



Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network – Please see our [LEO Network – Fall 2014](#) map for new posts about a sick seal in Chefnak and an unusually late spider in Togiak. Visit our map [archive](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#).

Climate Events in the Circumpolar North - View our [Fall 2014 Map](#) for news reports about Sweden's wild hares, Alaska's tomcod, and a large outbreak of avian influenza in BC. See our map archive [here](#).

Water's edge - the worldwide crisis of rising sea levels November 24, 2014. *Duff Wilson, Ryan McNeill and Deborah J. Nelson* - When Hurricane Ike hit Galveston, Texas, William Merrell found himself trapped in a second-floor apartment as storm waters coursed eight feet deep through the floor below. This got him thinking about was the Dutch Delta Works, a vast coastal protection system he had seen several years earlier on a trip to the Netherlands. [Reuters](#)

Natural food, unnatural shortages November 22, 2014 *Elizabeth Grossman* – Residents of St. Lawrence Island rely on the annual bowhead whale hunt and the walrus hunt that follows – along with fishing – for most of their food. But last year, unusual weather patterns brought powerful winds that pushed offshore ice into huge pressure ridges. By the time the ice receded enough for boats to launch, most of the walrus had moved on. The hardship prompted Alaska Gov. Sean Parnell to declare the island's two villages economic disaster areas. [High Country News](#)

Worldwide retreat of glaciers in substantiated November 8, 2014. While shrinking glaciers has been documented on all continents from ground observations, satellite observations have now established that most glaciers globally are dwindling. A new book from GLIMS (Global Land Ice Measurements from Space) provides the most comprehensive report to date on global glacier changes. [NSIDC](#)

Nunavut sets choices for dwindling Baffin caribou harvest. December 2, 2014. Baffin Island caribou meat might soon become a rare and perhaps illegal treat. To prevent the total disappearance of caribou from Baffin Island, GN officials are offering three bleak options to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board - and none of them are appealing. [Nunatsiaq Online](#)

Clues emerging about Arctic gene, diet and health November 29, 2014. *Yereth Rosen* - For thousands of years, the indigenous people of the far north survived with a diet of fat and protein and hardly any carbohydrates. Now, there is evidence that the historic diet based on foods like muktuk and seal and walrus meat has been imprinted on the genes of Inupiat, Yupik and other northern peoples. [ADN](#)

Video of the week: Arctic swell - surfing the end of the earth July 15, 2014. This 6 minute SmugMug video features photographer Chris Burkard and Professional Surfers Patrick Millin, Brett Barley, and Chadd Konig brave sub-zero temperatures in the Arctic Circle to capture moments of raw beauty in conditions that rank among the harshest in the natural world. [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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