



TJIC Alert

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ENVIRONMENT

1. 2 Poles + 2 Degrees = 2 Much

World Wildlife Fund

April 2, 2009

4 pp.

Full Text: http://assets.panda.org/downloads/2_degrees_brochure_web.pdf

The report highlights the two main mechanisms by which the poles drive the planetary climate system, and thus the reasons why changes in the polar regions have major consequences for every country in the world. The signals coming from both poles are clear, observable and scientifically validated: man-made climate change is causing warming. Change already being seen at the poles will unleash a cascade of predicted climate change effects that will envelope the entire planet, unless the governments of the world unite for swift and decisive action, says the report.

[Note: contains copyright material].

2. 2009 U.S. Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

April 15, 2009

441 pp.

Full Text: <http://epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/downloads09/InventoryUSGhG1990-2007.pdf>

The report finds that overall emissions during 2007 increased by 1.4 percent from the previous year. The report is the latest annual report that the U.S. has submitted to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. The increase in emissions in 2007 was due primarily to an increase in carbon dioxide emissions associated with fuel and electricity consumption.

3. America's Most Endangered Rivers: 2009 Edition.

American Rivers

April 10, 2009

Full Text: <http://www.americanrivers.org/our-work/protecting-rivers/endangered-rivers/>

From outdated flood control schemes to harmful dams and mining projects, U.S. rivers and clean water are at risk, according to the study. It highlights the state of the nation's water infrastructure, drinking water, wastewater and storm water systems, and dams and levees, and the need for green, 21st century investments to protect clean water, public health and safety, and the fish and wildlife that depend on healthy rivers. Rivers in Alaska, California, Georgia, Idaho, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Washington and Wisconsin are on the list.

[Note: contains copyright material].

4. Billion Tree Campaign Grows Past 3 Billion Mark

United Nations Environment Programme

March 30, 2009

Full Text: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=30333&Cr=climate&Cr1=change>

The Billion Tree campaign to fight climate change through reforestation has now blossomed into woodland of over 3 billion trees, according to the United Nations. A new target of 7 billion trees has been set to be planted in time for the UN Climate Change Conference to be held in December 2009.

[Note: contains copyright material].

5. Birds and Climate Change: Ecological Disruption in Motion

National Audubon Society

February 2009

76 pp.

Full Text:

<http://www.audubon.org/news/pressroom/bacc/pdfs/Birds%20and%20Climate%20Report.pdf>

The northward and inland movement of North American birds, confirmed by thousands of citizen-observations, provides new and powerful evidence that global warming is having a serious impact on natural systems, according to the analyses. The findings signal the need for dramatic policy changes to combat pervasive ecological disruption.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

6. Climate Change and Water Resources Management: A Federal Perspective. U.S.

Geological Survey

February 2, 2009

76 pp.

Full Text: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/1331/Circ1331.pdf>

A study to help better manage and preserve the nation's water resources in a changing climate is compiled by multiple government agencies. Water managers can use the report to support their efforts to provide water to communities and farms, generate power for cities, sustain ecological systems, or protect lives and homes from floods, all critical to the public's health, safety, and quality of life. The report presents the best available science to help water managers prepare for, adapt to, and mitigate the effects of climate change on the nation's water resources.

7. The Climate Change Lobby Explosion

Center for Public Integrity

February 24, 2009

Full Text: http://www.publicintegrity.org/investigations/climate_change/articles/entry/1171/

The number of lobbyists seeking to influence federal policy on climate change has grown more than 300 percent in five years, with a slew of new interests from Main Street to Wall Street

adding to the challenge of addressing global warming, according to the report. The report provides a first-of-its-kind look at the universe of special interests shaping debate in the United States and how it has sharply expanded between 2003, when Congress previously voted on climate change, and 2008.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

8. Climate Change: Observations on Federal Efforts to Adapt To a Changing Climate

John Stephenson

14 pp.

U.S. Government Accountability Office

March 25, 2009

Full Text: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09534t.pdf>

Changes in the climate attributable to increased concentrations of greenhouse gases may have significant environmental and economic impacts in the United States. Federal, state, and local agencies are tasked with a wide array of responsibilities that will be affected by a changing climate, such as managing natural resources.

[Note: contains copyright material].

9. Coastal-Change and Glaciological Map of the Larsen Ice Shelf Area, Antarctica: 1940-2005

U.S. Geological Survey et al.

April 3, 2009

Full Text: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/imap/2600/B/>

Antarctica's glaciers are melting more rapidly than previously known because of climate change, according to a new report prepared in close collaboration with the British Antarctic Survey. It documents for the first time that one ice shelf has completely disappeared and another has lost a chunk three times the size of Rhode Island.

10. Earth 101: Observations

Dan Stillman

6 pp.

Alliance for Earth Observance

April 2009.

Full Text: http://alliance.strategies.org/docs/EO%20101_Final.pdf

Earth observations encompass a broad spectrum of activities, beginning with the instruments and networks of instruments that measure the planet from the ground, ocean, air and space, and ending with the users who take advantage of observational data to make decisions that benefit local, national and global societies and economies.

[Note: contains copyright material].

11. Earth Day: Fighting the Effects of Climate Change

World Wildlife Fund

April 2009

Full Text: <http://www.worldwildlife.org/sites/earthday/item6793.html>

Climate change is among the most pervasive threats to the web of life, yet people have the power to address its root causes and limit its impact on the planet. Smart energy choices made by individuals and businesses can dramatically reduce CO2 emissions and slow global warming. Without action, climate change will cause the extinction of countless species and destroy some of the world's most precious ecosystems.

[Note: contains copyright material].

12. Earth Day: History

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

2009

Full Text: <http://www.epa.gov/earthday/history.htm>

The site contains documents photos related to the history of Earth Day and previous Earth Day celebrations.

13. Earth Day – Tobacco Control Guide

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

April 2009

Full Text:

http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/media_communications/calendar/2009/april_earthday.htm#outline

The guide is provided to include cigarette litter and pollution control in Earth Day activities as part of comprehensive tobacco prevention and control program to increase awareness of the detrimental effects of tobacco use to people and the environment and to consequently reduce tobacco use.

14. Earth Day 2009

Los Alamos National Laboratory

April 2009

Full Text: <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/earthday/index.shtml>

The Laboratory focuses on how people can sustain and improve the environment. The people have an impact on the planet, and it is corporate and individual responsibility to minimize these impacts. The web site leads to researches done by the Laboratory to help protect the future of the planet.

15. Earth Day 2009: The Green Generation

Earth Day Networks

April 2009

Full Text: <http://ww2.earthday.net/greengeneration>

This is a two-year initiative that will launch in 2009 and culminate on the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day in 2010. The Green Generation includes ordinary people who are engaged in individual and collective activities to improve their health, to improve their schools, to participate in building a solution to urgent national and global issues, such as climate change or the world's water crises.

[Note: contains copyright material].

16. Earth Day Photo Project

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

April 2009

Full Text: <http://www.epa.gov/earthday/photoproject/>

Each year, for Earth Day, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency conducts a photo project. It is in order to see how the public would show EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment.

17. The Economic Toll of Global Warming Is Real – And Growing

The Wilderness Society and U.S. Climate Action Network

April 9, 2009

Full Text:

<http://usclimatenetwork.org/resource-database/Costs%20of%20Fighting%20Global%20Warming.pdf/view>

The report describes how inaction on global warming is costing us more than if we were to take action.

[Note: contains copyright material].

18. From Conflict to Peacebuilding: The Role of Natural Resources and The Environment

United Nations Environment Programme

February 2009

50 pp.

Full Text: http://www.unep.org/pdf/pcdmb_policy_01.pdf

State failure and civil war in developing countries represent some of the greatest risks to global peace and security, says the report. Since the end of the Cold War, at least eighteen violent conflicts have been driven by the exploitation of natural resources. Based on its analysis, United Nations Environment Programme's report draws key conclusions for future UN peacemaking and peacebuilding operations.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

19. How Meat Contributes To Global Warming

Nathan Fiala

Scientific American

February 2009

Currently available online at <http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=the-greenhouse-hamburger>

Producing beef creates prodigious amounts of heat-trapping greenhouse gases, notes the author; pound for pound, beef production generates 13 times as much greenhouse gas emissions than producing chicken. For potatoes, the multiplier is 57. Beef consumption is rising rapidly, due to global population growth and people eating more meat. Producing the annual beef diet of the average American emits as much greenhouse gas as a car driven more than 1,800 miles. The author notes that improving waste management and farming practices can help reduce the "carbon footprint" of beef, however dietary changes and eating less beef would be more effective.

20. Kyoto Protocol Status of Ratification.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

January 14, 2009

11 pp.

Full Text: http://unfccc.int/files/kyoto_protocol/status_of_ratification/application/pdf/kp_ratification.pdf

The Protocol is subject to ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by Parties to the Convention. It entered into force on 16 February 2005 - the ninetieth day after at least 55 Parties to the Convention, incorporating Annex I Parties which accounted in total for at least 55 % of the total carbon dioxide emissions for 1990 from that group -deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. The list contains the latest information concerning dates of signature and ratification received from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as Depositary of the Kyoto Protocol.

[Note: contains copyright material].

21. Make Every Day Earth Day

U.S. Department of Energy

2009

Full Text: <http://www.energy.gov/energytips.htm>

This is the U.S. Department of Energy's tips to save money and protect the environment.

22. Measurement, Reporting and Verification in a Post-2012 Climate Agreement

Clare Breidenich and Daniel Bodansky

40 pp.

Pew Center on Global Climate Change

April 8, 2009

Full Text: <http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/mrv-report.pdf>

The report outlines options for measurement, reporting, and verification of countries' actions in a post-2012 global climate agreement at a side event held during the international climate negotiations in Bonn, Germany. In addition, a paper discussing avenues and options for the legal form of a post-2012 agreement was presented.

[Note: contains copyright material].

23. Seven Ways to Heaven on Earth Day 2009

Sierra Club

April 2009

Full Text: <http://www.sierraclub.org/earthday/>

Sierra Club provides seven ways to help earth stay environmentally sound.

[Note: contains copyright material].

24. Think Again: Climate Change

Bill McKibben

pp. 32-38

Foreign Policy

January/February 2009

Available online at http://www.foreignpolicy.com/story/cms.php?story_id=4585&page=0

Noted author Bill McKibben writes that it may be too late to avert climate change, but that it is imperative that the international political order stop delaying and adopt the few options humanity has left. The claims that agriculture will improve in some regions as frost recedes may hold true for a while, but eventually the threat of heat stress and drought will be global. Solving the climate crisis is no longer an option, as human activities have already raised the global temperature by a degree; all we can do is mitigate its worst aspects. Coordinating this effort with every country on earth will be "far and away the biggest foreign-policy challenge we face."

25. A Timeline of Environmental Treaties

America.gov

April 2009

Full Text: http://www.america.gov/multimedia/photogallery.html#/30145/env_time/

The timeline on Environmental Treaties begins with 1962 Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil to 1997 Kyoto Protocol.

26. Today in History: April 22 Earth Day

American Memory, Library of Congress

2009

Full Text: <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/today/apr22.html>

Today in History for April 22 briefly shows the history of Earth Day along with links to developments through U.S. history in conservation efforts leading up to the Earth Day.

27. Water in a Changing World

United Nations

April 2009

Full Text: <http://webworld.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/wwdr3/tableofcontents.shtml>

The publication is the result of the collaboration between 26 UN agencies and entities. It provides a comprehensive analysis of the state of the world's freshwater resources and stress the need of urgent actions in order to avoid a global water crisis. The report also emphasizes the decisions made outside the water sector which are affecting water management.

[Note: contains copyright material].

28. You Have the Power: Campaign Materials

Federal Energy Management Program

March 19, 2009

Full Text: http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/services/yhtp/campaign_materials.html#ed

The artwork for You Have the Power campaign in conjunction with the Earth Day is available for download.

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TJIC Alert Issue: April 2009

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