

Climate Change and Health in the Circumpolar North

February 26, 2015 (No. 235)

**Local Environment Observer (LEO) Network** – Please see our <u>2015 Map</u> for new observations about PSP in Sand Point unusual fish in Haines and a fish die –off in Kongiganak. We hope you will like us on Facebook and visit our LEO Map Archive.

**Circumpolar Climate Events** – Find links on our <u>2015 Map</u> to articles and news stories about thundersnow in Kotzebue, early polar bears in Newfoundland, early spring in Finland, and the beginning of winter time oil shipments in Siberia. See also our <u>map archive</u>.

**Southeast Alaska king salmon head north in search of cooler waters** February-24, 2015. *Robert Woolsey* - King salmon hatched in Southeast's four top-producing river systems are going very far afield. According to Ed Jones of ADF&G, "The fish are being opportunistic, and moving with water temperatures." <u>Alaska Public Media</u>

**Collapsing razor clams forces shutdown of beaches** February 24, 2015 *Mike Campbell* – A collapse of the razor clam population across Kenai Peninsula beaches has prompted the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to close most of them to clamming for the rest of the year, the first time biologists have imposed such a drastic measure. Alaska Dispatch News

Climate change happening quicker in Russia's coldest region February 23, 2015 Anna Liesowska - Professor Oleg Anisimov, from the State Hydrological Institute in St Petersburg, says that rojected changes in the permafrost seriously threaten the Russian economy, primarily due to the increased risk of damage to the infrastructure of the Far North. Siberian Times

**More mystery crators in Northern Russia** February 23, 2015 *Anna Liesowka* - Last year scientists speculated that sudden releases of gas hydrates resulted in the formation of three huge craters. "We know now of seven craters in the Arctic area" says Professor Vasily Bogoyavlensky, "We have exact locations for only four of them. The other three were spotted by reindeer herders." <u>Siberia Times</u>

Changing ocean circulation causes Northeast sea levels to spike February 24, 2015 Sea levels from New York to Newfoundland jumped up about four inches in 2009 and 2010 because ocean circulation changed. The unusual spike in sea level caused flooding along the northeast coast of North America. Such extreme sea level rise events and coastal flooding are quite likely to occur more often. ScienceDaily

**Video – Adapting to Change** February 2015. The film by the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals highlights climate change impacts on tribes in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska, and discusses strategies for adaptation. <u>Vimeo</u>

For back issues of The Northern Climate Observer please visit our archive at the <u>Alaska Medical Library</u>. To subscribe or unsubscribe, click <u>here</u>. For more information, contact <u>Mike Brubaker</u> at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, <u>Center for Climate and Health</u>.