**LEO Network Updates**

**Statewide IGAP Webinar, April 2022**

* The Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network is an online community of local observers and knowledge experts who share observations about local environmental change, in particular about unusual weather, land or ocean conditions, local infrastructure, and changes to plants and wildlife. It is easy to join and participate. You can learn more at [www.leonetwork.org](http://www.leonetwork.org). LEO Network is the eyes and ears of environmental change in rural Alaska.
* Here are a few of the observation highlight since March 1, 2022.

On March 1st, Jimmy Evak posted about earlier willow blooms in Kotzebue; on March 2, Elizabeth Mears posted about finding Japanese skeleton shrimp in Unalaska; on March 12 Sonny Lamont posted about early break up in Newhalen; on March 16 Paul Paul reported an unusual bird (probably a boreal owl) in Kongiganak; on March 16, Shaelyn Walker reported a beached whale in King Cove; on March 16th, Kimberlee Beckmen reported on sick song birds at a feeder in McCarthy; on March 24th Leigh Takak reported early ocean break up in Elim; on March 30 Mark McNeley reported an unusual container washed up on the beach in Nelson Lagoon, and on April 2nd, Wilson Justin reported on the open water and change in water conditions in the Chistochina River. You can read more on all of these events at this link: <https://www.leonetwork.org/en/explore/posts?query=&mode=map&infotype=EVENT&region=US-AK&polygon=&bbox=&minlat=&maxlat=&near=&radius=&categories_anyOrAll=ANY&fromdate=&todate=#lat=58.78813194236438&lng=-161.74621582031253&zoom=7&showing=83A8B4CF-D3AA-4DF9-8BF9-D6658BC64707>

* The Spring LEO Network webinar is scheduled for Tuesday June 14th from 10:00 until 2:00 PM. The agenda includes a spring 2022 Alaska climate recap and a summer forecast, a review of spring environmental events from LEO Network, a review of all of the LEO member posts, and a feature presentation from USGS about the continental outbreak of bird flu and what local observers need to know about wild birds in Alaska. For more information contact Mike Brubaker, [mbrubaker@anthc.org](mailto:mbrubaker@anthc.org).
* Participation in LEO Network is open to all Alaska Tribal Environmental offices, and LEO is a fundable activity under IGAP. There are currently about 1500 members in LEO Network across Alaska, representing over 200 communities. If you want to see the content for your community you can go to this link: <https://www.leonetwork.org/en/explore/communities#lat=61.21806&lng=-149.90028&zoom=3>