

Alaska Federation of Natives Convention focuses on fallout of king salmon crash *October 19, 2012* Gov. Sean Parnell told a convention room something they're already keenly aware of: it's been a tough year for king salmon runs. Parnell was among the speakers opening the annual convention of Alaska Federation of Natives in Anchorage. "I've been very concerned about how some of you, some of our neighbors, how many Alaskans are going to struggle through this winter," Parnell told the crowd. [Fairbanks Daily News-Miner](#)

Western Nunavut hunters ponder big changes in wildlife *October 15, 2012*. If hunters on Victoria Island in western Nunavut find dead muskox, they should be careful: these dead animals could be infected with a disease that's recently killed at least 100 on Banks Island in the Northwest Territories. This is just one of the troubling changes that representatives from the region's hunters and trappers organizations considered at the annual general meeting last week in Cambridge Bay. [NunatsiaqOnline](#)

Teen ambassadors volunteer to help polar bears and visitors coexist safely *October 12, 2012*. Four new leaders in human and polar bear safety are emerging in Kaktovik. They give safety talks to visitors, serve as role models for their peers and are helping their community. They accomplish all this and more after a full day of school. The teen-agers from the Kaktovik Youth Ambassadors program volunteer to help people stay safe during the season when many polar bears come ashore. [Arctic Sounder](#)

Video of the Week: Newtok, Village on the Edge (Part 1), October 24, 2012. Newtok, a small coastal community in western Alaska is relocating because of erosion caused by changing sea ice conditions and thawing permafrost. This story, by reporter Rhonda McBride and photojournalist Eric Sowl documents Alaska's first climate change refuges. [KTUU-TV](#)

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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