

# How Climate Warming Affects Yakutat, Alaska Valerie and Sylvie Yakutat High, 12 EDGE Program, August 11, 2006



## Yakutat Alaska

Yakutat Alaska is located along the Alaskan Gulf coast between Cordova and Juneau.



Yakutat is the northern most southeast community, and is known for it's Glaciers, Mountains, surfing and Fishing.  
If Yakutat were faced with the problem of global warming these might be highly affected depending on the significance of the warming.

## Hubbard Glacier

The Hubbard Glacier is stretched 76 miles from the Yukon Territory into Disenchantment Bay. It is thirty miles deep and six miles across.

Imagine this glacier melting at an immense pace. Yakutat's sea level would rise, disturbing the land structure, animal habitats, and the people.



## Results

•Global climate change would also affect salmon runs. Salmon would either take different routes or disappear completely from the area. An increase in water temperatures would affect their spawning; one example is the juvenile Coho salmon which depend on cold water to survive and grow.

•Global warming would also affect the sea levels maybe even throughout Alaska. Isostatic rebound would play a big part in the landscape of things.



Yakutat isn't the only location affected on the planet; the whole planet itself is. Glaciers, land and water temperatures increasing, and animal and human lifestyles are all intertwined. Here are a few quotes from a Washington post Article from March 2006 indicating so:

*"The Antarctic ice sheet is losing as much as 36 cubic miles of ice a year in a trend that scientists link to global warming"*

*"Just last month two researchers reported that Greenland's glaciers are melting into the sea twice as fast as previously believed, and a separate paper in Science today predicts that by the end of this century lakes and streams on one-fourth of the African continent could be drying up because of higher temperatures."*

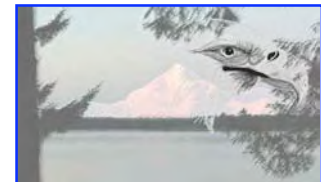
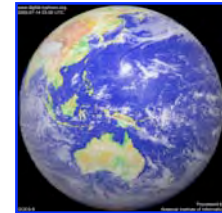
*"the amount of water pouring annually from the ice sheet into the ocean -- equivalent to the amount of water the United States uses in three months -- is causing global sea level to rise by 0.4 millimeters a year..."*

*"by 2100 climate change may rob the south and west of Africa and areas in the upper Nile region of a significant portion of their current water supply. Warming may reduce the rainfall needed to replenish up to 25 percent of Africa's surface water"*

*"Climate change is not just someone else's concern but a very real threat to the lives and livelihood of people across the globe,"*

## Conclusions

Global Warming will extensively affect the community and a wide variety of other things we may not know of. It could lead to a cataclysmic chain of events, and end up affecting the entire ecosystem.



## Acknowledgments

We thank mentors of AYE, and mentors of EDGE.

## For further information

Please contact Valerie or Sylvia for more information.

