

**Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network** – View our June map for new observations from LEO Network members. King Cove and Sand Point post observations about the eruption of Mount Pavlof and ash fall; an abundance of herring roe and kelp in Toksook Bay; Chuathbaluk posts on the deterioration of ATV trails and concerns about thawing permafrost; swarms of caterpillars in Chalkyitsik; bacterial infection in Tununak cod; and dead sea lance raise questions about algal blooms in Atka. [ANTHC](#) Visit our map [archive](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#).

**Climate Events in the Circumpolar North** - View our June map to see news reports from across the circumpolar north. In Alaska a swarm of earthquakes in the Northwest Arctic raise questions about seismic effects on thawing permafrost and Huslia assesses erosion damage; in Canada the NWT burns and Alberta floods. First tufted puffin since 1800s seen in New Brunswick; Iceland worries about declining lobster stocks and a die-off of sea birds; and in Sweden an early start to the mushroom hunting season; Finland has the coldest summer night in 50 years. [ANTHC](#). See our map archive [here](#).

**First case of paralytic shellfish poisoning at popular Alaska clamming beach** June 17, 2014. *Laurel Andrews* - a Kenai resident suffered "classic" paralytic shellfish poisoning symptoms after eating clams harvested from Clam Gulch. This is the first recorded case since records began in the 1980s, and at a location further north than most Alaska cases. Another possible PSP case occurred in Nome earlier this year. [Anchorage Daily News](#)

**New Yukon Territory fish health manual** April 2014. Environment Yukon has published a new manual describing the nutritional benefits of eating fish along with some fish health concerns. This manual helps consumers to recognize symptoms of fish illness and to understand when they are healthy to eat. [Environment Yukon](#)

**Red foxes moving into Arctic fox territory on Alaska's North Slope** May 31, 2014. *Yereth Rosen* - Garbage left by people on the North Slope oil fields has become a mainstay of the red foxes' diet, allowing the animals displace the smaller arctic foxes, according to the study led by University of Alaska Fairbanks. Summer diets for both red and arctic foxes were almost entirely from natural sources - mostly lemmings for red foxes and a more varied diet of lemmings, eggs and voles for arctic foxes --but food left by people was important to winter diets. [Anchorage Daily News](#)

**Invasive plants could increase as climate warms** June 16, 2014. *Joaquin Palomino* - Elodea is the only known invasive aquatic plant in Alaska. Since being discovered near Fairbanks in 2010, it has taken root in 15 of the state's rivers, lakes and streams. Once established, the weed spreads quickly, crowding out spawning grounds for fish and killing off food sources for birds and other wildlife. Ridle says the plant can also be a pain-in-the-neck for boaters and pilots. [APRN](#)

**Birds carry plant fragments from Arctic to South America breeding grounds** June 16, 2014. *Yereth Rosen* - Plants that grow in northernmost North America are also found in southern South America, but not in the regions between. Now scientists say they know why: Long-distance migrating birds are carrying plant spores and fragments in their feathers when they migrate south for the winter, according to a study published in the journal PeerJ. The belief is that the plant fragments are dropped on the ground with the feathers at the end of the birds' migratory journeys. The exchange could also be going the other way, south to north, depending on the birds' molt schedule. [Anchorage Daily News](#)

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