

Climate and Health E-News

Raising Awareness about Climate Change and Public Health in the Circumpolar North No. 150, February 21, 2013

Circumpolar Climate Events Map – Click [here](#) for this month’s map or visit our [archive](#).

LEO Network Map – Click [here](#) for this month’s map or visit our [archive](#).

What is causing the big pods of dolphins in coastal waters? *February 20, 2013.* Blue whales are unexpectedly showing up in Monterey Bay and a pod of dolphins that stretched over 35 miles recently indulged in a feeding frenzy off the coast of San Diego. Says Beth Pratt, of the National Wildlife Federation, “we are observing something unprecedented,’ but we don’t know what it means yet.” [Alaska Dispatch](#)

Uneven global sea-level rise predicted *February 19, 2013.* Computer models suggest that sea-level rise could affect some regions more than others. A study in the journal [Geophysical Research Letters](#), suggest that parts of the Pacific will see the highest rates of rise while some polar regions may actually experience falls in relative sea levels. [ScienceDaily](#)

Bird die-off underlines importance of disease surveillance *February 21, 2013.* In 2001, there was a [sudden disappearance of blackbirds](#) in Austria. The cause was a virus previously only isolated in African mosquitoes. Climate change is one factor that encourages emergent diseases. Often it is not until human illness occurs that governments take notice. [DiseaseDaily](#)

Social vulnerability and social justice in the context of climate change *February 2013.* Social vulnerability is a pre-existing condition that affects a society’s ability to prepare for and recover from a disruptive event. The social impact of climate change is illustrated by the story of one village in Alaska. [PA Times](#)

Video of the week – One big pod of dolphins *February 17, 2013.* This one minute video documents a huge pod of dolphins near San Diego last week. The size and location of the pod is raising questions about this and other events in coastal waters (see above article). Whatever the reason, pods this size are amazing to see. [YouTube](#)

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

Regards – Mike

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Safe, Healthy, Sustainable Communities