



Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network Updates – Observations on the [LEO September Map](#) include good news on berry harvest from Kiana but also concerns over a delayed caribou season. In Anchorage, wet weather equates to lots of fungus in the form of mushrooms and toadstools. You can visit our map [archives](#) and follow LEO on [Facebook](#)

Climate Events in the Circumpolar North – Warm weather means an extended summer in Sweden but the heat also means more drownings; in Canada rain causes landslides and erosion; and in Russia, historic flooding continues in the east, and a tanker going alone on the Northern Sea Route and is disabled by sea ice. [ANTHC](#)

Global warming to cut snow water storage 56 percent in McKenzie River watershed July 25, 2013. A new report projects that by the middle of this century there will be an average 56 percent drop in the amount of water stored in peak snowpack in the McKenzie River watershed of the Oregon Cascade Range. The findings by scientists at Oregon State University, which are based on a projected 3.6 degree Fahrenheit temperature increase, highlight the special risks facing many low-elevation, mountainous regions where snow often falls near the freezing point. [OSU](#)

Findings from a community-based climate change surveillance program August 2013. Some communities are more vulnerable to the health effects of climate change than others. A recent study from the Institute for Circumpolar Health at the University of Alaska in Anchorage, collected survey data from eight communities in three ecologically diverse regions, to explore community based surveillance as a method for understanding specific health effects of climate change and opportunities for adaptation. [International Journal of Circumpolar Health](#)

Chukchi polar bear population remains healthy as ice coverage lessens September 11, 2013. The Chukchi Sea has one of the highest rates of sea ice loss in the Arctic, but polar bears don't appear to be suffering as a result. A new study from the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service shows the Chukchi Sea bears are just as healthy as they were 20 years ago. The bears still face a grim long term future, but the new research shows there will be a lot of nuance along the way in how climate change plays out for polar bears in the Arctic. Listen: [Alaska Public Media](#)

Russian Far East sees worst flooding in 100 years August 26, 2013. Extremely heavy rainfall in Russia and China since the end of July has caused the Amur River to rise to record levels, burst its banks and flood surrounding areas. The flooding is the worst to hit the region in over a century, with over 34,000 people affected and 130 settlements across 25 municipalities already under water, according to an emergency report of Russia's EMERCOM. [Red Cross](#) Note: see NASA Earth Observatory flood images [here](#).

Video of the Week – High Alert: flooding may get worse in Russia's Far East August 20, 2013. Khabarovsk, one of the biggest cities and business hubs in Russia's Far East is in danger of being swamped by the most-powerful flood the region has seen in more than a hundred years. [Russia Today](#)

Climate and Health E-News is read by people who are interested in climate change and public health in the circumpolar north. 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