



Climate Change and Health in the Circumpolar North

May 15, 2015 (No. 245)

Local Environment Observer (LEO) Network – Low water in Anchorage, patchy the moose, and geese warming to King Cove, Alaska - see our [2015 Map](#). Like us on [Facebook](#) and visit our [LEO Map Archive](#).

Circumpolar Climate Events – Find links on our [2015 Map](#) to stories about algae blooms and boil water notices in Northern Canada, rain and flooding in Finland, moose hair loss in Norway, fish kill in Siberia, and high temps in Alaska.

Kachemak Bay sea stars found stricken with wasting disease May 12, 2015. *Yereth Rosen* – The wasting disease that is killing millions of sea stars along the U.S. West Coast has now moved farther north, into Southcentral Alaska's Kachemak Bay, according to scientists who surveyed the area last week. [Alaska Dispatch](#)

Boil water advisory issued in Yellowknife, Ndilo and Dettah May 11, 2015. For the first time in 11 years, people living in Yellowknife, Ndilo and Dettah are being asked to boil drinking water for at least one minute. "The key message is that this is only a precautionary advisory," said Dr. André Corriveau, the N.W.T.'s chief public health officer. The advisory is due to increased turbidity, or muddy water, related to low water levels in the Yellowknife River. [CBC](#)

Low pollock years linked to ice retreat May 5, 2015. Liz Ruzkin - The years 2002 through 2005 were bad for Bering Sea pollock. The biomass plunged during those years. In a presentation in Washington, D.C., a NOAA fisheries biologist said today ongoing research points to two suspects: ice and fat, in league with each other. [Alaska Public Media](#)

Could salmon sharks be a factor in declining Bering Sea king salmon numbers? May 7, 2015. *Suzanna Caldwell* - Given their name, it's not surprising that salmon sharks eat salmon. But Alaska researchers are now asking whether the animals might have any impact on declining numbers of Bering Sea king salmon. [Alaska Dispatch](#)

Video – Blue-green algae bloom, Jackfish Lake, Yellowknife. May 15, 2015. Daniel Lafond, who has fished the lake for years, first noticed the rust-colored sludge during the spring melt. "Check out that big piece," he says. "It's like liver." The environmental department can't say exactly what's causing it to grow, but algae thrive in warm, nutrient-rich waters. See [article](#) CBC, and [video](#).

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