



BAY AREA CLIMATE NEWS

September 2016

The Big Picture

[SB 32](#) & [AB 197](#) — California Once Again Leads the Way

Brad Plumer in Vox — [California Is About to Find Out What a Truly Radical Climate Policy Looks Like](#) — includes Berkeley Lab's Jeff Greenblatt on the path(s) to 2030. (NOTE: It's only *radical* if you don't consider the alternative.) Meanwhile, Ann Carlson in Berkeley Law/UCLA Law's [LegalPlanet](#) analyzes how the new kid on the climate block, AB 197, will change cap-and-trade, local pollution and CARB's authority.

[An Epic Middle East Heat Wave Could be Global Warming's Hellish Curtain-Raiser](#)

That's the Washington Post's recent headline—126° in Jiddah (all-time record), 129° in Basra (highest Eastern Hemisphere temp EVER), etc. UN predicts extreme water scarcity and temperatures possibly too hot for human survival in coming decades. “Conflicts and refugee crises far greater than those now underway are probable.”

The Most Important Research of the Year?

[Record Greenland Melting is Caused by Surprising Feedback Loop](#) is the National Geographic story while Science Daily headlined [Greenland's 2015 Melt Records Consistent with Arctic Amplification—Jet Stream Reached Northern Latitudes Never Before Recorded](#). Both are reporting on research by Columbia's Marco Tedesco and others linking Arctic warming with shifts in the jet stream, ocean currents, and more.

[2012 Supreme Court Ruling May Spur Takings Lawsuits](#)

As the Baton Rouge area takes stock of \$8.7 billion in damages from the “unprecedented” August floods, *Environment and Energy News* reports that one city is planning to sue the federal government because an interstate highway divider worsened flooding. Their claim may be helped by the Supreme Court's 8-0 decision in 2012 which declared a one-time flood could be considered a “temporary taking” of property.

CRI Project Updates

Land Acquisition and Ecosystem Carbon in California — This new project for the Coastal Conservancy, led by David Ackerly, is now underway. Research leaders will describe the project and take questions in a CRI webinar for stakeholders on October 4th. **Register [here](#).**

Bay Area Climate Impacts on Public Health — CRI just completed this 40+ page compilation of facts, figures and storylines designed to increase awareness of the serious Bay Area health issues from heat, wildfires, sea level rise, vectors, and more. Thank you Brooke Solomon ('17) and Thayer White ('17)!! **SEE ATTACHED PDF.**

RISer SF Bay — The project team, led by Mark Stacey, is getting initial results now from new flood modeling — regional impacts of local projects and local impacts of regional projects. Interviews are on-going with Bay Area leaders on effective decision-making structures for sea level rise. **See overview [news release](#).**

San Francisco Bay Transformability Study — This project, led by Kristina Hill, is continuing its work to characterize the bay edge, produce an “overtopping analysis” and analyze specific case studies of projects and proposals around the bay shoreline. **See “[Coastal Infrastructure: A Typology for The Next Century of Adaptation to Sea-Level Rise](#),”** published in *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*.

--More CRI project news next month on the UC campus climate impacts study, the Hyperion Project (state-of-the-art climate/water modeling) and a big new statewide project on sea level rise.

September Spotlight: 3 Cool Bay Area Projects

[Bay Area Regional Reliability Project \(BARR\)](#)

The Bay Area's largest water agencies are working together to develop a regional solution to water supply reliability, joining forces to leverage existing facilities and, if needed, to build new ones. BARR includes a [Drought Task Force](#), an advisory group of diverse stakeholders in the region, and a Drought Contingency Plan currently under development (see the [project schedule](#)).

[New Owls on the Bay!](#)

Look Ahead San Mateo is the newest 3D virtual reality tour of the SF Bay shoreline under sea level rise. See the Owls (See the Future!) between now and December at the Coyote Point Recreation Area in San Mateo and follow the project on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)! (Bonus: Check out this bit of [1968 Bay Area history at Coyote Point](#).)

[South Bay Salt Ponds Project](#)

The South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project is the largest tidal wetland restoration project on the West Coast. The project will restore 15,100 acres of industrial salt ponds to a rich mosaic of tidal wetlands and other habitats. Agency staff, scientists and members of the public worked for four years to develop the current [restoration plan](#) for habitat restoration, flood protection, and the construction of new trails, viewing platforms and other public access amenities along the Bay.

Check out CRI on Social Media!

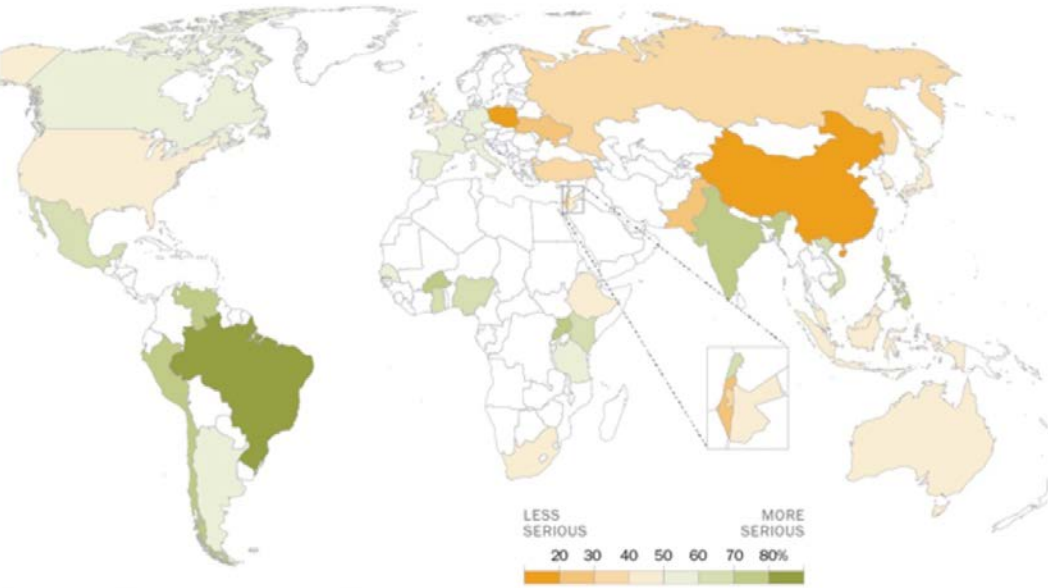
Follow our progress and get climate news on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

Chart of the Month

Pew Center [study](#) finds Latin America and Africa residents most concerned about climate change.

Latin America, Africa Most Concerned about Climate Change

Percent saying global climate change is a very serious problem



Source: Spring 2015 Global Attitudes survey. Q32.
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