

Climate and Health E-News

Raising Awareness and Connecting People in the Interest of Public Health

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High levels of PSP Found in Southwest Alaska Mussels and Clams – Dutch Harbor Fisherman (August 3, 2010) The toxin that causes Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP) have been detected at high levels this summer in shellfish collected in Southwestern Alaska. The Food and Drug Administration's limit for PSP is 80 micrograms per 100 grams. Among samples from Aleutian communities tested this summer, Sand Point registered highest at 926 micrograms for a July 13 sample. [Read Article](#)

Arctic Ice Melt May Reduce Red Tides in the Gulf of Maine – Bangor Daily News (August 8, 2010) After examining nutrient data from the 1960s to the present, researchers funded by the National Centers of Coastal Ocean Science concluded that recent increases in Arctic melt water flowing into the Gulf of Maine could decrease toxic blooms of *Alexandrium fundyense*, the Gulf of Maine red tide. The researchers hypothesized that the much smaller than expected bloom this year may have been due to altered nutrient levels. *Alexandrium* accumulate in shellfish and trigger widespread closures of shellfish harvesting to protect public health. [Read Article](#)

Climate Change Shrinking Region Where Blue Mussels Can Survive - ScienceDaily (August 19, 2010) Climate change is causing higher air and water temperatures along the east coast of the United States. These changes have shrunk the geographic region where blue mussels are able to survive. *Mytilus edulis*, or blue mussels, a popular seafood, used to live along the East Coast as far south as Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, but now exist only as far south as Lewes, Delaware. [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. 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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