



Local Environment Observer (LEO) Network – Please see our [2015 Map](#) for observations about the unseasonable weather in Bethel, winter sprouts in Togiak and caterpillars in Haines. See also [LEO Map Archive](#)

Circumpolar Climate Events – Find links on our [2015 Map](#) to reports and stories about permafrost thaw damage to the school in Ross River Yukon Territory, heavy rains in Juneau Alaska, and storm related power failure in Dudinka Siberia. See also [CCE Map Archive](#)

The last skiers January 8, 2015. *Charles Wohlforth* - For those of us who come to life in the winter, the sadness of the changing climate comes in wondering if that life will exist for our children and grandchildren. It's become possible to drill down on particular places and make persuasive predictions about how winter will feel in a few decades. [Anchorage Press](#)

Building the sponge city January 22, 2015. *Amy Standen* - Some urban designers in LA see water scarcity as an opportunity. They say a downpour could be captured, turned into drinking water and used for irrigation. In one neighborhood, a gully filled with drought-resistant plants water collects and filters down into cisterns buried below the street. [NPR](#)

Scotland's gray seals harbor common human pathogen January 14, 2015. *Jennifer Balmer* - Few studies have found human diseases in marine animals. Now researchers have found evidence that bacteria detected in a population of gray seals originated from a human source. [Science](#)

Two lakes beneath the ice in Greenland, gone within weeks January 21, 2015. Researchers studied two sub-glacial lakes in Greenland that have drained. One lake once held billions of gallons of water and emptied to form a mile-wide crater in just a few weeks. [ScienceDaily](#)

Animation shows multi-year sea ice change since 1979 (video) January 15, 2015. This visualization shows the perennial Arctic sea ice from 1979 to 2014. A graph overlay shows the area's size measured in million square kilometers for each year. [YouTube](#)

2014 Warmest Year on Record (video) January 16, 2015. This video by the NASA Goddard describes the warmest year on record. Nine of the 10 warmest years since modern records began occurred since 2000. [YouTube](#)

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