



## No. 295 September 16, 2016

**LEO Network** - See posts about unusual environmental events from the Local Environmental Observer Network. Nome area ponds are disappearing, hot sun in Goodnews Bay, a giant flock of Bohemian Waxwings in Anchorage, and more. [ANTHC](#)

**Clime Map** - See news articles about events around the circumpolar north. Good news for Scandinavian vintners in Skåne, Sweden, a rare Bowhead Whale caught in Cape Akkani, Chukotka, Eastern Russia, and more. [ANTHC](#)

**Hanna Shoal: An Icy Haven for Arctic Sea Animals That Staves off Summer** August 30, 2016 Adrian Gall - In the Hanna Shoal region, warm water diverts around a 10m (30ft) hill on the seafloor, allowing the sea ice here to persist into September and attract the walruses, polar bears, seals and birds that rely on the ice environment, says marine ecologist Adrian Gall. What better place for them to lounge between dives for clams or creep up on snoozing seals than a floating shelf of ice and snow? [Arctic Deeply](#)

**How Does Rabies Keep a Permanent Presence in Alaska? Maybe With the Help of Arctic Foxes** September 11, 2016 Ned Rozell - University of Alaska Fairbanks' Karsten Hueffer and his colleagues, including four university undergraduate students, wrote a paper on how the state's arctic foxes might be the carrier that keeps the disease present all the time in the Western Alaska. Red foxes also get infected with rabies and pass it on, but the virus may not endure in their populations. In a future with fewer arctic foxes and more of the dominant red foxes, rabies might wane in Alaska. Because arctic foxes are adapted to life on and around sea ice, they are facing greater changes than the larger and more dominant red fox. If a shrinking habitat and competition from the red fox greatly reduces arctic fox populations, rabies in Alaska might be reduced along with them. [Alaska Dispatch News](#)

**Two More Outbreaks of Anthrax Hit Northern Siberia Due to Thawing Permafrost** August 31, 2016 The Siberian Times Reporter - There was worldwide coverage last month when Russian bio- and chemical-warfare troops were deployed to deal with the first case of the infection since 1941. The Yamalo-Nenets region has suffered not one but three separate outbreaks of lethal anthrax since 7 July, with bloodsucking insects - especially gadflies and mosquitoes - playing a key role in the spread. A strong new warning from scientists suggests that there is a 'dangerous' risk of infection across this entire permafrost area. [The Siberian Times](#)

**Collapsing Alaska Mountains: Southeast Landslides and Tsunamis on the Rise** September 12, 2016 Erin McKittrick - Oct. 17, 2015, Taan Fjord, Icy Bay, Alaska. The friction that held silt to silt and rock to rock began giving way. Those first rocks shoved more rocks, and then more still. Some 200 million metric tons of rock slid down the mountain in a crash that must have been deafening. It hit the ocean, sending up a wave that peaked at nearly 600 feet high. [Alaska Dispatch News](#)

**Sea Ice Melt Leaves Polar Bears 7 Fewer Weeks for Hunting Each Year** September 14, 2016 Jimmy Thomson - Polar bears need sea ice to survive. As ambush predators, they depend on it as a hunting platform. It also provides them with camouflage and acts as a highway connecting territories. But a new study has found that in all 19 polar bear subpopulations around the Arctic, every decade since 1979 the sea ice is melting three to nine days earlier, and re-forming three to nine days later. Over nearly four decades, that means the ever-shorter ice season is leaving them stranded on land for seven extra weeks. [CBC News North](#)

**Video Article: Seven Buildings Prepared For and Fighting Against Climate Change** August 31, 2016 Climate Reality Project Reporter- Ever hear the old aphorism, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"? When it comes to natural disasters, this saying rings true: Every \$1 spent mitigating potential hazards leads to an average of \$4 in future benefits. That's why many architects and designers are planning ahead and anticipating the "new normal" of extreme weather due to climate change. [Climate Reality Project](#)

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