



Climate Events in the Circumpolar North - View our April map to see media reports from across the circumpolar north. Highest temperatures recorded in 100 years in Eastern Siberia. Winter impacts continue in Eastern Canada with flooding, snow storms and difficult times for farmers. In Iceland, glacial melt is causing the land to rise. [ANTHC](#) See our map archive [here](#).

Newly discovered Greenland melting could accelerate sea level rise March 17, 2014. *Christina Marshall* - A large area of the Greenland ice sheet once considered stable is actually shedding massive amounts of ice, suggesting that future sea-level rise may be greater than expected. The research in *Nature Climate Change* signals that many climate models may be too conservative in their projections through this century, as they are not considering ice loss from the northeast portion of Greenland. Ice loss has gone from zero a decade ago to now 15 to 20 metric gigatons a year, and increasing. [Scientific America](#)

Southeast Iceland town rising due to glacier melt April 3, 2014. *Páll Stefánsson* - The fishing town of Höfn in Southeast Iceland, has risen 15 cm (6 inches) since 1997. According to Halldór Björnsson, head of climate research at the Icelandic Met Office, the rise is due to uplift as a result of glacier melt. "When the glaciers retreat and get thinner is that the pressure is eased and the earth lifts up. The southeast coast is rising fast." If Vatnajökull glacier were to disappear entirely, the town of Höfn would stand 20 meters higher than today. [Iceland Review](#)

Curious about sea level change – NOAA map provides a global view April 9, 2014. Did you know that Juneau's sea level is dropping at a rate of over 4 feet per century? Or that the across the Bering Strait in Providenia, Russia the sea is rising at a rate of over one foot per century. The Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services has been measuring sea level for over 150 years. Changes in Mean Sea Level (MSL), either rise or fall, have been computed at using a minimum span of 30 years at each location. This information is available in the web based maps published by the National Atmospheric and Oceanographic Administration. See: [NOAA Sea Level Trends Map](#)

Along a menacing ocean, Shaktoolik stares down climate change and refuses to budge March 30, 2014. *Alex DeMarban* -When the ocean turns violent and waves slam the ground, Mike Sookiayak can feel the blows vibrate in his chest. Shaktoolik, squeezed between the Tagoomenik River and Norton Sound is little more than a finger of land, wide enough for a few rows of houses. "We took a hard look at what happened in Shishmaref, Kivalina and Newtok, and we realized it would cost too much money for us," said Sookiayak. Instead Shaktoolik with stay and "defend in place" for as long as it can. [Alaska Dispatch](#)

The pipeline disaster that wasn't February 5, 2014. *David Wolfe* - On January 24, 2014, an exceptionally large avalanche closed Alaska Route 4, the only land link between the ice-free oil port of Valdez and the rest of Alaska. The avalanche impounded the Lowe River, forming a lake which drained without an outburst flood, due in part to a 100 year-old abandoned railroad tunnel. The avalanche was conditioned by days of record high temperatures and triggered by days of record anomalous rainfall. The Trans Alaska Pipeline was routed underground through the flood impact zone and over the Chugach Mountains. The specific routing averted the extent of the avalanche and lake with no room to spare, suggesting an element of good luck. [NASA Earth Observatory](#)

Video of the Week – Changing Sea Ice: The Ripple Effect June 17, 2013. This video by *Eye on the Arctic* features Greenlandic anthropologist Lene Kielsen Holm. Holm an Inuk (Inuit) talks about the importance of sea ice in Inuit culture and the effect climate change is having on the traditional way of life in the Arctic. [YouTube](#)

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