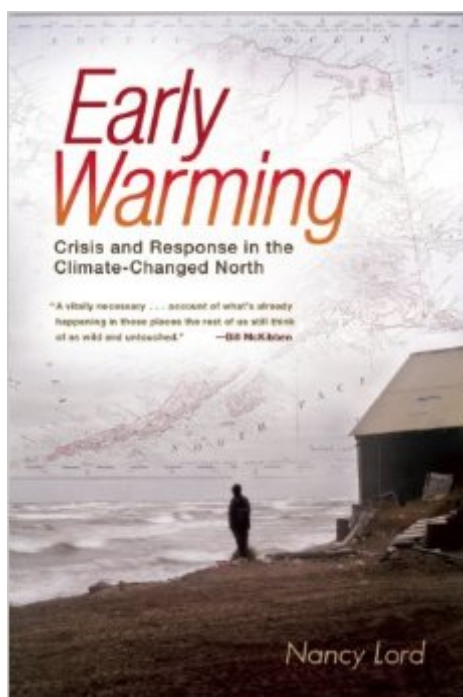


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# Early Warming: Crisis And Response In The Climate-Changed North



## Synopsis

In Shishmaref, Alaska, new seawalls are constructed while residents navigate the many practical and bureaucratic obstacles to moving their entire island village to higher ground. Farther south, inland hunters and fishermen set out to grow more of their own food; and to support the reintroduction of wood bison, an ancient species well suited to expected habitat changes. First Nations people in Canada team with conservationists to protect land for both local use and environmental resilience. In *Early Warming*, Alaskan Writer Laureate, Nancy Lord, takes a cutting-edge look at how communities in the North; where global warming is amplified and climate-change effects are most immediate; are responding with desperation and creativity. This beautifully written and measured narrative takes us deep into regions where the indigenous people who face life-threatening change also demonstrate impressive conservation ethics and adaptive capacities. Underpinned by a long acquaintance with the North and backed with scientific and political sophistication, Lord's vivid account brings the challenges ahead for us all into ice-water clarity.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

*Early Warming* (Nancy Lord, 2011) is a must read if you are interested in global climate change and its effects on Alaska and Northern Canada. In *Early Warming*, Alaskan writer Nancy Lord takes a cutting-edge look at how communities in the north continue to cope with the challenges global climate change is producing. This well-written narrative takes readers deep into regions where people continue dealing with changes in their lifestyles due to a warming planet. Lord breaks her

book into five parts: "My Salmon Home: Kenai Peninsula", "Boreal Forest", "Sea Ice and Ice Bears", "When a Village Has to Move, and The Oceanic Realm". Each one of these parts takes you into a new region of the north, demonstrating the effects of global climate change from the people that live there. Nancy Lord uses observations, lyrical descriptions of the land and sea, and many interviews of local offices and natives whose insight is chilling. My Salmon Home, the first part of Lords book, talks about the effects of global climate change near her actual home. Alaska prides itself on fishing. Fishing is a major part of Alaska's economy, and with the challenges of global climate change. The salmon populations are on the down swing causing many Alaskans to worry if they will have enough food and money to support their families. Lord presents many facts showing that warmer temperatures are having a negative impact on the fish. The Boreal Forest is major source of carbon for the world. With the trees dying and invasive species popping up everywhere, there is nothing to do besides worry. Many natives living in the Boreal Forest are struggling to keep the trees and keep their woods safe from wood harvest or mining. This is their home; many of the natives do not know what they would do if they were forced to leave.

Nancy Lord argues about the importance and the urgency to the temperatures rising in Alaska. Her interest in the issue rose when she figured that much of the population in her community, Kenai Peninsula, Alaska, are dependent to Salmon fishing for living. Fishing Salmon has been something that people in that area been doing for years. Lord looks at the salmon fishing going down as a great opportunity to bring the interest of the public to an issue that is going to affect every individual around the world. Early Warming in the first few pages explains how Alaska's average temperature has gone up by 3.4 degrees Fahrenheit with the winter temperature rising even more sharply by an average of 6.3 degrees Fahrenheit. John Holdren, the president of American Association for Advancement of Science and Energy and Climate Expert at Harvard, stated: "We basically have three choices: Mitigation, Adaptation, and Suffering." • Global Warming is not an issue that can be solved with only a few individuals sitting in the high government offices, but it should be a combined effort that every individual should take on. The three choices seem like there are not many choices we have left, and that we have to be careful where to go from here. Early Warming lights up the fact that the change is not going to be cheap. It requires a lot of expenses. A study done by the Institute of Social and Economic Research in Alaska, estimated that "the changing climate will make it between ten and twenty percent more expensive to build and maintain public infrastructure in Alaska over the next couple of decades." • Lord does an excellent job putting together different perspectives of people living in her community.

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