

Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network – Please see new posts on our [August map](#) including a funnel cloud sighted near Nightmute, abundant flowers and bees in Eagle River and Sand Point, the fish die off on the Kobuk River and a new bird die off and possibly related bloom in the Bering Sea. [ANTHC](#). Visit our [map archive](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#).

Climate Events in the Circumpolar North - View our [August map](#) to see news reports from across the circumpolar north. A shrinking mountain in Sweden. Rains bring crop loss in Sweden and Finland. A fish die-off on the Kobuk River and Dall sheep join moose and caribou on the list of declining Northwest Alaska land mammal species. See our [map archive here](#).

Climate change and health in Atqasuk Alaska August 2014. The North Slope Borough and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium have published a new report about climate change and health effects in the community of Atqasuk. This is the 10th report in the [series](#). The report covers topics including landscape change and food and water security. Atqasuk residents are challenged by extreme weather, permafrost thaw, erosion, river change and impacts to subsistence practices. PDF: [ANTHC](#)

New health threats come with ice melt in the Arctic May 2014. Henry Gass - Strong winds fractured a sheet of melting ice near Barrow, Alaska, one April afternoon, cutting a three-man whaling crew adrift in the Arctic Ocean. "One captain predicted this to happen, so perhaps more experienced whalers are adapting to the unpredictability of young sea ice and avoiding traveling during high winds," concluded a [report](#) posted after the event to the Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network. "But even experienced hunters can get into trouble." [Scientific America](#)

Dall sheep population plummets – hunt cancelled August 22, 2014. *Jillian Rogers* - The population of Dall sheep in the Northwest Arctic has declined by more than half in the past three years, prompting state and federal agencies to halt the annual hunt. Reasons for the drop in sheep are many, but harsh winters — prolonged, record cold a couple years ago, and warm and icy last winter — resulting in starvation and a loss of habitat over the past few years are the most plausible cause, said Chris McKee, the wildlife division supervisor with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. [Bristol Bay Times](#)

Hunger makes Quebec Inuit shorter than average August 28, 2014. *Bob Weber* - Hunger among Inuit families is so prevalent in Arctic Quebec that it could be why almost half their children are shorter than average, new research suggests. A paper published in the *Journal of the Canadian Public Health Association* says the height discrepancy implies that food insecurity is a long-running problem — not just something that happens occasionally. "There have been numerous studies in recent years documenting food insecurity in the North, which is defined as occurring when a family feels there isn't enough on the table and either children or adults have to eat less as a result." [CBC](#)

New book casts spotlight on Unangan traditional foods August 25, 2014. Lauren Rosenthal - From sweet Russian tea to fermented fur seal flipper, the traditional diet in the Aleutians and Pribilofs has always been pretty varied. But a decade ago, Suanne Unger realized it might be starting to fade. So Unger applied for a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – and used the money to make a recipe book. It's called "Qaqamiigux." That's the Aleut word for subsistence, and it covers a lot more ground than just cooking. [APRN](#)

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