

DWR Climate News Digest

January 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.

To subscribe to the DWR Climate News listserv and receive notifications when new editions are posted, send an email to: climatechange@water.ca.gov.

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

Reports

The Global Risks Report 2016 [World Economic Forum – January 2016] (*“After its presence in the top five most impactful risks for the past three years, the ‘failure of climate change mitigation and adaptation’ has risen to the top and is perceived in 2016 as the most impactful risk for the years to come, ahead of weapons of mass destruction, ranking 2nd, and water crises, ranking 3rd.”*)

¹ <http://happynewyearquotesu.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Happy-New-Year-2016-Images.jpg>

Published Literature

[Future cost-competitive electricity systems and their impact on US CO2 emissions](#)

[Nature – January 26, 2016] (*“Our results show that when using future anticipated costs for wind and solar, carbon dioxide emissions from the US electricity sector can be reduced by up to 80% relative to 1990 levels, without an increase in the levelized cost of electricity. These reductions are possible with current technologies and without electrical storage.”*)

Agriculture/Food Production

[Climate change threatens global food security – here’s what needs to be done](#)

[Alternet – January 1, 2016]

[Climate change is taking a toll on farmers’ mental health](#) [Climate Progress – January 4, 2016]

Extreme Weather Events

[The surprising way that climate change could worsen East Coast blizzards](#)

[Washington Post – January 25, 2016]

Sea-level Rise and other Ocean Impacts

[Climate change altering Greenland ice sheet and accelerating sea level rise, says New York University prof](#) [EurekaAlert – January 4, 2016]

[Ocean warming makes floods worse](#) [Scientific American – January 26, 2016]

Water/Energy Nexus

[Map: Where climate change could hit electricity production](#) [Carbon Brief – January 4, 2016]

[Climate change could cut global electricity output by disrupting water](#)

[Reuters – January 4, 2016] (*“Shifts in water temperatures, or the availability of fresh water due to climate change, could lead to reductions in electricity production capacity in more than two thirds of the world’s power plants between 2040 and 2069”*)

Human Health Impacts

[Climate change and poverty – the underappreciated link](#) [The World Post – January 21, 2016]

[Zika and climate change: What you need to know](#) [Discovery News – January 29, 2016]

Tribal Impacts & Traditional Ecological Knowledge

[Climate Change Through an Intersectional Lens: Gendered Vulnerability and Resilience in Indigenous Communities in the United States](#) [US Forest Service – December 2015]

Wildlife and Ecosystem Impacts

[What does the Paris agreement mean for the world's other 8 million species?](#)

[The Guardian – January 6, 2016]

[Climate change is already changing bird migration](#) [Grist – January 27, 2016]

[Can evolution save snow hares from climate change?](#) [Forbes – January 29, 2016]

Greenhouse Gas Mitigation

[Your geoengineering cheat sheet](#) [Slate – January 6, 2016]

[Geoengineering's moral hazard problem](#) [Slate – January 15, 2016]

[Scientists pour cold water on ocean geoengineering idea](#) [Climate Home – January 28, 2016]

Climate Adaptation

[Intact nature offers best defense against climate change](#) [EurekaAlert – January 28, 2016]

International Planning

[Victorian farmers call for pipelines to save their region from climate change](#)

[The Guardian – January 20, 2016]

[Why Copenhagen is building parks that can turn into ponds](#) [City Lab – January 22, 2016]

[Haunting photos show effects of climate change in Bangladesh](#)

[Huffington Post – January 28, 2016] (*"Bangladesh is one of the countries most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, with millions expected to be displaced in the next 40 years"*)

[West Africa: Stakeholders develop climate change adaptation strategy for West Africa](#)

[All Africa – January 28, 2016]

[Nepalese farmers grapple with effects of climate change](#) [UCA News – January 28, 2016]

Legislative Updates

[Court refuses to block Obama’s climate change initiative](#) [Ars Technica – January 22, 2016]

Communicating Climate Change

[Psychologists have discovered the secret to making people care about climate change](#)

[Business Insider – January 4, 2016] (“...*simply asking people to reflect upon how they want to be remembered by future generations can lead them to engage in more ‘helping behavior’ in the present, particularly when it comes to the environment*”)

[Why climate change rhetoric simultaneously succeeds and fails](#)

[Huffington Post – January 4, 2016] (“*It turns out that these personal relevance messages [e.g. personal health or food security] have the opposite effect from what we might expect: Although they do increase people’s concern about climate change, they actually reduce their willingness to advocate on the issue*”)

[Why psychology should be a part of the fight against climate change](#)

[Huffington Post – January 18, 2016] (“*By understanding emotional barriers to action, we may be able to devise better guidelines for communication, advocacy and policy*”)

BLOGS/Commentary

Joe Romm on “[Why James Hansen is wrong about nuclear power](#)”

[Think Progress – January 7, 2016]

Dimitris Tsitsiragos on “[Climate change is a threat – and an opportunity – for the private sector](#)” [The World Bank – January 13, 2016] (“*A recent study that looked at a sample of 1,700 leading international firms found that the money they put into reducing greenhouse gas emissions saw an internal rate return of 27 percent – an indication that those investments were paying off*”)

The New York Times Editorial Board on “[Proof that a price on carbon works](#)”

[New York Times – January 19, 2016]

Ryan Cooper on “[How reality silenced the climate change deniers](#)”

[The Week – January 28, 2016]

Additional Items of Interest

Climate change and consensus [The Hill – January 4, 2016] (*“Our findings revealed widespread agreement [among economists] that climate damages will be more severe and more immediate than previously estimated, and that aggressive climate policies are economically desirable...”*)

Melting of massive ice ‘lid’ resulted in huge release of CO2 at the end of the ice age

[University of Cambridge – January 4, 2016]

Current pace of environmental change is unprecedented in Earth’s history

[University of Bristol – January 4, 2016]

Earth is experiencing a global warming spurt [Climate Central – January 5, 2016]

A single gas well leak is California’s biggest contributor to climate change

[The Guardian – January 5, 2016]

Astronauts want to save the world [Slate – January 5, 2016] (*Watch Call to Earth – A message from the world’s astronauts to COP21*)

What was the NHL doing at the Paris talks? [Climate Wire – January 5, 2016] (*“...athletes get the connection between the game and the environment because of the risk global warming poses to frozen ponds”*)

COP21: Paris deal far too weak to prevent devastating climate change, academics warn

[Independent – January 8, 2016]

Scientists just found an unexpected factor that could be driving Greenland’s ice loss

[Washington Post – January 12, 2016]

Early data shows 2015 blew away previous records to become Earth’s hottest year

[Mashable – January 13, 2016]

The good news on global warming: We’ve delayed the next ice age

[Bloomberg – January 13, 2016] (*“This study confirms what we’ve suspected for some time, that the carbon dioxide humans have added to the atmosphere will alter the climate of the planet for tens to hundreds of thousands of years, and has canceled the next ice age”*)

Here’s what world leaders think is the greatest risk for 2016 [Fortune – January 16, 2016]

(*“Climate change ranks as the No. 1 concern of global leaders, according to a new survey from the World Economic Forum”*)

[It's official: 2015 'smashed' 2014's global temperature record](#)

[Washington Post – January 20, 2016]

[U.N. climate chief: What century does the U.S. want to lead?](#) [ClimateWire – January 21, 2016]

[California investigating Exxon's climate stance](#) [ClimateWire – January 21, 2016]

[Survey of economists shows climate change impact sooner, more severe](#)

[Insurance Journal – January 21, 2016]

[Record hot years near impossible without manmade climate change – study](#)

[The Guardian – January 25, 2016]

[How global warming helped turn the blizzard of 2016 into a record-breaking storm](#)

[Slate – January 25, 2016]

[Canada to consider climate change in future pipeline approvals](#) [The Hill – January 26, 2016]

[What now? Climate change and energy after Paris](#) [Keynote address by Richard Kinley, UNFCCC Deputy Secretary at Selwyn College, University of Cambridge – January 22, 2016]

[Florida mayors to Rubio: We're going under, take climate change seriously](#)

[Ars Technica – January 27, 2016]

[How women became stars in the battle against climate change](#)

[Huffington Post – January 27, 2016]

[Climate change 2016: Investors vow to pour trillions of dollars into clean energy transition](#)

[International Business Times – January 29, 2016] (*"The California State Teacher's Retirement System has a goal to invest \$3.7 billion in clean energy by 2019. But that amount could reach \$9.5 billion under a carbon price"*)

[Is climate change too big for business?](#) [Yale Insights – January 29, 2016]

Images to Ponder

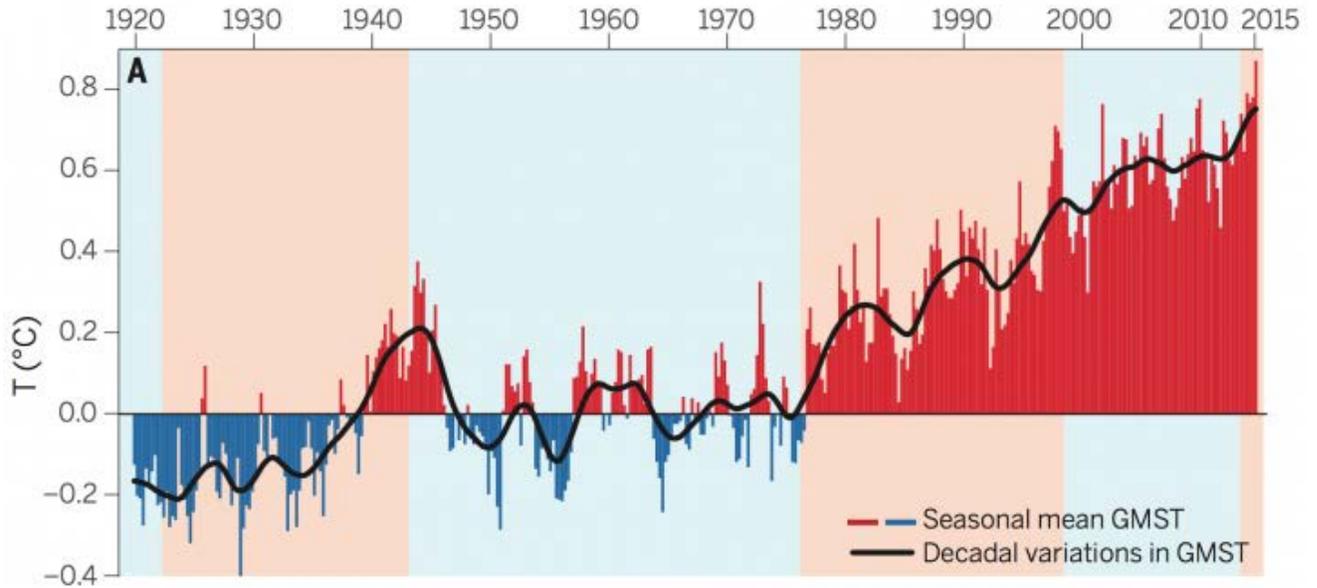


Image source: <http://www.climatecentral.org/news/earth-experiences-global-warming-spurt-19877>

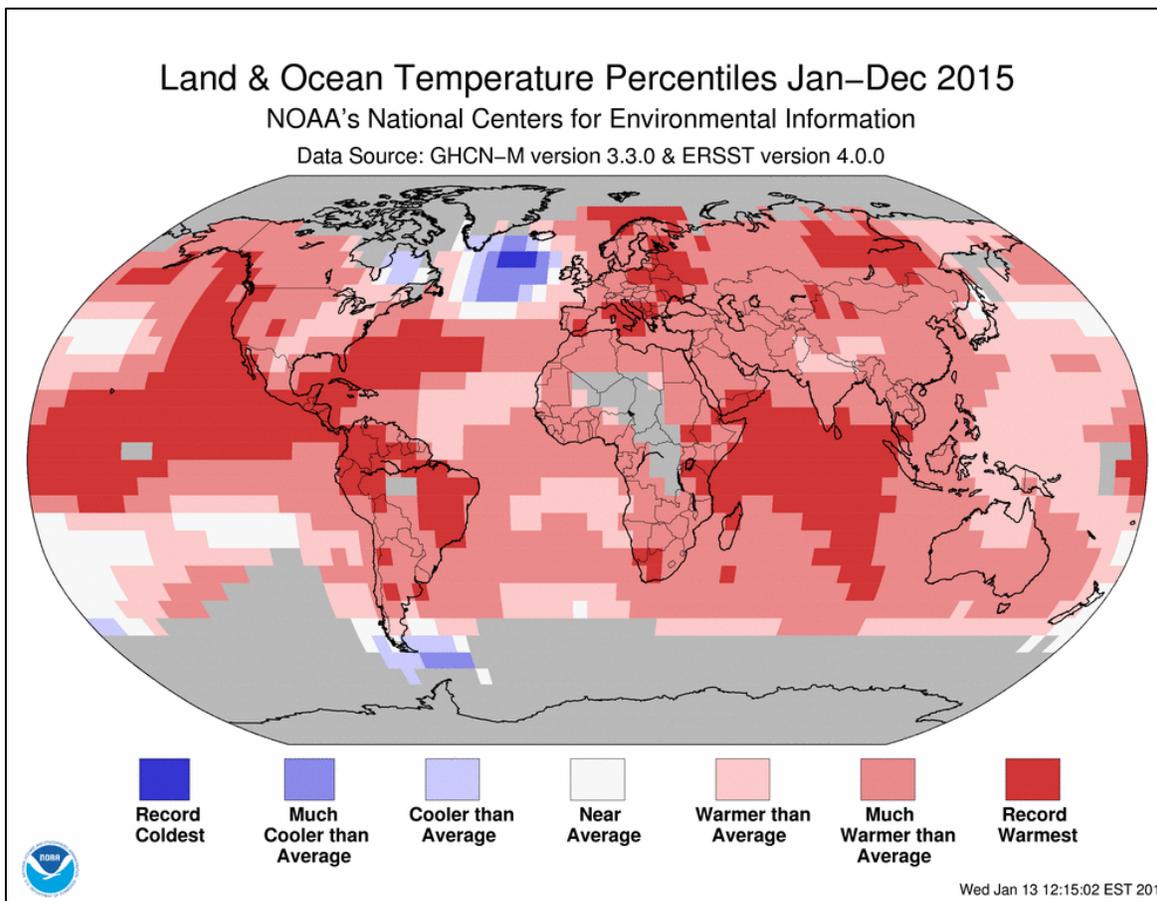


Image source: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/01/20/its-official-2015-smashed-2014s-global-temperature-record-it-wasnt-even-close/>

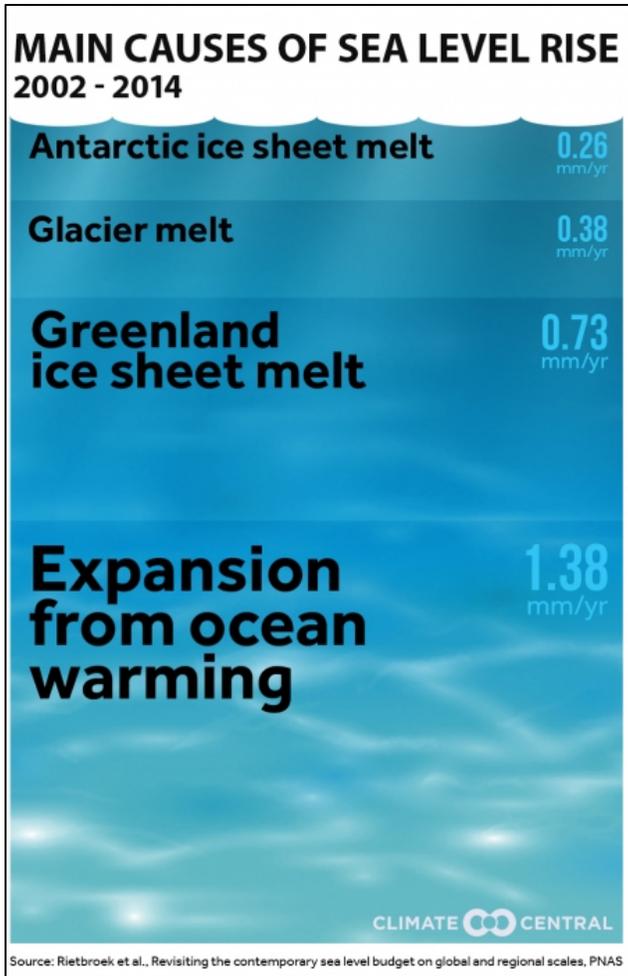


Image source: http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/ocean-warming-makes-floods-worse/?WT.mc_id=SA_DD_20160126

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