



**Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network** – Please see our new [LEO Network – Fall 2014](#) map for new posts about unseasonable weather in Kivalina, Unalakleet, Ruby, and Quinhagak, a late run of salmon in Cordova, the abundance of jelly fish in Haines, an oogruk with hair loss in Shishmaref, and changes in caribou migration in Kiana. Visit our map [archive](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#).

**Climate Events in the Circumpolar North** - View our [Fall 2014 Map](#) for news reports about food security in Tuluksak, low snow conditions at Hatchers, summer like temperatures in Iceland, and concerns of glacier melt and water supply in Nunavut, Canada. See our map archive [here](#).

**Facing climate change - Unalakleet will endure** November 16, 2014. *Laurie Ivanoff* - I don't know what to think about rain in November. Or December, for that matter. Or the lack of sea ice in the fall and early winter. I do know I'd rather not think about melting permafrost. I don't know what to think about our snowless winter last year. Or the snow we got in June that other year. I don't even know if I should buy a snowmachine. We can't control a lot, but knowing what we can control helps replace worry with hope. [ADN](#)

**Should Canada have a plan for climate refugees?** November 17, 2014. *Marc Montgomery* - A new report looking at how climate change around the world will affect human migration, suggests governments need plans to deal with climate refugees. More specifically it looked at how prepared the west coast province of British Columbia was for what may become an influx of climate migrants or refugees in coming decades, or sooner. [Eye on the Arctic](#)

**Virus suspected in sea star wasting disease** November 17, 2014. *Monica Gokey* - A mysterious illness causing mass die-offs of Pacific starfish has baffled scientists since the epidemic first started in the summer of 2013. But scientists think they may now have an answer. A new study points to a virus as the likely cause of dwindling sea star numbers from Mexico to Alaska. [APM](#)

**Wild weather in the Arctic causes problems for people and wildlife November 19, 2014.** The residents of Longyearbyen, the largest town on the Norwegian arctic island archipelago of Svalbard, remember it as the week that the weather gods caused trouble. Temperatures were ridiculously warm – and reached a maximum of nearly +8 degrees C in one location at a time when mean temperatures are normally -15 degrees C. It rained in record amounts. [ScienceDaily](#)

**Backcountry skating does not get much better** November 18, 2014 Brian Brettschneider - As Southcentral Alaska temperatures rise once again this week, will early-season ice skaters who've been carving turns on marvelous snow-free ice be forced to shore? Skaters have been out in force on area lakes the last two weeks. Skating tracks on Goose Lake, Westchester Lagoon, Potter Marsh are common, with more adventurous skaters taking to lakes in the Mat-Su or Kenai Peninsula. With such prime skating conditions and no snow for skiing, Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking owner Paul Denkwalter said he's sold out of ice skates, including Lundhag and Isvidda nordic skates that clip onto ski boots and feature long blades up the 55 centimeters long. "But it's killing me because we don't sell as many skates as we do skis. Stupid weather." [ADN](#)

**Video of the week – Iceland and Northern Lights** September 30, 2014. If you have not seen this time lapse movie by Guatemalan film maker Ivan Castro, take three minutes and check out the amazing symphony of the aurora and dancing of glacier ice. [YouTube](#)

The 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 [here](#). To subscribe or unsubscribe, click [here](#).

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