Alaska Center for Climate and Health - E-News Raising Awareness about Climate Change Impacts on Public Health No. 63, April 14, 2011

Ozone layer depletion causing increased UV radiation in Scandinavia April 5, 2011 - Over the past few days, ozone-depleted air masses have extended from the North Pole to southern Scandinavia. Elevated levels of ultraviolet radiation have occurred during sunny days in southern Finland. Researchers say that the current situation in the Arctic ozone layer is unparalleled and that the surface intensity of UV radiation could lead to sunburn within minutes for sensitive persons. ScienceDaily

New projections on Arctic sea ice melt *April 7, 2011* - Scientists who predicted a few years ago that Arctic summers could be ice-free by 2013 now say summer sea ice will probably be gone in this decade. The original prediction, made in 2007, gained Wieslaw Maslowski's team a deal of criticism from some of their peers. Now they are working with a new computer model compiled partly in response to those criticisms that produces a "best guess" date of 2016. <u>BBC News</u>

<u>How children cope with natural</u> <u>disasters April 11, 2011</u> - Living through a natural disaster is a traumatic experience for everyone, but especially for children. A new study indicates that some children who directly experience a devastating hurricane still show signs of post-traumatic stress almost two years after the event. The findings suggest that new models for intervention to help children after a natural disaster are needed. <u>ScienceDaily</u>

Global monitoring of emerging disease threats *April 01, 2011* - On any given day, virtual red, orange and yellow push pins across a global electronic map serve as visual cues to the places wildlife-to-human disease outbreaks might be emerging. A new open-access online mapping tool, known as HealthMap.org/predict, uses news stories, scientific reports and local observations, to monitor emerging diseases. The Nation's Health

Alaska Climate Events Map – Visit our <u>Google Map</u> to see incidents and events that have occurred around Alaska this month, with relevance for climate and health including news about last weeks big wind storm, treacherous lake and river ice conditions, avalanches, and unusual polar bear behavior.

The *Climate and Health E-News* is received around the circumpolar north by people who are interested in climate impact on health. For back issues or to join the mailing list visit our <u>website</u> or contact us via e-mail or by phone.

Regards - Mike

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