

***Climate and Health E-News***

***Raising Awareness and Connecting People in the Interest of Public Health***

***No. 27, August 2, 2010***

**Marine Phytoplankton Decline Linked to Changing Water Temperatures** ScienceDaily (July 28, 2010) Microscopic marine algae known as phytoplankton forms the basis of the marine food chain and sustains diverse assemblages of species ranging from tiny zooplankton to large marine mammals, seabirds, and fish. Canada's Dalhousie University documented phytoplankton declines of about 1% of the global average per year. This trend is particularly well documented in the Northern Hemisphere and would translate into a decline of approximately 40% since 1950. The scientists found that long-term phytoplankton declines were negatively correlated with rising sea surface temperatures and changing oceanographic conditions. [Read Article](#)

**Marine Biodiversity Linked to Ocean Temperature** ScienceDaily (July 29, 2010) Scientists have mapped and analyzed global biodiversity patterns for over 11,000 marine species ranging from tiny zooplankton to sharks and whales. Says lead author Derek Tittensor of Dalhousie University, "it was striking how consistently temperature was linked with marine diversity. This relationship suggests that ocean warming, such as that due to climate change, may rearrange the distribution of oceanic life." [Read Article](#)

*If you have an observation or an update you would like to include in our E-News or have added to our [Alaska Climate Events Map](#), send a message to [mbrubaker@anthc.org](mailto:mbrubaker@anthc.org). To join the E-News mailing list, just respond to this message with your contact (e-mail/name) information. Click [> here](#) for prior E-News archived at the Arctic Health Library.*

*Regards - Mike*

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***Safe, Healthy, Sustainable Communities***