



## Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership

Dear MCCIP news subscriber,

The MCCIP website has recently been updated with new marine climate change news and events. Below is a brief summary of the new items that have been added. For more details on all of the items listed below, simply go to [www.mccip.org.uk](http://www.mccip.org.uk) and go to the relevant links in the 'news and events' box on our homepage. Please note that the material presented in MCCIP news does not necessarily reflect the views of MCCIP.

- **[Climate change is biggest cause of stress on world's oceans](#)**

New research shows the extent to which humans are affecting the oceans. Nowhere is without human influence and nearly the entire surface of the ocean suffers under more than one pressure. The study looks at different ways human activity can damage marine ecosystems. These include climate-related impacts - such as rising temperatures, ocean acidification and UV radiation - as well as pollution, fertiliser run-off, marine traffic and fishing. The authors conclude that climate change is the top stressor on the oceans, coming in above commercial fishing, pollution and shipping. Managers and policymakers require this information to make strategic decisions and monitor progress. [Halpern, B.S. et al., (2015) Spatial and temporal changes in cumulative human impacts on the world's ocean. Nature Communications, [doi:10.1038/ncomms8615](https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms8615)].

- **[Global sea levels have risen six meters or more with just slight global warming](#)**

A new review analysing three decades of research on the historic effects of melting polar ice sheets found that global sea levels have risen at least six meters, or about 20 feet, above present levels on multiple occasions over the past three million years. What is most concerning is that amount of melting was caused by an increase of only 1-2 degrees (Celsius) in global mean temperatures. [A. Dutton et al., (2015) Sea-level rise due to polar ice-sheet mass loss during past warm periods. Science, [DOI: 10.1126/science.aaa4019](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aaa4019)]

- **[US scientists: Global warming pause “no longer valid”](#)**

US researchers say new evidence casts doubt on the idea that global warming has "slowed" in recent years. A US government laboratory says the much talked about "pause" is an illusion caused by inaccurate data. Updated observations show temperatures did not plateau, say NOAA scientists. The warming rate over the past 15 years is "virtually identical" to the last century, they report in Science. Dr Thomas Karl who led the new analysis, said: "We would hope that it would inform the general public that the temperature today really is continuing to warm".

- **[State of the Climate](#)**

In 2014, the most essential indicators of Earth's changing climate continued to reflect trends of a warming planet, with several markers such as rising land and ocean temperature, sea levels and greenhouse gases – setting new records. These key findings and others can be found in the State of the Climate in 2014 report released online by the American Meteorological Society (AMS). This is an authoritative annual summary of the global climate, based on contributions from hundreds of scientists around the world. It provides a detailed update on global climate indicators, notable weather events, and other data collected by environmental monitoring stations and instruments located on land, water, ice, and in space.

- **[The Uncertainty Handbook: A practical guide for climate change communicators](#)**

This is the second in a series of handbooks on the topic of climate change led by Stephan Lewandowsky. The content of this handbook was informed by interviews with 11 stakeholders who work in the science-policy arena. This handbook was vetted and reviewed prior to publication by leading experts in risk research and climate communications practitioners. This work was supported by the Economic and Social Research Council.

- **[Leading UK institutions: Governments to act now to avert serious climate risks](#)**

Twenty four of the UK's foremost academic and professional institutions have called on national governments to take immediate action to avert the serious risks posed by climate change. A joint statement brings together a diverse range of organisations from across the sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, medicine and engineering for the first time. These institutions say that to tackle

climate change, governments, including that of the UK, must seize the opportunity at climate talks in Paris in December to negotiate an agreement based on the latest scientific evidence.

**News stories:** If there are any relevant news items or events that you would like to highlight on the MCCIP website please contact Susana Lincoln at [office@mccip.org.uk](mailto:office@mccip.org.uk). New items will be added to the website next month.

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