LEO Training

November 2023

Making an Observation: Better to Best

Lars Flora, LEO Network Coordinator, ANTHC
Rebekah Arnold, Center of Climate and Health Coordinator, APU

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LEO: The Local Environmental Observer Network | www.leonetwork.org
Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge the Dena’ina people, on whose traditional lands we gather. We also acknowledge the Creator and all Indigenous people of Alaska. Thank you for your past and present stewardship of the waters, plants, animals and spiritual practices of this place.
LEO Training
Making an Observation: Better to Best

At the end of this training you will:
• Familiarize yourself with LEO network website
• Have increased confidence in observation posts
• Share common observations/trends
• Know what makes a Good Observation
• Know what makes a Great Observation
Group Activity
Discussion
Group Activity: Discussion

1. What are some things you have noticed this past season?
   a. What are some observations in your community
   b. How did that observation come about?
Demonstration

LEO Observation
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Background Articles
Search our collection of background (non-event) articles from news media, science journals and other sources.

Northern Climate Observer Newsletter
NCO tracks news coverage from across the circumpolar north and provides readers with a curated roundup of climate change related events.

Webinar Recordings
Search the archive of LEO Network webinar recordings.

News Sources
Browse some of the local news sources that frequently appear in LEO.

LEO in the News & Research
Archive of news articles and research papers about the LEO Network.

One Health Group
The One Health Group was started in 2013 as a forum to raise awareness about emerging One Health issues in Alaska as well as neighboring northern regions.

LEO Community Data Portal
The Community Data Portal is a collection of public datasets that can be browsed from the point of view of a community. These datasets are frequently used in LEO posts.
Demonstration: LEO Observation
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LEO Network
Funding & Support
Learn More
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Submit your Own Event Observation
Have you observed an unusual environmental or climate event in your area? Please share it with us.

Submit an Event Article
Has your local news media reported on an unusual environmental or climate event? Please let us know.

Submit a Background Article
Please share background (non-event) articles with us.
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Headline (Title)
Date
Description
Photos (If Applicable)
Categories*
  - Natural Environment
  - Unusual or Unexpected
  - Impact on Human Environment

*Categories are not required for an event observation, but are a great way to connect other observations across the LEO Network
Demonstration: LEO Observation

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**Most Recent Updates**

**July 2023 Training: Making your first LEO Observation**

**AUG 1, 2023**

**Salmon berries are a month late**

Seldovia Village, Alaska, United States

**AUG 10, 2023**
Demonstration: LEO Observation
Activity

Scenarios on Handout

LEO Observation: Better to Best
Observation #1
The first salmon I caught this year had what appears to be tapioca disease. So far it's the only one we've seen this year, and we did not see it at all last year.
Observation #2

Heavy rains have elevated river levels throughout August and September. High water continues to erode the river bank in the community. The photos show a tree that was 22 feet from the edge is now 3 feet. Total erosion has reached 91 ft. by old landfill and new mark shows 112 ft. marker.
Observation #3

This season we have observed many salmonberry bushes that appear to be defoliated. It seems something is eating the leaves. We have also noticed the berries look sickly. They are red but hard and almost burnt looking. They appear this way on otherwise healthy looking bushes and defoliated bushes. We usually see some like this every year but they are abundant this year.
Observation # 4
A Beluga Whale, a marine mammal usually found in coastal/oceanic waters, was seen in the Yukon River, 16 miles above Tanana, Alaska—some 600 miles from where the river empties into the Bering Sea. Post made in collaboration with Joyce Harper Roberts, who made the observations and provided the videos of the sighting.
Discussion
Scenarios on Handout

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• What did you learn in your group?
• What were some barriers or obstacles to your scenario?
• Final thoughts?
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