Climate and Health E-News (No. 183) November 21, 2013
Climate Change and Public Health in the Circumpolar North



Cleaning up in Unalakleet after the big storm. Photo by Victoria Kotongan

Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network Map – View our November map for a new observation about unusually warm weather and open water on Yukon River, a shrimp die-off in Metlakatla, delayed winter in Nondalton, increasing PSP levels in King Cove, and outcomes from the storm in Unalakleet. ANTHC. Visit our archives and follow us on Facebook

Climate Events in the Circumpolar North - There has been a lot of storms and related damage around the north this month. View our November map to see media reports from around the circumpolar north. In USA, power and water outages after Western Alaska storms, and restless bears in Talkeetna, Anchorage and Juneau. In Canada, an increase in giardiasis in Ontario. In Sweden, drought in the south and concerns over groundwater supply. In Russia, record high temperatures in Moscow. In Norway and Finland, more storms and resulting windfall and power outages. ANTHC

Kachemak Bay phytoplankton bloom unusual for Alaskan waters November 19, 2013. Scientists have found that the bloom that turned much of Kachemak Bay brown in late September, was caused by *Karenia mikimotoi*, a phytoplankton usually found in the Lower 48 and the cause of major fish die-offs elsewhere. The hot summer that baked South central Alaska may have contributed to the bloom. Alaska Dispatch

Pinto abalone considered for endangered species listing November 19, 2013. A 6-inch Pacific Ocean marine snail prized for its delicate flavor and colorful shell will be considered for endangered or threatened species status in the U.S. The Pinto abalone were listed as endangered in Canada in 2009 and have declined 80 to 99 percent in much of their range. Associated Press

Marine and coastal monitoring Talk of Alaska considers marine and coastal monitoring issues with Craig Matkin (Director of North Gulf Ocean Society), Kris Holderied (Director of NoAA's Katsina Bay Laboratory), and John Piatt (researcher for the US Geological Survey- Alaska Science Center). From local weather conditions on the other side of the point, to plankton blooms, to current changes, to ice changes, it's all becoming more available to mariners, researchers and subsistence users. APRN

Alaska department heads come together to figure out Alaska food security November 4, 2013. Commissioners from several state agencies participate in the Alaska Food Resources Working Group with the purpose of increase purchase and consumption of Alaska seafood and farm products. The meeting comes at a time when Alaska and the rest of the country is grappling with how to tackle food security while increasing interest in local foods. Alaska Dispatch

Video of the Week – Kotlik Alaska flood damage November 10, 2013. This three minute video by Glen Gosch shows footage of the aftermath of the storm in Western Alaska that caused flooding and disaster declarations in Kotlik and a several other communities. **YouTube**

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

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