



Climate and Health E-News

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

No. 157 April 25, 2013

Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network Map An unusual spring chum salmon catch in St. Marys, a wolf (?) visits Anchorage, and a snowy arrival for waterfowl. Click [here](#) to see the LEO Network's monthly map or to visit our [map archives](#). Like LEO on [Facebook](#)

Circumpolar Climate Events Map The snow and cold from early April caught up with many parts of the circumpolar north this week. Massive flooding occurred in Finland and Sweden, damaging homes and disrupting travelers and commerce. Meanwhile in Manitoba, residents of the Red River Valley were bracing for the flood season. [ANTHC](#) Click here to visit our [map archive](#).

Climate change sends India's apple farmers up the Himalayas April 22, 2013. In 1916 a Quaker missionary from Philadelphia planted the first American Red Delicious apples in the Thanedar-Kotgarh hills of northwest India. It was the start of a horticultural revolution that transformed 100s of thousands of hectors to orchard and raised incomes in India's least urbanized state. But today the Himalayan foothills are seeing the effects of climate change and orchards are having to shift upland as winters shorten and snow fall declines. [Christian Science Monitor](#)

Researcher looks at climate change effects on Alaska's snow regime April 18, 2013. Stephanie McAfee gathered more than 30 years-worth of climate data from weather stations across the state and found that climate change could significantly change the amount of snow that hits the ground and sticks throughout the state. "As early as the 2040s in some places and certainly by the 2090s large portions of this region are going to receiving almost exclusively rain, including Anchorage and even as far north as Nome and Kotzebue a significant proportion of the precipitation could be coming as rain," says McAfee. [KUAC](#)

Climate affects diseases transmitted between animals and humans April 15, 2013. The effects of climate change are sometimes most pronounced near geographic limits. Norway represents the northern limit in Europe for the tick *Ixodes ricinus*. By correlating data on tick distribution, PhD student Solveig Jore found that *I. ricinus* was much further north and higher up in mountains than in the past. Climate and environmental change, access to host animals and demography are affecting tick distribution, and human vulnerability to disease. [ScienceDaily](#)

Video Of The Week - Midwest Flooding April 19, 2013. This PBS News segment covers the spring floods that are currently inundating much of the Midwest. Steady downpours have swollen rivers, creeks and streams beyond their banks. The Illinois River reached a 70-year high and so far four people in three states have died. [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

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

Safe, Healthy, Sustainable Communities