About LEO App

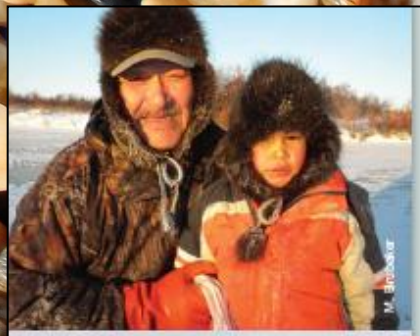
Smart phone technology for the

Local Environment Observer Network

Center for Climate and Health

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Funded by US EPA



The Eyes, Ears & Voice of

LEO AK

Our Changing Environment

ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

LEO, the Local Environmental Observer network is monitoring the changes in our environment.

LEO is a network of people,

Photo by Mike Brubaker

who are experts on the local environment.

Photo courtesy Nikolski IRA

We share observations about environmental change.

that are based on local knowledge.

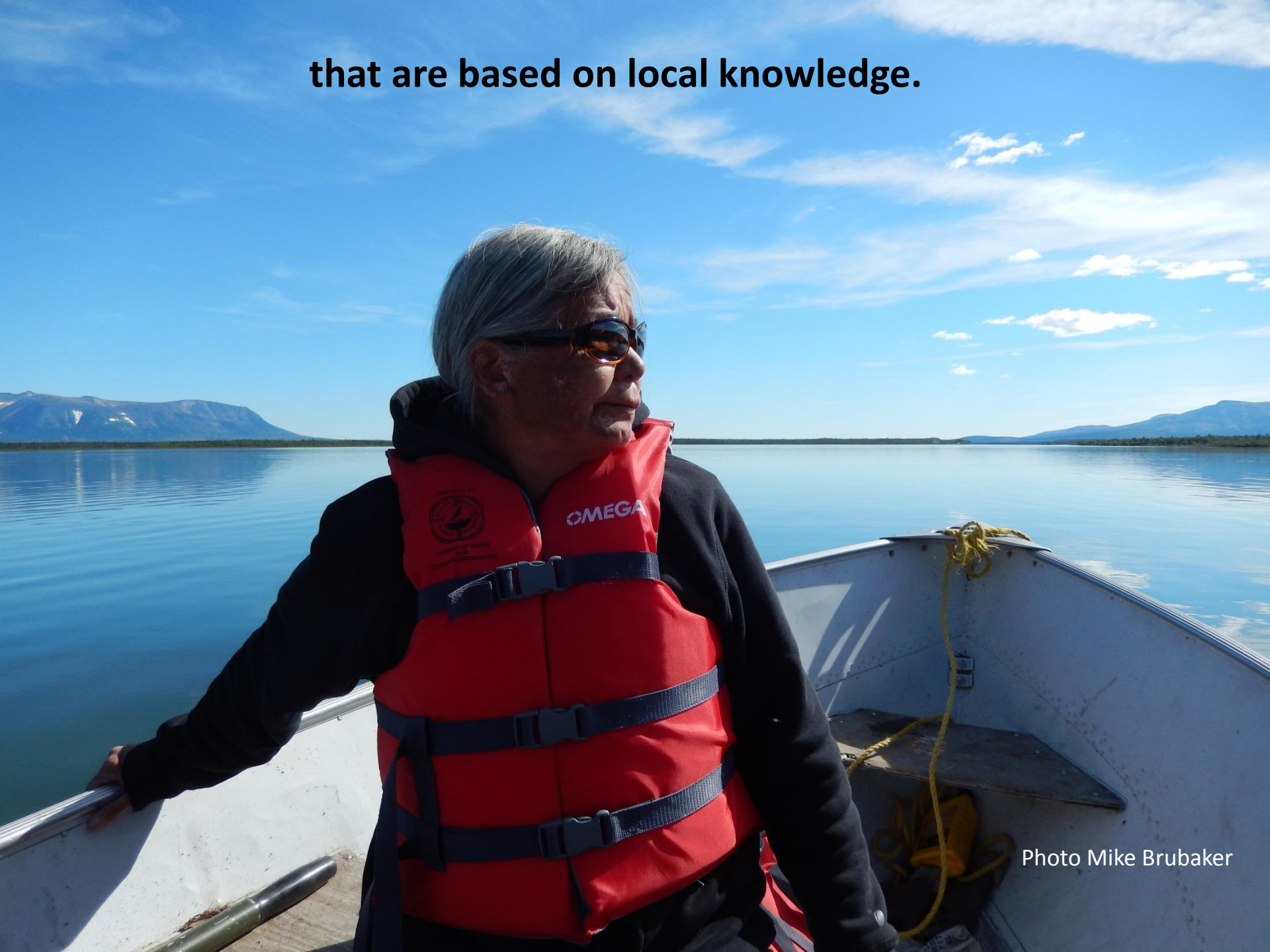
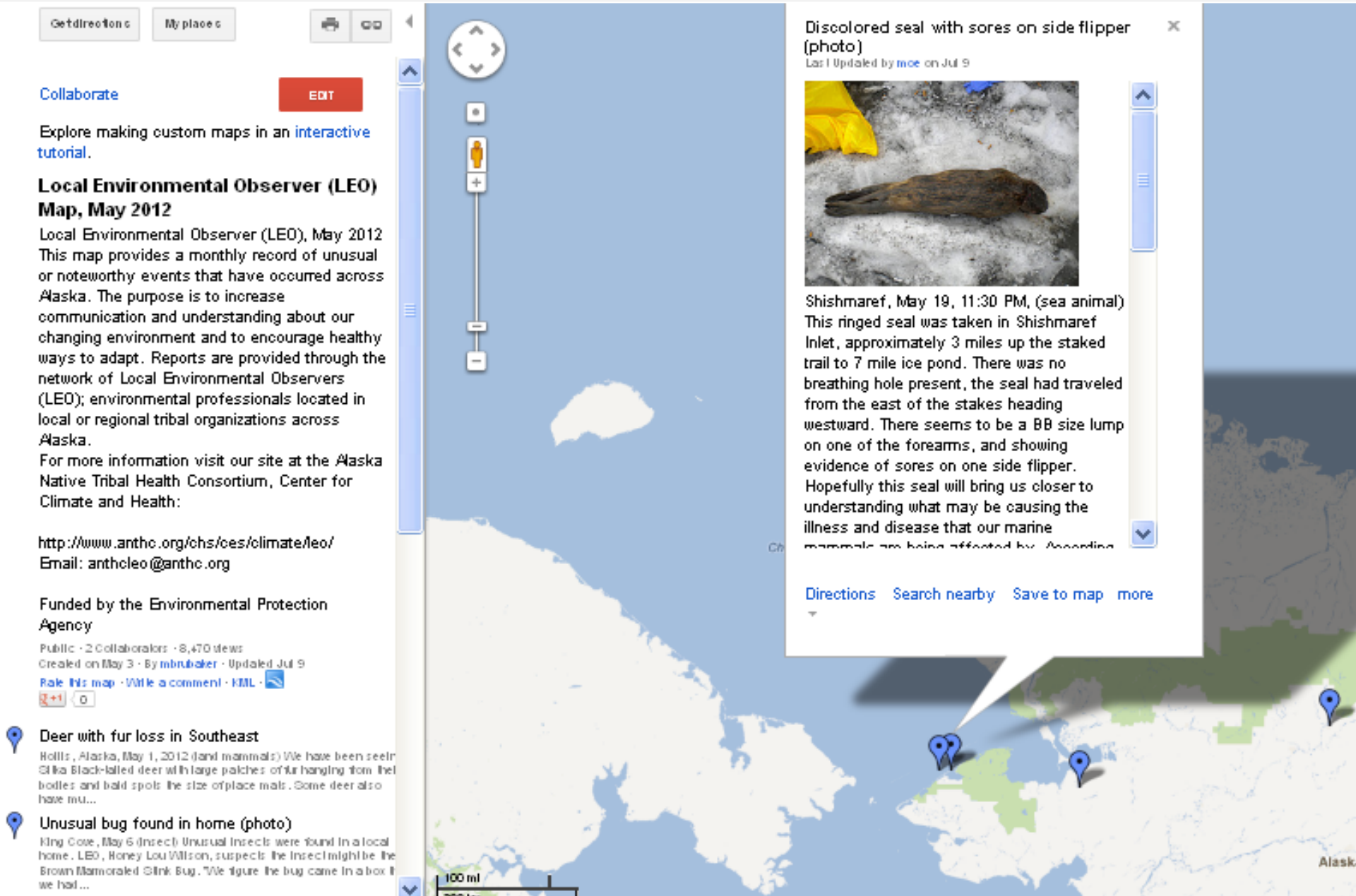
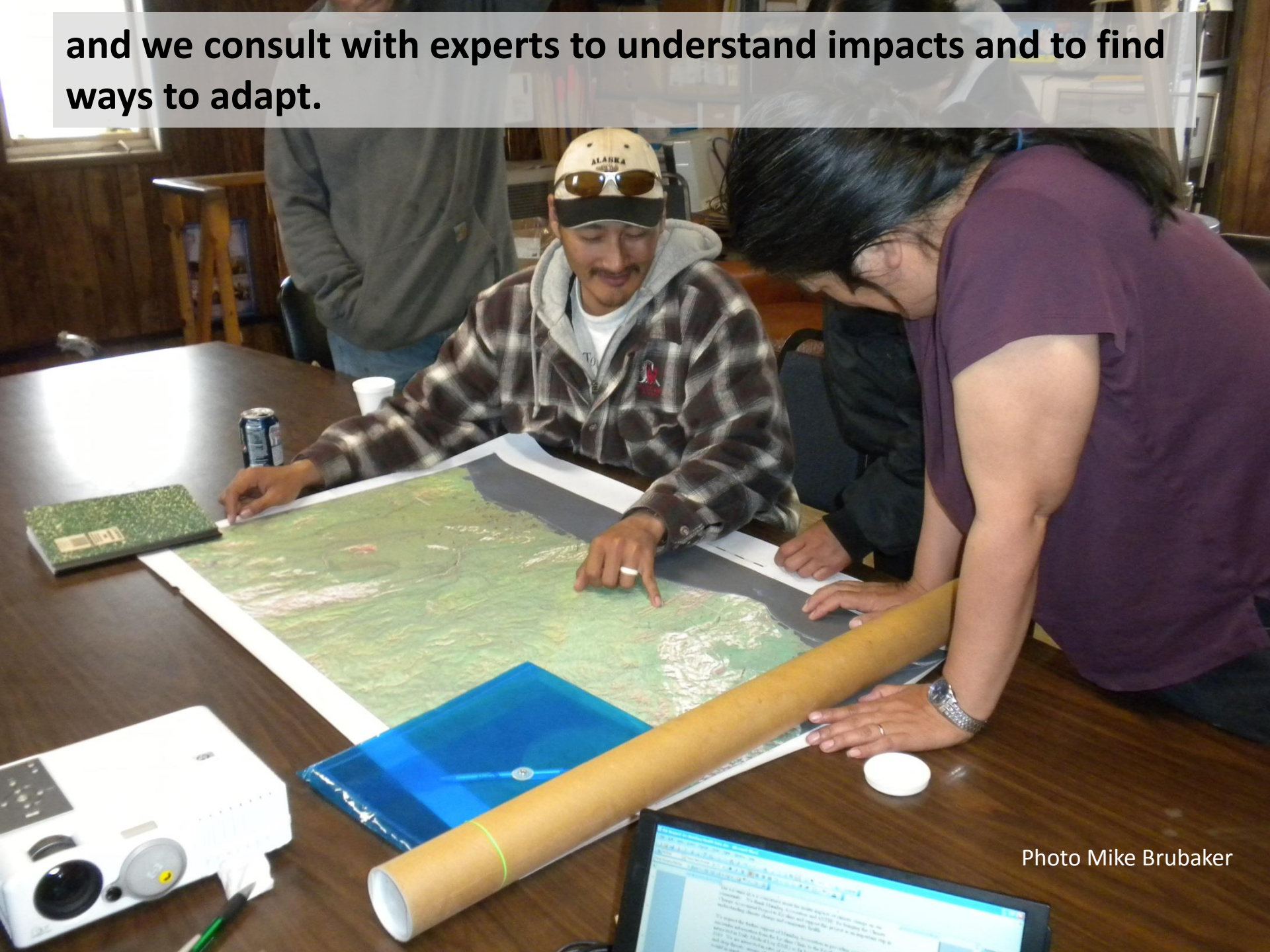


Photo Mike Brubaker

We collect photos and videos to document these changes.

We use Google maps to share these observations,




and we consult with experts to understand impacts and to find ways to adapt.
Photo Mike Brubaker

But we cannot post observations from the field,
yet…

To post an observation LEOs must return to their computer.

And click this window on the LEO website
Click here
Post an Observation

and fill out a form.

Post a LEO Observation

* 1. Name

* 2. What organization do you represent?

3. Time of Observation

MM DD YYYY HH MM AM/PM

4. What is the location? (use landmarks or lat/long if possible)

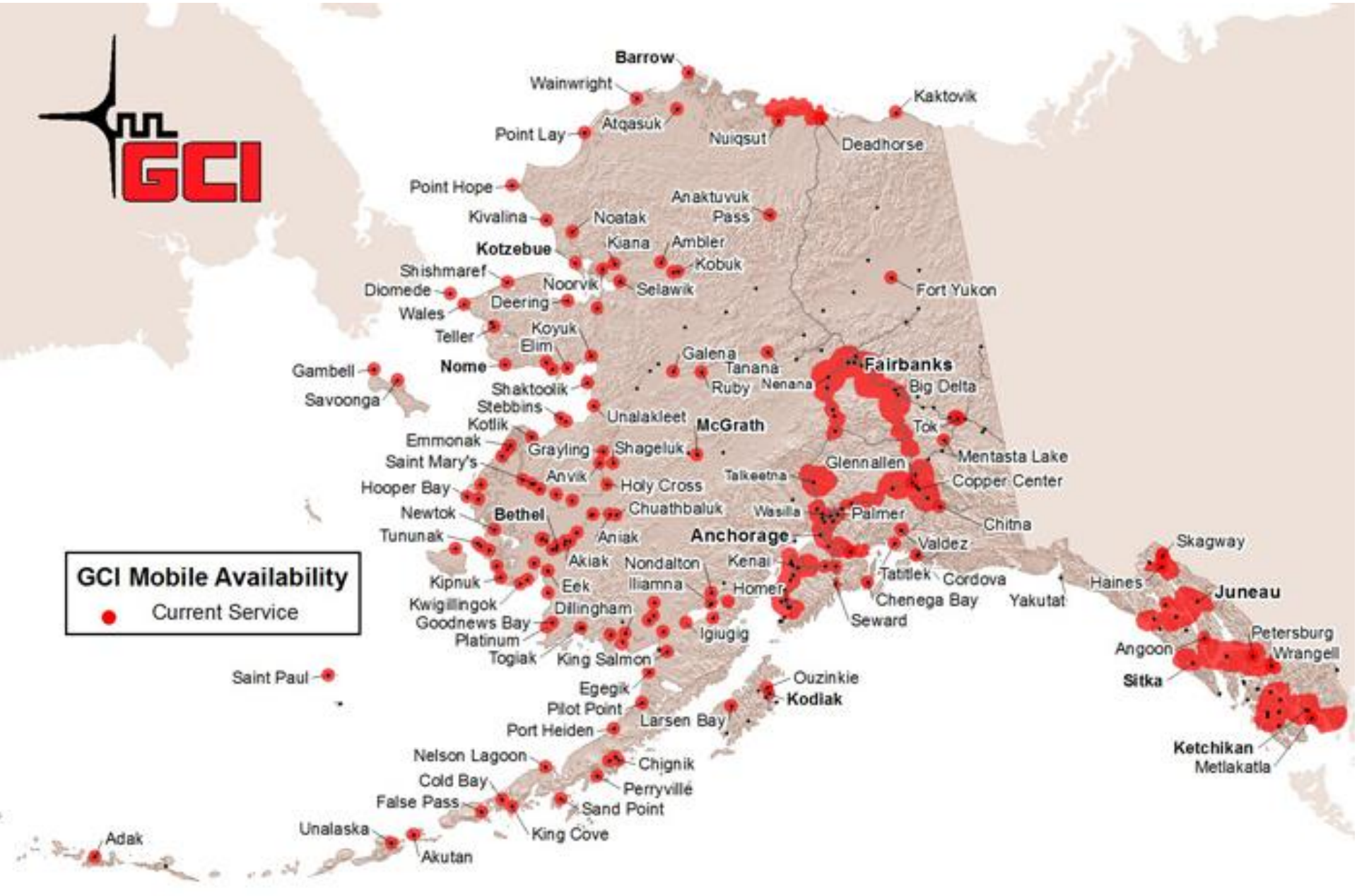
5. What is the type of observation?

6. What is your observation?

But what if photos and information could be automatic and provided from the field…

Wireless cell service has expanded in the past decade.

This means more communities that can use wireless communication.



Can this age of rapid communication, help us adapt to an age of rapid environmental change?

Photo Suzanne Caldwell
Alaska Dispatch

We think so and because of this LEO is developing a new app, with the purpose of making our observations easier and better.

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An app (application) is a self-contained program or piece of software designed to fulfill a particular purpose; especially as downloaded by a user to a mobile device.

Many apps are free or come with devices. Others must be purchased from an app store.

The LEO App would be available on for your phone, and would talk with and use other standard apps already available.

What are some of the things that a LEO App could do?

WHO - Identify the person who is making the observation

WHAT – Use photo and text to record content

WHERE - Provide location via GPS

WHEN - Provide the time and date of observation

WHY – Provide text box for detail content descriptions

You could opt to receive text alerts of new LEO posts as they occur.

We are also looking into ways to develop a “My LEO” function Where you have access to personal or regional posts.

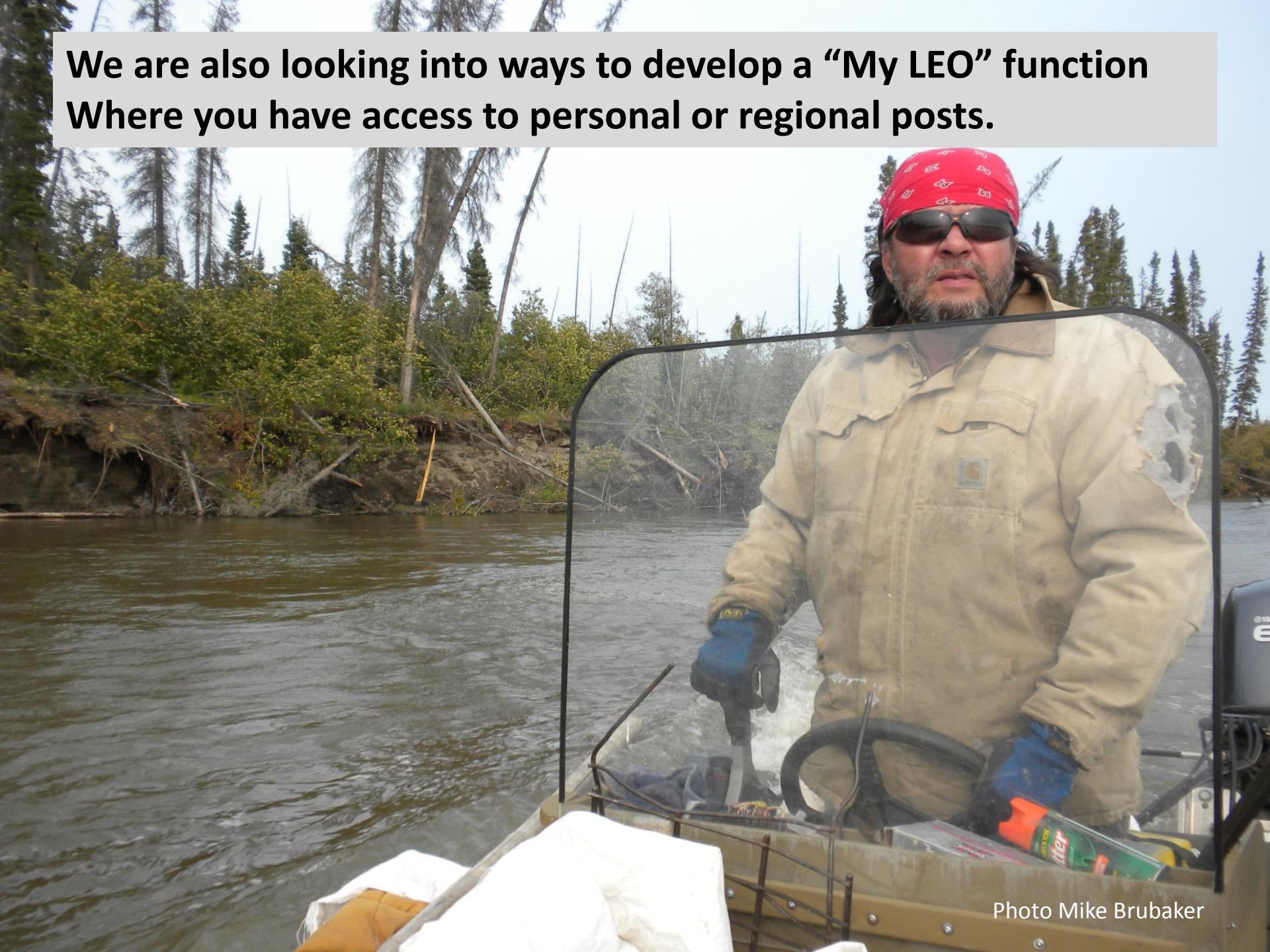
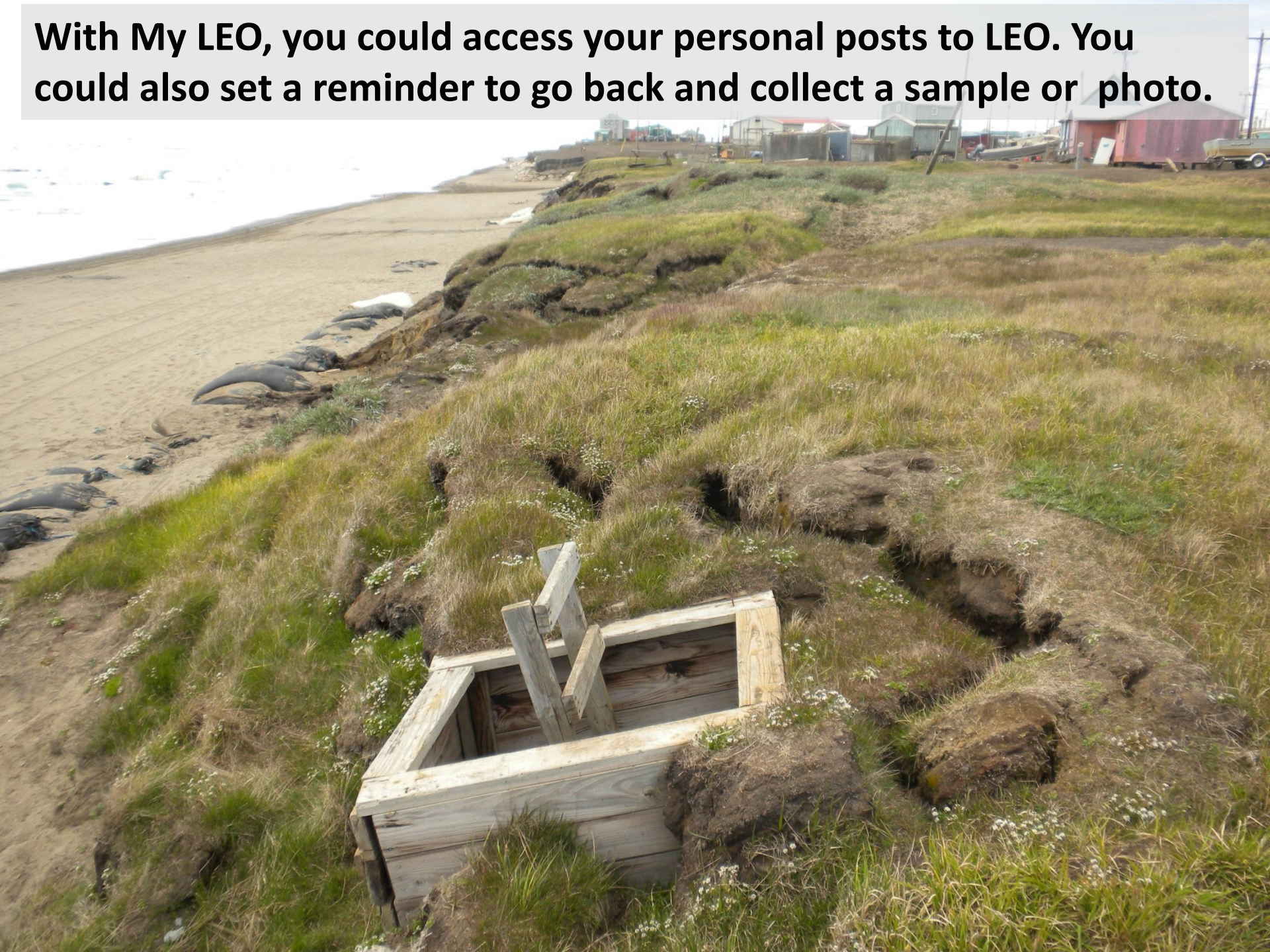
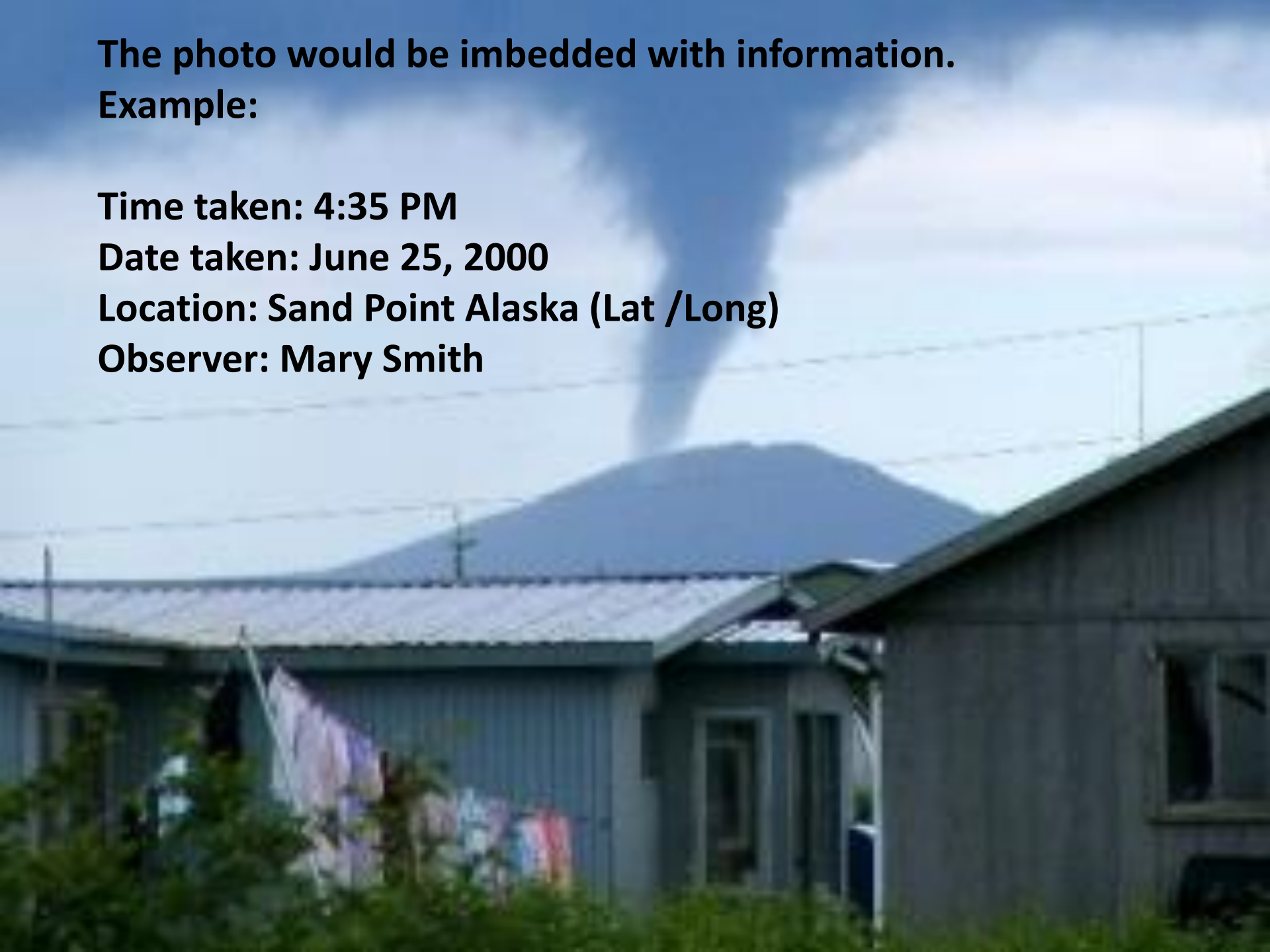


Photo Mike Brubaker

With My LEO, you could access your personal posts to LEO. You could also set a reminder to go back and collect a sample or photo.

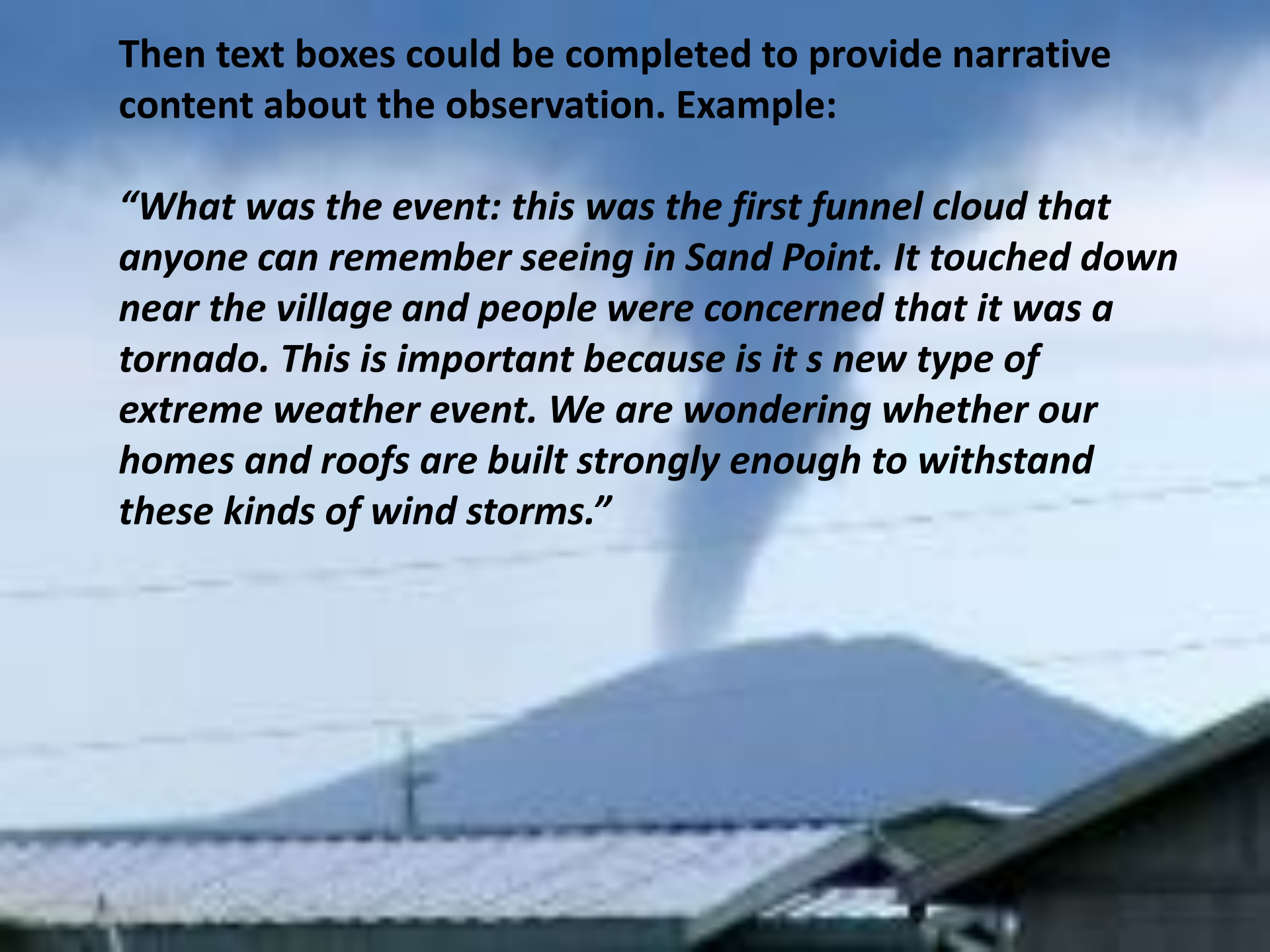


Here is how you could post an observation with LEO App: You would open the LEO App and select the photo function, and then take your picture or video.



The photo would be imbedded with information.
Example:

Time taken: 4:35 PM
Date taken: June 25, 2000
Location: Sand Point Alaska (Lat /Long)
Observer: Mary Smith



Then text boxes could be completed to provide narrative content about the observation. Example:

"What was the event: this was the first funnel cloud that anyone can remember seeing in Sand Point. It touched down near the village and people were concerned that it was a tornado. This is important because is it s new type of extreme weather event. We are wondering whether our homes and roofs are built strongly enough to withstand these kinds of wind storms."

The observation would be sent to LEO managers and transferred to a draft map for review and approval by the LEO partners in the community that was the source for the post.

Photo Mike Brubaker

Observation could also be posted using the standard method through our LEO website.

Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network

Northern communities are changing due to environmental impacts, climate change and development. Monitoring the environment is important for understanding the risks and benefits and for adaptation. The LEOs are the eyes, ears and voice of environmental change in our communities.

We are tribal professionals who apply traditional knowledge, western science and technology to document unusual plants and wildlife, extreme weather, erosion, flooding, droughts, wildfire and other events that can threaten food security, water security and community health. Checkout our LEO Public Maps, and resource links to learn more. You can view our observation data on our 2012 and 2013 spreadsheets.

Like us on Facebook | flickr | YouTube

LEO May 2014

View LARGE: click here

Monthly Maps
October 2013 Go

Category Maps
Air Quality Go

Alaska Region Maps
Aleutian & Pribilof Isl Go

Canada Region Maps
British Columbia Go

LEO communities at a glance, click icon:

Related Pages
- About LEO
- Contact Info
- Faces of LEO

What's Next?

We welcome your ideas and suggestions. Just put them in an email to anthcleo@anthc.org.

ANTHC is beta testing a new organizational website software system. Testing is needed to ensure compatibility with app.

LEO is testing existing and available observer apps to identify functions that would work well for LEO Network members.

LEO is reaching out to cell phone service companies and app companies such as Google to explore emerging technologies and new ideas for app improvements.

LEO is looking for app developers who can help us to develop the vision and design the app software.