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Environmental Issues

June 2009

THE COPENHAGEN CALL

Presented at the World Business Summit on Climate Change
Copenhagen, 24-26 May 2009



AP Photo/POLFOTO

Global business leaders assembled in Copenhagen called for ambitious, global action on climate change.

As the World Business Summit on Climate Change drew to a close, business announced that a new global climate treaty must set bold targets for emissions reductions by 2020 and 2050, limiting the global average rise in temperature to a maximum of 2°C compared to pre-industrial levels. This requires immediate and substantial action leading to an abatement of around 17Gt versus business-as-usual by 2020, they said.

Emissions reduction at this scale will profoundly affect business but the "Call" states that business leaders stand ready to make those changes and support ambitious political decisions that support economic recovery and safeguard the planet.

This and further recommendations form the basis of "The Copenhagen Call" – a concise statement, which sets out the elements business believes are required for an effective new global climate treaty to be forged.

<http://www.copenhagenclimatecouncil.com/get-informed/news/text-of-the-copenhagen-call.htm>

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2009

World Environment Day (WED) was established by the UN General Assembly in 1972 to mark the opening of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment. Commemorated yearly on 5 June, WED is one of the principal vehicles through which the United Nations stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and action. The day's agenda is to:

1. Give a human face to environmental issues;
2. Empower people to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development;
3. Promote an understanding that communities are pivotal to changing attitudes towards environmental issues;
4. Advocate partnership which will ensure all nations and peoples enjoy a safer and more prosperous future.

The theme for WED 2009 is 'Your Planet Needs You-UNite to Combat Climate Change'. It reflects the urgency for nations to agree on a new deal at the crucial climate convention meeting in Copenhagen some 180 days later in the year, and the links with overcoming poverty and improved management of forests.

This year's host is Mexico which reflects the growing role of the Latin American country in the fight against climate change, including its growing participation in the carbon markets.

Mexico is also a leading partner in UNEP's Billion Tree Campaign. The country, with the support of its President and people, has spearheaded the pledging and planting of some 25 per cent of the trees under the campaign. Accounting for around 1.5 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions, the country is demonstrating its commitment to climate change on several fronts.

Mexican President Felipe Calderon states that the WED celebration will “further underline Mexico's determination to manage natural resources and deal with the most demanding challenge of the 21st century – climate change.”

More about environmental issues: <http://www.america.gov/global/environ.html>

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS 6

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY OUTLOOK 2009. Report DOE/EIA-0484(2009). Department of Energy, May 27, 2009 6
 EPA PROPOSES NEW REGULATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD PROGRAM FOR 2010 AND BEYOND.U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. May 5, 2009..... 6
 YELLOW LIGHT ON GREEN JOBS. Subcommittee on Green Jobs and the New Economy, U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. April 2009. 6
 A TIMELINE OF ENVIRONMENTAL TREATIES. America.gov. April 2009. 6
 HOW CBO ESTIMATES THE COSTS OF REDUCING GREENHOUSE-GAS EMISSIONS. Congressional Budget Office. April 24, 2009. 7
 THE NOAA ANNUAL GREENHOUSE GAS INDEX (AGGI). National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration. David J. Hofmann. April 22, 2009. 7
 2009 U.S. GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY REPORT. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. April 15, 2009..... 7
 EARTH DAY – TOBACCO CONTROL GUIDE. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. April 2009..... 7

CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS 8

AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT OF 2009. Discussion Draft Summary. May 22, 2009 8

THE WHITE HOUSE 8

PRESIDENT OBAMA SEEKS NEW FUEL EFFICIENCY STANDARDS. By Michelle Austein Brooks, U.S. Department of State Staff Writer. 19 May 2009..... 8

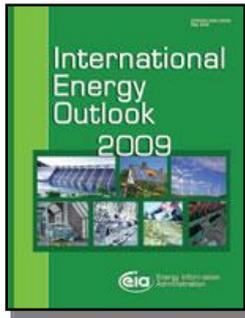
THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS 8

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION 8
 WHAT’S THE STATE OF YOUR AIR? American Lung Association. April 29, 2009. 8
 ARCTIC COUNCIL 9
 ARCTIC OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS GUIDELINES 2009. Arctic Council, April 29, 2009..... 9
 ARCTIC MARINE SHIPPING ASSESSMENT 2009 REPORT. Arctic Council..... 9
 COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE FOR REFUGE ENHANCEMENT (CARE) 9
 RESTORING AMERICA’S WILDLIFE REFUGES 2009. The Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancement (CARE), May 22, 2009..... 9
 COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS 10
 THE NATIONAL INTEREST AND THE LAW OF THE SEA.Scott G. Borgerson. Council Special Report No. 46. Council on Foreign Relations Press, May 2009 10
 ECONOMIC CHALLENGES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY. Toni Johnson, Staff Writer. CFR Backgrounder, Updated: May 19, 2009 10
 ADDRESSING THE CRISIS IN AMERICA'S OCEANS. Scott G. Borgerson, Visiting Fellow for Ocean Governance. CFR, April 7, 2009 10
 PREPARED REMARKS: THE GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS OF A WARMING ARCTIC. Council on Foreign Relations. Scott G. Borgerson. May 5, 2009. 11
 THE CANADIAN OIL SANDS: Energy Security vs. Climate Change. Michael A. Levi, David M. Rubenstein. Council Special Report No. 47. CFR May 2009..... 11
 ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND 11
 REINVENTING TRANSIT: AMERICAN COMMUNITIES FINDING SMARTER, CLEANER, FASTER TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS. Environmental Defense Fund. April 22, 2009. 11
 EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY 11
 PROGRESS TOWARDS THE EUROPEAN 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET. European Environment Agency, 22 May 2009..... 11
 LOOKING BACK ON LOOKING FORWARD: A REVIEW OF EVALUATIVE SCENARIO LITERATURE. European Environment Agency, 29 Apr 2009 12
 GLOBAL CORAL REEF MONITORING NETWORK 12
 STATUS OF CORAL REEFS OF THE WORLD: 2008. Wilkinson, C. (ed.) Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network, 2008 12
 GREENPEACE 12
 AMERICA'S SHARE OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS: A STATE-BY-STATE CARBON FOOTPRINT. Greenpeace, May 27, 2009..... 12
 ENERGY [R]EVOLUTION: A SUSTAINABLE USA ENERGY OUTLOO. Greenpeace and EREC, March 11, 2009 13

HERITAGE FOUNDATION	13
WAXMAN-MARKEY GLOBAL WARMING TAX KILLS MORE JOBS AND KILLS THE ECONOMY. By heritage.org. Fact Sheet #28, May 20, 2009	13
CAPPING CARBON EMISSIONS IS BAD, NO MATTER HOW YOU SLICE THE REVENUE. By Nicolas Loris and Ben Lieberman. WebMemo #2443. Heritage Foundation, May 14, 2009	13
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES	14
RENEWABLES GLOBAL STATUS REPORT: ENERGY TRANSFORMATION CONTINUES DESPITE ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN. Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21 st Century, May 21, 2009	14
INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP	14
HAITI: SAVING THE ENVIRONMENT, PREVENTING INSTABILITY AND CONFLICT. International Crisis Group. April 28, 2009.	14
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY POLICY	14
ENSURING GREEN GROWTH IN A TIME OF ECONOMIC CRISIS: THE ROLE OF ENERGY TECHNOLOGY. International Energy Policy. Web posted May 2009.	14
JOINT OCEANS COMMISSION INITIATIVE (JOICI)	15
CHANGING OCEANS, CHANGING WORLD. Ocean Priorities for the Obama Administration and Congress. JOICI, April 2009	15
MC AFTEE	15
THE CARBON FOOTPRINT OF EMAIL SPAM REPORT. McAfee. April 15, 2009.	15
NATIONAL CENTER FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH	15
WORLD'S LARGEST TORNADO EXPERIMENT HEADS FOR GREAT PLAINS. NCAR, May 04, 2009	15
NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION	16
<i>NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE</i> , Spring 2009. NPCA	16
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CONSERVATION STUDY INSTITUTE	16
QUANTIFYING A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PLACE-BASED LEARNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY: FINAL REPORT. National Park Service Conservation Study Institute. April 2009.	16
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION	16
RACING THE CLOCK: RAPID CLIMATE CHANGE FORCES SCIENTISTS TO EVALUATE EXTREME CONSERVATION STRATEGIES. NSF Press Release 09-106. May 25, 2009.	16
HOW SOLID IS CONCRETE'S CARBON FOOTPRINT? NSF Press Release 09-102. May 18, 2009	16
SOLVING THE PUZZLE: RESEARCH THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AROUND THE WORLD. National Science Foundation. May 1, 2009.	17
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL	17
<i>ONEARTH MAGAZINE</i> , SUMMER 2009. NRDC	17
<i>NATURE'S VOICE</i> , May/June 2009. NRDC	17
NEW AMERICA FEDERATION	18
STATE CLIMATE POLICY TRACKER REVEALS PROGRESS BY 33 STATES. New America Federation. May 5, 2009.	18
OCEANA	18
HIDDEN COSTS: REDUCED IQ FROM CHLOR-ALKALI PLANT MERCURY EMISSIONS HARMS THE ECONOMY. Oceana. Simon Mahan and Kimberly Warner. May 6, 2009.	18
OXFAM AMERICA	18
THE RIGHT TO SURVIVE: THE HUMANITARIAN CHALLENGE FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY. Oxfam America. Tanja Schuemer-Cross and Ben Heaven Taylor. April 2009.	18
PEW 19	
ONE LAST CHANCE: THE ECONOMIC CASE FOR A NEW APPROACH TO FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN NEW ENGLAND. Pew Environment Group. Robert J. Johnston and Jon G. Sutinen. May 6, 2009.	19
FAITH IN GLOBAL WARMING: RELIGIOUS GROUPS' VIEWS ON EARTH WARMING EVIDENCE. Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. April 16, 2009.	19
RAND 19	
EVALUATING OPTIONS FOR U.S. GREENHOUSE-GAS MITIGATION USING MULTIPLE CRITERIA. Nicholas Burger, Liisa Ecola et al. RAND, April 2009.	19
RASMUSSEN REPORTS	19
ECONOMIC REALITY OF 5 MILLION GREEN JOBS. A Commentary By Tony Blankley. Rasmussen Reports, May 27, 2009	19
UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS	20

CLIMATE 2030: A NATIONAL BLUEPRINT FOR A CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY. Rachel Cleetus, Steven Clemmer, David Friedman. UCS, May 2009	20
TESTIMONY OF KEVIN KNOBLOCH, UCS PRESIDENT ON CLIMATE 2030 BLUEPRINT. Union of Concerned Scientists. April 22, 2009.	20
UNITED NATIONS	20
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BILLION TREE CAMPAIGN GROWS PAST 3 BILLION MARK. United Nations Environment Programme.	21
U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY, SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE, AND THE BUNDESAMT FÜR KARTOGRAPHIE UND GEODÄSIE.	21
COASTAL-CHANGE AND GLACIOLOGICAL MAP OF THE LARSEN ICE SHELF AREA, ANTARCTICA: 1940-2005. U.S. Geological Survey, British Antarctic Survey, Scott Polar Research Institute, and the Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie. Jane G. Ferrigno et al. Web posted April 3, 2009.	21
VIRGINIA CENTER FOR COAL AND ENERGY RESEARCH	21
MEETING PROJECTED COAL PRODUCTION DEMANDS IN THE USA: UPSTREAM ISSUES, CHALLENGES, AND STRATEGIES. Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. May 12, 2009.	21
WILDERNESS SOCIETY	21
THE ECONOMIC TOLL OF GLOBAL WARMING IS REAL – AND GROWING. The Wilderness Society and U.S. Climate Action Network. April 9, 2009.	21
WORLD BANK	22
CLIMATE CHANGE GOVERNANCE. Meadowcroft, James. Research Working Paper. World Bank, 2009/05/01	22
THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION (IUCN)	22
PROTECTING THE OCEANS MAKES ECONOMIC SENSE. Press Release. IUCN, 22 May 2009.	22
WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE	22
EMISSION REDUCTIONS UNDER THE AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT. John Larsen, Robert Heilmayr/ WRI, May 19, 2009.	22
JUICE FROM CONCENTRATE: REDUCING EMISSIONS WITH CONCENTRATING SOLAR THERMAL POWER. Britt Childs Staley, Jenna Goodward et al. WRI, May, 2009.	23
SHARPENING THE CUTTING EDGE: CORPORATE ACTION FOR A STRONG, LOW-CARBON ECONOMY. Samantha Putt del Pino, Eliot Metzger et al. WRI, April, 2009.	23
WORLD WILDLIFE FEDERATION	23
‘MOUNTAINS OF THE MOON’ GET NOD FOR INTERNATIONAL WETLANDS PROTECTIONS. World Wildlife Fund. May 13, 2009.	23
VAST RESERVE TO PROTECT REMOTE PRINCE EDWARD ISLANDS. World Wildlife Fund. May 7, 2009.	23
ARABIAN TAHR GETS ROYAL PROTECTION. World Wildlife Fund. April 28, 2009.	24
YANGTZE ESTUARY GETS A WELCOME FOCUS FROM RIVER FORUM. World Wildlife Fund. 2009.	24
ECO-ISLAM: MALAYSIA’S IMAMS TO PREACH AGAINST POACHING. World Wildlife Fund. 2009.	24

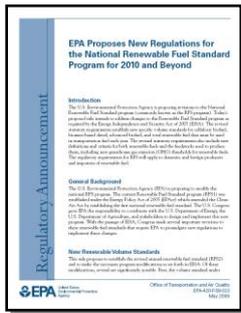
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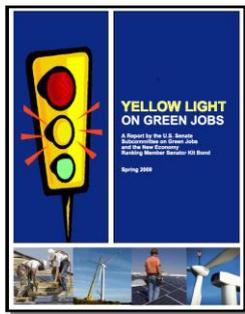
<http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/ieo/>



EPA PROPOSES NEW REGULATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD PROGRAM FOR 2010 AND BEYOND. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. May 5, 2009.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is proposing its strategy for increasing the supply of renewable fuels, poised to reach 36 billion gallons by 2022, as mandated by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Increasing renewable fuels will reduce dependence of foreign oil by more than 297 million barrels a year and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 160 million tons a year when fully phased in by 2022. EISA will establish four categories of renewable fuels.

<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/renewablefuels/420f09023.pdf> [PDF format, 9 pages].



YELLOW LIGHT ON GREEN JOBS. Subcommittee on Green Jobs and the New Economy, U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. April 2009.

With green jobs the focus of the President's Earth Day event and numerous recent media stories, Senate Green Jobs and the New Economy subcommittee ranking member U.S. Senator Kit Bond releases a report. "This report signals a yellow light urging caution with green jobs," said Bond. "We must avoid green jobs proposals that result in killing millions of existing jobs to pay for new green jobs, require

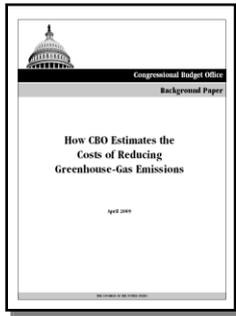
expensive taxpayer subsidies, or pay low wages."

http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=c4ca8586-9be7-4337-8fce-f1dda1897279

A TIMELINE OF ENVIRONMENTAL TREATIES. America.gov. April 2009.

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

http://www.america.gov/multimedia/photogallery.html#/30145/env_time/ [HTML format, various paging].



HOW CBO ESTIMATES THE COSTS OF REDUCING GREENHOUSE-GAS EMISSIONS. Congressional Budget Office. April 24, 2009.

As part of its mandate to provide the Congress with the objective, timely, and nonpartisan analysis needed to make informed economic and budgetary decisions, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) prepares cost estimates for legislation under consideration by the Congress. In recent years, a number of legislative proposals have involved efforts to restrict emissions of greenhouse gases in the United States. The background paper briefly describes the methodology that CBO uses to estimate those incremental costs, the data sources and models used to develop that methodology, and the rationale for using it.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/99xx/doc9923/04-24-Greenhouse.pdf>
[PDF format, 32 pages].

THE NOAA ANNUAL GREENHOUSE GAS INDEX (AGGI). National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration. David J. Hofmann. April 22, 2009.

Two of the most important climate change gases increased last year, according to a preliminary analysis, which tracks data from 60 sites around the world. Researchers measured an additional 16.2 billion tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂), a byproduct of fossil fuel burning, and 12.2 million tons of methane in the atmosphere at the end of December 2008. This increase is despite the global economic downturn, with its decrease in a wide range of activities that depend on fossil fuel use.

<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/aggi/> [HTML format, various paging].

2009 U.S. GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY REPORT. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. April 15, 2009.

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.

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

Full Report. [PDF format, 441 pages].

<http://epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/usinventoryreport.html>

[HTML format with individual PDF files].

EARTH DAY – TOBACCO CONTROL GUIDE. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. April 2009.

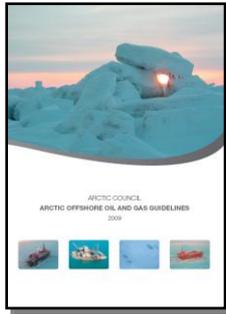
The guide is provided to include cigarette litter and pollution control in Earth Day activities as part of a comprehensive tobacco prevention and control program to increase awareness of the detrimental effects of tobacco use to people and the environment and to consequently reduce tobacco use.

http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/media_communications/calendar/2009/april_earthday.htm#outline
[HTML format, various paging].

remains widespread and dangerous. The interactive map shows the quality of air for each of the State.

<http://www.stateoftheair.org> [HTML format with an interactive map].

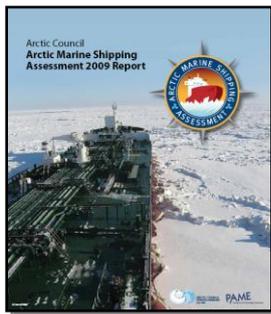
ARCTIC COUNCIL



ARCTIC OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS GUIDELINES 2009. Arctic Council, April 29, 2009

The Guidelines are intended to define a set of recommended practices and outline strategic actions for consideration by those responsible for regulation of offshore oil and gas activities (including transportation and related onshore activities) in the Arctic. It is hoped that regulators will identify the key aspects related to protection of human health and safety and protection of the environment for the management of offshore activities, while at the same time remaining sufficiently flexible in the application of these management regimes to permit alternative regulatory approaches. It should be recognized that the eight Arctic nations have different systems with different emphases on the division of responsibility between the operator and the regulator. The goal is to assist regulators in developing standards, which are applied and enforced consistently for all offshore Arctic oil and gas operators. Sensible regulation will vary to some degree based upon local circumstances. Thus, it is expected that, based on the outcome of environmental impact assessment procedures, regulators will establish policies such that offshore oil and gas activities are conducted so as to provide for human health and safety and protection of the environment.

<http://arctic-council.org/filearchive/Arctic%20Offshore%20Oil%20and%20Gas%20Guidelines%202009.pdf>



ARCTIC MARINE SHIPPING ASSESSMENT 2009 REPORT. Arctic Council

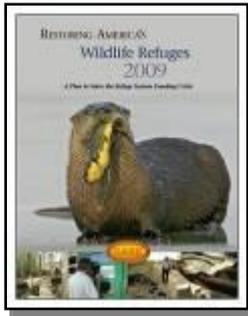
This survey represents an historic capture of information from the Arctic states that can be used as a long-term database against which to measure future Arctic marine traffic levels. In addition, more than 185 experts participated directly in the work of the AMSA. Thirteen major AMSA workshops were held from July 2006 through October 2008 on a broad range of relevant topics, including scenarios of future Arctic navigation, indigenous marine use, Arctic marine incidents, environmental impacts, marine infrastructure, Arctic marine technology and the future of the Northern Sea Route and adjacent seas. The AMSA workshops provided extensive information for developing the report sections.

<http://arctic-council.org/filearchive/amsa2009report.pdf>

COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE FOR REFUGE ENHANCEMENT (CARE)

RESTORING AMERICA'S WILDLIFE REFUGES 2009. The Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancement (CARE), May 22, 2009

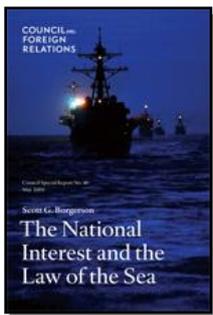
The new report finds the nation's wildlife refuges remain vastly under-funded and require \$808 million in annual appropriations to fulfill their obligations to wildlife and the American people as mandated in the Refuge Improvement Act (the System is currently receiving \$462.8



million per year – an average of just \$3.08 per acre). The consequences of funding shortages can be seen at refuges across the country: unstaffed refuges and closings, unsafe roads and trails, decreased safety, millions of acres of invasive species, unprotected at-risk species, and a 10% reduction in workforce since 2004... The report calls upon Congress to increase the Refuge System's annual operations and maintenance budget to \$514 million for fiscal year 2010 (FY10), putting the System on the path for full funding - \$808 million annually – by FY2013. Full funding for the Refuge System will result in vibrant wildlife habitats, outstanding opportunities for the public to learn about and enjoy wildlife and boost economic activity in local communities that thrive on wildlife-dependent recreation.

<http://www.fundrefuges.org/care/CareHome.html>

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS



THE NATIONAL INTEREST AND THE LAW OF THE SEA. Scott G. Borgerson. Council Special Report No. 46. Council on Foreign Relations Press, May 2009

The oceans have long been a critical arena for international relations. Before there was air travel and instantaneous communication, people, goods, and ideas traveled the world by ship. For centuries a strong maritime presence—both military and commercial—has been essential for states with great power aspirations. Today, even with advances in technology, seaborne commerce remains the linchpin of the global

economy. As the International Maritime Organization reports, “more than 90 percent of global trade is carried by sea.” And beyond trade, a host of other issues, ranging from climate change and energy to defense and piracy, ensure that the oceans will hold considerable strategic interest well into the future.

http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/LawoftheSea_CSR46.pdf

ECONOMIC CHALLENGES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY. Toni Johnson, Staff Writer. CFR Backgrounder, Updated: May 19, 2009

Amid a slumping U.S. economy, and a major restructuring of the U.S. auto industry, any legislation that imposes higher energy costs will be particularly difficult to negotiate. However, many lawmakers say climate-change policy also holds economic opportunities, including creating jobs and employing new green technologies. Experts also say implementing climate policy in the United States will bolster international climate efforts set to culminate in Copenhagen in December 2009.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/16009/debate_revs_up_on_emissions_controls.html?breadcrumb=%2F

ADDRESSING THE CRISIS IN AMERICA'S OCEANS. Scott G. Borgerson, Visiting Fellow for Ocean Governance. CFR, April 7, 2009

By every measure, serious policy reform is long overdue to address the crisis in the marine environment of the United States. Ninety percent of large predatory fish are now gone. There is a "dead zone" in the Gulf of Mexico, created by an estimated 1.5 million metric tons of nitrogen fertilizer carried by the Mississippi River from America's hinterland, that has grown to an area roughly the size of Massachusetts. Nearly 90 percent of U.S. wetlands have

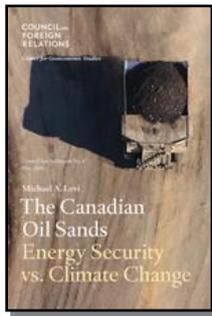
vanished due to development, and twenty-six thousand of the country's beaches have been temporarily closed or put under advisories because of pollution. These are just a few of the indicators that U.S. oceans are in serious trouble. Reversing this decline in ocean health requires a comprehensive national ocean policy, coordination among agencies, and collaboration with states and stakeholders.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/19056/addressing_the_crisis_in_americas_oceans.html

PREPARED REMARKS: THE GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS OF A WARMING ARCTIC. Council on Foreign Relations. Scott G. Borgerson. May 5, 2009.

The author participates in the roundtable discussion on “The Global Implications of a Warming Arctic” with members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He testifies about the climate change driving the Arctic’s transformation; then paints a future of the current state of international relations in the Arctic. He also provides specific policy recommendations the U.S. should take to advance its interests in this strategic region.

http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Borgerson_SFRC_RT.pdf

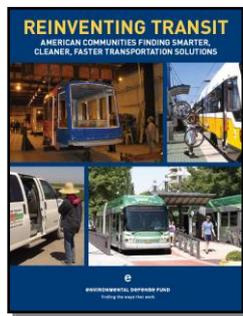


THE CANADIAN OIL SANDS: Energy Security vs. Climate Change. Michael A. Levi, David M. Rubenstein. Council Special Report No. 47. CFR May 2009

The Canadian oil sands present an important challenge to policymakers: they promise energy security benefits but present climate change problems. Michael A. Levi assesses the energy security and climate change effects of the oil sands and makes recommendations for U.S. policymakers within the context of broader bilateral relations with Canada.

http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Oil_Sands_CSR47.pdf

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

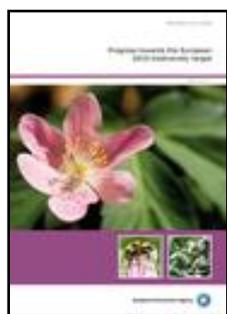


REINVENTING TRANSIT: AMERICAN COMMUNITIES FINDING SMARTER, CLEANER, FASTER TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS. Environmental Defense Fund. April 22, 2009.

A new generation of innovative public transit is sweeping through communities across America. Rural areas, suburbs and cities are leading the way to a cutting-edge transportation system. Investing in smart transit pays off, says the report.

http://www.edf.org/documents/9522_Reinventing_Transit_FINAL.pdf

EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



PROGRESS TOWARDS THE EUROPEAN 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET. European Environment Agency, 22 May 2009

As the first indicator-based assessment of progress towards the European target of halting biodiversity loss by 2010, this report serves two purposes. First, it takes stock of the state of biodiversity and its loss in Europe based on the most recent data available. Second, it functions as a bridge to a comprehensive assessment of the 2010 target to be done in

2010. As such, the indicators in this report do not only show what is currently known. They also show where information is missing and what more needs to be measured and examined to enable a comprehensive assessment in 2010.

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/progress-towards-the-european-2010-biodiversity-target>

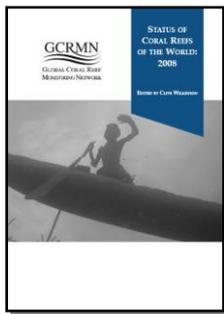


LOOKING BACK ON LOOKING FORWARD: A REVIEW OF EVALUATIVE SCENARIO LITERATURE. European Environment Agency, 29 Apr 2009

Faced with risk and uncertainty, environmental policy-makers are increasingly using scenario planning to guide decision-making. The vibrancy of the field is evident in the numerous case studies conducted using diverse methodologies. Yet even well-crafted scenarios can fail to have their intended policy impact if they present irrelevant information, lack support from relevant actors, are poorly embedded into relevant organisations or ignore key institutional context conditions. Unfortunately, the shortage of research on scenario planning and its influence means that there is limited guidance on how to optimise scenarios, in terms of both outputs and uptake by policy-makers. This technical report addresses this lack of information, presenting a review of relevant academic and non-academic literature on the issue.

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/looking-back-on-looking-forward-a-review-of-evaluative-scenario-literature>

GLOBAL CORAL REEF MONITORING NETWORK



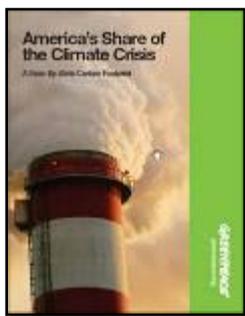
STATUS OF CORAL REEFS OF THE WORLD: 2008. Wilkinson, C. (ed.) Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network, 2008

The report summarizes what has happened to the world's coral reefs since 2004 and uses expert opinion of coral reef scientists and managers from 96 countries and states to make predictions on what could happen to coral reefs in the future. This combined expertise also seeks to provide advice to the world's decision makers on what should be done to allow us to bequeath healthy coral reefs to future generations. The release of this report coincides with the end of the International Year of the Reef

(IYOR 2008), which has focused considerable global attention on coral reefs.

http://www.reefbase.org/download/gcrmn_download.aspx?type=10&docid=13311

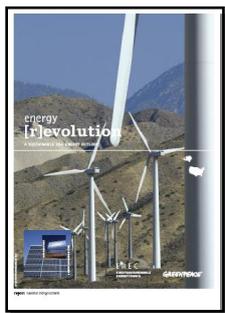
GREENPEACE



AMERICA'S SHARE OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS: A STATE-BY-STATE CARBON FOOTPRINT. Greenpeace, May 27, 2009

Global warming is an urgent crisis that demands immediate action to prevent climate catastrophe. The consequences of inaction are far too great, and the time remaining to reduce those consequences is running out.

<http://www.greenpeace.org/raw/content/usa/press-center/reports4/america-s-share-of-the-climate.pdf>



ENERGY [R]EVOLUTION: A SUSTAINABLE USA ENERGY OUTLOOK. Greenpeace and EREC, March 11, 2009

The report details how the United States can cut greenhouse gas emissions to the levels we must reach in order to prevent the worst effects of global warming and simultaneously build a sustainable economy. Commissioned from the German Aerospace Center by Greenpeace and the European Renewable Energy Council, the study shows how the U.S. can, with off-the-shelf technology, cut CO2 emissions from current levels by 23 percent by 2020 and 85 percent by 2050.

<http://www.greenpeace.org/raw/content/usa/press-center/reports4/energy-r-evolution-a-sustain.pdf>

HERITAGE FOUNDATION

WAXMAN-MARKEY GLOBAL WARMING TAX KILLS MORE JOBS AND KILLS THE ECONOMY. By heritage.org. Fact Sheet #28, May 20, 2009

Families, make room for \$3,900 in 'cap and trade'

Americans will have to find \$3,900 a year more in the family budget if Congress approves "cap and trade" rules proposed by President Obama to counter global warming, according to a Massachusetts Institute of Technology study. That annual cost, which MIT says includes \$800 to reduce use of fossil fuels, would be more than double what an average household spends on essential expenses:

				
\$1,764 All meat, poultry, fish, eggs, dairy products, fruits and vegetables	\$1,797 All furniture, appliances, carpet, and other furnishings	\$1,881 All clothes and shoes	\$1,783 All electricity and natural gas	\$1,709 All property taxes

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2007; MIT Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change, "Assessment of U.S. Cap-and-Trade Proposals," 2007.

heritage.org

The cap-and-trade tax proposed by Reps. Henry Waxman (D-CA) and Edward Markey (D-MA) is disguised as environmental legislation when it would have little impact on global temperatures. In fact, it is a massive energy tax that promises soaring household energy bills, major job

losses, income cuts, and a sharp left turn toward big government.

<http://www.heritage.org/Press/FactSheet/fs0028.cfm>



CAPPING CARBON EMISSIONS IS BAD, NO MATTER HOW YOU SLICE THE REVENUE. By Nicolas Loris and Ben Lieberman. WebMemo #2443. Heritage Foundation, May 14, 2009

A favorite approach to reducing carbon dioxide emissions among Washington bureaucrats is the "market-oriented" cap-and-trade program, which under a global warming bill proposed by Representatives Henry Waxman (D-CA) and Ed Markey (D-MA), would establish. Building broad support for this approach, however, has been difficult, leading some in Congress to develop alternatives to cap and trade. Some of these new schemes are as simple as placing a tax on carbon emissions, while others, such as "cap and dividend" or "cap and invest" are variations of the original.

The problem with these efforts is that they do not resolve the central problem that will continue to plague attempts to cap CO₂: All carbon capping plans are costly energy taxes in disguise that will raise energy prices and unemployment with little environmental benefit.
http://www.heritage.org/Research/EnergyandEnvironment/upload/wm_2443.pdf

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

RENEWABLES GLOBAL STATUS REPORT: ENERGY TRANSFORMATION CONTINUES DESPITE ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN. Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century, May 21, 2009

The report shows that renewables had a strong performance in 2008, despite the economic downturn. Nearly all renewable technologies experienced significant percentage gains in installed capacity. The report also highlights significant policy and leadership changes that facilitated these gains in capacity.

The report shows where the leaders in renewable energy deployment stand nationally and at the local level. The report gives a broad indication of the state of renewable energy markets, the amount and direction of investment, the larger trends in industry, and which policy types are in effect.

<http://www.ren21.net/globalstatusreport/g2009.asp>

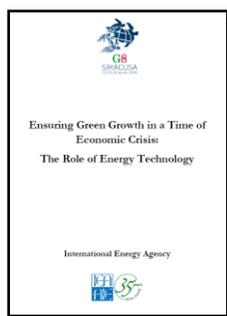
INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP

HAITI: SAVING THE ENVIRONMENT, PREVENTING INSTABILITY AND CONFLICT. International Crisis Group. April 28, 2009.

Reversing a trend of environmental destruction is essential to Haiti's development, social and economic stability and, ultimately, security. Instability and violent conflict are not attributable solely to environmental degradation. But they are made more likely by the latter's interaction with such factors as weak institutions and governance, political fragility, pervasive and extreme poverty, vulnerability to natural disasters, rapid population growth, urban overcrowding and social and economic inequality, according to the report.

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/latin_america/aiti__saving_the_environment__preventing_instability_and_conflict.pdf

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY POLICY



ENSURING GREEN GROWTH IN A TIME OF ECONOMIC CRISIS: THE ROLE OF ENERGY TECHNOLOGY. International Energy Policy. Web posted May 2009.

Despite the severity of the current financial and economic crisis, it cannot be allowed to distract us from addressing critical and strategic climate change and energy challenges, says the report. The energy sector produces 60% of global greenhouse gas emissions and so it must also be a key part of any strategy to reduce them. The paper describes the most promising low-carbon technologies, their current status and the policy framework that will be necessary to achieve their widespread deployment.

http://www.iea.org/Textbase/Papers/2009/ensuring_green_growth.pdf

JOINT OCEANS COMMISSION INITIATIVE (JOICI)



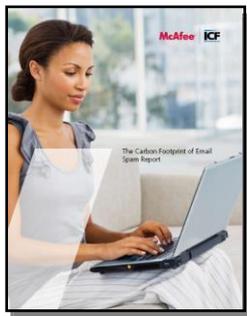
CHANGING OCEANS, CHANGING WORLD. Ocean Priorities for the Obama Administration and Congress. JOICI, April 2009

The report outlines a series of recommendations that include strengthening science- and ecosystem-based approaches to ocean management and developing a sorely needed national ocean policy. It details how a comprehensive ocean agenda should be integrated with economic recovery efforts and programs to help the nation transition to a green economy.

Major obstacles to reform include a lack of a clear policy direction from the federal government, confusing and overlapping jurisdictions, and fragmented laws. Currently, at the national level alone, U.S. waters are managed under more than 140 federal laws implemented by eighteen different federal agencies.

http://www.jointoceancommission.org/resource-center/1-Reports/2009-04-07_JOICI_Changing_Oceans,_Changing_World.pdf

MC AFTEE



THE CARBON FOOTPRINT OF EMAIL SPAM REPORT. McAfee. April 15, 2009.

Until now, spam's impact has been measured in time, money, and aggravation. It turns out there is a massive environmental impact as well. Experts find that the energy consumed in transmitting and deleting spam is equivalent to the electricity used in 2.4 million American homes, with greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions equivalent to 3.1 million passenger cars.

http://img.en25.com/Web/McAfee/CarbonFootprint_12pg_web_REV_NA.pdf

NATIONAL CENTER FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

WORLD'S LARGEST TORNADO EXPERIMENT HEADS FOR GREAT PLAINS. NCAR, May 04, 2009

BOULDER—The largest and most ambitious tornado study in history will begin next week, as dozens of scientists deploy radars and other ground-based instruments across the Great Plains to gain a better understanding of these often-deadly weather events.

*NCAR scientists and technicians will launch weather balloons at VORTEX2 with their Mobile GPS Advanced Upper-Air Sounding System. Shown here are (left to right) William Brown, Jennifer Standridge, and Tim Lim testing a balloon launch (Photo by Carlye Calvin.) [ENLARGE] News media terms of use**

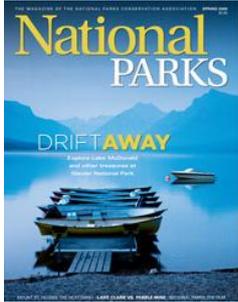
The collaborative international project, involving scientists from the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) and a number of other organizations, will examine in detail how tornadoes form and the patterns of damage they cause. The findings are expected to improve tornado warnings and short-term severe weather forecasts.

<http://www.ucar.edu/news/releases/2009/vortex2.jsp>



NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

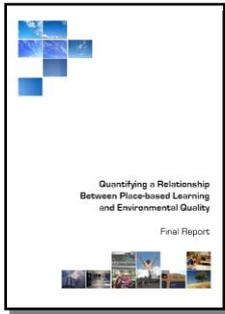
NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, Spring 2009. NPCA



Features:

- **Going to the Sun:** From baby-blue lakes to glacier-carved trails, Glacier National Park offers an unparalleled wilderness experience.
 - **A Pebble in the Water:** Lake Clark National Park & Preserve is home to Native people, long-time Alaskans, and thriving salmon runs. But plans for one of the world's biggest gold and copper mines could change all that.
 - **From the Ashes:** Should Mount St. Helens become a national park?
- <http://www.npca.org/magazine/2009/spring/>

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CONSERVATION STUDY INSTITUTE



QUANTIFYING A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PLACE-BASED LEARNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY: FINAL REPORT. National Park Service Conservation Study Institute. April 2009.

The study finds environmental education programs lead to cleaner air. The study shows that environmental education programs are an effective tool in helping to improve air quality in North America. "This study shows a valuable connection between better environmental education and cleaner air in our communities," said EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson.

"With the right information, people can make a real difference in the places where they live, work, play and learn."

http://www.peecworks.org/PEEC/PEEC_Research/03CB4BC4-007EA7AB.2/PBL-EQ%20Final%20Research%20Report%202008.pdf

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

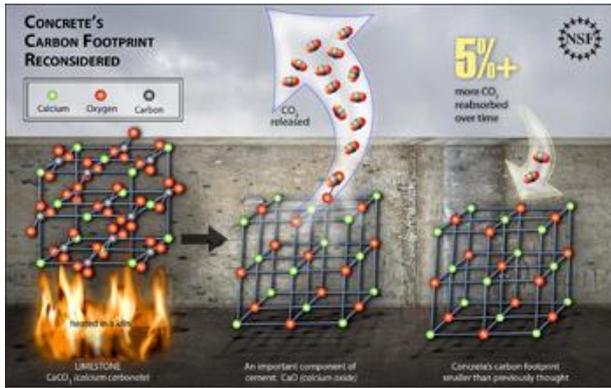
RACING THE CLOCK: RAPID CLIMATE CHANGE FORCES SCIENTISTS TO EVALUATE EXTREME CONSERVATION STRATEGIES. NSF Press Release 09-106. May 25, 2009

Scientists are, for the first time, objectively evaluating ways to help species adapt to rapid climate change and other environmental threats via strategies that were considered too radical for serious consideration as recently as five or 10 years ago. Among these radical strategies currently being considered is so-called "managed relocation." Managed relocation, which is also known as "assisted migration," involves manually moving species into more accommodating habitats where they are not currently found.

http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=114849&org=OLPA&from=news

HOW SOLID IS CONCRETE'S CARBON FOOTPRINT? NSF Press Release 09-102. May 18, 2009

Concrete may absorb more carbon dioxide than earlier estimates suggested



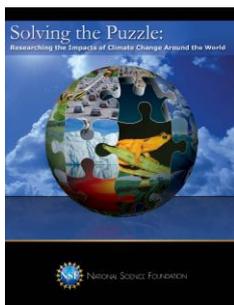
Concrete absorbs carbon dioxide over time, so its carbon footprint may be smaller than once thought.

Many scientists currently think at least 5 percent of humanity's carbon footprint comes from the concrete industry, both from energy use and the carbon dioxide (CO₂) byproduct from the production of cement, one of concrete's principal components.

Yet several studies have shown that small

quantities of CO₂ later reabsorb into concrete, even decades after it is emplaced, when elements of the material combine with CO₂ to form calcite.

http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=109892&org=OLPA&from=news



SOLVING THE PUZZLE: RESEARCH THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AROUND THE WORLD. National Science Foundation. May 1, 2009.

The report discusses Earth's systems piecewise, beginning with the physical systems of Earth's atmosphere, sea, land, and ice, then focusing on life on Earth, and ending with, perhaps, the most challenging and dynamic piece of all, people. The report shows that it's important to realize that all of the pieces of the climate puzzle are interconnected, and all of the pieces are necessary to gain a full understanding of climate

variability and change.

http://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/climate/pdf/NSF_Climate_Change_Report.pdf

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

ONEARTH MAGAZINE, SUMMER 2009. NRDC

FEATURE STORIES:

- India, Enlightened, by George Black
- Designing Woman, by Susan Dominus
- Parkinson's: The Pesticide Link, by Robin Marantz Henig

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



NATURE'S VOICE, May/June 2009. NRDC

FEATURING:

- Wolves Kicked off Endangered Species List
- Showdown in Wyoming's Red Desert
- Grizzlies Laid Low by Declining Whitebark Pines
- Go Tear It off the Mountain: Coal and Appalachia
- Switchboard: Phasing out Phthalates & Clearing the Air
- Obama Revives Endangered Species Act

<http://www.nrdc.org/naturesvoice/default.asp>

NEW AMERICA FEDERATION

STATE CLIMATE POLICY TRACKER REVEALS PROGRESS BY 33 STATES. New America Federation. May 5, 2009.

The study provides an online tool that allows state-by-state tracking of hundreds of carbon and energy saving measures now being implemented across the country. The State Climate Policy Tracker takes the form of a single spreadsheet with one tab devoted to each state that has completed or is in the process of completing a climate action plan. A seven column matrix captures the climate actions taking place across six economic sectors, and reports on the progress of each measure, its cost or cost-saving potential, and the estimated reduction in carbon emissions expected on an annual basis.

<http://www.newamerica.net/programs/climate#>

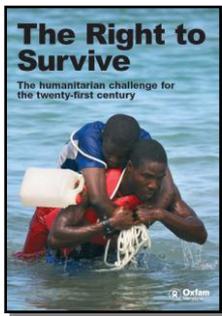
OCEANA

HIDDEN COSTS: REDUCED IQ FROM CHLOR-ALKALI PLANT MERCURY EMISSIONS HARMS THE ECONOMY. Oceana. Simon Mahan and Kimberly Warner. May 6, 2009.

Lowered IQ due to mercury pollution from outdated mercury-cell chlorine factories has cost the American economy millions of dollars in lost wages annually, according to the report. These factories, called chlor-alkali plants, produce chlorine and caustic soda with technology that emits mercury pollution into our air, water and food. This industry also contributes to fish contamination, which is the primary source of mercury exposure for humans. Frequent consumption of high mercury fish has been linked to lower IQ in young children and heart disease in adults.

http://oceana.org/fileadmin/oceana/uploads/mercury/Hidden_Costs/Hidden_Costs.pdf

OXFAM AMERICA



THE RIGHT TO SURVIVE: THE HUMANITARIAN CHALLENGE FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY. Oxfam America. Tanja Schuemer-Cross and Ben Heaven Taylor. April 2009.

The number of people affected by climate-related humanitarian disasters is projected to rise by 54 percent by 2015, threatening to overwhelm emergency response and humanitarian aid systems, according to the report. The rise in numbers, from the current 250 million per year to 375 million by 2015, is due to the increasing threat of climate change-induced severe weather events and inability of millions of people worldwide to

prepare to deal with such catastrophes.

http://www.oxfamamerica.org/newsandpublications/publications/research_reports/the-right-to-survive/Right-to-Survive.pdf

PEW



ONE LAST CHANCE: THE ECONOMIC CASE FOR A NEW APPROACH TO FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN NEW ENGLAND. Pew Environment Group. Robert J. Johnston and Jon G. Sutinen. May 6, 2009.

The New England groundfish fishery would be more economically and environmentally sound if the system used to manage the activities of commercial fishermen was changed from regulations based on “days-at-sea” to annual catch limits, according to the report. In addition, the new system would give declining populations of the region’s iconic species like cod and flounder a chance to rebuild, providing a sustainable future for the industry.

http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Protecting_ocean_life/Johnston_Sutinen_2009.pdf

FAITH IN GLOBAL WARMING: RELIGIOUS GROUPS’ VIEWS ON EARTH WARMING EVIDENCE. Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. April 16, 2009.

The survey examines views on global warming among major religious traditions in the U.S. The unaffiliated, 58%, are the most likely among the religious groups studied to say there is solid evidence the earth is warming because of human activity. White evangelical Protestants are the most likely to say there is no solid evidence the earth is warming, 31%, and the least likely to believe that humans have contributed to heating up the planet (34%).

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1194/global-warming-belief-by-religion>

RAND

EVALUATING OPTIONS FOR U.S. GREENHOUSE-GAS MITIGATION USING MULTIPLE CRITERIA. Nicholas Burger, Liisa Ecola et al. RAND, April 2009

Choosing a set of policy responses to mitigate greenhouse gases (GHGs) responsible for climate change is one of the great challenges that the United States faces in the coming years. Many policy options emphasize overall cost-effectiveness in reducing GHG emissions. In the search for options that are effective and politically feasible, however, other concerns have comparable importance. Mitigating GHGs in practice will require balancing cost-effectiveness and other objectives that reflect the institutional and political realities of passing major federal legislation with widespread impacts on U.S. producers and consumers. This paper develops a framework for evaluating GHG-mitigation policy in the United States that balances several criteria. It draws on conceptual analysis and examples from U.S. energy policy to motivate an evaluative framework that incorporates a range of views of what constitutes “good” policy. It should be of interest to stakeholders in the GHG policymaking process and especially to those responsible for crafting U.S. climate policy.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/2009/RAND_OP252.pdf

RASMUSSEN REPORTS

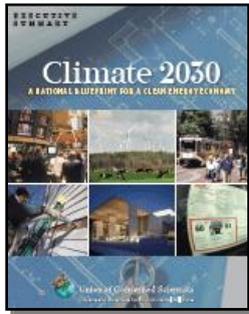
ECONOMIC REALITY OF 5 MILLION GREEN JOBS. A Commentary By Tony Blankley. Rasmussen Reports, May 27, 2009

In March, one of Spain’s leading universities, Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, published an authoritative study "of the effects on employment of public aid to renewable energy sources."

The report pointed out: "This study is important for several reasons. First is that the Spanish experience is considered a leading example to be followed by many policy advocates and politicians. This study marks the very first time a critical analysis of the actual performance and impact has been made. Most important, it demonstrates that the Spanish/EU-style 'green jobs' agenda now being promoted in the U.S. in fact destroys jobs, detailing this in terms of jobs destroyed per job created."

http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/political_commentary/commentary_by_tony_blankley/economic_reality_of_5_million_green_jobs

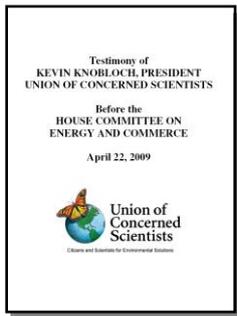
UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS



CLIMATE 2030: A NATIONAL BLUEPRINT FOR A CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY. Rachel Cleetus, Steven Clemmer, David Friedman. UCS, May 2009

Reducing oil dependence. Strengthening energy security. Creating jobs. Tackling global warming. Addressing air pollution. Improving our health. The United States has many reasons to make the transition to a clean energy economy. The new study outlines how the United States can jumpstart a transition to a clean energy future. The study found that implementing a smart set of climate, energy, and transportation policies can save consumers and businesses money while deeply reducing our nation's heat-trapping emissions.

http://www.ucsusa.org/assets/documents/global_warming/climate-2030-report.pdf



TESTIMONY OF KEVIN KNOBLOCH, UCS PRESIDENT ON CLIMATE 2030 BLUEPRINT. Union of Concerned Scientists. April 22, 2009.

The United States can dramatically cut global warming emissions and reduce consumer and business energy bills at the same time, according to Union of Concerned Scientists' study. The analysis finds that implementing a suite of climate, energy and transportation policies would allow the United States to meet an emissions-reduction cap of 56 percent below 2005 levels by 2030 and save consumers and businesses \$465 billion in that year.

http://www.ucsusa.org/assets/documents/global_warming/UCS-KKnobloch-Blueprint-Testimony.pdf

UNITED NATIONS

WATER IN A CHANGING WORLD. World Water Assessment Programme, United Nations. Web posted April 2009.

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.

<http://webworld.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/wwdr3/tableofcontents.shtml> [HTML format with links to PDF files].

BILLION TREE CAMPAIGN GROWS PAST 3 BILLION MARK. United Nations Environment Programme. March 30, 2009.

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.

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

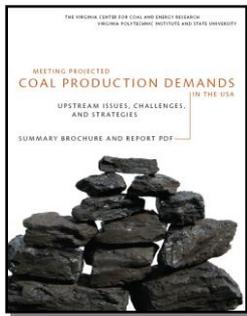
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY, SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE, AND THE BUNDESAMT FÜR KARTOGRAPHIE UND GEODÄSIE

COASTAL-CHANGE AND GLACIOLOGICAL MAP OF THE LARSEN ICE SHELF AREA, ANTARCTICA: 1940-2005. U.S. Geological Survey, British Antarctic Survey, Scott Polar Research Institute, and the Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie. Jane G. Ferrigno et al. Web posted April 3, 2009.

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.

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

VIRGINIA CENTER FOR COAL AND ENERGY RESEARCH



MEETING PROJECTED COAL PRODUCTION DEMANDS IN THE USA: UPSTREAM ISSUES, CHALLENGES, AND STRATEGIES. Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. May 12, 2009.

The study seeks to investigate different aspects of the coal supply chain and to highlight critical “upstream” fuel cycle issues that need to be addressed to ensure that the domestic coal industry can continue meeting the nation’s energy demands while delivering the social benefits and environmental performance demanded by the public. It reviews all coal-related upstream issues, identifying problems and

strengths, and recommending areas of improvement.

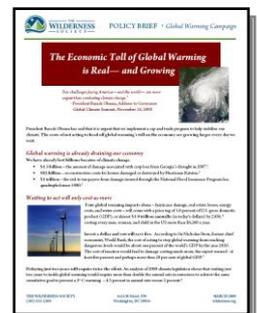
<http://www.energycommission.org/ht/a/GetDocumentAction/i/10370>
[PDF format, 20 pages].

WILDERNESS SOCIETY

THE ECONOMIC TOLL OF GLOBAL WARMING IS REAL – AND GROWING. The Wilderness Society and U.S. Climate Action Network. April 9, 2009.

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

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



WORLD BANK



CLIMATE CHANGE GOVERNANCE. Meadowcroft, James. Research Working Paper. World Bank, 2009/05/01

Climate change governance poses difficult challenges for contemporary political/administrative systems. These systems evolved to handle other sorts of problems and must now be adapted to handle emerging issues of climate change mitigation and adaptation. This paper examines long-term climate governance, particularly in relation to overcoming "institutional inertia" that hampers the development of an effective and timely response. It argues that when the influence of groups that fear

adverse consequences of mitigation policies is combined with scientific uncertainty, the complexity of reaching global agreements, and long time frames, the natural tendency is for governments to delay action, to seek to avoid antagonizing influential groups, and to adopt less ambitious climate programs.

[http://www-](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/05/19/000158349_20090519144015/Rendered/PDF/WPS4941.pdf)

[wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/05/19/000158349_20090519144015/Rendered/PDF/WPS4941.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/05/19/000158349_20090519144015/Rendered/PDF/WPS4941.pdf)

THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION (IUCN)

PROTECTING THE OCEANS MAKES ECONOMIC SENSE. Press Release. IUCN, 22 May 2009

Protecting the oceans through marine protected areas can provide higher and more sustained income through tourism and controlled fisheries than continued exploitation. This is the result of IUCN's new compilation of case studies about the economic benefits of marine protected areas, launched on World Biodiversity Day at the 2nd International Marine Protected Area Congress in Washington, D.C.

<http://www.iucn.org/?3174/Protecting-the-oceans-makes-economic-sense>

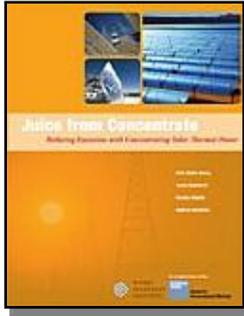


WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

EMISSION REDUCTIONS UNDER THE AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT. John Larsen, Robert Heilmayr/ WRI, May 19, 2009

This analysis provides an assessment of reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that could be achieved by Title III of the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act (ACESA) sponsored by Chairmen Waxman and Markey released on May 19, 2009.

<http://www.wri.org/publication/usclimatetargets>



JUICE FROM CONCENTRATE: REDUCING EMISSIONS WITH CONCENTRATING SOLAR THERMAL POWER. Britt Childs Staley, Jenna Goodward et al. WRI, May, 2009

In a world of rising energy prices, security concerns, and climate change, the production of energy will need to change in fundamental ways. In the electricity sector, certain renewable energy sources appear ready for the mainstream, offering not just a solution to these challenges but an exciting opportunity for investment, innovation, and job creation. Many regions are deploying wind and solar energy, successfully managing their intermittency. However, these resources are innately less predictable than coal, which limits their use at high rates of market penetration and as reliable sources of power around the clock (i.e., baseload electricity). Both developed and emerging economies require reliable power supplies on demand, and many energy analysts routinely assert that there is no realistic alternative to building more coal-fired power generators.

<http://www.wri.org/publication/juice-from-concentrate>



SHARPENING THE CUTTING EDGE: CORPORATE ACTION FOR A STRONG, LOW-CARBON ECONOMY. Samantha Putt del Pino, Eliot Metzger et al. WRI, April, 2009

The window of opportunity to effectively respond to climate change is now. Leading scientists warn that global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions must begin to decline in ten years if we are to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. The United States is at a clear decision point. The scale of the climate challenge, paired with the investments needed to respond to a deep global recession, represent a unique opportunity to shift to a low-carbon economy that can provide a stronger, safer and more sustainable future. As users and producers of goods and services, businesses are central to an effective climate change response. To be successful in a low-carbon future, companies must become expert in today's best practice, emerging innovative practice and tomorrow's "next" practice. This report can help guide corporate actions over the next few years, as companies and policymakers accelerate the pace of responding to climate change.

<http://www.wri.org/publication/sharpening-the-cutting-edge>

WORLD WILDLIFE FEDERATION

'MOUNTAINS OF THE MOON' GET NOD FOR INTERNATIONAL WETLANDS PROTECTIONS. World Wildlife Fund. May 13, 2009.

Part of the Rwenzori Mountains, home to some of the last glaciers in Africa and likely Ptolemy's 'Lunis Montae,' received international recognition on Wednesday as a protected wetland site under the international Ramsar convention, a major conservation decision that will help protect the region's vast ecological riches.

<http://www.panda.org/?164182/Mountains-of-the-Moon-get-nod-for-international-wetlands-protection>

VAST RESERVE TO PROTECT REMOTE PRINCE EDWARD ISLANDS. World Wildlife Fund. May 7, 2009.

South Africa's declaration to establish one of the world's largest Marine Protected Area's (MPA) around its Prince Edward Islands, is a marine conservation achievement of global

importance which will help protecting a suite of spectacular wildlife, including albatrosses, penguins and killer whales.

<http://www.panda.org/?163741/Vast-reserve-to-protect-remote-Prince-Edward-Islands>

ARABIAN TAHR GETS ROYAL PROTECTION. World Wildlife Fund. April 28, 2009.

In a major conservation decision, the United Arab Emirates has established the Wadi Wurayah Fujairah, home to the endangered Arabian Tahr and possibly the rare Arabian Leopard, as the country's first protected mountain area.

<http://www.panda.org/?163161/Arabian-Tahr-gets-royal-protection>

YANGTZE ESTUARY GETS A WELCOME FOCUS FROM RIVER FORUM. World Wildlife Fund. April 21, 2009.

The Third Yangtze Forum declaration said that while the overall Yangtze River water environment remains stable, lake eutrophication and water supply contamination still remain major threats. To remedy this, forum participants suggested long-term mechanisms for collaboration between the multitude of government, semi-government, private and civil society bodies involved in monitoring and managing the river.

<http://www.panda.org/?162642/Yangtze-estuary-gets-a-welcome-focus-from-river-forum>

ECO-ISLAM: MALAYSIA'S IMAMS TO PREACH AGAINST POACHING. World Wildlife Fund. April 14, 2009.

Malaysia's Muslim preachers have been enlisted in the fight for wildlife conservation, using passages from the Koran to raise awareness and help protect some of the world's most endangered species. After a successful campaign last year, when more than 400 mosques in the state of Terengganu held sermons focusing on turtle conservation issues, WWF decided to extend the project to support efforts to tackle poaching.

<http://www.panda.org/?162082/Eco-Islam-Malaysias-Imams-to-preach-against-poaching>

Environmental Issues

June 2009

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