

Climate Events in the Circumpolar North - View our April map to see media reports from across the circumpolar north. The highest temperatures in 100 years in Eastern Siberia. Winter impacts in Eastern Canada bring flooding, snow storms and difficult times for farmers. In Iceland, glacial melting is causing the land to rise. Springtime in Finland arrives with record temperatures. <a href="ANTHC">ANTHC</a> See our map archive <a href="here">here</a>.

Chipping ice trails to open water, Alaska whalers kick off spring bowhead whale hunts April 13, 2014 *Jillian Rogers* — Whaling season is off to an early start and crews in Barrow have been chopping a trail through sea ice. "The past few years, crews are seeing more "young ice," said Herman Ahsoak. "That can be two to three feet thick, which can be pretty dangerous when it gets into May and it really starts melting." Alaska Dispatch

**Drunken trees – dramatic sign of climate change** April 17, 2014. *Brian Clark Howard* - Sarah James, an Alaska Native elder, says global warming is radically changing her homeland. Even the forests no longer grow straight. Melting ground has caused trees to tilt or fall. "Because permafrost melts, it causes a lot of erosion," says James, who lives in Arctic Village. Drunken trees are becoming most prevalent in lowland arboreal forests across Alaska, Canada, and northern Eurasia, says Torre Jorgenson of Alaska Ecoscience. Birch and black spruce—with their shallow root systems—are the species most likely to lean. National Geographic

Dying for a drink – Peru's glacier water supply is quickly melting. April 19, 2014 Peru's Cordillera Blanca has the most dense concentration of glaciers in the tropics and their run-off supplies the majority of Peru's population with water. But the glaciers have shrunk by 25% in the past four decades and most of Peru is in the grip of water stress. Environmental concerns, mainly over water, caused close to half of the country's social conflicts between 2006 and 2011. Some predictions say the glaciers at lower altitudes could disappear completely within the next 10-20 years. CBC

**Video of the Week – Google takes street view to polar bear's home** February 27, 2014. This video by *Flymatrix* describes the innovative work of Polar Bear International and Google to use Street View to help document and educate people about sea ice and the polar bears of Churchill Manitoba. A specially-adapted buggy records 360-degree images along the shores of Hudson Bay - home to one of the largest polar bear populations in the world. 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 at the Alaska Medical Library, click <u>here</u>. To subscribe or unsubscribe, click here.

Michael Brubaker, Director

<u>Center for Climate and Health</u>

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
907-729-2464

Safe, Healthy, Sustainable Communities