

**No. 290 August 12, 2016**

LEO Network - See observer posts about unusual events from the Local Environmental Observer Network. An unusual spider in Shishmaref, green algae in Kongignak, halocline in the water in Whittier, and more. [ANTHC](#)

Clime Map - See news articles about events around the circumpolar north. A fritillary butterfly in Anchorage, many furry moths spotted in Holy Cross, a new beaked whale species found in Saint George, and more. [ANTHC](#)

Melting Ice Sheet Could Expose Frozen Cold War-Era Hazardous Waste August 4, 2016 York University - Climate change is threatening to expose hazardous waste at an abandoned camp thought to be buried forever in the Greenland Ice Sheet, new research has found. Camp Century, a United States military base built within the Greenland ice sheet in 1959, doubled as a top-secret site for testing the feasibility of deploying nuclear missiles during the Cold War. When the camp was decommissioned in 1967, its infrastructure and waste were abandoned. [Science Daily via York University](#)

As Northern Peat Bogs Burn, a Climate Threat Rises August 9, 2016 Henry Fountain - In discussions of how nature regulates carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, forests receive most of the attention for their ability to absorb and store carbon. But peatlands play an important role, too. The peat slowly builds up over centuries and accumulates carbon during this time. Because of this, it contains more carbon than is in all the world's trees and plants, and nearly as much as the atmosphere does. [The New York Times via Alaska Dispatch News](#)

Researchers Work to Understand Causes of Search and Rescue in the Arctic August 3, 2016 McGill University - Search and rescue operations in Nunavut have more than doubled over the past decade. In the communities of the vast northern Canadian territory, it's commonly felt that climate change is one factor making hunting riskier in the spring and fall. A new study shows a strong link between environmental conditions and search and rescue cases across Nunavut, moving scientists closer to understanding the impact of climate change on Inuit. [Science Daily via McGill University](#)

Warming Climate Expected to Squeeze out Arctic Bird Habitat August 8, 2016 Yereth Rosen - Many species of shorebirds that migrate to the Arctic each year to breed their young will lose substantial amounts of their summer habitat to climate change, and the biggest losses in the coming decades will be in Alaska and neighboring parts of Russia, new research concludes. [Alaska Dispatch News](#)

Toxic Blue-Green Algae Adapt to Rising CO₂ August 4, 2016 University of Amsterdam - A common type of blue-green algae is finding it easy to adapt to Earth's rising CO₂ levels, meaning blue-green algae -- of which there are many toxin-producing varieties -- are even more adept at handling changing climatic conditions than scientists previously supposed. Microbiologists point at implications for clean drinking water, swimming safety and freshwater ecosystems. [Science Daily via the University of Amsterdam](#)

Rising Temperatures Stunt Tree Growth August 10, 2016 Brittany Patterson - Just as the planet is being taxed from record-breaking temperatures, new research finds iconic Douglas firs across the West are water- and heat-stressed. Similar to the humans who find themselves sluggish during a heat wave, when water is scarce, Douglas firs also put the brakes on growing — a choice that could have ramifications for forest carbon stocks and the global carbon cycle. [Scientific American](#)

Video: McGill Research into Search and Rescue in the Arctic August 3, 2016 - New research by Dylan Clark shows search and rescue operations in Nunavut have more than doubled over the past decade. In the communities of the vast northern Canadian territory, it's commonly felt that climate change is one factor making hunting riskier in the spring and fall. [McGill University via Youtube](#) Note: This video is linked to the article in Science Daily above.

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