DWR Climate News Digest

October 27th - November 24th, 2014

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The information provided herein is a selected compilation of recent popular news articles, publications, and other information relevant to climate change and water management. The links provided herein are 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]

DWR Staff Publications

Water Management: From an Uncertain Present to a Sustainable Future
[Golden Gate University Environmental Law Journal – June 2014]

Reports

Climate Change 2014 – Synthesis Report [November 1, 2014] (“...anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases are the highest in history. Recent climate changes have had widespread impacts on human and natural systems. Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, and since the 1950’s, many of the observed changes are unprecedented over decades to millennia. The atmosphere and ocean have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have diminished, and sea level has risen”)

The New Climate Economy [The Global Commission on the Economy and Climate Change – October 2014] (“The next 15 years will be critical, as the global economy undergoes a deep structural transformation that will determine the future of the world’s climate system...The Global Commission, advised by some of the world’s leading economists, sets out a ten point ‘global action plan’ for governments and businesses to secure better growth in a low-carbon economy”)

[Breakthrough Strategies and Solutions - 2014]
Tools for Landscape-Level Assessment and Planning [NatureServe.org – November 2014] (“This guide was developed primarily for natural resource managers, land-use planners, and others working within the NPLCC; however, many of the tools – as well as the lessons learned and helpful hints – will apply beyond that region’s boundaries”)

Sea-level Rise and other Ocean Impacts

Robot reveals surprisingly thick Antarctic sea ice [Scientific American – November 25, 2014]

Warmest oceans ever recorded [November 14, 2014]

New study shows warm waters are melting Antarctica from below [Skeptical Science – November 13, 2014]

Ocean dead zones are getting worse globally due to climate change [Smithsonian – November 10, 2014]

New research quantifies what’s causing sea level to rise [Skeptical Science – October 30, 2014]

Climate change caused by ocean, not just atmosphere [Science Daily – October 25, 2014]

The role of the ocean in tempering global warming [Climate.gov – October 23, 2014]

Agriculture/Food Production

This new restaurant is a lab to help find ways the food industry can fight climate change [Fast Company – November 20, 2014]

Climate change to increase flood, crop insurance losses [USA Today – November 20, 2014]


With drought the new normal, California farmers find they have to change [NPR – November 14, 2014]

Climate change and food insecurity multiplying risks in 32 countries [Supply Management – November 3, 2014]

General Water Management

Groundwater warming up in sync [Science Daily – November 11, 2014]

NASA bombshell: Global groundwater crisis threatens our food supplies and our security [Think Progress – October 31, 2014]

27 October to 25 November 2014
**Extreme Weather Events**

2014 set for record hot; record cold thing of the past [Climate Central – November 20, 2014]

Analyzing heat waves: Extreme heat waves may become the norm [Science Daily – November 5, 2014]

Climate change and paleoclimatology: Putting California’s drought in a long-term perspective [Mavens Notebook – November 3, 2014]

New research predicts California drought will worsen [Sacramento Bee – November 2, 2014]

**Human Health Impacts**

Climate-driven migration increasing disease burden in Ethiopia [Trust.org – November 3, 2014]


Climate change and rising violence are linked, according to 55 scientific studies [Think Progress – October 23, 2014]

**Tribal Impacts & Traditional Ecological Knowledge**

Rosebud leader on Keystone: ‘Test us – you’ll see an Indian uprising’ [Indian Country Today – November 22, 2014]

**Wildlife and Ecosystem Impacts**

Eelgrass could save the planet [Boston Globe – November 9, 2014]

How Iceland is benefiting from climate change [Newsweek – November 2, 2014]

**Greenhouse Gas Mitigation**

Seven actions for cities to seriously address climate change [Business Green – November 14, 2014]

World’s largest polluters strike deal to curb global warming [Scientific American – November 12, 2014]

Climate tools seek to bend nature’s path [New York Times – November 9, 2014]

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**Restoring wetlands can lessen soil sinkage, greenhouse gas emissions, study finds** [Science Daily – October 30, 2014]

**Climate Adaptation**

**12 ways communities will have to adapt to handle climate change**

[The Guardian – October 29, 2014]

**International Planning**

**The little Dutch boy has gone, but his spirit lives on in climate change strategies**

[Climate Wire – November 21, 2014]

**Should Canada have a plan for climate refugees?** [Alaska Dispatch News – November 20, 2014]

**China hunger for clean energy to leave no rooftop behind** [Bloomberg – November 12, 2014]

**Six ways you can help stop climate change** [The Guardian – November 3, 2014] *(talking about climate change is #1!)*

**Climate change concerns push Chile to forefront of carbon tax movement**


**Communicating Climate Change**

**Neither rain nor snow nor heat sways views on climate science**

[LA Times – November 24, 2014] *(“People often say that we disagree about the facts, so that leads us to disagree about the solutions...But what’s actually happening is that people are disagreeing about the solutions, so we can never really have a good discussion of the facts.”)*

**How to engage and win the conversation about climate and energy**

[Think Progress – November 6, 2014]

**Stanford Roundtable panelists discuss how to improve public understanding of climate change** [Stanford – October 27, 2014]

**BLOGS/Commentary**

Joe Romm on “**Why the U.S.-China CO2 deal is an energy, climate, and political gamechanger**” [Think Progress – November 12, 2014]

John Kerry on “**China, America and our warming planet**”


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Bill McKibben on “The IPCC is stern on climate change – but still underestimates the situation” [The Guardian – November 2, 22014]


Additional Items of Interest

[website] U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit [NOAA – November 2014] (“The U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit is a website designed to help people find and use tools, information, and subject matter expertise to build climate resilience. The Toolkit offers information from all across the U.S. federal government in one easy-to-use location.”)

Leaked: The oil lobby’s conspiracy to kill off California’s climate law (AB32) [Bloomberg Businessweek – November 25, 2014]

$53 trillion needed to maintain 2C warming scenario, group estimates [Climate Wire – November 25, 2014]

Fast warming Arctic proves deadly to animals and people [Scientific American – November 24, 2014]

Climate change threatens to strip the identity of Glacier National Park [New York Times – November 22, 2014]

2014 warmest year: California, world set to break records [Sacramento Bee – November 21, 2014]

Why Google halted its research into renewable energy [Vox – November 19, 2014]

Would the Keystone pipeline speed up global warming? [Discovery – November 19, 2014]

Will the most common molecule in the universe be the fuel of the future? [Climate Wire – November 18, 2014]

New life for the artificial leaf? [Ensia – November 17, 2014] (Artificial photosynthesis has tremendous potential as an alternative energy source, but “until you put a price on carbon, none of these technologies are going to get a foothold”)

NASA shows stark year in the life of CO2 [Climate Central – November 17, 2014] (fascinating animation showing the global circulation of CO2)

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California offers a comprehensive response to climate change, state government says
[The Weather Channel – November 14, 2014] (According to Governor Jerry Brown, “California has the most integrated response and strategy to deal with climate change of any political jurisdiction in the world...What happens here doesn’t stay here, it goes around the globe”)

Global growth in fossil fuel burning continues unabated
[Scientific American – November 13, 2014]

Climate change may spark more lightning strikes, igniting wildfires
[National Geographic – November 13, 2014]

5 key insights into Obama’s climate change deal with China [SF Gate – November 12, 2014]

Everything you need to know about the U.S.-China climate change agreement
[Scientific American – November 12, 2014]

FACT SHEET: U.S.-China Joint Announcement on Climate Change and Clean Energy Cooperation [White House – November 11, 2014]

The worst climate pollution is carbon dioxide [Scientific American – November 4, 2014]

‘No ambiguity on climate change, UN says in IPCC report
[The Weather Channel – November 3, 2014]

Scientists say cost of avoiding runaway climate change is low
[Financial Times – November 2, 2014] (“Delaying additional mitigation to 2030 will substantially increase the technological, economic, social and institutional challenges associated with limiting the warming over the 21st century to below 2°C relative to pre-industrial levels”)

IPCC reaches finish line, releases major climate change synthesis report
[American Association for the Advancement of Science – November 2, 2014]

5 key takeaways from the latest climate change report
[National Geographic – November 2, 2014]
Images to Ponder


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