



Climate Change and Health in the Circumpolar North

March 26, 2015 (No. 238)

Local Environment Observer (LEO) Network – Please see our [2015 Map](#) for new observations about early spring conditions including song birds in Haines and the emergence of pussy willows in Anchorage. We hope you will like us on [Facebook](#) and visit our [LEO Map Archive](#).

Circumpolar Climate Events – Find links on our [2015 Map](#) to articles and stories about razor clams in Alaska, flash floods and fire ants in Vancouver, and thin ice on Lake Baikal. See also our [map archive](#).

Will Alaska's weird winter result in equally strange summer? March 22, 2015. *Yereth Rosen* - While scientists say more such winters will be expected in the long term, predicting what will happen in the short term is iffy. Resource managers are making some contingency plans and scientists have some advice in case the next few months are unusual. [Alaska Dispatch News](#)

2,000 snow geese, en route to Alaska, die from illness in Idaho during migration March 17, 2015. *Associated Press* - Some 2,000 migrating snow geese have died recently in eastern Idaho, likely from a disease that comes on quickly and can kill birds in midflight. The cause of death was likely avian cholera, which can cause convulsions and erratic flight. The geese were migrating from the Southwest and Mexico to breeding grounds on Alaska's north coast. [Alaska Dispatch News](#)

Habitats shift as Arctic temperatures creep above freezing February 10, 2015. In 1975 ornithologist George Divoky began his study of black guillemots on Cooper Island, on the Alaskan shore of the Arctic Ocean. Back then ice used to be onshore for much of the summer, but in the past decade, ice has disappeared to as far as 500 miles offshore. And as the ice retreats, habitats shift, and certain food chains have begun to crumble. Divoky and Cheryl Rosa of the U.S. Arctic Research Commission take stock of how climate change is reshaping the flora and fauna of the Arctic. Listen: [Science Friday](#)

Malnutrition increased during year one of Nutrition North program March 26, 2015. A report on Canadian food insecurity found that malnourishment in the North increased during the first year of the Nutrition North program. Nunavut has the highest rate of food insecurity in Canada, at 36.7 per cent. The Northwest Territories is second at 13.7 per cent, and the Yukon third, at 12.4 per cent. [CBC](#)

Video – How four years of drought have left California out to dry. March 22, 2015. One of the worst droughts on record has had far-reaching consequences throughout California and beyond. Science Daily Video provided by [Newsy](#).

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