



Environmental Issues

February 2009

OBAMA SETS BOLD NEW PRINCIPLES FOR U.S. ENERGY, CLIMATE POLICIES

President moves to reverse some policies of his predecessor

26 January 2009

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Staff Writer



President Obama speaks at the White House before signing an executive order dealing with energy and climate

Washington — President Obama vowed the United States will lead the global fight against global warming as he moved emphatically to overturn Bush administration’s energy and climate change policies.

“We will make it clear to the world that America is ready to lead,” Obama said at the White House on January 26. During his campaign, Obama promised to fight global warming, cut energy consumption and reduce U.S. dependence on foreign energy sources.

The president said he views America as part of a global coalition whose members work together to protect global climate and collective security. He said other large economies such as China and India must do their part to limit greenhouse gas emissions, “just as we are now willing to do ours.”

Obama said the United States will not delay action due to tough economic conditions. Promoting climate-friendly renewable energy, he said, actually will stimulate the ailing U.S. economy and reduce demand for oil imports.

“America will not be held hostage to dwindling resources, hostile regimes and a warming planet,” Obama said.



Secretary of State Hillary Clinton names Todd Stern as the new special envoy for climate change January 26.

<http://www.america.gov/st/econ-english/2009/January/20090126181729cpataruk0.8505976.html&distid=ucs>

The White House Agenda ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The energy challenges our country faces are severe and have gone unaddressed for far too long. Our addiction to foreign oil doesn't just undermine our national security and wreak havoc on our environment -- it cripples our economy and strains the budgets of working families all across America. President Obama and Vice President Biden have a comprehensive plan to invest in alternative and renewable energy, end our addiction to foreign oil, address the global climate crisis and create millions of new jobs.

The Obama-Biden comprehensive New Energy for America plan will:

- Help create five million new jobs by strategically investing \$150 billion over the next ten years to catalyze private efforts to build a clean energy future.
- Within 10 years save more oil than we currently import from the Middle East and Venezuela combined.
- Put 1 million Plug-In Hybrid cars -- cars that can get up to 150 miles per gallon -- on the road by 2015, cars that we will work to make sure are built here in America.
- Ensure 10 percent of our electricity comes from renewable sources by 2012, and 25 percent by 2025.
- Implement an economy-wide cap-and-trade program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/energy_and_environment/

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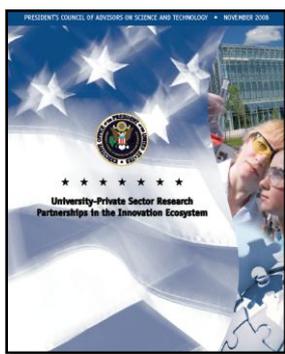
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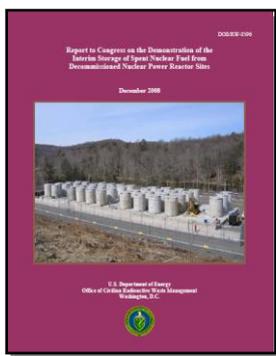
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UNIVERSITY-PRIVATE SECTOR RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS IN THE INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM. President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology. Web posted January 1, 2009. 09AD376

In order to recognize fully the importance of university-private sector partnerships and their role in the rapidly globalizing innovation ecosystem, President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology reviews the current state and historical trends of the U.S. R&D enterprise. The study involves examining inputs to the ecosystem, including funding sources and mechanisms, and outputs of the ecosystem in order to evaluate the effectiveness and productivity of the research enterprise.

http://www.ostp.gov/galleries/PCAST/past_research_partnership_report_BOOK.pdf



REPORT TO CONGRESS ON THE DEMONSTRATION OF THE INTERIM STORAGE OF SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL FROM DECOMMISSIONED NUCLEAR POWER REACTOR SITES. Department of Energy. December 2008. 09AD304

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)'s report discusses the status of the commercial spent nuclear fuel (SNF) inventory in the United States, at both decommissioned and operating commercial nuclear power reactor sites. It also summarizes the contractual arrangement the Government and utilities have under the Standard Contract for Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and/or High-Level Radioactive Waste (10 CFR Part 961), related litigation, and the financial liabilities resulting from the Department's delay in performance under these contracts. Further, the report identifies legislative changes and actions that would be necessary for the Department to develop an interim storage facility and demonstration program for commercial SNF from the decommissioned reactor sites.

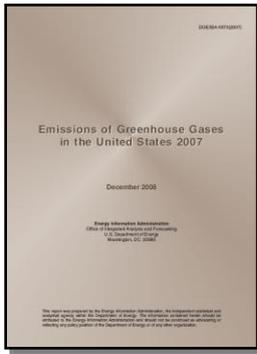
http://www.ocrwm.doe.gov/info_library/program_docs/ES_Interim_Storage_Report_120108.pdf



ENDANGERED AND THREATENED WILDLIFE AND PLANTS. Fish and Wildlife Service; Department of the Interior. December 10, 2008. 09AD301

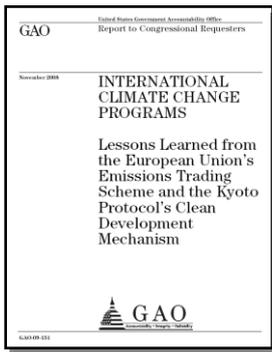
The notice is a yearly appraisal of the current status of plants and animals that are candidates for protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Two species have been removed from candidate status, one species has been added, and 11 have a change in priority from the last review in December 2007. There are now 251 species recognized by the Service as candidates for ESA protection.

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-28986.pdf> [PDF format, 70 pages].



EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES IN THE UNITED STATES 2007. Energy Information Administration. December 2008. 09AD268

Total U.S. greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions were 7,282 million metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent (MMTCO 2e) in 2007, an increase of 1.4 percent from the 2006 level according to Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2007, a report released today by the Energy Information Administration (EIA). Since 1990, U.S. GHG emissions have grown at an average annual rate of 0.9 percent. U.S. GHG emissions per unit of gross domestic product (GDP), or U.S. GHG intensity, fell from 636 metric tons per million 2000 constant dollars of GDP (MMTCO 2e/million dollars GDP) in 2006 to 632 MMTCO 2e /million dollars GDP in 2007, a decline of 0.6 percent. Since 1990, the annual average decline in GHG intensity has been 1.9 percent.
<ftp://ftp.eia.doe.gov/pub/oiaf/1605/cdrom/pdf/ggrpt/057307.pdf> [PDF format, 64 pages].



INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAMS: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION'S EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME AND THE KYOTO PROTOCOL'S CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM. U.S. Government Accountability Office. Web posted December 2, 2008. 09AD229

International policies to address climate change have largely relied on market-based programs; for example, under the European Union's Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) phase I (2005 to 2007) carbon dioxide emissions reductions were sought by setting a cap on each member state's allowable emissions and distributing tradable allowances to covered entities, such as power plants. Beginning operation in 2002, the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) has relied on offsets, allowing certain industrialized nations to pay for emission reduction projects in developing countries, where the cost of abatement may be less expensive, in addition to reducing emissions within their borders. Legislative proposals to limit greenhouse gas emissions are under consideration in the United States.
<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09151.pdf> [PDF format, 69 pages].



CARBON OFFSETS: THE U.S. VOLUNTARY MARKET IS GROWING BUT QUALITY ASSURANCE POSES CHALLENGES FOR MARKET PARTICIPANTS. U.S. Government Accountability Office. Web posted September 29, 2008. 09AD014

Carbon offsets, reductions of greenhouse gas emissions from an activity in one place to compensate for emissions elsewhere, are a way to address climate change by paying someone else to reduce emissions. In the U.S., there are no federal requirements and offsets may be purchased in the voluntary market. The report examines the scope of the U.S. voluntary carbon offset market, including the role of the federal government, the extent to which mechanisms for ensuring the credibility of offsets are available and used and what, if

any, related information is shared with consumers, and trade-offs associated with increased oversight of the U.S. market and including offsets in climate change mitigation policies.
<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d081048.pdf> [PDF format, 65 pages].



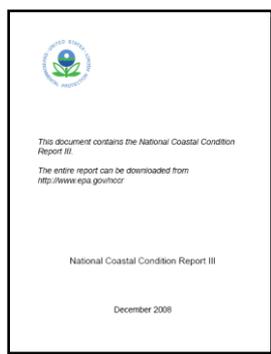
MEASURING AND REPORTING PERFORMANCE RESULTS FOR THE POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM NEED IMPROVEMENT. Office of Inspector General. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. January 28, 2009

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Pollution Prevention (P2) Program was rated moderately effective by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in Fiscal Year 2006, receiving the third highest rating awarded to EPA programs using the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART). We sought to verify the accuracy of P2 Program data provided for the PART assessment and determine what actions have been taken to address the recommendations in the PART program improvement plan.
<http://www.epa.gov/oigearth/reports/2009/20090128-09-P-0088.pdf>

INTERIM REPORT ON NANOSCALE MATERIALS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (NMSP). Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. January 14, 2009

EPA received a significant amount of data which has strengthened its understanding of the issues and commercial status of nanoscale materials. However, a number of environmental health and safety data gaps the Agency had hoped to fill through the NMSP still exist. EPA will continue the NMSP and is also considering how to best use its regulatory authorities to help address those data gaps.

<http://www.epa.gov/oppt/nano/>



NATIONAL COASTAL CONDITION REPORT III. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Web posted January 2, 2009. 09AD409

The report assesses America's coastal conditions using five indicators of condition: water quality, sediment quality, benthic community condition, the health of the water's bottom-dwelling invertebrate species, coastal habitat loss as indicated by changes in wetland area, and fish tissue contaminants. The overall condition of America's coasts is rated as "fair," based on these five indicators.

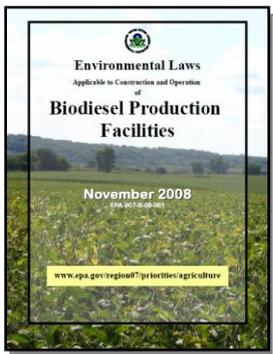
http://www.epa.gov/owow/oceans/nccr3/pdf/nccr3_entire.pdf [PDF format, 329 pages].



THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S METHANE TO MARKETS PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. November 2008. 09AD242

International leadership by the United States to reduce emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas, is highlighted in the report. Current U.S. supported M2M projects, when fully implemented, will deliver estimated annual emissions reductions of more than 24 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions, tripling the reductions achieved in 2006. M2M reduces greenhouse gas emissions by recovering methane, also a primary component of natural gas, from agricultural waste, coal mines, landfills, and oil and gas systems and using it as clean energy.

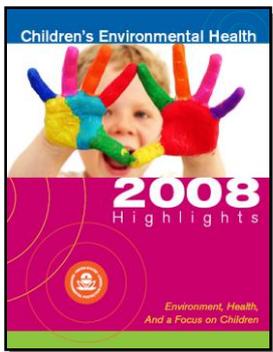
http://www.epa.gov/methanetomarkets/pdf/2008-accomplish-report/m2m08_usg_report_08_scrnrez.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].



ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS APPLICABLE TO CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF BIODIESEL PRODUCTION FACILITIES. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. November 2008. 09AD207

EPA Region 7 has developed a user-friendly manual that identifies environmental regulatory rules and requirements for the construction and operation of biodiesel production facilities. The manual serves as a road map of federal environmental information. It addresses the nation's growing energy demand in a way that supports its goals for a clean environment, farmers and rural America, and greater energy security.

http://www.epa.gov/region07/priorities/agriculture/biodiesel_manual.pdf [PDF format, 144 pages].



CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: 2008. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Web posted October 11, 2008. 09AD053

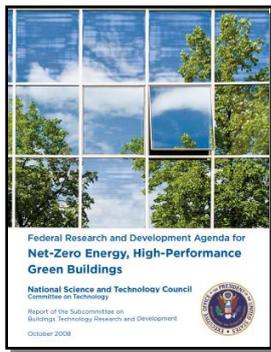
The publication outlines national efforts to protect children from environmental risks over the last year. The agency has funded research on how the environment affects children's health, promoted the education of health care providers, published information about how climate change affects children's health, and assembled data to quantify the extent of children's health issues. Issues in the report include childhood asthma, lead poisoning, exposure to the sun, children and chemicals, integrated pest management, Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units and research findings.

[http://yosemite.epa.gov/ochnp/ochnpweb.nsf/content/2008_highlights.htm/\\$file/OCHP_2008_Highlights_508.pdf](http://yosemite.epa.gov/ochnp/ochnpweb.nsf/content/2008_highlights.htm/$file/OCHP_2008_Highlights_508.pdf) [PDF format, 32 pages].

**SUPERFUND NATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS SUMMARY FISCAL YEAR 2008.
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. November 20, 2008. 09AD217**

EPA continues to make progress in cleaning up America's most contaminated hazardous waste sites and making them ready for productive use. EPA's annual summary of the Superfund program's accomplishments shows that construction was completed at 30 sites in 2008, for a cumulative total of 1,060 sites or approximately 67 percent of the sites on the National Priorities List. Superfund is the federal government program that cleans up the most serious hazardous waste sites across the country.

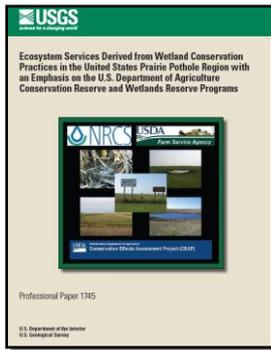
<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/accomp/numbers08.htm> [HTML format, various paging].



FEDERAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AGENDA FOR NET-ZERO ENERGY, HIGH-PERFORMANCE GREEN BUILDINGS. National Science and Technology Council. Web posted October 23, 2008. 09AD093

The construction and buildings sector consumes enormous amounts of energy, clean water, and materials. Buildings use about one-third of the world's energy. The agenda contains six major building technology goals that define the major transformational advances needed for energy, water, and material use for Net Zero Energy, high-performance green buildings.

<http://ostp.gov/galleries/NSTC%20Reports/FederalRDAgendaforNetZeroEnergyHighPerformanceGreenBuildings.pdf> [PDF format, 76 pages].



ECOSYSTEM SERVICES DERIVED FROM WETLAND CONSERVATION PRACTICES IN THE UNITED STATES PRAIRIE POTHOLE REGION WITH AN EMPHASIS ON THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION RESERVE AND WETLAND RESERVE PROGRAMS. U.S. Geological Survey. Robert A. Gleason et al. Ed. Web posted October 6, 2008. 09AD054

Implementation of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) has resulted in the restoration of approximately 2,200,000 ha (5,436,200 acres) of wetland and grassland habitats in the Prairie Pothole Region. These restored habitats are known to provide various ecosystem services; however, little work has been conducted to quantify and verify benefits on program lands (lands enrolled in the CRP and WRP) in agriculturally dominated landscapes of the Prairie Pothole Region. A study was initiated to develop and apply approaches to quantify changes in ecosystem services resulting from wetland restoration activities funded by the USDA.

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/pp/1745/pdf/pp1745web.pdf> [PDF format, 69 pages].

CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS (HEARINGS, REPORTS, ETC.)



GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS: PERSPECTIVES ON THE TOP 20 EMITTERS AND DEVELOPED VERSUS DEVELOPING NATIONS. Congressional Research Service, RL32721, Library of Congress. Larry Parker and John Blodgett. Web posted January 3, 2009. 09AD358

Using the World Resources Institute (WRI) database on greenhouse gas emissions and related data, the report examines two issues. The first issue is the separate treatment of developed and developing nations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol. The second issue is the continuing difficulty of the current approach designed to address climate change through limiting greenhouse gas emissions to a specified percentage of baseline emissions. The United States led by emitting 19% of the world total, followed by China with 14%; no other country reached 6%; the top seven emitters accounted for 52% of the 185 nations' emissions. Given the wide range of situations illustrated by the data, a flexible strategy that allows each country to play to its strengths may be appropriate if diverse countries like the United States and China are ever to reach agreement.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL32721.pdf> [PDF format, 22pages].

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE: THREE POLICY PERSPECTIVES. Congressional Research Service, 98-738, Library of Congress. Larry Parker and John Blodgett. Web posted January 3, 2009. 09AD357

The 1992 U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change requires that signatories, including the United States, establish policies for constraining future emission levels of greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide (CO₂). The George H. W. Bush, Clinton, and George W. Bush Administrations each drafted action plans in response to requirements of the convention. These plans have raised significant controversy and debate. The purpose of the report is to articulate the implications of the differing perspectives in order to clarify terms of debate among diverse policy communities.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/98-738.pdf> [PDF format, 37 pages].

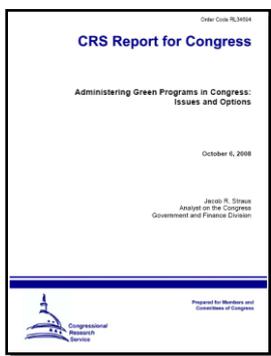


U.S. SENATE MINORITY REPORT: MORE THAN 650 INTERNATIONAL SCIENTISTS DISSENT OVER MAN-MADE GLOBAL WARMING CLAIMS SCIENTISTS CONTINUE TO DEBUNK "CONSENSUS" IN 2008. U.S. Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works. December 11, 2008. 09AD291

Over 650 dissenting scientists from around the globe challenged man-made global warming claims made by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and former Vice President Al Gore. The report features the skeptical voices of over 650 prominent international scientists, including many current and former UN IPCC scientists, who have now turned against the UN IPCC. The over 650 dissenting scientists are more than 12 times the number of UN scientists (52) who authored the media-hyped IPCC 2007 Summary for Policymakers. The chorus of skeptical scientific voices grow louder in 2008 as

a steady stream of peer-reviewed studies, analyses, real world data and inconvenient developments challenged the UN and former Vice President Al Gore's claims that the "science is settled" and there is a "consensus."

http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=37283205-c4eb-4523-b1d3-c6e8faf14e84



ADMINISTERING GREEN PROGRAMS IN CONGRESS: ISSUES AND OPTIONS. Congressional Research Service, RL34694, Library of Congress. Jacob R. Straus. Web posted November 1, 2008. 09AD110

Programs to create an environmentally conscious workplace have long existed on Capitol Hill. Congress has been working to reduce consumption and conserve energy since the 1970s. Traditionally, these programs have been administered by the Architect of the Capitol. In recent Congresses, the House of Representatives and the Senate have created separate greening programs. In addition, the Architect of the Capitol has developed green programs for the Capitol Complex. In the 110th Congress, the Architect of the Capitol's role in administering facilities-related programs on behalf of the Senate has remained unchanged. The Architect of the Capitol also administers greening programs for the Capitol Complex.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL34694.pdf> [PDF format, 35 pages].

THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE

OBAMA'S GREEN TEAM. By Kenneth P. Green. AEI. *The American*, January 16, 2009

We can expect a proliferation of new regulations that will reach into every area of American life and commerce.

What do President-elect Barack Obama's leadership picks tell us about the kinds of energy and environmental policies we can expect in the next four to eight years? On balance, they suggest we are in for a radical shift away from George W. Bush's pro-market policies and back to the aggressive regulatory approach favored by the Clinton administration. Let's take a look at Obama's prospective appointees.

<http://www.american.com/archive/2009/obama2019s-green-team>



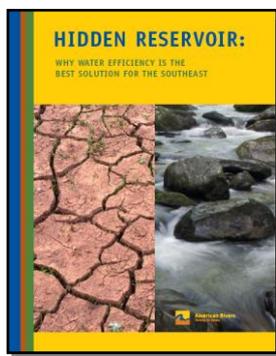
MEASURING AND REDUCING AMERICANS' INDIRECT ENERGY USE. By Kenneth P. Green, Aparna Mathur. ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT OUTLOOK No. 2, December 2008. AEI Online.

Most Americans think of energy use in terms of big-ticket items such as gasoline, heating oil, and natural gas. But a great deal of the energy we use is indirect, embedded in the things we buy. Cutting down on

indirect energy would produce substantial energy savings and allow Americans to continue to enjoy the lifestyle choices they have made.

http://www.aei.org/publications/pubID.29020/pub_detail.asp

AMERICAN RIVERS



HIDDEN RESERVOIR: WHY WATER EFFICIENCY IS THE BEST SOLUTION FOR THE SOUTHEAST. American Rivers. Jenny Hoffner. Web posted October 25, 2008. 09AD094

The Southeast can save over \$700 million and new water supply for over one million residents by embracing water efficiency solutions like stopping leaks and upgrading old buildings. The report outlines nine proven, timely and cost-effective steps that local leaders can take to save water and help ensure their rivers remain valuable community assets.

http://amr.convio.net/site/DocServer/SE_Water_Efficiency_Oct_2008_opt.pdf?docID=8421&JSessionIdr001=tj4otzeo24.app14a

[PDF format, 36 pages].

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

HOW ENERGY EFFICIENCY CAN ENSURE THE GREEN RECOVERY WILL LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND. Charles K. Ebinger, Director, Energy Security Initiative. The Brookings Institution, January 16, 2009

Thirty two years ago this past October, Amory Lovins, in his Foreign Affairs article “Soft Energy Paths: The Road Not Taken,” alerted the world to how energy efficiency and conservation can transform the way the global economy wastes energy through over-reliance on centralized facilities requiring the movement of energy over long distances from where it is produced to where it is consumed. The potential of energy efficiency and conservation is demonstrated by the fact that since 1980, California has kept energy consumption flat – even as the state’s population doubled. Similarly, while the United States has dawdled in its promotion of energy efficiency, Europe has made its economy nearly twice as energy efficient as ours.

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0116_energy_ebinger.aspx

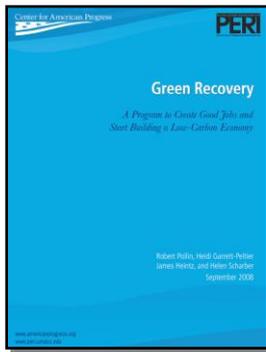
HOW OBAMA SHOULD CONFRONT CLIMATE CHANGE. Brookings Institution. William J. Antholis and Bryan K. Mignone. December 2, 2008. 09AD249

The days of the global warming deniers are long gone. The new era will be defined by how well Obama navigates, and ultimately defuses, a complex congressional minefield. Because the best policy is a lasting policy, climate enthusiasts would do well to look toward the political center.

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2008/1202_climate_change_antholis.aspx08

[HTML format, various paging].

CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS



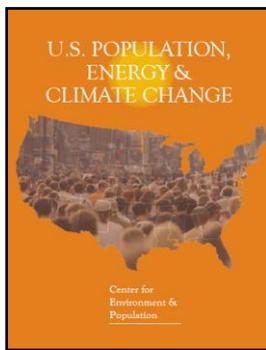
GREEN RECOVERY: A PROGRAM TO CREATE GOOD JOBS AND START BUILDING A LOW-CARBON ECONOMY. Center for American Progress. Web posted September 12, 2008. 08AD1069

As America confronts the current energy crisis, the report shows that the U.S. can create two million jobs by investing in clean energy technologies that will strengthen the economy and fight global warming. It finds that investing in clean energy would create four times as many jobs as spending the same amount of money within the oil industry. The program could be paid for with proceeds from auctions of carbon permits under a global

warming cap-and-trade program that will drive private investments into clean energy and raise public revenue through carbon permit auctions.

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2008/09/pdf/green_recovery.pdf
[PDF format, 42 pages].

CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND POPULATION (CEP)



U.S. POPULATION, ENERGY & CLIMATE CHANGE. By Victoria D. Markham. Center for Environment & Population, September 2008.

This report is the first in a series of publications on U.S. Population, Energy and Climate Change by the Center for Environment and Population (CEP). The series contains brief, easy-to-read reports, fact sheets, and briefing materials on population and climate change trends in the U.S. and globally. Activities are also being conducted to integrate the information into U.S. policy and public action at the

local, national and international levels.

<http://www.cepnet.org/documents/USPopulationEnergyandClimateChangeReportCEP.pdf>

CENTER FOR PUBLIC INTEGRITY

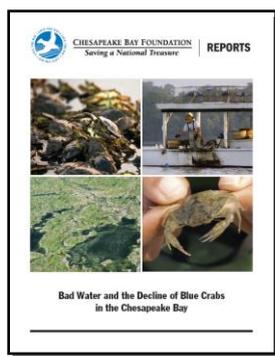


THE HIDDEN COSTS OF CLEAN COAL: THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND HUMAN DISASTER OF LONGWALL MINING. Center for Public Integrity. January 13, 2009. 09AD406

Longwall mining is a highly productive underground process employed to quickly and cheaply extract coal, but the practice comes with a steep environmental price, as documented in a year-long investigation by the Center for Public Integrity. The report turns a spotlight on a devastating mining method that most Americans outside northern Appalachia have never heard of. An estimated 10 percent of all U.S. electricity now depends on coal from longwall mining, which has grown over the years in Appalachia and in the states of Illinois, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico.

<http://www.publicintegrity.org/investigations/longwall/>
[HTML format with multiple links, various paging].

CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION



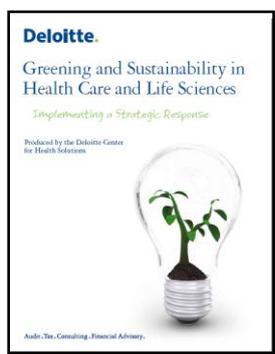
BAD WATER AND THE DECLINE OF BLUE CRABS IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY. Chesapeake Bay Foundation. December 29, 2008. 09AD366

Pollution has been a major factor in the decline of the Chesapeake Bay's blue crab population, according to the report. The report shows data gathered from interviews with 12 leading crab researchers and water quality experts, as well as federal government data and scientific papers. The Bay's blue crab population has plummeted from 791 million in 1990 to 260 million in 2007. Key findings include that

dead zones kill an estimated 75,000 tons of bottom-dwelling clams and worms each year, enough to feed 60 million crabs annually.

http://www.cbf.org/site/DocServer/1229crab_report.pdf?docID=13823
[PDF format, 24 pages].

DELOITTE LLP.



GREENING AND SUSTAINABILITY IN HEALTH CARE AND LIFE SCIENCES: IMPLEMENTING A STRATEGIC RESPONSE. Deloitte LLP. Web posted January 1, 2009. 09AD359

The report shows that greening efforts in health care organizations are appropriate and necessary since they are good for business and the right thing to do for employees and communities. The report explores leading practices of companies in several industries where greening efforts are mature, and compares and contrasts them with efforts of health care organizations.

http://www.deloitte.com/dtt/cda/doc/content/us_chs_Greening_Sustainability_HealthCare_1208.pdf [PDF format, 29 pages].

ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP

FIRE RETARDANTS IN TODDLERS AND THEIR MOTHERS. Environmental Working Group. Web posted September 4, 2008. 08AD1046

Environmental Working Group (EWG) found that toddlers and pre-schoolers typically had 3 times more of the neuron toxic compounds in their blood than their mothers. The study suggests that U.S. children 1 to 4 years of age bear the heaviest burden of flame retardant pollution in the industrialized world. The tests found the fire retardant, Deca, banned in Europe but unregulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, more often and in higher amounts in U.S. children than their mothers.

<http://www.ewg.org/book/export/html/26900> [HTML format, various paging].

EMBRY RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY

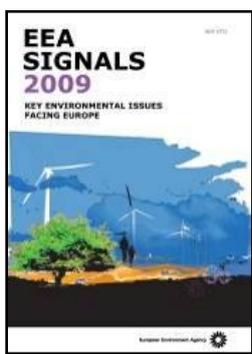


AIRPORT WILDLIFE MITIGATION – ‘BIRDSTRIKE NEWS YOU CAN USE.’ Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. Web posted January 20, 2009. 09AD428

The study suggests changes needed to effectively reduce the hazard of 35,000 birdstrikes a year.

http://wildlife.pr.erau.edu/newsletters/newsletter_december_08.pdf
[PDF format, 8 pages].

EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



EEA SIGNALS 2009, KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES FACING EUROPE. Report. EEA (European Environment Agency) 09 Jan 2009

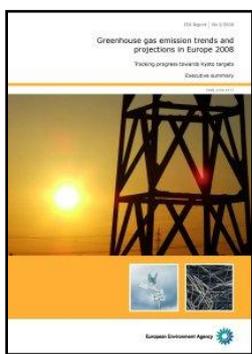
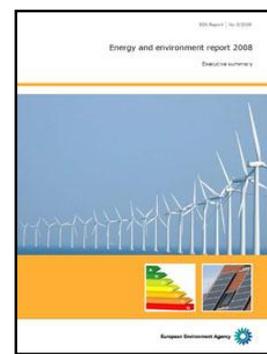
Signals is published by the European Environment Agency (EEA) at the start of each year and provides snapshot stories on issues of interest both to the environmental policy debate and the wider public for the upcoming year.

<http://reports.eea.europa.eu/signals-2009/en>

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2008. EEA (European Environment Agency), November 20, 2008

This report assesses the key drivers, environmental pressures and some impacts from the production and consumption of energy, taking into account the main objectives of the European policy on energy and environment including: security of supply, competitiveness, increased energy efficiency and renewable energy, and environmental sustainability. The report addresses six main policy questions and presents trends existing within the EU compared to other countries.

http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2008_6/en



GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS IN EUROPE 2008. EEA (European Environment Agency), October 16, 2008

This report presents an assessment of the current and projected progress of EU Member States, EU candidate countries and other EEA member countries towards their respective targets under the Kyoto Protocol and of progress towards the EU target for 2020. This is based on their past greenhouse gas emissions between 1990 and 2006, and the projected

greenhouse gas emissions of these countries during the Kyoto commitment period 2008-2012 and for 2020, derived from data and related information they provided before 1 June 2008.
http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2008_5/en

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE COMMUNICATION TOWARDS A COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE CHANGE AGREEMENT IN COPENHAGEN. EC Memo, 28/01/2009

In the paper outlining its position ahead of international climate talks, the commission says the costs of containing global warming are likely to soar in years to come – adding €175bn to the world's annual bill by 2020. More than half that amount will be needed in developing countries like China and India.

The EU and other economic powers should help defray the costs of reducing greenhouse gases emitted by developing nations.

The paper presents various options for increasing international funding – including requiring countries to contribute according to their income and level of emissions. Another option would be to auction some emission allowances on a carbon market.

In return, all developing nations – except the very poorest – should limit growth in emissions by adopting development strategies that produce fewer greenhouse gases. These strategies should include curbing tropical deforestation, as trees and plants absorb carbon dioxide.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/09/34&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

GREATER YELLOWSTONE COMMISSION

FEDERAL COURT RULES CLEAN AIR, WILDLIFE, QUIET MUST COME FIRST IN AMERICA'S OLDEST NATIONAL PARK. Greater Yellowstone Commission. Web posted September 16, 2008. 08AD1087

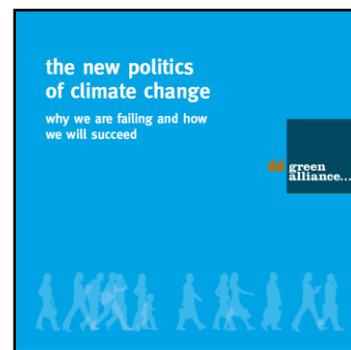
A federal court ruled on Sept. 15, 2008 that the Bush Administration's decision authorizing snowmobile use in Yellowstone National Park violates the fundamental legal responsibility of the National Park Service to give top priority to conservation of national park resources. The court found that the Administration authorized snowmobile use despite scientific conclusions by the National Park Service that its decision would result in significant increases in disruptive noise, unhealthy exhaust and harm to Yellowstone's animals.

http://news.greateryellowstone.org/files/Winter_Use_GYC-9-15.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

GREEN ALLIANCE

THE NEW POLITICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE. Green Alliance. Stephen Hale. January 10, 2009. 09AD388

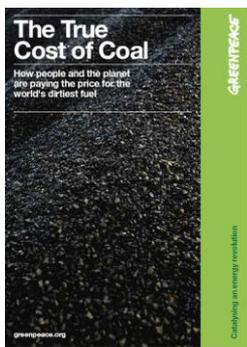
The pamphlet outlines a new approach to persuading politicians to act on climate change. It contends that only governments have the power to avert catastrophic climate change. However, despite initiatives and



commitments from government, the progress is slow. It is crucial to mobilize the broad range of organizations that make up the other sector. Commitment and action across the sector, from the local to the international level, is critical to securing the political action that is needed to tackle climate change.

<http://www.greenalliance.org.uk/uploadedFiles/Publications/reports/The%20new%20Politics%20of%20climate%20change%202008.pdf>

GREENPEACE



THE TRUE COST OF COAL. Greenpeace. Web posted December 1, 2008. 09AD225

According to the report, the global cost of coal was at least €360 billion last year alone. The figure arrives from CO2 damage costs, health costs and mining accidents. Coal burning has existed for centuries, and its use as a fuel has been recorded since the 1100s. It powered the Industrial Revolution, changing the course of first Britain, and then the world, in the process. In the U.S., the first coal-fired power plant opened on the shores of the lower East River in New York City in September 1882.

Today, coal is used to produce nearly 40% of the world's electricity. However, burning coal is one of the most harmful practices on the planet.

<http://www.greenpeace.org/raw/content/international/press/reports/true-cost-coal.pdf>

HERITAGE FOUNDATION



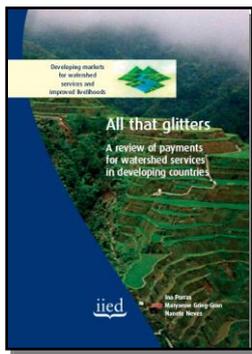
GREEN STIMULUS: TYING ECONOMIC PACKAGE TO ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT PLAN IS NOT WORKABLE. Ben Lieberman. Heritage Foundation WebMemo #2245, January 26, 2009

First and foremost, it should be noted that a green stimulus is an inherent contradiction in terms. The environmental movement itself is, by design, anti-growth. After all, these are the individuals and organizations that regularly fight to stop new factories, power plants, and construction projects. For them, environmental concerns, real or

exaggerated, almost always trump economic ones, and it is rare for them to be lacking an excuse to oppose a project. Several leading environmentalists even admit that reduced economic growth is part of their strategy. For example, scientist and activist John Holdren, President Obama's choice for chief science advisor, once stated that "[a] massive campaign must be launched to restore a high-quality environment in North America and to de-develop the United States."

http://www.heritage.org/Research/EnergyandEnvironment/upload/wm_2245.pdf

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT



ALL THAT GLITTERS: A REVIEW OF PAYMENTS FOR WATERSHED SERVICES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. International Institute for Environment. Ina Porras et al. October 2008. 09AD220

A growing international debate calls for downstream beneficiaries of wise upstream land and water use. The report studies in-depth international review and analysis of all accessible ongoing initiatives and advanced proposals for market mechanisms for watershed services.
<http://www.iied.org/pubs/pdfs/13542IIED.pdf>

[PDF format, 138 pages].

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY



STATE OF THE WORLD'S BIRDS. BirdLife International, National Audubon Society. Web posted September 22, 2008. 08AD1076

The report reveals declines in populations of many of the world's most familiar birds. It highlights avian losses worldwide. A staggering 45% of common European birds are declining, and on the other side of the globe, Australian wading birds have seen population losses of 81% in just quarter of a century. In Latin America, the Yellow Cardinal - once common in Argentina - is now classified as globally Endangered.

http://www.birdlife.org/sowb/downloads/SOWB2008_verylowres_part1.pdf

[Part 1, 14 pages].

http://www.birdlife.org/sowb/downloads/SOWB2008_verylowres_part2.pdf

[Part 2, 14 pages].

NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH

CHINA'S PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS. National Bureau of Economic Research. Huifang Tian and John Whalley. October 2008. 09AD137

China is now both the largest and most rapidly growing carbon emitter, and has much higher emission intensity relative to GDP than OECD countries. In the Copenhagen negotiation, there will be strong pressure on China to take on emissions reduction commitments and China's concern will be to do so in ways that allow continuation of a high growth rate and fast development. Larger funds and flexibility in their use will also raise China's willingness to make commitments.

<http://www.nber.org/papers/w14460.pdf>

[PDF format, 37 pages].

NATIONAL CENTER FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

POLE-TO-POLE FLIGHTS PROVIDE FIRST GLOBAL PICTURE OF GREENHOUSE GASES. NCAR



BOULDER—A team of scientists has successfully flown from the Arctic to the Antarctic this month aboard an advanced research aircraft, the first step in a three-year project to make the most extensive airborne measurements of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases to date. The findings will help scientists determine where and when greenhouse gases enter and leave the atmosphere, a critical prerequisite for taking steps to curb global warming.

This photo of the Arctic was taken from the HIAPER aircraft during the HIPPO mission. HIAPER is also known as the NSF/NCAR G-V. (©UCAR.)

"This mission is providing us with amazing data about carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from all over the world," says Britton Stephens, a scientist with the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) and one of the project's co-principal investigators. "This will lead to improved predictions about greenhouse gases and enable society to make better decisions about climate change."

<http://www.ucar.edu/news/releases/2009/hippo.jsp>

NATIONAL CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

PENSIONS IN PERIL: ARE STATE OFFICIALS RISKING PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT BENEFITS BY PLAYING GLOBAL WARMING POLITICS? National Center for Public Policy Research. Steven J. Milloy and Thomas Borelli. Web posted September 29, 2008. 09AD039

Global warming has emerged as an important issue for investors, including state and local pension funds. Although global warming regulation appears likely to cause significant adverse impacts to the broad economy and stock market, a substantial minority of state and local pension funds are nonetheless actively promoting global warming regulation, while the majority of state and local pension funds have yet to promote or oppose such regulation. Compounding this problem is the fact that many of these pension fund systems are dangerously underfunded and are relying on predicted investment returns that are unlikely to occur.

<http://www.nationalcenter.org/NPA575.html>
[HTML format, various paging].

NASA

NASA MISSION TO HELP UNRAVEL KEY CARBON, CLIMATE MYSTERIES. 01.29.09



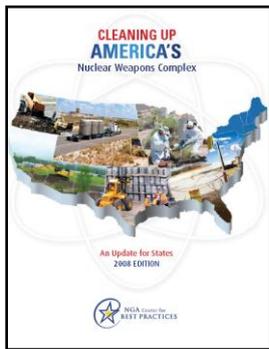
NASA's first spacecraft dedicated to studying atmospheric carbon dioxide is in final preparations for a Feb. 23 launch from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Carbon dioxide is the leading human-produced greenhouse gas driving changes in Earth's climate.

This is an artist's concept of the Orbiting Carbon Observatory.
Image credit: NASA

The Orbiting Carbon Observatory will provide the first complete picture of human and natural carbon dioxide sources as well as their "sinks," the places where carbon dioxide is pulled out of the atmosphere and stored. It will map the global geographic distribution of these sources and sinks and study their changes over time. The measurements will be combined with data from ground stations, aircraft and other satellites to help answer questions about the processes that regulate atmospheric carbon dioxide and its role in Earth's climate and carbon cycle.

http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/oco/news/oco-20090129.html

NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION



CLEANING UP AMERICA'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS COMPLEX: AN UPDATE FOR STATES 2008. National Governors Association. Web posted December 8, 2008. 09AD266

States have made enormous strides treating and disposing of America's Cold War nuclear waste over the past 18 years, but significant challenges and hurdles persist. The report articulates the progress states have made in partnership with the federal government treating, cleaning and disposing of waste throughout America's nuclear weapons complex. It also details recommendations to help

improve this partnership.

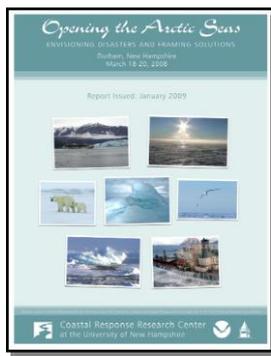
<http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0811NUCLEARCLEANUP.PDF> [PDF format, 40 pages].

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE. National Conference of State Legislature. Web posted 21, 2008. 09AD074

The report summarizes the climatic changes affecting each state, the potential fiscal impact, and the affect of any future climate changes. States are taking the lead to implement policies that address climate change and environmental sustainability. The federal government is likely to enact climate legislation within the next few years.

<http://www.ncsl.org/print/envIRON/ClimatechangeOver.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)



OPENING THE ARCTIC SEAS: ENVISIONING DISASTER & FRAMING SOLUTIONS. New Hampshire Workshop, March 18-20, 2008. NOAA and ORR Report, January 2009

The Coastal Response Research Center, a partnership between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Response and Restoration (ORR) and the University of New Hampshire (UNH), develops new approaches to spill response and restoration through research and synthesis of information. The Center's mission requires it to serve as a hub

for research, development, and technology transfer to the oil spill community. To better guide future efforts, the Center, in cooperation with the U.S. Coast Guard Office of Spill Planning and Preparedness and the U.S. Arctic Research Commission, hosted a workshop to identify key strategies, action items, and research needs for preparedness and response to potential Arctic marine incidents. The March 2008 workshop, entitled "Opening the Arctic Seas: Envisioning Disasters and Framing Solutions," was held at the University of New Hampshire in Durham, NH. This report provides a qualitative analysis of risk factors for five potential marine incidents likely to happen as shipping, tourism, exploration and development of natural resources (e.g., oil, gas, minerals) occur with the retreating Arctic ice cover.

http://www.crrc.unh.edu/workshops/arctic_spill_summit/arctic_summit_report_final.pdf

IRREVERSIBLE CLIMATE CHANGE DUE TO CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS. Susan Solomon, et. al. NOAA, January 26, 2009

A new scientific study led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reaches a powerful conclusion about the climate change caused by future increases of carbon dioxide: to a large extent, there's no going back.

The pioneering study, led by NOAA senior scientist Susan Solomon, shows how changes in surface temperature, rainfall, and sea level are largely irreversible for more than 1,000 years after carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions are completely stopped. The findings appear during the week of January 26 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

"Our study convinced us that current choices regarding carbon dioxide emissions will have legacies that will irreversibly change the planet," said Solomon, who is based at NOAA's Earth System Research Laboratory in Boulder, Colo.

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2009/01/28/0812721106.full.pdf>

GLOBAL TEMPERATURE FOR NOVEMBER FOURTH WARMEST ON RECORD. National Climatic Data Center, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. December 16, 2008. 09AD319

The year 2008 is on track to be one of the 10 warmest years on record for the globe, based on the combined average of worldwide land and ocean surface temperatures, according to a preliminary analysis. For November alone, the month is fourth warmest all-time globally, for the combined land and ocean surface temperature. The early assessment is based on records dating back to 1880.

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2008/20081216_climatestats.html [various paging].



ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON SETS RECORDS. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Web posted November 30, 2008. 09AD232

The 2008 Atlantic Hurricane Season officially comes to a close on Sunday, marking the end of a season that produced a record number of consecutive storms to strike the United States and ranks as one of the more active seasons in the 64 years since

comprehensive records began.

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2008/20081126_hurricaneseason.html
[various paging].



ARCTIC REPORT CARD 2008. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. Web posted October 17, 2008. 09AD061

Temperature increases, a near-record loss of summer sea ice, and a melting of surface ice in Greenland are among some of the evidence of continued warming in the Arctic, according to

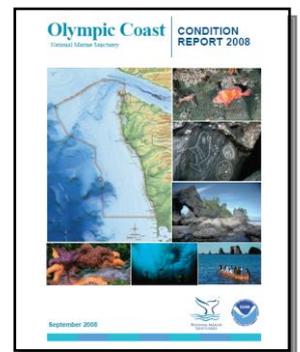
the review. One example of these changes in arctic climate is the autumn air temperatures which are at a record 5 degrees C (9 degrees F) above normal, because of the major loss of sea ice in recent years. The loss of sea ice allows more solar heating of the ocean. That warming of the air and ocean affects land and marine life, and reduces the amount of winter sea ice that lasts into the following summer. The year 2007 was the warmest on record for the Arctic, continuing a general Arctic-wide warming trend that began in the mid-1960s.

<http://www.arctic.noaa.gov/reportcard/index.html> [various paging].

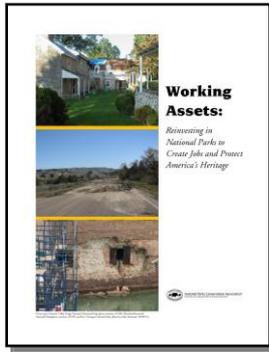
OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY: CONDITION REPORT 2008. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Web posted September 20, 2008. 08AD1088

The study indicates that the overall condition of the sanctuary’s marine life and habitats is “fair to good,” but identifies several emerging threats to sanctuary resources, such as potential oil spills, invasive species, commercial development, climate change, and underwater noise pollution. The study draws from a wide range of experts in fields including water quality, habitat integrity, oil spill prevention, historic preservation, wildlife populations, and others. Some trends are improving because of reduced bottom-trawling pressure resulting from fishing regulations.

http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/library/national/oc_conditionreport08.pdf
[PDF format, 76 pages].



NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION



WORKING ASSETS: REINVESTING IN NATIONAL PARKS TO CREATE JOBS AND PROTECT AMERICA'S HERITAGE. National Parks Conservation Association. December 21, 2008. 09AD336

The new report highlights several of the more than \$2.5 billion worth of job-creating projects in national parks. It encourages Congress and the incoming Obama Administration to include national parks in economic recovery legislation to create jobs and restore our national treasures.

http://www.npca.org/media_center/pdf/stimulus_report-dec_16.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

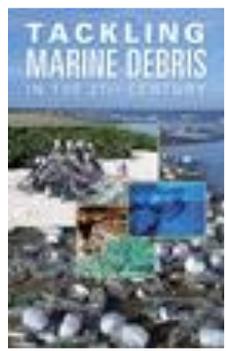
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

REVIEW OF FEDERAL STRATEGY FOR NANOTECHNOLOGY-RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH, AND SAFETY RESEARCH. National Research Council. December 10, 2008. 09AD305

The study finds serious weaknesses in the government's plan for research on the potential health and environmental risks posed by nanomaterials, which are increasingly being used in consumer goods and industry. An effective national plan for identifying and managing potential risks is essential to the successful development and public acceptance of nanotechnology-enabled products, the committee emphasizes. A new national strategic plan is needed that goes beyond federal research to incorporate research from academia, industry, consumer and environmental groups, and other stakeholders, the committee concludes.

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12559#toc
[HTML format with links to full text].

TACKLING MARINE DEBRIS IN THE 21ST CENTURY. National Research Council. Web posted September 19, 2008. 08AD1077



Current measures to prevent and reduce marine debris are inadequate, and the problem will likely worsen, says the congressionally mandated report. The study recommends the United States and the international maritime community to adopt a goal of "zero discharge" of waste into the marine environment, and a system to assess the effectiveness of existing and future marine debris prevention and reduction actions should be implemented.

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12486#toc
[HTML format, 224 pages Full Report]

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



JELLYFISH GONE WILD! National Science Foundation. December 12, 2008. 09AD289

Massive swarms of stinging jellyfish and jellyfish-like animals are transforming many world-class fisheries and tourist destinations into veritable jellytoriums that are intermittently jammed with pulsating, gelatinous creatures. Areas that are currently particularly hard-hit by these squishy animals include Hawaii, the Gulf of Mexico, the east coast of the U.S., the Bering Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, Australia, the Black Sea and other European seas, the Sea of Japan, the North Sea and Namibia. Massive jellyfish swarms—some of which cover hundreds of square miles—have caused injuries and even occasional deaths to water enthusiasts, and have caused serious damage to fisheries, fish farms, marine mines, desalination plants, ships and nuclear power plants.

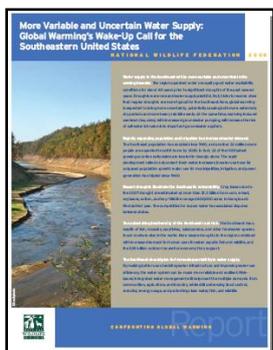
http://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/jellyfish/index.jsp
[HTML format with links to texts and multi-media reports].

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

REPOWER AMERICA WITH GREEN EDUCATION, GREEN JOBS, GREEN SCHOOLS. National Wildlife Federation. January 8, 2009. 09AD416

Economic and education experts join National Wildlife Federation to push for green stimulus investments that would re-power America with green education, green jobs and green schools. Investments in education generate 23.1 jobs per \$1 million in spending, nearly five times more jobs created than oil and natural gas sector spending, according to Robert Pollin, Department of Economics and Political Economy Research Institute, University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

http://www.nwf.org/nwfwebadmin/binaryVault/Education_Fact_Sheet2.pdf
Fact Sheet: Green Education, Green Jobs, Green Schools. [PDF format, 2 pages].
http://www.nwf.org/nwfwebadmin/binaryVault/Campus_Report_Card_Fact_Sheet.pdf
America's Campuses in 2008 [PDF format, 2 pages].



MORE VARIABLE AND UNCERTAIN WATER SUPPLY: GLOBAL WARMING'S WAKE-UP CALL FOR THE SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES. National Wildlife Federation. November 2008. 09AD240

The second major drought of the last decade is a wake-up call for the Southeast United States, showing the region's vulnerability due to its reliance on scarce supplies of fresh water. The region has been operating under the best-case water availability for the last 50 years, during which drought conditions were relatively rare. But, the region has historically experienced regular droughts. Global warming is the future wildcard, potentially causing both more extremely dry periods and more heavy rainfall events. At the same time, warming-induced sea-level rise will increase the risk of saltwater intrusion into important groundwater aquifers.

http://www.nwf.org/nwfwebadmin/binaryVault/NWF_SEWaterSupply_FINAL2.pdf

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL



ONEARTH, Winter 2009. National Resources Defense Council

FEATURE STORIES:

- Loving the West to Death, by David Gessner
- Britain's Elusive Eco-Town Dream, by Bruce Stutz
- How Green Are Your Jeans? by Josie Glausiusz
- "We're Doing God's Science" by Tim Folger

<http://www.onearth.org/09win>



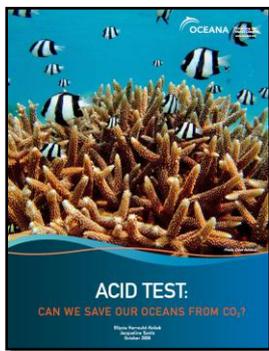
DEEPEST CUTS: REPAIRING HEALTH MONITORING PROGRAMS SLASHED UNDER THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION. Natural Resources Defense Council. Miriam Rotkin-Ellman et al. December 2008. 09AD279

Millions of Americans have been left in the dark about hazardous pollutants being released into their communities, according to the report by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). It provides a comprehensive look at the past administration's systemic cutting of health and environmental programs that monitor toxins across

America. It also evaluates the current state of federal environmental and health monitoring programs in five key areas, air quality, water quality, food safety, toxic substance and human health.

<http://www.nrdc.org/health/deepestcuts/deepestcuts.pdf> [PDF format, 42 pages].

OCEANA



ACID TEST: CAN WE SAVE OUR OCEANS FROM CO2? Ellycia Harrould-Kolieb, Jacqueline Savitz. Oceana, October 2008

While the chemical processes making the oceans more acidic are well understood and accepted, we are just beginning to understand the wide-ranging effects acidification is likely to have on marine wildlife. Increased acidity may not directly kill non-calcifying organisms, but many are likely to be harmed in ways that reduce their overall fitness and ability to survive. These impacts could include decreased growth rate, reduced reproduction, disrupted respiratory and nervous system

function and increased susceptibility to predators and disease, all of which could produce ripple effects through food webs and ecosystems. Ultimately, ocean acidification could transform the oceans, leaving them far less diverse and productive and making the lives and livelihoods of those who depend on them far more uncertain.

http://www.oceana.org/fileadmin/oceana/uploads/Climate_Change/Acid_Test_Report/Acidification_Report.pdf

OVER THE LIMIT: EATING TOO MUCH HIGH-MERCURY FISH. Mercury Policy Project, Oceana. Edward Groth. Web posted December 28, 2008. 09AD354

Real people have been sickened by mercury in fish according to the report, demonstrating the importance of strong FDA advice about mercury in fish. It shares stories like those of Dan Deeter, Will Smith and Wendy Moro, who each ate enough store-bought fish to suffer mercury's effects, according to their physicians. From New Jersey to Wisconsin to California, these stories show that seafood contamination is a very real problem that should not be ignored.

<http://www.oceana.org/fileadmin/oceana/uploads/mercury/reports/OvertheLimit.pdf>
[PDF format, 54 pages].

SEA THE VALUE: QUALIFYING THE VALUE OF MARINE LIFE TO DIVERS. Oceana. Lisa White. Web posted August 29, 2008. 08AD1016

The report shows that scuba divers are willing to pay more to see healthy corals, sharks and sea turtles. Divers are avid participants in ecotourism and show a great willingness to protect all that inhabits the oceans. Scuba divers contribute significant dollars to coastal economies each year through dive-related vacations.

http://www.oceana.org/fileadmin/oceana/uploads/destructive_trawling/dive/Lisa_White_mp_8_5.pdf [PDF format, 37 pages].

ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT'S (OECD)



CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION; WHAT DO WE DO? OECD 2008

In this document, the OECD expands its analysis in two important domains: first, it focuses on the role of technological innovation in bringing down the costs of climate change mitigation over time. It argues that a concerted research and development effort can indeed be expected to yield important benefits, but not by itself. The pricing of GHG emissions is critical for ensuring that new technologies, once developed, are rapidly deployed where they are most needed. The second new element is an analysis of carbon leakage: that is, the concern that GHG-intensive industries located in countries that take action will lose competitiveness vis-à-vis competitors in countries that do not. The OECD assessment is that while such effects are of concern, they diminish quite rapidly as the set of countries participating in climate change mitigation efforts grows. Excluding energy-intensive industries from GHG emission abatement rules is not economically efficient because it substantially increases abatement costs for the economy as a whole. In the absence of wide country participation in mitigation action, sector-specific arrangements for some of these industries may be an appropriate instrument for reducing carbon-leakage concerns. But it is clearly second best.

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/30/41/41753450.pdf>

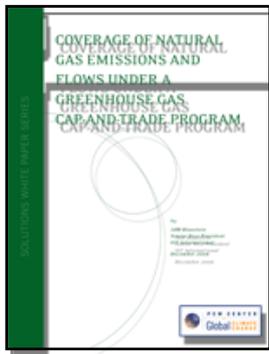
ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE REVIEWS: HUNGARY. OECD 2008

The 2008 Environmental Performance Review of Hungary examines Hungary's progress since the previous OECD Environmental Performance Review in 2000, and the extent to which the country has met its domestic objectives and honoured its international commitments. The forthcoming report also reviews Hungary's progress in the context of the OECD Environmental Strategy for the First Decade of the 21st Century. Some 46 recommendations are made that should contribute to further environmental progress in Hungary. This book is part of the OECD Environmental Performance Reviews Programme which conducts peer reviews of environmental conditions and progress in each

member country. The analyses presented are supported by a broad range of economic and environmental data and lead to recommendations for further environmental and sustainable development progress.

Conclusions and recommendations are available online:

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/35/8/40917381.pdf>

PEW CENTER ON GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

COVERAGE OF NATURAL GAS EMISSIONS & FLOWS UNDER A GHG CAP-AND-TRADE PROGRAM. Joel Bluestein. Pew Center on Global Climate Change, December 2008

This paper provides an overview of the different point-of-regulation options for covering greenhouse gas emissions from natural gas under a cap-and-trade program. The paper assesses the percentage of emissions covered under the different options and the type and number of entities and facilities regulated.

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/NaturalGasPointofRegulation09.pdf>



COAL INITIATIVE REPORTS: A RESOURCE AND TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT OF COAL UTILIZATION IN INDIA. Pew Center on Global Climate Change. Ananth P. Chikkatur. October 2008. 09AD141

Electricity production in India is projected to expand dramatically in the near term to energize new industrial development, while also easing the energy shortages throughout the country. Much of the new growth in electricity production will be fueled by domestic coal resources; however, there is worldwide concern about increased coal use, as greater carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from coal combustion will exacerbate climate change. The study reviews coal utilization in India and examines current and emerging coal power technologies with near- and long-term potential for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from coal power generation.

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/india-coal-technology.pdf> [PDF format, 52 pages].

PEW ENVIRONMENT GROUP

COSTS OF ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING IN EU FISHERIES. Pew Environment Group. Rob Tinch et al. November 2008. 09AD138

According to the research, more than 27,000 new jobs could be created in the European Union (EU) through the elimination of Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing. IUU fishing takes many forms, including fishing without a license, misreporting of catches, fishing in closed areas or with illegal gear, and taking undersized fish. The research includes selected costs and key stocks where clear evidence of IUU fishing exists. However, the true costs of IUU fishing are likely to be considerably higher than these estimates.

http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Protecting_ocean_life/eftec_Costs_IUU_Fishing.pdf

RAND



BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT: Costs, Revenues, and Benefits of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. By: Lloyd Dixon et. al. Monograph. RAND, November 2008

The Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) is an ambitious effort to balance development and environmental concerns in an area of rapid urban growth. In return for setting up a 500,000-acre conservation reserve, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game

granted the county and cities in western Riverside County a 75-year “take” permit for endangered species. The take permit allows the cities and county to approve development projects outside the reserve that could negatively affect 146 sensitive plant and animal species. The plan is supposed to speed the frequently time-consuming and litigious process of permitting new highway and development projects while establishing an integrated conservation reserve rather than the patchwork of uncoordinated reserves that was so often the case in the past. The Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) acquires land for and manages the reserve. This monograph examines the value of the land needed for the reserve, the financial consequences of acquiring the land over different periods of time, and the projected costs of operating the reserve.

<http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/MG816/>

ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. RAND Corporation. Web posted October 10, 2008 09AD052

Alternative sources of fossil fuels such as oil sands and coal-to-liquids have significant economic promise, but the environmental consequences must also be considered, according to the study. It provides a review of coal-to-liquids and Canadian oil sands technologies, considers possible impacts on fuel costs from future limitations on carbon dioxide emissions, and compares costs of the alternative fossil fuels to conventional petroleum fuels in 2025. Development of oil sands can also cause large-scale disturbances of land and habitat.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/2008/RAND_TR580.pdf
[PDF format, 98 pages].



THE ARMY'S GREEN WARRIORS. RAND Corporation. September 23, 2008. 09AD006

The U.S. Army has much to gain by carefully integrating environmental considerations into operational concepts, plans, and procedures during contingency operations. Evidence from Iraq, Afghanistan, and other conflicts suggests that a shift to a comprehensive approach to environmental considerations that encompasses policy, culture, planning, training, and investment can boost overall mission success.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/2008/RAND_RB9335.pdf

RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE



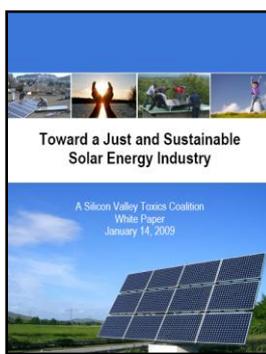
CLIMATE CHANGE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS: NEW ROLES FOR EARTH SCIENCE. Molly K. Macauley. Issue Brief. Resources for the Future, January 2009

Applications of Earth science data can inform and advance effective climate policy, beyond their already significant importance in understanding climate phenomena. Federal agencies are likely soon to incorporate climate-related concerns in the stewardship, management, and regulation of natural and environmental resources. The specific details of congressional policy proposals are still unclear but general

themes include a possible cap-and-trade system, offsets, and emphasis on development and deployment of renewable energy. Earth science applications can inform design, implementation, assessment, and evaluation of all of these policy dimensions. Unfortunately, the congressional staff involved in climate policy scarcely, if at all, overlap with their counterparts in the committees overseeing Earth science and its applications. In fact, to ensure effective policy outcomes,

http://www.rff.org/RFF/Documents/RFF-IB-09-02_WEB.pdf

SILICON VALLEY TOXICS COALITION

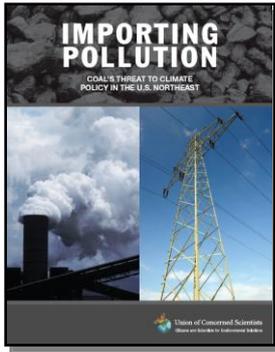


TOWARD A JUST AND SUSTAINABLE SOLAR ENERGY INDUSTRY. Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition. Dustin Mulvaney et al. January 14, 2009. 09AD443

The report documents and analyzes the environmental and health hazards of solar panel systems in a supposed “win-win” solution to global warming. It covers the health and safety concerns as well as recommendations for building a just and sustainable solar energy industry.

http://www.eto toxics.org/site/DocServer/Silicon_Valley_Toxics_Coalition_-_Toward_a_Just_and_Sust.pdf?docID=821

UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS



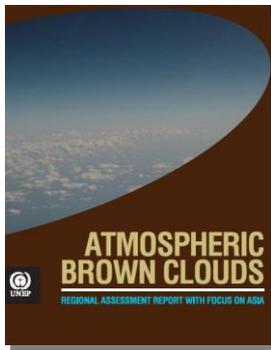
IMPORTING POLLUTION: COALS'S THREAT TO CLIMATE POLICY IN THE U.S. NORTHEAST. Union of Concerned Scientists. December 2008. Item#09AD352

The Northeast's cap-and-trade system for global warming pollution will be compromised unless utilities are prevented from importing additional coal-fired electricity, according to the report. The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), which applies to power plants in 10 Northeastern states, does not preclude the utilities that supply electricity to Northeast homes and businesses from buying more electricity from coal-fired

power plants outside the region. That could increase the carbon dioxide emissions from those plants outside the region, offsetting emissions reductions under RGGI.

http://www.ucsusa.org/assets/documents/clean_energy/importing-pollution_report.pdf
[PDF format, 44 pages].

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)



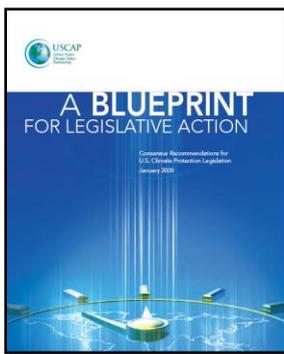
ATMOSPHERIC BROWN CLOUDS: REGIONAL ASSESSMENT REPORT WITH FOCUS ON ASIA. United Nations Environment Programme. November 13, 2008. 09AD174

According to the study, cities from Beijing to New Delhi are getting darker, glaciers in ranges like the Himalayas are melting faster and weather systems becoming more extreme, in part, due to the combined effects of man-made Atmospheric Brown Clouds (ABCs) and greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. These are among the conclusions of scientists studying a more than three km-thick layer of soot and

other manmade particles that stretches from the Arabian Peninsula to China and the western Pacific Ocean.

<http://www.unep.org/pdf/ABCsummaryFinal.pdf> [PDF format, 44 pages].

U.S. CLIMATE ACTION PARTNERSHIP (USCAP)



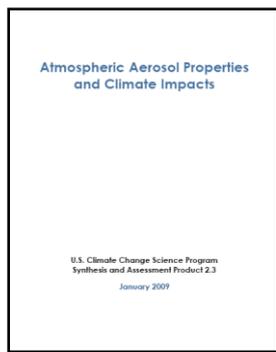
A BLUEPRINT FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION LEGISLATION. USCAP, January 2009

The comprehensive and detailed set of integrated policy recommendations for developing legislation, that would create an environmentally effective and economically sustainable national climate protection program, echoes the sense of urgency that President-elect Obama has articulated regarding the need for a cap on greenhouse gas emissions. Developed through two years of intensive analysis and consensus-building among 26 corporations and five

environmental organizations, the Blueprint offers policymakers a clear path forward endorsed by a coalition representing a broad swath of the economy and diverse environmental interests.

http://www.us-cap.org/pdf/USCAP_Blueprint.pdf

U.S. CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE PROGRAM



ATMOSPHERIC AEROSOL PROPERTIES AND CLIMATE IMPACTS. U.S. Climate Change Science Program. Mian Chin. January 2009. 09AD430

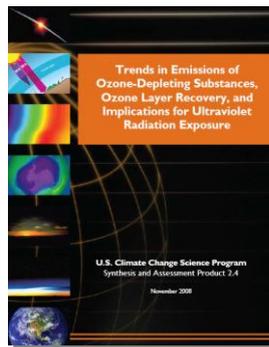
Scientists need a more detailed understanding of how human-produced atmospheric particles, called aerosols, affect climate in order to produce better predictions of the Earth's future climate, according to the report. "The influence of aerosols on climate is not yet adequately taken into account in our computer predictions of climate," said Mian Chin, report coordinating lead author.

<http://downloads.climate-science.gov/sap/sap2-3/sap2-3-final-report-all.pdf>
[PDF format, 149 pages].

ABRUPT CLIMATE CHANGE. U.S. Climate Change Science Program and the Subcommittee on Global Change Research. December 19, 2008. 09AD317

The United States faces the potential for abrupt climate change in the 21st century that could pose clear risks to society in terms of our ability to adapt. "Abrupt" changes can occur over decades or less, persist for decades more, and cause substantial disruptions to human and natural systems. The report, based on an assessment of published science literature, makes conclusions about the potential for abrupt climate changes from global warming during this century.

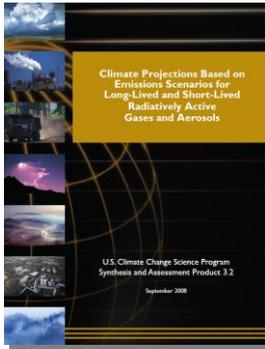
<http://downloads.climate-science.gov/sap/sap3-4/sap3-4-final-report-all.pdf>
[PDF format, 477 pages].



TRENDS IN EMISSIONS OF OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES, OZONE LAYER RECOVERY, AND IMPLICATIONS FOR ULTRAVIOLET RADIATION EXPOSURE. U.S. Climate Change Science Program. November 2008. 09AD219

A new NOAA-led assessment of the global ozone layer says the U.S. has reduced by 97-98 percent the production of ozone damaging substances since the late 1980s. The assessment is one in a series of synthesis and assessment reports coordinated by the U.S. Climate Change Science Program. The report also offers a glimpse into expectations for recovery of the ozone layer in a changing climate, as well as the first detailed look at the U.S. role in emitting, and reducing the emissions of, the chemicals that deplete the ozone layer. The ozone layer, which surrounds the globe about 10-15 miles above the surface, protects living things from the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays.

<http://downloads.climate-science.gov/sap/sap2-4/sap2-4-final-all.pdf>
[PDF format, 240 pages].



CLIMATE PROJECTIONS BASED ON EMISSIONS SCENARIOS FOR LONG-LIVED AND SHORT-LIVED RADIATIVELY ACTIVE GASES AND AEROSOLS. U.S. Climate Change Science Program, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association. Hiram Levy II et al. September 2008. 08AD1032

Short-lived gases and particle pollutants, which stay in the atmosphere for just days or weeks, have a greater influence on Earth’s climate than previously thought, according to the report. Such short-lived pollution includes black carbon (soot), low-altitude ozone, nitrates and sulfates. Each type of pollution influences surface temperatures differently, from the cooling influence of sulfate particles, which tend to reflect sunlight, to the warming characteristics of heat-absorbing black carbon. The report also says that while these pollutants are generated locally they will have global climate implications.

<http://downloads.climate-science.gov/sap/sap3-2/sap3-2-final-report-all.pdf>
[PDF format, 116 pages].

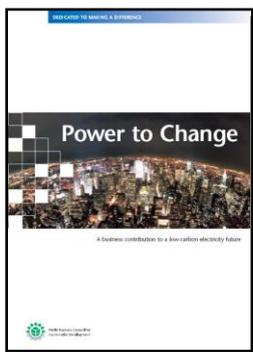
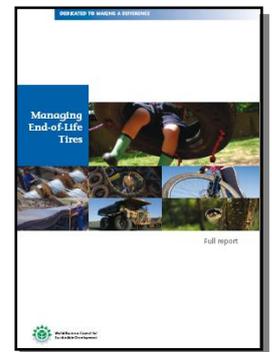
WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

MANAGING END-OF-LIFE TIRES. A Report. WBCSD, December 2008

Globally, an estimated 1 billion tires reach the end of their useful lives on vehicles each year. Disposal of these end-of-life tires (ELTs) in an environmentally sound and productive way continues to be a high priority of the tire business. Although recovery rates are as high as 85% in several regions, effective management is not yet commonplace in every country in the world.

Recognizing the varied ELT management systems in place around the world, and the need for more information on ELTs and their management by the public, other industries and governments, the WBCSD Tire Industry Project Group has put together an issue overview. The report (2.2 MB) outlines what ELTs are, what environmental impacts they can have, and what has been and can be done to ensure they are properly managed.

http://www.wbcd.org/DocRoot/IBTHZFGcpBK50xTDXlpS/EndOfLifeTires_171208.pdf



POWER TO CHANGE. A Report. WBCSD, December 2008

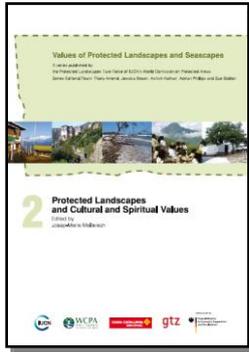
This report shows that enough low-carbon technologies exist to help the world avert damaging climate change, but that strong policy is needed to support their rapid deployment. It contains a comprehensive comparison of existing and potential technologies with a very specific outline of policies and measures to drive large-scale technological development and deployment worldwide.

The investment needed for capital replacement and additional infrastructure development has been estimated at \$US11.6 trillion by 2030. The report highlights that this presents a significant opportunity to direct investments towards low-carbon technologies. It was developed by the members of the Electricity Utilities Sector Project who have taken part in a “technology-by-technology” analysis to

determine what policies will be needed at national and international levels to deploy the technologies on the required scale.

<http://www.wbcds.org/DocRoot/I6cYIZ9uTR3phChS7cRC/PowerToChange-Report.pdf>

THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION (IUCN)



PROTECTED LANDSCAPES AND CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL VALUES. Values of Protected Landscapes and Seascapes Series No 2. Editor Josep-Maria Mallarach. IUCN, 16 January 2009

This is the second volume in the new series on the Values of Protected Landscapes and Seascapes produced by the Protected Landscapes Task Force of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA). In launching the series early in 2008, we explained the rationale behind protected landscapes: some lived-in landscapes are so important for conservation and sustainable development that they deserve special

protection and IUCN has recognized such landscapes in which effective national or local conservation measures are already in place as Category V protected areas: Protected Landscape and Seascapes.

<http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2008-055.pdf>



GOVERNANCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY : ISSUES, CHALLENGES, SUCCESSES. Bosselmann, Klaus ; Engel, Ron ; Taylor, Prue. IUCN, 08 January 2009

This book makes an important contribution to the on-going discussions on environmental governance, in particular by providing consideration of concepts that are critical to our understanding of how societies respond to environmental challenges. Case studies present the experiences of people and communities as they address environmental issues and demonstrate a number of different governance models. It

invites all those engaged in environmental issues to begin a renewed dialogue on the issue of governance for sustainability in order to seek real solutions on the ground.

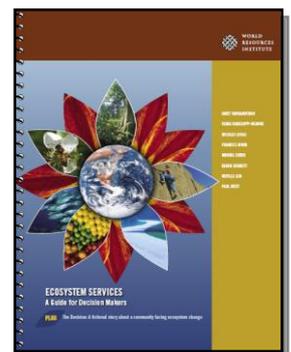
<http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/EPLP-070.pdf>

WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

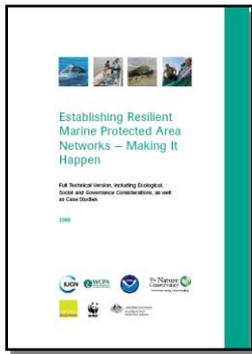
ECOSYSTEM SERVICES: A GUIDE FOR DECISION MAKERS. World Resources Institute. Janet Rananathan et al. Web posted October 7, 2008. 09AD021

Development and the environment have traditionally been managed separately, but the report guides decision makers in how this can be reconciled to increase prosperity and protect the planet. The authors contend that development planners often assume that the natural assets that development depends upon will always be there. Conservationists, on the other hand, are often preoccupied with minimizing the negative impacts of development on nature or putting it off limits to people. The guide uses ecosystem services - the benefits of nature - to make the link between nature and development.

http://pdf.wri.org/ecosystem_services_guide_for_decisionmakers.pdf [PDF format, 96 pages].



WORLD WILDLIFE FEDERATION



ESTABLISHING RESILIENT MARINE PROTECTED AREA NETWORKS. – MAKING IT HAPPEN. World Wildlife Federation. October 9, 2008. 09AD044

The world depends upon healthy ocean ecosystems: either as a source of food or revenue, or as a key shaper and regulator of climate and weather. This dependency and the need to embrace sustainable development led nations of the world to agree to a series of high-level political commitments for marine conservation and marine protected areas (MPAs).

The study, which has pooled global experience on MPAs, is intended to be useful to countries and their various organizations in helping them build effective networks of MPAs. It provides real-life examples from around the globe and outlines the steps necessary to turn political ambitions into reality.

http://assets.panda.org/downloads/mpas_report_making_it_happen.pdf

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND



FIRST CONTACT IN THE GREATER MEKONG: NEW SPECIES DISCOVERIES. World Wildlife Fund. December 15, 2008. 09AD296

A rat thought extinct for 11 million years and a hot-pink, cyanide-producing dragon millipede are among a thousand new species discovered in the Greater Mekong Region of Southeast

Asia in the last decade, according to the report. It reports that 1068 species were discovered or newly identified by science between 1997 and 2007, which averages two new species a week. This includes the world's largest huntsman spider, with a foot-long leg span and the Annamite Striped Rabbit, one of several new mammal species found here. New mammal discoveries are a rarity in modern science.

<http://www.worldwildlife.org/who/media/press/2008/WWFBinaryitem10994.pdf>

UNDERSTANDING AND MITIGATING VULNERABLE BYCATCH IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN TRAWL AND LONGLINE FISHERIES. World Wildlife Fund. Samantha Petersen et al. Web posted September 4, 2008. 08AD1018

The survival chances of the albatross, now officially the most threatened seabird family in the world, have been improved. At least 28 species of albatross and petrel have been caught by South African fisheries, of which 13 are threatened with extinction. The birds are caught trying to retrieve bait from long line fishing hooks, or are injured or killed during trawling operations. The findings help accurately identify management measures to reduce the wasteful killing of these magnificent birds while not unnecessarily disrupting fishing activities or impacting other vulnerable marine life like turtles and sharks.

http://assets.panda.org/downloads/53_understanding_and_mitigating_vulnerable_bycatch_in_southern_african_trawl_and_longlin.pdf

ARTICLES FROM U.S. JOURNALS

ENDANGERED SPECIES. Dorroh, Jennifer. *American Journalism Review*, vol. 30, no. 6, December 2008-January 2009, pp. 20-27 AA09002

Summary: Under pressure to cut costs, more newspapers are cutting their Washington bureaus. And while the reporters experienced at covering the nation's capital go on to find jobs with niche markets, they are not informing the general public any longer. The sad outcome endangers American democracy, experts say, because only those in power are informed about what is happening and how to control it. Others say that those most interested in politics can get all the information they need from issue-oriented organizations, Internet sources and the contributions of online "citizen journalists." Currently available online at <http://www.ajr.org/Article.asp?id=4645>

THINK AGAIN: CLIMATE CHANGE. Mckibben, Bill. *Foreign Policy* January/February 2009 AA09006

Summary: 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. He notes that there is no doubt left among the scientific community that global warming is a reality; many scientists feel that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's latest report is too conservative. 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."

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

THE PYGMIES' PLIGHT. Raffaele, Paul. *Smithsonian* Vol. 39, no. 9, December 2008, pp. 70-77 AA08444

Summary: Vague accounts of the diminutive Pygmies of the African jungles can be found in the works of Homer, but not until the mid-19th century was their existence verified to the outside world. Today, the Pygmies' existence, along with that of African wildlife, is threatened by encroachment; Pygmies are also subject to prejudice and violence from Bantus, as taller Africans are known. The author notes that the Pygmies are the largest group of hunter-gatherers left on Earth, but their traditional ways are being abandoned as the equatorial lands they have inhabited for thousands of years are lost to them by the declaration of national preserves and the activities of logging companies. A nongovernmental organization in Uganda is working to protect the interest of the Batwa, the largest Pygmy tribe with some 80,000 members -- but its representative tells the author that the only way for their people to survive is to adopt the ways of the dominant Bantu.

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/people-places/34347839.html>

**THE TUNGUSKA MYSTERY. Gasperini, Luca Et Al. *Scientific American* June 2008
AA08385**

Summary: Exactly 100 years ago a comet or an asteroid exploded a few kilometers above the Tunguska region of central Siberia, leaving a huge zone of destruction. Despite many searches, no one has found any remnant of the impact body. Such evidence could help scientists gauge the danger posed today by medium-size comets or asteroids. A team of Italian scientists has found evidence of a possible impact crater about 10 kilometers from ground zero. They will soon return to recover what may be a fragment of the cosmic object. Currently available online at <http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=the-tunguska-mystery>

**FACING THE FRESHWATER CRISIS. Rogers, Peter. *Scientific American* August 2008
AA08278**

Summary: Global freshwater resources are threatened by rising demands from many quarters. Growing populations need ever more water for drinking, hygiene, sanitation, food production and industry. Climate change, meanwhile, is expected to contribute to droughts. Policymakers need to figure out how to supply water without degrading the natural ecosystems that provide it. Existing low-tech approaches can help prevent scarcity, as can ways to boost supplies, such as improved methods to desalinate water. But governments at all levels need to start setting policies and making investments in infrastructure for water conservation now. Currently available online at <http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=facing-the-freshwater-crisis>

**CAPTAINS' LOGS YIELD CLIMATE CLUES. Leake, Jonathan. *Sunday Times*/
London, August 3, 2008 AA08263**

Summary: Thousands of British Royal Navy logbooks that have survived from the 17th century onward are emerging as one of the world's best sources for long-term weather data. The discovery was made by a group of British academics and U.K. Meteorological Office scientists who are seeking new ways to plot historic changes in climate. A preliminary study of 6,000 logbooks has produced results that raise questions about climate change and whether natural variations or people are responsible for short-term warming and cooling. The ships' logs also shed light on extreme weather events like hurricanes. Currently available online at <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/environment/article4449527.ece?print=yes&randnum=1217852177312>

More about environmental issues:

<http://science.america.gov/science/environ/index.html>

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