

***Alaska Center for Climate and Health - E-News***  
***Raising Awareness about Climate Change Impacts on Public Health***  
***No. 65, May 12, 2011***

**First ocean acidification buoy placed in Alaska waters** *May 11, 2011* - Researchers from the University of Alaska Fairbanks are installing ocean acidification buoys to learn how climate change may be affecting the pH level of northern seas. The first buoy was deployed in April at the mouth of Resurrection Bay, near Seward. A second buoy will be deployed in the Bering Sea this month, and a third will be placed in the Chukchi Sea in October. [Dutch Harbor Fisherman](#)

**Finns warn about dangers of spring ice** *April 6, 2011* - The Finnish Meteorological Institute is warning of deceptively weak ice conditions on Finland's waterways. The thickness of ice cover is no longer a reliable indicator of its safety. As soon as the ice begins to darken in the spring, it is time to stop walking on it. Sea ice is particularly dangerous. Even as thick as 11 inches, it can be unreliable to walk on. [Eye on the Arctic](#)

**Type 2 Diabetes Gap Worsens in Canada Inuit** *May 10, 2011* Type 2 diabetes, once considered rare in Inuit communities, is now comparable to rates in the general population. Researchers from McGill University in Montreal and the University of Toronto looked at 2,595 randomly selected participants in 1,901 households in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Labrador to understand the prevalence of high blood sugar levels. [Eye on the Arctic](#)

**Research shows pollutants are linked to higher levels of type 2 diabetes** *May 6, 2011* - Diabetes is a ticking "time bomb" in the Arctic, says a public health expert at this week's conference on climate change and pollution in the Arctic in Copenhagen. That's because the persistent organic pollutants found in the meat and blubber of marine mammals, like pilot whales, beluga and narwhal, are linked to diabetes, said Philippe Grandjean from the University of Southern Denmark and the Harvard School of Public Health. [Nunatsiaq Online](#)

**Film series describes climate impacts on Alaska's marine ecosystem.** This is the first in a series of compelling short videos that showcase the dramatic changes in Alaska's marine ecosystems through interviews with scientists and Alaska Natives. The films were produced in partnership with Alaska Ocean Observing System, Alaska Marine Conservation Council, and COSEE Alaska. The first film provides a short introduction (6 minutes) to the impacts of climate change in Alaska and includes interviews with Alaska Natives, commentary by scientists, and footage from Alaska's Arctic. Download video: [Introduction to Climate Change](#)

**Alaska Climate Events Map** – Visit our May [Google Map](#) to see incidents and events that have occurred around Alaska this month including flooding on the Kuskokwim River, and the start of the 2011 wildfire season.

The *Climate and Health E-News* is received around the circumpolar north by people who are interested in climate impacts on health. For back issues or to join the mailing list, visit our [website](#) or contact us via e-mail or by phone.

*Regards - Mike*

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