

Northern Climate Observer

Climate Change and Health in the Circumpolar North



ALASKA NATIVE
TRIBAL HEALTH
CONSORTIUM

No. 282 June 16, 2016

LEO Network - See new posts about unusual events from the Local Environmental Observer Network. Ripe blueberries (!) in Wrangel, bluff erosion in Chevak, fly infestation in Sand Point, and more. [ANTHC](#)

Clime Map - See news articles about events around the circumpolar north. Record daily snowfall broken in Barrow, dolphin sighting in the Salish Sea, warmest spring recorded in 8 decades in Kola peninsula, Russia, and more. [ANTHC](#)

Tribal Health Engineers Overcome Climate Challenges in Eek Water Project June 10, 2016 ANTHC - Earlier this year, climate conditions in Eek posed unique challenges and created an opportunity for Environmental Health and Engineering staff to display their high caliber of team work and problem solving skills and provide Eek residents with a year-round water supply with a newly installed water intake system. [ANTHC](#)

Greening of Arctic, Browning of Boreal Forest June 9, 2016 Radio Canada International – Scientists and residents of Canada's far north have been noting changes in the Arctic for many years: more plants, more shrubs and trees, and more appearances of southern animals, birds, insects, and marine life which had never been seen before in the north. Now NASA's satellite analysis confirms it. [The Independent Barents Observer](#)

How a Parasite Commonly Found in Felines May be Finding Its Way into Arctic Foxes June 9, 2016 John Van Dusen - A researcher with the University of Saskatchewan is trying to figure out why a parasite commonly found in felines is thriving in Arctic foxes in Canada's North. Émilie Bouchard has been studying one of the world's most successful parasites commonly found in warm-blooded animals, including humans, called toxoplasma gondii. It's estimated up to a third of the world's population is infected. [CBC News](#)

Whales, Walruses & Sea Ducks Move North- Ice Melt 'Amplifying' Arctic Warming June 9, 2016 Rex Graham - Whales, Walruses and Arctic seabirds are moving north as reduced sea ice and warmer water push their primary prey - bottom-dwelling mollusks and invertebrates - farther north toward the North Pole. The year-to-year maximum extent of Arctic ice varies, but the average winter coverage has hit historic lows. [Examiner](#)

Smartphone Apps Encourage Local Involvement in Climate Change June 8, 2016 Emily Russell - A handful of apps are making it easier for rural communities to report on climate change in Alaska. With a swipe of a smartphone, locals can submit environmental observations, and there's even an app aimed at preventing further change. [KNOM](#)

Iceland Carbon Dioxide Storage Project Locks Away Gas, and Fast June 9, 2016 Henry Fountain - Among the concerns about [carbon] sequestration is that carbon dioxide in gaseous or liquid form that is pumped underground might escape back to the atmosphere. So storage sites would have to be monitored, potentially for decades or centuries. But scientists at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University and other institutions have come up with a different way to store CO₂ that might eliminate that problem. [New York Times](#)

At Ground Zero of Warming, Greenland Seeks to Unlock Frozen Assets June 13, 2016 Alister Doyle - Low-lying tropical island states from the Maldives to Tuvalu view Greenland's 3,000-metre (10,000 ft) thick ice sheet with foreboding since it contains enough ice to raise world sea levels by 6 meters if it ever all melted, over many centuries. But for the 56,000 inhabitants of Greenland, a giant island a quarter the size of the United States, the melt may be unlocking frozen assets and helping businesses including fishing, farming, mining, shipping and tourism. [Reuters](#)

Video – Sami man performs song tribute for lost friend - Jon Henrik - Daniels Jojk February 18, 2014 – Jon Henrik is a reindeer herder who dedicated this video (with music written and performed by Enigma, Enya and Henrik himself) to his friend after singing on Talang Sverige, Sweden's version of Got Talent. [Youtube](#)

For back issues of The Northern Climate Observer please visit our archive at the [Alaska Medical Library](#). For more information, or to subscribe or unsubscribe, click [here](#).

Editor: Mike Brubaker / LEO Geographer: Moses Tcheripanoff / Writer: George Goodwin III / Proof Reader, Circulation: Mary Mullan