Northern Climate Observer

Climate Change and Health in the Circumpolar



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LEO Network - See posts about unusual environmental events from the Local Environmental Observer Network. Unusually fast flooding in Chignik Lake, enormous Poplar leaves in Anchorage, an unusual plant in Nulato, and more. ANTHC

Clime Map - See news articles about events around the circumpolar north. Dry weather in Juneau, warm temperatures in Iceland, and more. ANTHC

6 scientists, 1,000 Miles, 1 prize: The Arctic Alaska Bumblebee October 17, 2016 James Gorman - A small team of scientists have embarked on a bee-hunting road trip from Fairbanks to Prudhoe Bay, almost 1,000 miles all told. They want to find out more about the bees of the Arctic. New York Times

Wildlife Body Sounds Alarm About Declining Arctic Caribou October 17, 2016 Steve Ducharme - Devastated caribou herds across northern Canada have sparked a new awareness campaign by World Wildlife Fund-Canada which claims that recent statistics paint a "dire picture" for the future of barrenground caribou. In a news release dated Oct. 12, the wildlife organization calls for a moratorium on mineral exploration permits in all regions identified as caribou calving grounds and says it will work with communities to advocate for the protection of those areas. Nunatsiaq Online

Finnish Wildlife Already Feeling the Burn from Climate Change October 18, 2016 YIE Reporter - The effects of global warming can already be seen in Finland — and it's taking a heavy toll on Arctic wildlife, according to a report released Monday by WWF Finland. The NGO pointed out that climate change will also force some species to seek out new habitats further north. The organization noted that ice formations on lakes and open seas last for shorter periods, while vegetation has changed and the tree line is migrating further north. <u>YLE News</u>

New Permafrost Map Shows Areas in Alaska Vulnerable to Thaw-Induced Collapses October 14, 2016 Yereth Rosen - A new map of northern hemisphere permafrost identifies the areas that are most vulnerable to thawing and slumping. The map shows which regions in the circumpolar north are susceptible to the permafrost formations known as "thermokarsts," where the land surface collapses when ice within the soil thaws and drains away. Thermokarst features can be sinkholes, gullies, new wetlands or expanded lakes, each with varying effects on emissions of greenhouse-gas-containing carbon that had previously been trapped in hard-frozen ground. Alaska Dispatch News

Greenland Ice is Melting 7 Percent Faster Than Previously Thought October 14, 2016 Pam Frost Gorder-The same hotspot in Earth's mantle that feeds Iceland's active volcanoes has been playing a trick on the scientists who are trying to measure how much ice is melting on nearby Greenland. According to a new study, the hotspot softened the mantle rock beneath Greenland in a way that ultimately distorted their calculations for ice loss in the Greenland ice sheet. This caused them to underestimate by about 20 gigatons (20 billion metric tons) per year. Science Daily

Video: Healy by Dave Forcucci, This four-minute video documents activities during an expedition of USCG Cutter Healy. The video provides first person footage of the fascinating science activities as the Healy crew investigate polar ice and marine conditions. <u>Vimeo</u>

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