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**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](#).

**Cause of Arctic ozone hole determined** March 11, 2013. In 2011, ozone concentrations in the Arctic atmosphere were possibly the lowest ever recorded. According to a new NASA study, a combination of extreme cold, human-made chemicals and stagnant atmosphere were behind what became known as the Arctic ozone hole of 2011. [ScienceDaily](#)

**Could Alaska's mystery seal illness be Arctic sunburn?** March 13, 2013. In July 2011, Alaska Native hunters noticed ice seals covered in oozing sores and losing hair. They were sick and some were dying. Ultimately, more than 200 ice seals turned up with similar symptoms, prompting the federal government to declare an "unusual mortality event." One of the topics under investigation is UV exposure during the Arctic ozone hole of 2011. [Alaska Dispatch](#)

**New report outlines Arctic research priorities** March 2013. The U.S. Arctic Research Commission advises Congress and the President on Arctic research priorities. The Commission, chaired by former Alaska Lieutenant Governor Fran Ulmer, has released the U.S. Arctic Research Program Plan for 2013 and 2014. Top priorities include observing and responding to environmental change; improving human health; understanding natural resources; advancing civil infrastructure; and assessing indigenous languages, identities and cultures. [USARC](#)

**BC pilots new invasive plant control strategy – goats** March 26, 2013. The B.C. Ministry of Transportation is piloting two projects that will replace chemical poisons with herds of hungry goats. "A lot of our areas are quite sensitive especially near water, where we can't even use chemicals there," said Karla Hoffman, the city’s pest management coordinator. The goats actually prefer invasive species to the area's native grasses and they aren’t just greener than chemicals — the goats are also about 30 per cent cheaper. [CBC](#)

**Video Of The Week – NWT turns to community hunt to provide caribou** December 18, 2012. Getting enough caribou to last the winter is becoming harder and harder for people in Paulatuk, N.W.T., but a community hunt is helping provide meat for people who can’t hunt for their own. This three minute video is part of a special series on caribou in Canada. [CBC](#)

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*Regards – Mike*

Michael Brubaker  
[Center for Climate and Health](#)  
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

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