

DWR Climate News Digest

September 2016

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The information provided in the DWR Climate News Digest is a selected compilation of recent popular news articles, publications, and other information relevant to climate change and water management, and is intended to provide educational and thought-provoking material for water managers and water users.

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TOPICS [Find older items in the [Climate News Archive](#)]

Published Literature

[Social and economic impacts of climate](#) [Science – September 2016]

Agriculture/Food Production

[Wheat, one of the world's most important crops, is being threatened by climate change](#)

[Washington Post – September 12, 2016]

[Climate change means land use will need to change to keep up with global food demand, say](#)

[scientists](#) [Science Daily – September 20, 2016] [*“Nearly half of all maize produced in the world (43%), and a third of all wheat and rice (33% and 37% respectively) is grown in areas vulnerable to the effects of climate change”*]

[Grow food, not grass, to fight climate change](#) [Mother Nature Network – September 20, 2016]

[Soil management may help stabilize maize yield in the face of climate change](#)

[Science Daily – September 20, 2016]

[Climate change pushing need for better agricultural data](#)

[Voice of America – September 21, 2016]

[Climate change threatens world's coffee supply, report says](#)

[New York Times – September 22, 2016] [*“Coffee supports the livelihoods of 125 million people around the world, including some of the most marginalized and poor people in developing countries.”*]

DWR Climate News Digest – September 2016

Extreme Weather Events

[How climate change helped cause massive floods in Louisiana](#) [Time – September 7, 2016]

[Climate change is here: Inside the summer of hell and high water](#)

[Rolling Stone – September 22, 2016]

Sea-level Rise and other Ocean Impacts

[How climate change could jam the world's ocean circulation](#)

[Yale Environment 360 – September 6, 2016]

[Sea ice, near record low, is not rebounding](#) [Scientific American – September 16, 2016]

Water/Energy Nexus

[How climate change mitigation and energy choices affect water](#)

[Water Deeply – September 14, 2016] (*“While the energy sector affects climate by releasing heat-trapping gases, climate can also affect the reliability of energy production through changes in the timing and availability of the water supply”*)

Human Health Impacts

[Zika reminds us that climate change is a women's rights issue](#)

[Pacific Standard – September 23, 2016] (*“Climate change is not just about melting ice caps and drowning cities. It's also about there being nowhere left to hide from contagion. It's about the world's most vulnerable populations – including women – having no recourse”*)

Tribal Impacts & Traditional Ecological Knowledge

[Threat of salmon extinction turns small tribe into climate researchers](#)

[Yes Magazine – September 6, 2016]

[USGS research finds varying perspectives on climate change in subarctic](#)

[Your Alaska Link – September 21, 2016] (*“Distinct generational perceptions of environmental change included a perception by participants of the younger generation that weather is always variable while older participants viewed the observed changes as outside of normal weather variability.”*)

Wildlife and Ecosystem Impacts

[As climate changes us, we change wildlife](#) [Huffington Post – September 8, 2016] (*“We can – we must – help species adapt to our changing world by ensuring that our own responses to climate change factor in the health and wellbeing of the wildlife and the habitat they depend upon.”*)

[Forecasting climate change’s effects on biodiversity hindered by lack of data](#)

[Phys Org – September 8, 2016]

[Where will climate change create new ecosystems?](#) [Pacific Standard – September 20, 2016]

[Alaska fisheries escape effects of climate change for now](#) [KUBC.org – September 22, 2016]

[Old plant surveys show how modern climate change is threatening high altitude species](#)

[Forbes – September 30, 2016]

Greenhouse Gas Mitigation

[100 countries push to phase out potentially disastrous greenhouse gas](#)

[The Guardian – September 22, 2016] (*“Hydrofluorocarbons, commonly used in refrigerators and air conditioning systems, could add 0.5°C to global temperatures by the end of the century”*)

Climate Adaptation

[How 3 U.S. cities are adapting to climate change](#) [Here and Now – September 21, 2016]

International Planning

[Rare harmony as China and U.S. commit to climate deal](#)

[New York Times – September 3, 2016]

[Germany publishes 30-year climate change strategy](#) [Climate Home – September 8, 2016]

[Brazil has just ratified the Paris climate agreement. Here’s why that’s a really big deal](#)

[Washington Post – September 12, 2016] (*“Brazil’s ratification is significant because in order for the climate agreement to enter into force, 55 separate countries, accounting for 55 percent of global emissions, must sign and then ratify or otherwise approve it.”*)

[King of Spain stresses support for 2030 Agenda, climate change action at UN Assembly](#)

[UN News Centre – September 20, 2016]

[31 more countries ratify Paris Agreement on climate change](#)

[Times of India – September 22, 2016] (*“The number of the countries which joined the Paris Agreement has now reached 60- five more than the threshold of 55 nations required for bringing the Agreement into force.”*)

[7 signs that China is serious about combating climate change](#) [Grist – September 29, 2016]

[EU nations approve ratification of climate change pact](#) [Fox News – September 30, 2016]

Climate Change Modeling

[The Earth is soaking up less carbon than we thought – which could make it warm up even faster](#) [Washington Post – September 22, 2016]

Legislative Updates

[California to extend most ambitious US climate change law](#) [Phys Org – September 8, 2016]

[Gov. Brown signs sweeping legislation to combat climate change](#)

[LA Times – September 8, 2016] (*“The legislation, SB 32, requires the state to slash greenhouse gas emissions to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030, a much more ambitious target than the previous goal of hitting 1990 levels by 2020.”*)

Communicating Climate Change

[Partisan polarization on climate change is worse than ever](#) [Vox – September 7, 2016]

“Skepticism toward climate change and hostility toward climate policy have been yoked to conservative identity. To reject them is to risk rejecting that identity and harming the social relationships that come with it. And most people have much stronger commitment to their core identity than they do to any individual political issue.”

[Do teachers’ climate change beliefs influence students?](#) [PhysOrg – September 7, 2016]

[Yes, the climate has always changed. This comic shows why that’s no comfort.](#)

[Vox – September 12, 2016]

[This is what climate change sounds like, in D minor](#) [Climate Central – September 20, 2016]

“Music based on data has the potential to reveal new patterns to scientists and get data out of the arcane language of empirical orthogonal functions, p-values and Kruskal-Wallis tests and into a language that everyone can understand”

[Six charts show why no one is talking about climate change](#)

[Popular Science – September 30, 2016]

DWR Climate News Digest – September 2016

BLOGS/Commentary

Sam Mulopulos on “[Having less babies is not a solution to climate change](#)”

[Huffington Post – September 20, 2016]

Julian Cribb on “[Can humanity survive the 21st century](#)”

[MAHB ([Millennium Alliance for Humanity and the Biosphere](#)) – September 20, 2016]

Russell McLendon on “[Grow food, not grass, to fight climate change](#)”

[Mother Nature Network – September 20, 2016]

Ambassador Susan Rice and Brian Deese on “[Integrating climate change into national security planning](#)” [The White House – September 21, 2016] (*“For all the challenges we face as a nation – from terrorist groups like ISIK and al Queda to increasingly sophisticated cyber-attacks, from diseases like Ebola and Zika to Russian aggression in Ukraine – no threat is more terrifying in its global reach or more potentially destructive and destabilizing than climate change.”*)

Tim McDonnell on “[How climate change is fueling a food crisis in Kenya, Uganda, and Nigeria](#)” [National Geographic – September 29, 2016]

Additional Items of Interest

[Climate change is coming for your coffee](#) [Wired – September 2, 2016]

[BlackRock says investors need to assess climate change when investing](#)

[Fortune – September 6, 2016]

[Can ExxonMobil be found liable for misleading the public on climate change?](#)

[Bloomberg – September 7, 2016]

[Supply chain executives must lead on climate change](#) [Forbes – September 8, 2016]

[Researchers find climate change already playing major roles](#) [Phys Org – September 9, 2016]

(“...while the effects of future climate change will be significant, the social and economic impacts of our current climate today are often just as severe...If we solve these problems today, we’ll benefit everyone, both in this generation and the next.”)

[Can our need for a carbon-free future override our fears of nuclear energy?](#)

[The Guardian – September 12, 2016]

[CO2, climate change seen as waste disposal challenge](#) [Climate Central – September 13, 2016]

DWR Climate News Digest – September 2016

[Meet the mom litigating the 'biggest case on the planet'](#) [CNN – September 13, 2016]

[Military experts say climate change poses 'significant risk' to security](#)

[The Guardian – September 14, 2016]

[Americans willing to pay to fight climate change \(but only a little\)](#)

[CBS News – September 15, 2016]

[Governor compares fighting climate change to building Noah's Ark](#)

[The Sacramento Bee – September 19, 2016]

[Climate change – a case of déjà vu](#) [The Guardian – September 19, 2016] (*"Brexit has happened before – around 7,500 years ago, when Britain was severed from mainland Europe by rising sea levels. That separation from Europe also happened at a time of higher temperatures, melting glaciers and rising sea levels."*)

[Military officials: Climate change could ensnare nation in humanitarian issues and armed conflict](#) [Forbes – September 19, 2016]

[Top U.S. lenders pledge to go carbon neutral, 100% renewable](#)

[Climate Wire – September 20, 2016]

[SEC probes Exxon over accounting for climate change](#)

[The Wall Street Journal – September 20, 2016] (*"The SEC's probe is homing in on how Exxon calculates the impact to its business from the world's mounting response to climate change, including what figures the company uses to account for the future costs of complying with regulations to curb greenhouse gases as it evaluates the economic viability of its projects"*)

[An Open Letter Regarding Climate Change from Concerned Members of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences](#) [Responsible Scientists.org – September 20, 2016] (*"During the Presidential primary campaign, claims were made that the Earth is not warming, or that warming is due to purely natural causes outside of human control. Such claims are inconsistent with reality...Nations that find innovative ways of decarbonizing energy systems and sequestering CO2 will be the economic leaders of the 21st century."*)

[Heavy hitters line up to "PREP" for climate change](#) [Clean Technica – September 22, 2016]

(*"Called PREP for the Partnership for Resilience and Preparedness, the new initiative teams the World Resources Institute with NOAA, NASA, DOI, Google, IBM, and Amazon Web Services, among many others."*)

[PREP Beta website] [Enabling collective action to manage climate risks](#)

[PREPdata.org – September 2016]

[The biggest thing a president’s ever done on climate is in the hands of 10 judges](#)

[Think Progress – September 23, 2016]

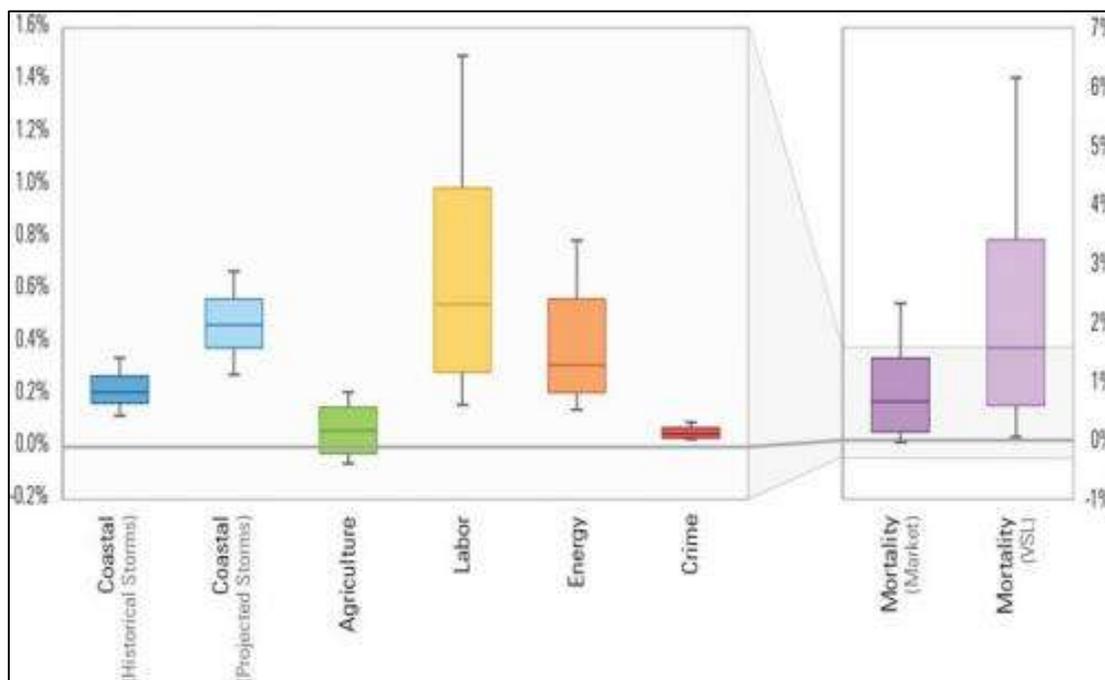
[A new debate over pricing the risks of climate change](#) [New York Times – September 26, 2016]

[Greenhouse gases from reservoirs fuel climate change](#) [Climate Central – September 29, 2016]

(“Globally, reservoirs are responsible for about 1.3 percent of the world’s man-made greenhouse gas emissions each year, or about the same as Canada’s total emissions”)

[Mimicking nature to fight climate change](#) [TakePart – September 29, 2016]

Images to Ponder



“The graphic above indicates the estimated annual economic damages due to climate change in six key sectors of the US economy” Image source: <http://phys.org/news/2014-06-economic-impacts-climate-flashlight-night.html>

Current and past editions of the DWR Climate News Digest can be viewed and downloaded at: <http://www.water.ca.gov/climatechange/news.cfm>. Please email questions, comments, or listserv subscription requests to: climatechange@water.ca.gov.