



# Newsletter

INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER  
Embassy of the United States of America

## Environmental Issues

April 2009

### EARTH DAY 2009: THE GREEN GENERATION

This is a two-year initiative that will launch in 2009 and culminate on the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day in 2010. The Green Generation includes ordinary people who are engaged in individual and collective activities to improve their health, to improve their schools, to participate in building a solution to urgent national and global issues, such as climate change or the world's water crises.

**Walden: The Ballad of Thoreau** is a two act, four character play that reflects a conversation between Thoreau and Emerson set during the final two days Thoreau spent in his cabin before leaving Walden Pond. Over 7,100 colleges and schools have already performed the play. On Earth Day, April 22, 2009, the play will be broadcast nationwide on public TV, public radio, movie theaters and through Earth Day TV. Earth Day Network and the producers of the play have created lesson plans that make Walden an educational tool.



[HTTP://WW2.EARTHDAY.NET/EARTHDAY2009](http://ww2.earthday.net/earthday2009)

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## EARTH DAY RESOURCES

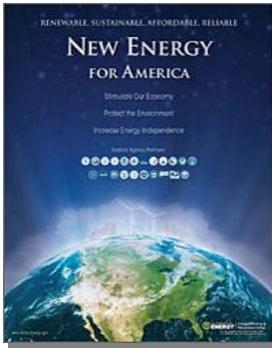
### **TODAY IN HISTORY: APRIL 22 EARTH DAY. American Memory, Library of Congress. 2009. 09AD850**

Today in History for April 22 briefly shows the history of Earth Day along with links to developments through U.S. history in conservation efforts leading up to the Earth Day. <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/today/apr22.html> [HTML format, various paging]

### **EARTH DAY 2009. Los Alamos National Laboratory. April 2009. 09AD847**

The Laboratory focuses on how people can sustain and improve the environment. The people have an impact on the planet, and it is corporate and individual responsibility to minimize these impacts. The Web site leads to researches done by the Laboratory to help protect the future of the planet.

<http://www.lanl.gov/environment/earthday/index.shtml> [HTML format, various paging].



### **EARTH DAY 2009: NEW ENERGY FOR AMERICA. U.S. Department of Energy, April 2009**

The Federal Government is summoning the nation "to face one of the great challenges of our time: confronting our dependence on foreign oil, addressing the moral, economic, and environmental challenge of global climate change, and building a clean energy future that benefits all Americans." This call is the Administration's New Energy for America plan.

The 2009 Earth Day theme is New Energy for America. It showcases the potential and importance of New Energy for America as a means to stimulate our economy, protect the environment, and increase energy independence.

<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/services/earthday.html>

### **MAKE EVERY DAY EARTH DAY. U.S. Department of Energy. 2009. 09AD849**

This is the U.S. Department of Energy's tips to save money and protect the environment.

<http://www.energy.gov/energytips.htm> [HTML format with interactive media].

### **YOU HAVE THE POWER: CAMPAIGN MATERIALS. Federal Energy Management Program, U.S. Department of Energy. March 19, 2009. 09AD852**

The artwork for You Have the Power campaign in conjunction with the Earth Day is available for download.

[http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/services/yhtp/campaign\\_materials.html#ed](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/services/yhtp/campaign_materials.html#ed) [HTML format with links].

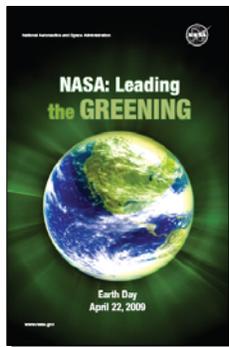
**EARTH DAY: HISTORY. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2009. 09AD848**

The site contains documents photos related to the history of Earth Day and previous Earth Day celebrations.

<http://www.epa.gov/earthday/> Earth Day Main Page [HTML format with links].

<http://www.epa.gov/earthday/history.htm> Timeline. [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.epa.gov/history/topics/earthday/index.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

**EARTH DAY –APRIL 22: NASA LEADING THE GREENING**

◀NASA Earth Day Poster

**EARTH DAY IS EVERYDAY AT NASA Activity Booklet▶**

<http://www.nasa.gov/topics/earth/earthday/>

**EARTH DAY: FIGHTING THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE. World Wildlife Fund, April 2009. 09AD845**

Climate change is among the most pervasive threats to the web of life, yet people have the power to address its root causes and limit its impact on the planet. Smart energy choices made by individuals and businesses can dramatically reduce CO2 emissions and slow global warming. Without action, climate change will cause the extinction of countless species and destroy some of the world's most precious ecosystems.

<http://www.worldwildlife.org/sites/earthday/item6793.html> [HTML format, various paging]

**GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS****CONSIDERATIONS FOR DEVELOPING A DOSIMETRY-BASED CUMULATIVE RISK ASSESSMENT APPROACH FOR MIXTURES OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINANTS (Final Report). U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2009.**

This report develops a framework to guide decisions whether to incorporate physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modeling into the cumulative risk assessment process. This approach stresses the importance of initial analysis to eliminate those situations that do not warrant a PBPK-based approach to cumulative risk assessment thereby reducing the unnecessary expenditure of resources. The purpose of this final report is to serve as a learning tool for EPA scientists and risk assessors in choosing to embark on PBPK modeling for cumulative risk assessment. It is structured around the 10-step procedure developed by the Office of Pesticide programs for conducting a cumulative risk assessment and the foundations of mixtures and cumulative risk assessment as conducted by the U.S. EPA. The approach is conducted in two phases, with the

initial phase devoted to deciphering chemical-specific information to group chemicals, and the second phase devoted to guiding the application of PBPK modeling and the interpretation of dosimetry results to better inform the likelihood of chemical interactions and provide insight as to the likelihood of those interactions at environmentally-relevant exposure levels.

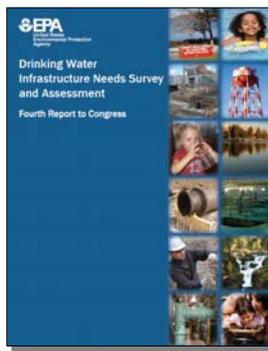
<http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/cfm/recordisplay.cfm?deid=172725>

**\$740 MILLION GOES TO STATES FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE PROJECTS. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. February 23, 2009. 09AD648**

Department of the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announces that more than \$740.9 million will be distributed to the fish and wildlife agencies of the 50 states, commonwealths, the District of Columbia, and territories to fund fish and wildlife conservation, boater access to public waters, and hunter and aquatic education. These Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program funds come from excise taxes and import duties on sporting firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, sport-fishing equipment, electric outboard motors, and fuel taxes attributable to motorboats and small engines.

<http://www.fws.gov/news/NewsReleases/showNews.cfm?newsId=A383A17A-A587-E724-62E293452FE6DF6F>

<http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/WSFRfinalApportionmentsFY09.pdf> Final Appointment Certificates [PDF Format, 7 pages].

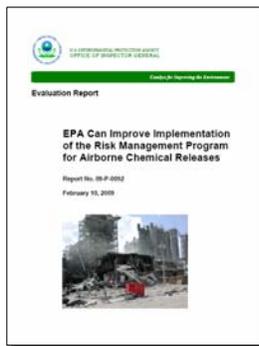


**DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Web posted March 26, 2009. 09AD831**

Local water utilities must make significant investments to install, upgrade, or replace equipment in order to deliver safe drinking water and protect public health. Every four years, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency conducts a survey of the anticipated costs of these investments and reports the results to Congress. The results are also used to help determine the amount of funding each state receives for its Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program, which funds the types of projects

identified in the survey.

[http://www.epa.gov/safewater/needssurvey/pdfs/2007/report\\_needssurvey\\_2007.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/needssurvey/pdfs/2007/report_needssurvey_2007.pdf) [PDF format, 80 pages].



**EPA CAN IMPROVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR AIRBORNE CHEMICAL RELEASES. Office of Inspector General, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. February 10, 2009. 09AD566**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency can improve its program management and oversight to better assure that facilities covered by the Clean Air Act's Risk Management Program submit or re-submit a Risk Management Plan, says the report.

<http://www.epa.gov/oigearth/reports/2009/20090210-09-P-0092.pdf>

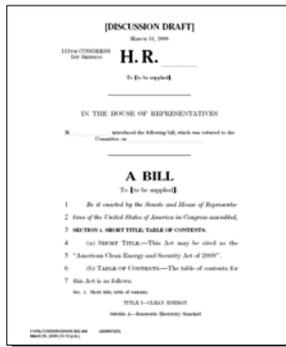
## THE WHITE HOUSE

### **GREEN JOBS: A PATHWAY TO A STRONG MIDDLE CLASS. Middle Class Task Force, Vice President of the United States. March 4, 2009. 09AD692**

The White House Task Force on the Middle Class has a simple mandate: to find, highlight, and implement solutions to the economic challenges facing the American middle class. The Obama Administration is committed to reforming how we create and consume energy in America, and project of reform is the work of many different officials and agencies within the government. One part of that agenda is to promote the creation of green jobs.

[http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Middle\\_Class\\_Task\\_Force\\_Staff\\_Report\\_-\\_Green\\_Jobs:\\_A\\_Pathway\\_to\\_a\\_Strong\\_Middle\\_Class](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Middle_Class_Task_Force_Staff_Report_-_Green_Jobs:_A_Pathway_to_a_Strong_Middle_Class)

## CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS (HEARINGS, REPORTS, ETC.)



### **AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT OF 2009-A Draft. Chairman Henry A. Waxman of the Energy and Commerce Committee and Chairman Edward J. Markey of the Energy and Environment Subcommittee, March 31, 2009**

Chairman Henry A. Waxman of the Energy and Commerce Committee and Chairman Edward J. Markey of the Energy and Environment Subcommittee today released a draft of clean energy legislation that will create jobs, help end our dangerous dependence on foreign oil, and combat global warming. The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (ACES) is a comprehensive approach to America's energy policy that charts a new course towards a clean energy economy.

"This legislation will create millions of clean energy jobs, put America on the path to energy independence, and cut global warming pollution." said Chairman Waxman. "Our goal is to strengthen our economy by making America the world leader in new clean energy and energy efficiency technologies."

Full Text:

[http://energycommerce.house.gov/Press\\_111/20090331/acesa\\_discussiondraft.pdf](http://energycommerce.house.gov/Press_111/20090331/acesa_discussiondraft.pdf)

Summary:

[http://energycommerce.house.gov/Press\\_111/20090331/acesa\\_summary.pdf](http://energycommerce.house.gov/Press_111/20090331/acesa_summary.pdf)

### **FLEXIBILITY IN THE TIMING OF EMISSION REDUCTIONS UNDER A CAP-AND-TRADE PROGRAM. Testimony, Congressional Budget Office. Douglas W. Elmendorf. March 26, 2009. 09AD833**

Elmendorf argues that many analysts agree that the most cost-effective way to spur significant changes in the production and use of energy is to put a price on carbon emissions. By establishing such a price, rather than by dictating specific technologies or changes in behavior, the government would encourage households and firms to reduce emissions in the least costly ways. Either a carbon tax or a cap-and-trade program would effectively put a price on carbon emissions and lead to emission reductions where and how it was least costly to achieve them.

[http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/100xx/doc10020/03-26-Cap&Trade\\_Testimony.1.1.shtml](http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/100xx/doc10020/03-26-Cap&Trade_Testimony.1.1.shtml)

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**CLIMATE CHANGE: OBSERVATIONS ON FEDERAL EFFORTS TO ADAPT TO A CHANGING CLIMATE. Testimony, U.S. Government Accountability Office. John Stephenson. March 25, 2009. 09AD818**

Changes in the climate attributable to increased concentrations of greenhouse gases may have significant environmental and economic impacts in the United States. Federal, state, and local agencies are tasked with a wide array of responsibilities that will be affected by a changing climate, such as managing natural resources.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09534t.pdf> [PDF format, 14 pages].

## **THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

AIR IMPROVEMENTS RESOUCCE, INC.

**LAND USE EFFECTS OF U.S. CORN-BASED ETHANOL. Air Improvements Resouce, Inc. Thomas L. Darlington. February 24, 2009. 09AD655**

The study assesses land use changes and related greenhouse gas (GHG) emission impacts due to expansion of corn-based ethanol production in the United States. The land use change estimates discussed in the paper were developed for a scenario where U.S. corn-based ethanol production expands from approximately 2 billion gallons per year in 2000/2001 to 15 billion gallons per year (bgy) in 2015/16. The overall conclusion of the report is that 15 bgy of corn ethanol production in 2015/16 should not result in new forest or grassland conversion in the U.S. or abroad.

[http://www.ethanolrfa.org/objects/documents/2192/land\\_use\\_effects\\_of\\_us\\_corn-based\\_ethanol.pdf](http://www.ethanolrfa.org/objects/documents/2192/land_use_effects_of_us_corn-based_ethanol.pdf) [PDF format, 56 pages].

[http://www.ethanolrfa.org/objects/documents/2187/2008\\_ethanol\\_economic\\_contribution.pdf](http://www.ethanolrfa.org/objects/documents/2187/2008_ethanol_economic_contribution.pdf)

Contribution of the Ethanol Industry to the Economy of the U.S. [PDF format, 13 pages].

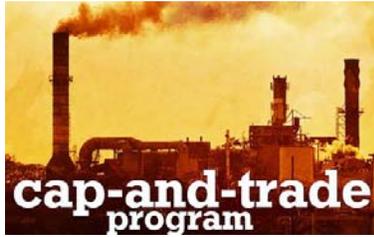
AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR AN ENERGY-EFFICIENT ECONOMY

**ANNUAL RANKING OF GREEN VEHICLES SHOWS PROGRESS DESPITE TOUGH TIMES. American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. Shruti Vaidyanathan and Therese Langer. February 3, 2009. 09AD545**

Despite the beating taken by the auto industry in 2008 and more tough times ahead, manufacturers are fine-tuning their engines and transmissions, improving materials, and adding emissions control technologies get a head start on meeting tightened federal fuel economy standards. Worries over the economy and future gas prices are driving interest in high fuel economy vehicles as well, says the author. This year's greenest title goes once again to Honda's natural gas-powered Civic GX. The Toyota Prius and Honda Civic Hybrid claim spots two and three, while the Smart Fortwo Convertible, the Toyota Yaris, and the Nissan Altima Hybrid complete the top six.

<http://www.aceee.org/press/0902gb.htm> [HTML format, various paging with links]

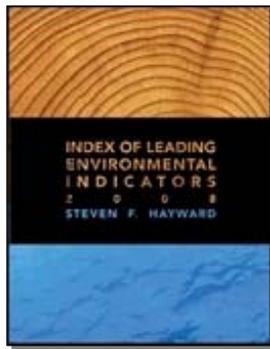
## AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE



**CAP-AND-STICK-IT-TO-ALL. By Aparna Mathur. American Enterprise Institute, April 14, 2009**

Several media outlets, blogs, and political commentators recently announced the unofficial death of the cap-and-trade bill designed to regulate greenhouse gas emissions—and breathed a sigh of relief. In an April 1 Senate vote, 26 Democrats joined 41 Republicans to raise the bar for passage of the bill. (...)But even coastal Democrats would be in for a rude shock if cap-and-trade legislation does come to pass. Their viewing the politics of cap-and-trade as a regional issue that will not affect prices in their states is based on shortsightedness and ignorance of both the nation's regulatory regime and the program's true costs.

<http://american.com/archive/2009/april-2009/cap-and-stick-it-to-all>



**INDEX OF LEADING ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS 2008. Steven F. Hayward, F. K. Weyerhaeuser Fellow in Environmental Studies at AEI. Pacific Research Institute (San Francisco), April 2008**

This edition of the Index of Leading Environmental Indicators takes up the gauntlet on climate change and energy use and aims to provide a more probative picture of environmental realities today. The superior GHG performance of the United States in recent years opens onto a range of important factors that deserve closer scrutiny.

The Index concentrates on energy and environmental linkages among the leading developed and developing nations, in particular the fifteen nations President George W. Bush has convened to deliberate about climate change. A more fine-grained look at the data reveals a different picture from the cliches of the media and activists.

[http://liberty.pacificresearch.org/docLib/20080401\\_08\\_Enviro\\_Index.pdf](http://liberty.pacificresearch.org/docLib/20080401_08_Enviro_Index.pdf)

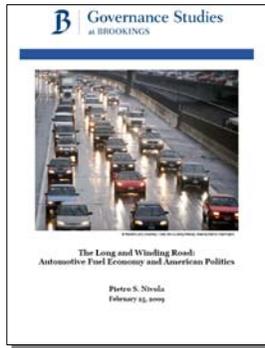
## ARCTIC COUNCIL

**'WE NEED A GLOBAL CLIMATE AGREEMENT'. Remarks by Jonas Gahr Støre, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway at the Joint Meeting of the Antarctic Treaty/Arctic Council. Washington, 6 April 2009.14. April, 2009**

As chair of the Arctic Council, Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Jonas Gahr Støre, spoke at the celebration of the Antarctic Treaty's 50 years anniversary."The polar regions are the world's largest wilderness areas. Their environmental value is immeasurable. Their natural riches are immense. So too are the challenges they are facing. The Antarctic and the Arctic are far away from industrialised areas, but are nonetheless threatened by our modern society - by us. Today we know that some of the fastest and largest climate changes are taking place in the polar regions, and that our ability to understand the deeper meaning and implications of this knowledge may determine whether humanity will be able to cope with the challenges of global warming."

<http://arctic-council.org/filearchive/Antarktis%20umins%20tale%20i%20Washington%20060409%20versj%20060409%20B.pdf>

## BROOKINGS INSTITUTION



**THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD: AUTOMOTIVE FUEL ECONOMY AND AMERICAN POLITICS. Pietro S. Nivola, February 25, 2009, The Brookings Institution**

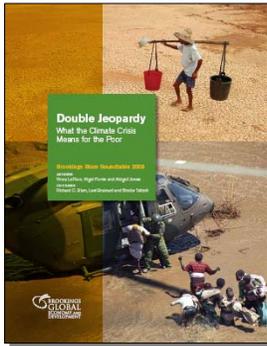
The United States has been largely unsuccessful in reducing its petroleum consumption by regulating the fuel economy of motor vehicles. Pietro Nivola proposes a move towards a comprehensive carbon tax, which could reduce gasoline consumption more effectively and curtail carbon emissions from other, more damaging sources

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/0225\\_cafe\\_nivola/0225\\_cafe\\_nivola.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/0225_cafe_nivola/0225_cafe_nivola.pdf)

**FUEL EFFICIENCY STANDARDS: A DETOUR FROM THE CHEAPEST CLIMATE PROTECTION. Adele Morris, February 03, 2009, The Brookings Institution**

President Obama recently announced his administration would consider California's request for higher fuel efficiency standards as part of new efforts on climate change. Yet would improved standards really make a difference in the climate change challenge? Adele Morris examines the issues in-depth, and considers how increased regulatory standards would stack up against the other proposals being considered by the new administration and Congress.

[http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0203\\_climate\\_change\\_morris.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0203_climate_change_morris.aspx)



**DOUBLE JEOPARDY: WHAT THE CLIMATE CRISIS MEANS FOR THE POOR. Brookings Institution. Vinca LaFleur et al. Web posted February 3, 2009. 09AD502**

More than fifty preeminent policymakers, practitioners, and thought leaders from around the world convened at the Aspen Institute to explore the links between global climate change and poverty alleviation. According to the report, the roundtable sought to shape a common agenda to tackle two of the greatest challenges, climate change and poverty, of our time.

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/02\\_climate\\_change\\_poverty/02\\_climate\\_change\\_poverty.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/02_climate_change_poverty/02_climate_change_poverty.pdf)

## CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT LAW

**PRACTICAL APPROACHES TO INTEGRATING HUMAN RIGHTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE LAW AND POLICY. Center for International Environmental Law, 25 February 2009.**

Climate change is already interfering with the human rights of individuals and vulnerable communities, and is an enormous threat to human rights everywhere. States have obligations under human rights law to protect against harm to human rights caused by climate change,

through taking effective mitigation and adaptation measures. In addition, human rights law requires States to ensure that their responses to climate change – including their mitigation and adaptation measures -- do not themselves violate human rights. For example, States must address climate change through transparent processes open to participation by all affected communities, including indigenous peoples and forest dwellers.

[http://www.ciel.org/Publications/CCandHRE\\_Feb09.pdf](http://www.ciel.org/Publications/CCandHRE_Feb09.pdf)

## CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES

### **WHY UTILITIES ARE NOT WELL-SUITED TO DELIVER RELIEF TO LOW-AND MODERATE-INCOME CONSUMERS IN A CLIMATE BILL. Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Chad Stone and Robert Greenstein. February 19, 2009. 09AD642**

Comprehensive climate change legislation is expected to include measures to mitigate the effects of higher energy-related prices on low- and moderate-income family budgets. The most efficient way to protect low- and moderate-income consumers is through a “climate rebate,” which would directly compensate families for their purchasing power losses, using revenues from a cap-and-trade system or carbon tax, according to the report.

<http://www.cbpp.org/2-19-09climate.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].



### **BLUEPRINT FOR A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PARTNERSHIP FOR THE AMERICAS; Project Report. CFR, CIGI, CEBRI, IIR UWI, April 2009.**

The Fifth Summit of the Americas offers an auspicious opportunity to rekindle cooperation among the 34 countries in the hemisphere whose leaders gather in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, on April 17-19, 2009. This report identifies three opportunities to lay the groundwork for the development of lasting sustainable energy partnerships based on cooperation around strategic needs: 1) an energy and environment hemispheric research initiative; 2) an agenda for a sustainable Amazon; and 3) a new approach to the electricity sector in Central America and the Caribbean. Four hemispheric organizations are collaborating on this project: The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI); the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR); The Brazilian Centre for International Relations (CEBRI); and the Institute of International Relations at the University of the West Indies (IIR UWI).

<http://www.cigionline.org/cigi/download-nocache/Publications/specialrep/blueprint/blueprint4>

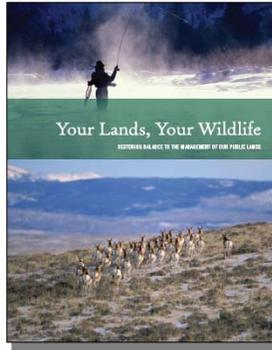
### **HOW GREEN IS THY STIMULUS? Council on Foreign Relations. Toni Johnson. February 16, 2009. 09AD616**

The idea of creating green jobs drew great attention as the stimulus package made its way through Congress. Defining those jobs is difficult, however, and economists say many may simply displace existing jobs in the old carbon-based economy.

[http://www.cfr.org/publication/18536/how\\_green\\_is\\_thy\\_stimulus\\_bill.html?breadcrumb=%2F](http://www.cfr.org/publication/18536/how_green_is_thy_stimulus_bill.html?breadcrumb=%2F)

[HTML format, various paging].

DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

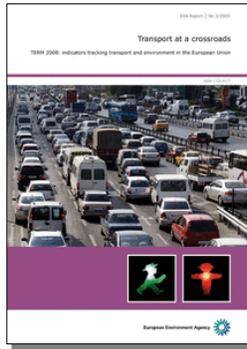


**YOUR LANDS, YOUR WILDLIFE: RESTORING BALANCE TO THE MANAGEMENT OF OUR PUBLIC LANDS.** Defenders of Wildlife. Web posted February 12, 2009. 09AD575

The report provides a practical roadmap for restoring balance to public lands management to ensure healthy wildlife populations. "Safeguarding fish and wildlife is one of the most important uses of our public lands because it leads to so many other benefits," said Peter Nelson, Defenders of Wildlife, director of federal lands program and a lead author of the report. "After eight years of having the scales tipped in favor of development, it's time to restore balance, science and public trust to the management of these lands."

[http://www.yourlandstryourwildlife.org/documents/restoring\\_balance\\_to\\_the\\_management\\_of\\_our\\_public\\_lands.pdf](http://www.yourlandstryourwildlife.org/documents/restoring_balance_to_the_management_of_our_public_lands.pdf)

EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



**TRANSPORT AT A CROSSROADS, TERM 2008: indicators tracking transport and environment in the European Union.** EEA Report No 3/2009. Published: 31 Mar 2009

The TERM 2008 report examines performance of the transport sector vis-a-vis environmental performance and concludes that there are plenty of options for synergies between different policy initiatives but also a risk of measures counteracting each other.

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/transport-at-a-crossroads>

HERITAGE FOUNDATION



**WHERE IS NUCLEAR ENERGY IN THE MARKEY-WAXMAN ENERGY BILL?** Jack Spencer. Heritage Foundation WebMemo #2386, April 7, 2009

Congressmen Ed Markey (D-MA) and Henry Waxman (D-CA) released their draft legislation, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, which puts forth a massive energy agenda that they claim would transform America's economy and create millions of jobs by promoting a new clean energy economy.

While the bureaucratic-laden approach offered by the legislation is extremely problematic, the fact that it has virtually no mention of nuclear power calls the entire green initiative into question. If reducing carbon dioxide and other emissions, creating jobs, and promoting domestic energy sources were truly the objective, then nuclear energy should be central to the legislation. Nuclear power already provides the United States with 20 percent of its electricity and 73 percent of its CO2-free electricity. When it comes to affordable near-term reduction of CO2 and other atmospheric emissions, the importance of nuclear power cannot be overstated.

[http://www.heritage.org/Research/EnergyandEnvironment/upload/wm\\_2386.pdf](http://www.heritage.org/Research/EnergyandEnvironment/upload/wm_2386.pdf)

**THREE MILE ISLAND AND CHERNOBYL: WHAT WENT WRONG AND WHY TODAY'S REACTORS ARE SAFE. Jack Spencer and Nicolas Loris. Heritage Foundation WebMemo #2367, March 27, 2009**

This Saturday marks the 30th anniversary of the partial meltdown of the Three Mile Island (TMI) nuclear reactor. This occasion is a good time to consider the advances in nuclear power safety since that time and discuss the misinformation about this incident and the 1986 nuclear accident in Chernobyl, Ukraine, which is often associated with TMI.

[http://www.heritage.org/Research/EnergyandEnvironment/upload/wm\\_2367.pdf](http://www.heritage.org/Research/EnergyandEnvironment/upload/wm_2367.pdf)



**GLOBAL WARMING: USING THE POLAR BEAR TO IMPOSE COSTLY MEASURES. Ben Lieberman. Heritage Foundation WebMemo #2319, March 2, 2009**

In 2008, the Bush Administration, responding to litigation from an environmental group, listed the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Bush Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne also made some changes to the implementation of the ESA in order to limit the adverse consequences. But now, the omnibus appropriations bill, first passed by the House and now being debated in the Senate, seeks to reverse these common sense limitations. If successful, this revised polar bear policy would greatly threaten economic growth and serve as a powerful anti-stimulus measure, not just in the polar bears' Alaskan habitat but throughout the United States. These rule changes are a costly and unnecessary form of backdoor global warming policy and have no business in a massive spending bill that is headed for quick passage with limited debate. With such drastic implications for the nation, the Senate should, at a minimum, fully debate the pros and cons of such a policy.

[http://www.heritage.org/Research/EnergyandEnvironment/upload/wm\\_2319.pdf](http://www.heritage.org/Research/EnergyandEnvironment/upload/wm_2319.pdf)

INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE



**AGRICULTURE AND CLIMATE CHANGE: AN AGENDA FOR NEGOTIATION IN COPENHAGEN. International Food Policy Research Institute. Gerald C. Nelson. March 2009. 09AD853**

The first in a series of briefs prepared to support the goal of putting agriculture on the agenda of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations in Copenhagen in December 2009. Agricultural activities around the world are responsible for almost 15 percent of annual greenhouse gas emissions, could be an important sink for emissions from other sectors, and are likely to be altered dramatically by climate change. Agriculture also provides a living for more than half of

the world's poorest people. The ongoing negotiations to address climate change provide a unique opportunity to combine low-cost mitigation and essential adaptation outcomes with poverty reduction.

[http://www.ifpri.org/2020/focus/focus16/Focus16\\_01.pdf](http://www.ifpri.org/2020/focus/focus16/Focus16_01.pdf) [PDF format, 2 pages].

## INTERNATIONAL SHARK ATTACK FILE

**ISAF 2008 WORLDWIDE SHARK ATTACK SUMMARY. International Shark Attack File, Florida Museum of Natural History. February 19, 2009. 09AD599**

The International Shark Attack File (ISAF) investigated 117 alleged incidents of shark-human interaction occurring worldwide in 2008. Upon review, 59 of these incidents represented confirmed cases of unprovoked shark attack on humans. "Unprovoked attacks" are defined as incidents where an attack on a live human by a shark occurs in its natural habitat without human provocation of the shark. "Provoked attacks" usually occur when a human initiates physical contact with a shark. The 2008 yearly total of 59 unprovoked attacks was lower than the 71 unprovoked attacks 2007 and continues a gradual reduction in the yearly number of attacks since reaching an all-time high of 79 in 2000.

<http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/sharks/statistics/2008attacksummary.htm>

## NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

**BIRDS AND CLIMATE CHANGE: ECOLOGICAL DISRUPTION IN MOTION. National Audubon Society. February 2009. 09AD561**

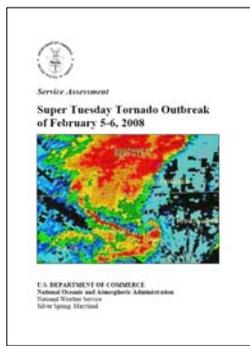
The northward and inland movement of North American birds, confirmed by thousands of citizen-observations, provides new and powerful evidence that global warming is having a serious impact on natural systems, according to the analyses. The findings signal the need for dramatic policy changes to combat pervasive ecological disruption.

Population shifts among individual species are common, fluctuate, and can have many causes. However, Audubon scientists say the ongoing trend of movement by some 177 species-closely correlated to long-term winter temperature increases-reveals an undeniable link to the changing climate.

<http://www.audubon.org/news/pressroom/bacc/pdfs/Birds%20and%20Climate%20Report.pdf>

[PDF format, 14 pages].

## NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)

**SUPER TUESDAY TORNADO OUTBREAK OF FEBRUARY 5-6, 2008. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. March 2009. 09AD738**

The report analyzes forecasting performance and public response during the second deadliest tornado outbreak in U.S. history. The report also addresses a key area of concern: why some people take cover while others ride out severe weather. 82 tornadoes raked nine states throughout the South, killing 57 people, injuring 350 others and causing \$400 million in property damage. In reviewing the public response, the team found that two-thirds of the victims were in mobile homes, and 60 percent did not have access to safe shelter. Several of those interviewed said they spent time seeking confirmation and went to a safe location only after they saw a tornado. Many people minimized the threat of personal risk through "optimism bias," the belief that such bad things only happen to other

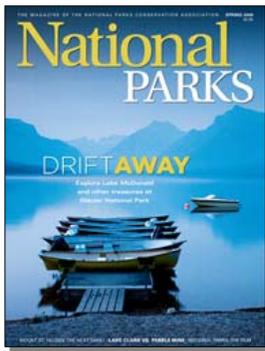
people.

[http://www.weather.gov/os/assessments/pdfs/super\\_tuesday.pdf](http://www.weather.gov/os/assessments/pdfs/super_tuesday.pdf) format,

**CLIMATE LITERACY: THE ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES OF CLIMATE SCIENCE. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. March 2009. 09AD771**

The guide is to help individuals of all ages understand how climate influences them and how they influence climate. "As climate policy is being discussed, it is very important for the citizens of our nation to have an appreciation for some of the fundamental aspects of climate and climate change," said Tom Karl, director of NOAA's National Climatic Data Center in Asheville, N.C., and lead for NOAA's climate services. "This guide is a first step for people who want to know more about the essential principles of our climate system, how to better discern scientifically credible information about climate, and how to identify problems related to understanding climate and climate change."

<http://climate.noaa.gov/education/pdfs/ClimateLiteracyPoster-8.5x11-March09FinalLR.pdf>

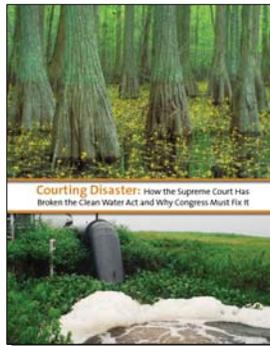


**NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION**

**NATIONAL PARKS. National Parks Conservation Association, Spring 2009**

<http://www.npca.org/magazine/2009/spring/>

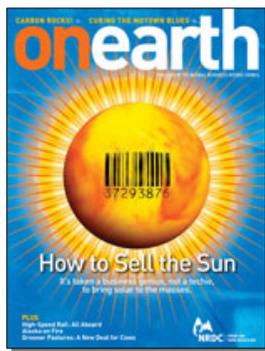
**NATIONAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL**



**COURTING DISASTER: HOW THE SUPREME COURT HAS BROKEN THE CLEAN WATER ACT AND WHY CONGRESS MUST FIX IT. A Report by Earthjustice, Environment America, Clean Water Action, National Wildlife Federation, Natural Resources Defense Council, Sierra Club, and Southern Environmental Law Center. April 2009**

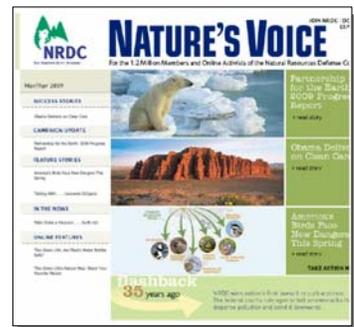
For decades, the Clean Water Act protected the Nation's surface water bodies from unregulated pollution and rescued them from the crisis status they were in during the late 1960s and early 1970s. Now these vital protections are being lost. This report details the threat to our Nation's waters by examining dozens of case studies, and highlights the urgent need for Congress to restore full Clean Water Act protections to our waters.

[http://www.sierraclub.org/cleanwater/reports\\_factsheets/2009-04-courting-disaster.pdf](http://www.sierraclub.org/cleanwater/reports_factsheets/2009-04-courting-disaster.pdf)

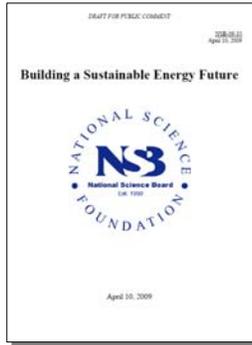


**ONEARTH MAGAZINE, Spring 2009. NRDC**  
<http://www.onearth.org/09spr>

**NATURE'S VOICE, March/April 2009. NRDC online**  
<http://www.nrdc.org/naturesvoice/>



## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



### **BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE. Draft Report NSB-09-35. National Science Board, April 10, 2009**

The National Science Board (Board) released for public review and comments the draft report, Building a Sustainable Energy Future (NSB-09-35). The fundamental transformation of the current extractive U.S. fossil fuel energy economy to a sustainable energy economy is a critical grand challenge facing the Nation today. Transforming toward a sustainable energy economy requires national leadership and coordination, a new U.S. energy policy framework, and robust support for sustainable energy research, development, demonstration, deployment, and education

(RD3E). In its report, the Board makes a number of recommendations to the U.S. Government and offers guidance to the National Science Foundation. Given the importance to promote national security through increasing U.S. energy independence, ensure environmental stewardship and reduce energy and carbon intensity, and generate continued economic growth through innovation in energy technologies and increases in green jobs, we hope that you will take this opportunity to express your views on the draft report.

[http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/publications/2009/comments\\_se\\_report.pdf](http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/publications/2009/comments_se_report.pdf)

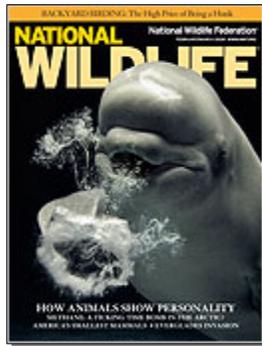


### **LARGEST ATTEMPT IN HISTORY TO UNDERSTAND TORNADOES SLATED TO BEGIN: Nationwide tornado experiment underway in May. National Science Foundation Press Release 09-061**

An ambitious project to explore the origin, structure and evolution of tornadoes will take place from May 10-June 13, 2009, across the central United States. The project, VORTEX2 (V2), is the largest attempt in history to study tornadoes, and will involve more than 50 scientists and 40 research vehicles, including 10 mobile radars. Researchers will sample the super-cell thunderstorms that often form over more than 900 miles of the central Great Plains. Areas of focus include southern South Dakota, western Iowa, eastern Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, the Texas panhandle and western Oklahoma.

"New advances from VORTEX2 will allow for a more detailed sampling of a storm's wind, temperature and moisture environment, and lead to a better understanding of why tornadoes form--and how they can be more accurately predicted."

[http://www.nsf.gov/news/news\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=114491&org=OLPA&from=news](http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=114491&org=OLPA&from=news)



## NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

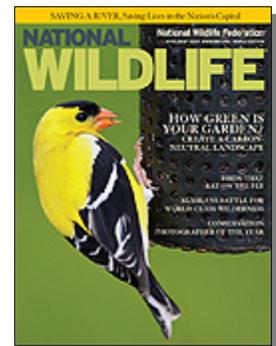
### **NATIONAL WILDLIFE. National Wildlife Federation**

Vol 47, No 2. January/February 2009

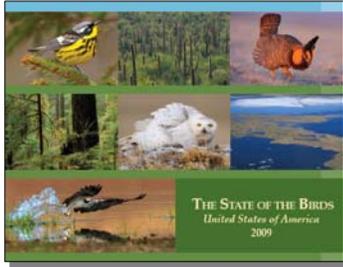
<http://www.nwf.org/NationalWildlife/index.cfm?issueID=127>

Vol 48, No 3. March/April 2009

<http://www.nwf.org/NationalWildlife/index.cfm?issueID=128>



## NORTH AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVATION INITIATIVE



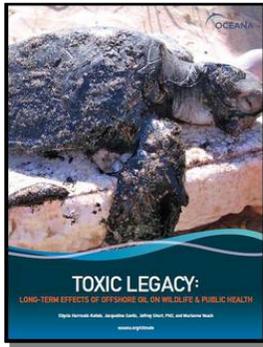
**THE STATE OF THE BIRDS: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 2009. North American Bird Conservation Initiative. Web posted March 19, 2009. 09AD799**

In an unprecedented partnership, government wildlife agencies and conservation groups have come together to produce the first comprehensive analysis of the state of the nation's birds. The results are sobering: bird populations in many habitats are declining, a warning signal of the failing health of our ecosystems.

According to the analysis, in the areas where it has been negligent too long, such as in Hawaii, it is on the verge of losing entire suites of unique and beautiful birds and native plant communities.

[http://www.stateofthebirds.org/pdf\\_files/State\\_of\\_the\\_Birds\\_2009.pdf](http://www.stateofthebirds.org/pdf_files/State_of_the_Birds_2009.pdf) [PDF format, 36 pages].

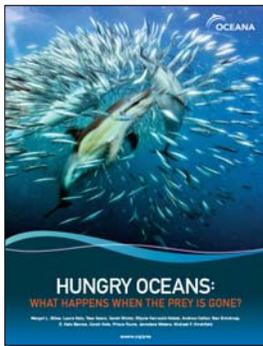
## OCEANA



**TOXIC LEGACY: LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF OFFSHORE OIL ON WILDLIFE & PUBLIC HEALTH. Ellycia Harrould-Kolieb, Jacqueline Savitz, Jeffrey Short, PhD, and Marianne Veach. Oceana, March 2009**

Renewed interest in oil drilling in the ocean, spurred by a period of high gasoline prices, threatens marine life and ocean ecosystems. The chances of oiling and poisoning wildlife, the risks of contamination and economic loss to local communities, and the contribution to climate change will all be greater if we expand offshore drilling. The risks are especially grave in the Arctic, a unique and fragile ecosystem, where oil development is already underway and where even a small spill could be impossible to clean up.

[http://oceana.org/fileadmin/oceana/uploads/Climate\\_Change/Toxic\\_Legacy/Toxic\\_Legacy\\_FINAL\\_Summary.pdf](http://oceana.org/fileadmin/oceana/uploads/Climate_Change/Toxic_Legacy/Toxic_Legacy_FINAL_Summary.pdf)



**HUNGRY OCEANS: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE PREY IS GONE? Margot L. Stiles, Laure Katz et al. Oceana, March 2009**

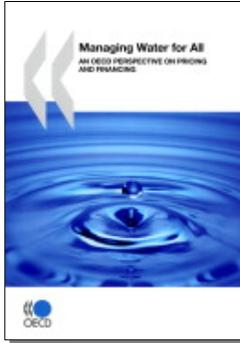
According to conventional wisdom, small, fast-growing fish are impossible to overfish because their populations are so large and grow so quickly. Yet we are now seeing disquieting signs that conventional wisdom is wrong. Most significantly, scientists are reporting ocean predators emaciated from lack of food, vulnerable to disease and without enough energy to reproduce. Scrawny predators—dolphins, striped bass, and even whales—have turned up along coastlines around the world. Recreational fishermen are losing both their target fish—and their bait.

Fishing communities are losing their livelihoods. Because we have overlooked hungry predators, we have allowed overfishing of their prey, causing food shortages in the ocean. In addition, by fishing where and when they are breeding, we are driving prey populations to the brink of disaster, and in some cases beyond it. At the same time, our continued demand for salmon, tuna, and other large predators has driven explosive growth in aquaculture. Rather

than relieving pressure on wild fish, growing these large carnivores requires a steady supply of prey that are caught and ground into oil and meal. As the industry grows, it is straining the existing supply of prey fish, putting additional pressure on populations that cannot supply the demand.

[http://oceana.org/fileadmin/oceana/uploads/Hungry\\_oceans/hungry\\_oceans\\_OCEANA\\_01.pdf](http://oceana.org/fileadmin/oceana/uploads/Hungry_oceans/hungry_oceans_OCEANA_01.pdf)

ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT'S (OECD)

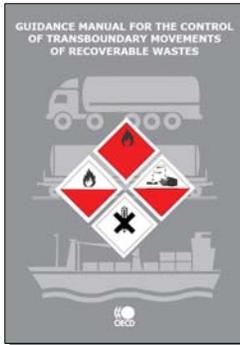


**MANAGING WATER FOR ALL: AN OECD PERSPECTIVE ON PRICING AND FINANCING. OECD Report, 18-Mar-2009**

One billion people cannot get clean drinking water and 2.5 billion lack access to basic sanitation which cause 1.5 million preventable child deaths per year. While addressing the emergency of the current crisis, we must not forget that water is the most essential good and we should find new and innovative approaches to allow everyone access to water and sanitation, according to the OECD Secretary-General. Emphasizing the economic, social and environmental benefits of investing in water and sanitation, the report includes information about the agricultural uses of

water, financing water supply and sanitation, water pricing, private sector participation in the water sector and aid flows to water.

[http://www.oecd.org/document/16/0,3343,en\\_2649\\_34311\\_42289488\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_37465,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/16/0,3343,en_2649_34311_42289488_1_1_1_37465,00.html)



**GUIDANCE MANUAL FOR THE CONTROL OF TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENTS OF RECOVERABLE WASTES. OECD, 03-Mar-2009**

Imports and exports of waste destined for recovery between OECD countries are subject to a legal control system developed by the OECD. It allows countries to trade recoverable wastes in an environmentally safe and economically efficient manner. The Guidance Manual for the Control of Transboundary Movements of Recoverable Wastes explains the functioning of the OECD control system in detail and may assist private companies exporting or importing wastes, as well as national governments to implement this system.

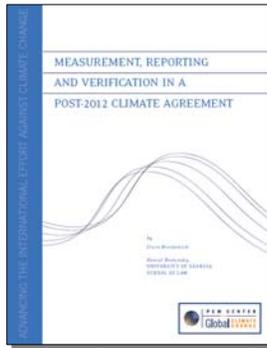
<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/57/1/42262259.pdf>

PEW CENTER ON GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

**REVIEW OF GREEN JOB STUDIES. Pew Center on Global Climate Change, April 2009**

Policymakers and the public have increasingly been interested in the potential for employment growth in "green jobs." To further understanding of this issue, the Pew Center reviewed and summarized several of the most widely discussed reports that estimate "green jobs" and their potential. In addition, the Pew Center compiled a bibliography of recent reports, articles, and other sources related to "green jobs."

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/Green-jobs-Review.pdf>



**MEASUREMENT, REPORTING, AND VERIFICATION IN A POST-2012 CLIMATE AGREEMENT; Report and Paper Released at Side Event at Bonn Climate Talks. Pew Center on Global Climate Change, April 2, 2009**

The Pew Center released a report outlining options for measurement, reporting, and verification of countries' actions in a post-2012 global climate agreement at a side event held during the international climate negotiations in Bonn, Germany. In addition, a paper discussing avenues and options for the legal form of a post-2012 agreement was presented. The report, paper, and related presentations can be downloaded at <http://www.pewclimate.org/report-mrv>

**COMPARING USCAP RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EU EMISSIONS TRADING SYSTEM: Side-by-Side Comparison of the USCAP Blueprint for Legislative Action to the EU Emissions Trading System. Pew Center on Global Climate Change, February 2009**

On January 15, 2009, the U.S. Climate Action Partnership (USCAP) issued A Blueprint for Legislative Action – a detailed framework for legislation to address climate change that calls for an economy-wide greenhouse gas cap-and-trade program. This Pew Center document provides an accessible comparison between the USCAP plan and the EU-ETS on the following key topics:

- Targets & Timetables
- Scope of Coverage
- Allowance Allocation
- Offsets
- Other Cap-and-Trade Cost Containment Elements
- Additional Climate Related Measures Related to Coal, Performance Standards, Transportation, and Energy Efficiency

USCAP is an unprecedented coalition of 5 leading non-governmental organizations, including the Pew Center, and 25 major corporations. This diverse group of business and environmental leaders have come together to call for mandatory action, with a comprehensive approach involving near-, mid-, and long-term targets, and a range of effective policies.

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/USCAP-EUETS-comparison.pdf>



**POSITIONING THE INDIAN COAL-POWER SECTOR FOR CARBON MITIGATION: Key Policy Options. Coal Initiative Series. White Paper by Ananth P. Chikkatur and Ambuj D. Sagar, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Prepared for the Pew Center on Global Climate Change, January 2009**

The domestic and international steps outlined in this paper could greatly advance the development and implementation of a GHG-mitigation strategy in the Indian coal-power sector, while allowing the sector to contribute suitably to the country's energy needs. The key to success will be adopting a deliberate approach, with short- and long-term

perspectives in mind, that allows for the development of an integrated energy and climate policy.

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/IndiaCoalPower-Feb09.pdf>

## RAND



**INTEGRATING U.S. CLIMATE, ENERGY, AND TRANSPORTATION POLICIES: PROCEEDINGS OF THREE WORKSHOPS. RAND Corporation. Liisa Ecola et al. March 2009. 09AD753**

The three workshops brought together representatives of government, industry, advocacy groups, and the research community who hold different perspectives on what the goals of climate change mitigation policy should be and which strategies should be implemented to achieve them. Addressing the interconnection of climate change mitigation policy with the key sectors of energy and transportation will be major challenges for the United States in the coming years. The report organizes the key

themes of the workshops by topic, in particular, pointing out areas of agreement as well as disagreement.

[http://www.rand.org/pubs/conf\\_proceedings/2009/RAND\\_CF256.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/conf_proceedings/2009/RAND_CF256.pdf)

[PDF format, 54 pages].

## TAX FOUNDATION

**WHO PAYS FOR CLIMATE POLICY? NEW ESTIMATES OF THE HOUSEHOLD BURDEN AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF A U.S. CAP-AND-TRADE SYSTEM. Tax Foundation. Andrew Chamberlain. March 2009. 09AD803**

With climate change legislation becoming a top congressional priority in recent months, the study shows that a cap-and-trade system curbing greenhouse gas emissions would place an annual burden of \$144.8 billion on American households. The average annual household burden would be \$1,218, which would be approximately 2% of the average household income. The author explains that this burden would be disproportionately borne by low-income households, those under age 25 and over 75 years, those in southern states, and single parents with dependent children.

<http://www.taxfoundation.org/files/wp6.pdf>

[PDF format, 36 pages].

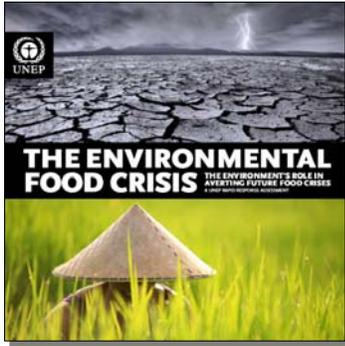
## UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)



**BONN DECLARATION ON THE UNESCO WORLD CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, March 31-April 2, Bonn, Germany**

The participants of the conference, coming from over 150 countries, adopted the declaration.

[http://www.esd-world-conference-2009.org/fileadmin/download/ESD2009\\_BonnDeclaration080409.pdf](http://www.esd-world-conference-2009.org/fileadmin/download/ESD2009_BonnDeclaration080409.pdf)



**THE ENVIRONMENTAL FOOD CRISIS. Environment Programme, United Nations. Christian Nellemann et al. February 2009. 09AD597**

The report warns “that up to 25% of the world’s food production may become lost due to environmental breakdown by 2050.” The UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) is collaboration between UNEP and WCMC 2000, a UK-based charity. [http://www.grida.no/\\_res/site/file/publications/FoodCrisis\\_lores.pdf](http://www.grida.no/_res/site/file/publications/FoodCrisis_lores.pdf) [PDF format, 104 pages].

U.S. CLIMATE ACTION PARTNERSHIP (USCAP)

**A BLUEPRINT FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION--Consensus Recommendations for U.S. Climate Protection Legislation. USCAP, January 2009**



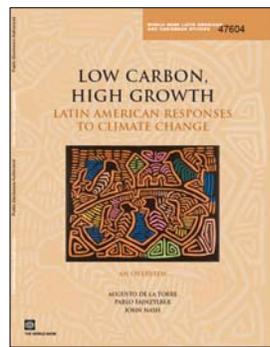
The *Blueprint for Legislative Action* is a detailed framework for legislation to address climate change. It represents two years of work by USCAP members building on the January 2007 *Call for Action*, a groundbreaking report containing principles and recommendations that urged “prompt enactment of national legislation in the United States to slow, stop and reverse the growth of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions over the shortest time reasonably achievable.”

The Blueprint is a direct response to requests by federal policymakers for a detailed consensus that could help inform legislation. While USCAP is a diverse organization, it does not include all stakeholders and we acknowledge that the Blueprint is not the only possible path forward.

However, we believe the integrated package of policies we are recommending provides a pragmatic pathway to achieve aggressive environmental goals in a responsible and economically sustainable manner.

[http://www.us-cap.org/pdf/USCAP\\_Blueprint.pdf](http://www.us-cap.org/pdf/USCAP_Blueprint.pdf)

WORLD BANK



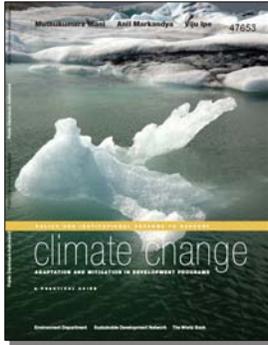
**LOW CARBON, HIGH GROWTH; LATIN AMERICAN RESPONSES TO CLIMATE CHANGE. Augusto de la Torre, Pablo Fajnzylber, John Nash .The World Bank, January 2009**

Based on analysis of recent data on the evolution of global temperatures, snow and ice covers, and sea level rise, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has recently declared that “warming of the climate system is unequivocal.” Global surface temperatures, in particular, have increased during the past 50 years at twice the speed observed during the first half of the 20th century. The IPCC has also concluded that with 95 percent certainty the main drivers of the observed changes in the global climate have been anthropogenic increases in greenhouse gases (GHG). While the greenhouse effect is a natural process without which the planet would probably be too cold to support life, most of the increase in the overall concentration of GHGs observed since the industrial revolution has been the result of human

activities, namely the burning of fossil fuels, changes in land use (conversion of forests into agricultural land), and agriculture (the use of nitrogen fertilizers and live stock related methane emissions).

[http://www-](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/02/27/000334955_20090227082022/Rendered/PDF/476040PUB0Low0101Official0Use0Onl1.pdf)

[wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/02/27/000334955\\_20090227082022/Rendered/PDF/476040PUB0Low0101Official0Use0Onl1.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/02/27/000334955_20090227082022/Rendered/PDF/476040PUB0Low0101Official0Use0Onl1.pdf)



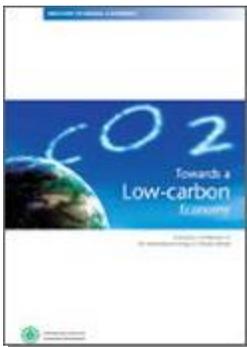
**CLIMATE CHANGE: ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION IN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS – A Practical Guide. Muthukumara Mani, Anil Markandya, Viju Ipe. Environment Department, Sustainable Development Network. The World Bank, December 2008**

The report provides practical guidance to development practitioners on systematically analyzing the direct and indirect effects of development policy reforms on climate change, as well as how climate change affects the choice of instruments used to promote sustainable development. The specific objectives are to: 1) offer guidance on general measures that need to be taken in each country to ensure that climate change considerations are mainstreamed into development policies and programs; 2) offer guidance on how macroeconomic and sectoral development policies impact on the objectives of mitigating green house gases (GHGs) and on adapting to climate change; 3) provide examples of important pathways by which climate change can impact on the effectiveness of development policy lending and what these pathways imply for the design of such policy; and 4) provide examples of policy making at the national level that successfully mainstreams climate considerations. The report should be useful to practitioners in development organizations (multilateral and bilateral institutions) and countries for a better understanding of the implications of development programs and policies on climate change, as well as the implications of climate policies on budgetary and related operations.

[http://www-](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/03/04/000334955_20090304051346/Rendered/PDF/476530WPOClima1Box0338860B01PUBLIC1.pdf)

[wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/03/04/000334955\\_20090304051346/Rendered/PDF/476530WPOClima1Box0338860B01PUBLIC1.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/03/04/000334955_20090304051346/Rendered/PDF/476530WPOClima1Box0338860B01PUBLIC1.pdf)

## WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



**TOWARDS A LOW CARBON ECONOMY - A BUSINESS CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY & CLIMATE DEBATE. World Business Council for Sustainable Development, April 2009**

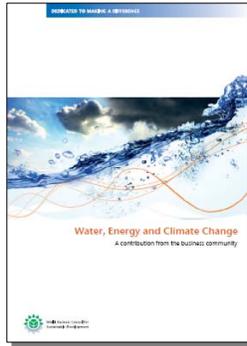
This publication aims to share business experience in technology development and deployment, finance and carbon markets, cooperative sectoral approaches and adaptation and proposes policy recommendations for a future agreement.

The Bali Action Plan, agreed at the 13th climate change conference in Indonesia and advanced at the negotiations in Bonn this week, outlines technology, finance and adaptation as key elements of the negotiation

process leading to a new climate agreement.

These issues are at the core of business activity. An effective international climate change framework that leverages business engagement is, therefore, essential and the WBCSD and its members see a significant opportunity to contribute to the solutions.

[http://www.wbcsd.org/DocRoot/xMLOgs6ogM1C8vblkKBY/TowardsLowCarbonEconomy\\_030409\\_4print.pdf](http://www.wbcsd.org/DocRoot/xMLOgs6ogM1C8vblkKBY/TowardsLowCarbonEconomy_030409_4print.pdf)



**WATER, ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE: A CONTRIBUTION FROM THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY. World Business Council for Sustainable Development, March 2009**

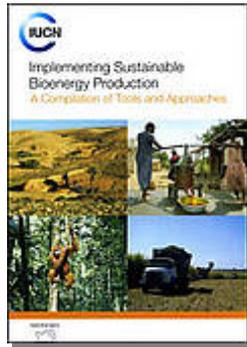
The report says water, energy and climate change are inextricably linked.

The WBCSD's Water Project brings together more than 60 companies from mining and metals, oil and gas, consumer products, food and beverages, infrastructure services and equipment sectors. The broad representation reflects the knowledge that all businesses will face water challenges in the years ahead.

The paper lists five important policy recommendations from business to climate negotiators and policy-makers. It also includes 25 case studies showing how business is already linking water, energy and climate across their operations.

<http://www.wbcsd.org/DocRoot/Dg6GYWJq7xuaL00OwZOi/WaterEnergyandClimateChange.pdf>

## THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION (IUCN)



**IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE BIOENERGY PRODUCTION: A COMPILATION OF TOOLS AND APPROACHES. IUCN, 15 March 2009**

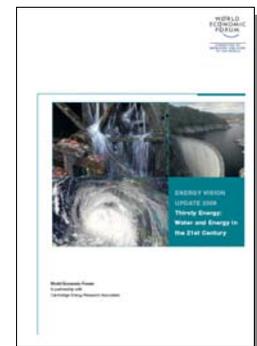
This paper is a compilation of example principles, frameworks and tools already in use in the conservation community which may be applied to bioenergy production to identify and reduce environmental as well as socio-economic risks and promote opportunities. The aim is to provide the range of stakeholders who are engaged in the bioenergy agenda (governments, businesses, communities, land owners, and individuals) the tools to achieve more sustainable outcomes in relation to ecosystems and livelihoods.

<http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2008-057.pdf>

## WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

**THIRSTY ENERGY: WATER AND ENERGY IN THE 21ST CENTURY. Energy Vision Update 2009, World Economic Forum. February 2009. 09AD626**

The report explores the risks and opportunities inherent in the ancient relationship between energy and water, which has taken on a new urgency as competition for finite freshwater resources rises. According to



the report, water is critical to energy production, yet the water/energy nexus is often overlooked. "The importance of bringing water into the energy equation now cannot be underestimated as we are heading for a more water-scarce future," said Christoph Frei, Senior Director and Head of Energy Industry at the World Economic Forum.

<http://www.weforum.org/pdf/ip/energy/energyvision2009.pdf> [PDF format, 56 pages].

## WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)



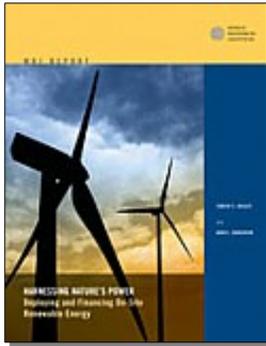
### **WATER SAFETY PLAN MANUAL: STEP-BY-STEP RISK MANAGEMENT FOR DRINKING-WATER SUPPLIERS. WHO, 16 March 2009**

This workbook describes in clear and practical terms how to develop and implement a water safety plan (WSP). Stepwise advice is available through 11 learning modules, each representing a key step in the WSP development and implementation process. The

manual provides guidance for governments and regulators, water suppliers and practitioners on how to systematically assess and manage risks.

[http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2009/9789241562638\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2009/9789241562638_eng.pdf)

## WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE



### **HARNESSING NATURE'S POWER: DEPLOYING AND FINANCING ON-SITE RENEWABLE ENERGY. Timothy Hassett, with Karin Borgerson. World Resources Institute, March 2009**

This report offers strategies and approaches that can be valuable to a wide range of firms looking at potential investments, contracts, and facility operational decisions regarding use of renewable energy. It provides guidance on how to consider the choice to finance or purchase renewable technologies for use on corporate facilities and advice on where to go for further information.

[http://pdf.wri.org/harnessing\\_natures\\_power.pdf](http://pdf.wri.org/harnessing_natures_power.pdf)



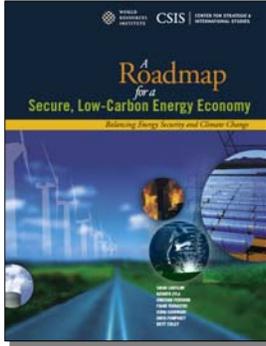
### **WRI ANNUAL REPORT 2008. World Resources Institute, March 2009**

WRI Has Adopted a Strategic Plan For 2008-2012 to steer our work at this crucial time in human history. The issues we focus upon—climate change, ecosystem protection, environmental governance, green markets, and sustainable transportation—have become ever more urgent. Yet, in the United States and around the world, the response of governments and key institutions has lagged.

The urgent challenge for WRI is to help trigger the transformative changes required to solve these environmental crises within the short timeframe that scientists say the world must act.

[http://pdf.wri.org/wri\\_annualreport\\_2008.pdf](http://pdf.wri.org/wri_annualreport_2008.pdf)

**A ROADMAP FOR A SECURE, LOW-CARBON ENERGY ECONOMY. Sarah Landislaw, Kathryn Zyla et al. World Resources Institute, February, 2009**



This "roadmap" presents the results of a year-long effort by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS, an international policy and security-oriented think tank) and the World Resources Institute (WRI, an environmental policy think tank) to identify a set of policies to address energy security and climate change simultaneously. This document presents the results of a difficult process to reconcile the priorities of two sometimes conflicting constituencies. The resulting recommendations are designed to be implemented as a package. Policymakers must not simply pick the recommendations they favor or that are most politically palatable. The balanced approach recommended in this brief would greatly increase the United States' chances of meeting both its energy security and climate goals.

[http://pdf.wri.org/secure\\_low\\_carbon\\_energy\\_economy\\_roadmap.pdf](http://pdf.wri.org/secure_low_carbon_energy_economy_roadmap.pdf)

WORLD WILDLIFE FEDERATION

**ARCTIC NATIONS TAKE IMPORTANT FIRST STEP TOWARDS SAVING POLAR BEARS. World Wildlife Federation. March 19, 2009. 09AD761**

Five nations committed by treaty to conserve polar bears have come up with a resolution linking the future of the species to urgent global action on climate change. "We are very encouraged by the final declaration from this meeting," says Geoff York, polar bear coordinator for WWF International's Arctic Programme.

<http://www.panda.org/?159441/Arctic-nations-take-important-first-step-towards-saving-polar-bears>

**PUTIN PUTS WRITING ON 'WALLS OF DEATH' IN RUSSIA. World Wildlife Fund. February 17, 2009. 09AD585**

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has proposed outlawing fishing with drift nets, otherwise known as "walls of death," following a lengthy campaign by fishermen and politicians in Kamchatka as well as local organizations including WWF-Russia.

Drift nets are used to catch fish migrating in open sea. Each net can be several kilometres long and their use results in a large by-catch of sharks, turtles, seabirds and marine mammals which are usually thrown back dead into the ocean.

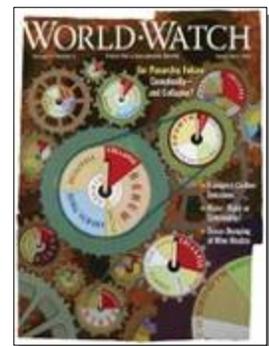
<http://www.panda.org/?156741/Putin-puts-writing-on-walls-of-death-in-Russia>

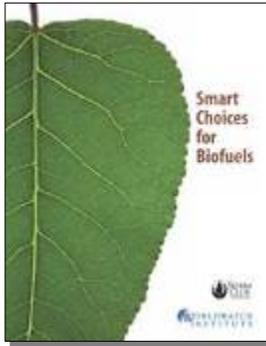
WORLDWATCH INSTITUTE

**WORLD WATCH MAGAZINE, March/April, Volume 22, No. 2**

- Our Panarchic Future, By Thomas Homer-Dixon
- Water Wars, By Erica Gies
- Planes, Trains, and Automobiles: Comparing the CO2 Impacts, By Neil Kolwey
- Out of Sight, Out of Mine: Ocean Dumping of Mine Wastes, By Robert Moran, Amanda Reichelt-Brushett, and Roy Young

<http://www.worldwatch.org/epublish/1/v22n2>



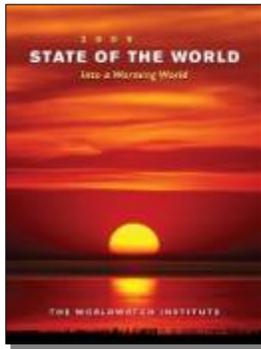


**SMART CHOICE FOR BIOFUELS. Sierra Club and Worldwatch Institute. Jane Earley and Alice McKeown. February 18, 2009. 09AD641**

The report highlights the need for policy reforms at this critical juncture in America's effort to increase the use of biofuels. It outlines the economic and environmental impacts of first-generation biofuels such as corn ethanol, proposes strategies to make the biofuels industry more sustainable, and offers specific policy recommendations.

**<http://www.worldwatch.org/smartchoicesforbiofuels>**

[HTML format, with link to a PDF full text file].



**STATE OF THE WORLD 2009. Worldwatch Institute, January 2009**

State of the World 2009 is intended to inject new inspiration and energy into national and international climate negotiations by conveying the profound, long-term consequences of the experiment we are now conducting on the Earth's atmosphere, with an emphasis on the human and ecological effects of that transformation. The book will also examine the policy changes needed to combat climate change and will explore the economic benefits that could flow from the transition, including the potential to create new industries and jobs in rich and poor countries alike. **<http://www.worldwatch.org/sow09>**

## ARTICLES FROM U.S. JOURNALS

**SPACE STORM ALERT: 90 SECONDS FROM CATASTROPHE. Brooks, Michael. *New Scientist*, no. 2700, March 21, 2009, pp. 31-35 AA09111**

Summary: A recent report by NASA and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences warns that plasma storms from the sun – commonly seen in northern latitudes as auroras – pose a serious danger to electric power grids. A plasma incursion from a severe space weather event would cause rapid changes in the Earth's magnetic field, and would induce massive direct currents in long-distance high-voltage power lines, causing transformers to melt from the overload. The author notes that such an event took place in 1859, and caused severe disruptions in the telegraph networks. Today, industrial civilization has unwittingly “sown the seeds of their own destruction,” as modern systems are completely dependent on electric power for food delivery, heating, cooling and refrigeration, water, sewage disposal and pharmaceuticals. A serious plasma storm could knock out hundreds of transformers within seconds, putting millions of lives at risk, and such an event would take months to recover from. The author notes that the U.S. is not alone in facing this risk – Europe is vulnerable, and China is building a 1000-kilovolt electric grid, twice that of the U.S. grid.

**<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20127001.300-space-storm-alert-90-seconds-from-catastrophe.html?full=true>**

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**SOLVING THE MYSTERY OF THE VANISHING BEES. Cox-Foster, Diana; Vanengelsdorp, Dennis. *Scientific American*, March 2009 AA09112**

Summary: The mysterious ailment called colony collapse disorder has wiped out large numbers of bees. Millions of beehives worldwide have emptied out as honeybees mysteriously disappear, putting at risk nearly 100 crops that require pollination. The causes turn out to be surprisingly complex but solutions are emerging. Research is pointing to a complex disease in which combinations of factors, including farming practices, make bees vulnerable to viruses. Taking extra care with hive hygiene seems to aid prevention. Research into antiviral drugs could lead to pharmaceutical solutions. Currently available online at <http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=saving-the-honeybee>

**THE BIG THAW. Kucera, Joshua. *Wilson Quarterly*, vol. 32, no. 4, Autumn 2008, pp. 36-42 AA09075**

Summary: A warming climate is melting Greenland's ice sheet, which contains 10 percent of the world's fresh water, and which is disappearing at a rate of 57 cubic miles a year. In 2007, the Northwest Passage, which runs south of Greenland and along Canada's northern coast, was free of ice for the first time since scientists began monitoring it. The Greenland ice sheet melt is unlocking mineral and petroleum resources, offering the prospect of considerable wealth to Greenland's citizens, who are seeking independence from Denmark. The seas off northeastern Greenland were among the most promising, with an estimated 8.9 billion barrels of oil and 86.2 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. A key U.S. interest in Greenland is the Thule Air Base, built immediately after World War II. The author chronicles how climate change is altering the Greenlanders' way of life, and the how the newly-accessible mineral resources are changing political relations.

[http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=wq.essay&essay\\_id=500524](http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=wq.essay&essay_id=500524)

**OUR PANARCHIC FUTURE. Homer-Dixon, Thomas. *World Watch*, vol. 22, no. 2, March-April 2009 AA09058**

Summary: The author profiles the work of Buzz Holling, one of the world's preeminent ecologists, whose study of forest ecosystems has expanded into the examination of all complex systems, natural and manmade, and how they adapt to sudden change, or fail to. Holling and his colleagues call their ideas "panarchy" theory -- how complexity and collapse is part of a long-term process of change and adaptation. Homer-Dixon and Holling note that humanity is experiencing a volatile and unstable period of history, and that a period of instability such as today has only occurred a few times -- the transitions to agriculture, industrialization and modern information technology. Our modern era is locked into a path of perpetual growth, they write, and this inertia, combined with entrenched economic interests that benefit from the status quo, prevent us from seeing alternative futures. They fear that modern society is headed toward a major breakdown, and that a profound change, "both frightening and creative", is coming. This article is adapted from Homer-Dixon's book THE UPSIDE OF DOWN: CATASTROPHE, CREATIVITY, AND THE RENEWAL OF CIVILIZATION.

<http://www.worldwatch.org/node/6008>

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**HOW MEAT CONTRIBUTES TO GLOBAL WARMING. Fiala, Nathan. *Scientific American*, February 2009 AA09056**

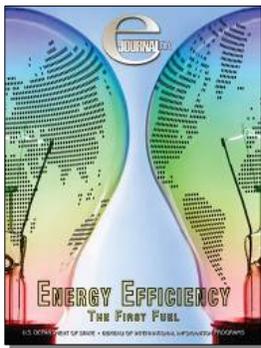
Summary: Producing beef creates prodigious amounts of heat-trapping greenhouse gases, notes the author; pound for pound, beef production generates 13 times as much greenhouse gas emissions than producing chicken. For potatoes, the multiplier is 57. Beef consumption is rising rapidly, due to global population growth and people eating more meat. Producing the annual beef diet of the average American emits as much greenhouse gas as a car driven more than 1,800 miles. The author notes that improving waste management and farming practices can help reduce the "carbon footprint" of beef, however dietary changes and eating less beef would be more effective. Currently available online at

<http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=the-greenhouse-hamburger>

**TURNING THE TIDES. Wolman, David. *Wired*, Vol. 17, no. 1, January 2009, pp. 109-113,121-122 AA09046**

Summary: The Netherlands, which has long experience with reclamation and flood protection, is embarking on an ambitious plan to protect the country from floods and rising sea levels due to climate change. The Delta Commission, created by the Dutch parliament, made projections for the next 200 years, based on data submitted by engineers and ocean experts on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; the projects envisioned by the plan will cost \$1.5 billion a year for the next 100 years. The author, a contributing editor to the magazine, notes that the Dutch plan includes extending the coastlines, raising Lake IJssel to above sea level and adding extensive dams & reinforcing levees to control the water coming from both the sea and the Alps. The author notes that the portion of the country to benefit from these measures generates 65 percent of the Netherlands' GDP. Says Wolman, the Dutch "are giving engineers and urban planners from New Orleans to Singapore a preview of what it will take to keep rising waters at bay." Available online at

[http://www.wired.com/science/planetearth/magazine/17-01/ff\\_dutch\\_delta](http://www.wired.com/science/planetearth/magazine/17-01/ff_dutch_delta)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PUBLICATIONS****Energy Efficiency: The First Fuel. EJournal USA Vol 14, No4. April 2009**

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