



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 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.

- **[A perfect storm: climate change and overfishing](#)**

This report by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) shows how fish stocks all over the world are on the verge of collapse due to the twin effects of climate change and overfishing. Temperature rise is causing chaos in the seas, and overfishing is already decimating stocks. Scientists warn this could lead to widespread malnutrition throughout poorer countries in tropical climates [for more information on this topic, see a paper by **Golden and colleagues** calculating the declining numbers of marine fish, and the communication by **Pauly and Zeller** suggesting that global marine fisheries catches are higher than reported and declining].

- **[Explaining Ocean Warming](#)**

Ocean warming may well turn out to be the greatest hidden challenge of our generation. This report by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) gathers facts and knowledge and shows what is now happening in and to the ocean. This report builds on the IPCC's 2013 assessment, promotes their messages, and adds in new information published since then as well as highlighting lesser-known consequences of ocean warming on species, ecosystems and services.

- **[Northwest passage clear of ice again in 2016](#)**

In the Arctic annual average temperature has been warming at twice the rate of lower latitudes. As a result, sea ice has dwindled in the far north frequently

exposing the southern path through the Northwest Passage, the ship route from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean through the Canadian Arctic. If navigable, the Northwest Passage would present a huge shortcut for shipping across the Northwest Atlantic and Pacific Ocean. In August 2016, arctic sea ice extent was the fourth smallest in the satellite data record. While lagging behind the lowest sea ice extent year of 2012, the September 2016 minimum was tied with 2007 as the second lowest sea ice extent year on record.

- **[The world passes 400ppm threshold. Permanently](#)**

In the centuries to come, history books will likely look back on September 2016 as a major milestone for the world's climate. At a time of the year when atmospheric carbon dioxide is usually at its minimum, the monthly value failed to drop below 400 parts per million. That all but ensures that 2016 will be the year that carbon dioxide officially passed the symbolic 400ppm mark, never to return below it in our lifetimes, according to scientists.

- **[Global climate change pact to go into effect](#)**

After the climate negotiations in Bonn, Germany the UN and the White House have announced that the global climate accord negotiated last year in France has met the thresholds to enter into force in a few weeks. The documents will be received at UN Headquarters in New York to formally seal the deal, but the requirement of having 55 countries accounting for more than 55 percent of global emissions ratify the accord was met, and the agreement will go into effect a few 30 days from the submission of the document

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. New items will be added to the website next month.

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