

Climate and Health E-News

***Raising Awareness about Climate Change and Public Health in the Circumpolar North
No. 92, December 2, 2011***

Circumpolar Climate Events Map - documenting climate incidents and events around the circumpolar north. *(If you have problems try using Firefox or Google Chrome browsers.)*

Agencies seek more funding for seal disease research *(November 24, 2011)* A request has been submitted to the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for declaration of an “unusual mortality event,” associated with the mysterious sickness in ice seals. Although hunters report high numbers of healthy seals, uncertainty over the cause unsettles subsistence hunters. [Nome Nugget pdf](#) (see last page article). *E-News note: please see link to NOAA website for most recent [fact sheet](#) on the Arctic Seal Disease Outbreak.*

Northern communities apply innovative solutions to tackle thawing soil *(November 18, 2011)* The ground in Canada’s Northwest Territory is thawing and the cost to upgrade and fix homes and other buildings could range from \$250 to \$420 million. Now the Canadian Standards Association has come up with [guidelines](#) for incorporating climate change into infrastructure design in permafrost regions. [CBC News](#)

Alaska’s Kenai Peninsula dryer and warmer *(November 27, 2011)* According to Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Supervisor Dr. John Morton, warming is causing big changes including a 21 meter drop in the elevation of the Harding Ice Field, major loss of wetlands, and the past outbreak of spruce bark beetles. [Peninsula Clarion / ADN](#)

Shrinking mussel beds dramatically reduce B.C.’s marine biodiversity *(November 29, 2011)* Intertidal habitats that were once teeming with mussels, barnacles and hundreds of other species have shrunk by as much as 51% due to rising water temperatures, according to a UBC study. [Vancouver Sun](#)

Video of the Week: Arctic Report Card, 2011 *(November 30, 2011)* This 2.26 minute clip provides a summary of the 2011 Arctic Report Card. Issued annually by NOAA since 2006, the Arctic Report Card provides information on the state of the Arctic environment for use by teachers, students, decision makers, scientists and the general public. [NOAA](#)

Climate and Health E-News is received around the circumpolar north by people who are interested in climate change impacts and public health. For back issues or to join the mailing list, visit our [website](#). Click [here](#) if you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe.

*Regards -
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