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Study: The style="white-space: nowrap">Worst-Case Climate Predictions Are the Most Accurate Ones. (/stories/2017/12/12/1723505/-The-Worst-Case-Climate-Predictions-Seem-To-Be-the-Most-Accurate-Ones)



By Pakalolo (/user/Pakalolo)

36 Comments (21 New)

(https://www.dailykos.com/story/2017/12/12/1723505/-The-Worst-Case-Climate-Predictions-Seem-To-Be-the-Most-Accurate-Ones#comments)

Tuesday Dec 12, 2017 · 8:03 AM EST




87

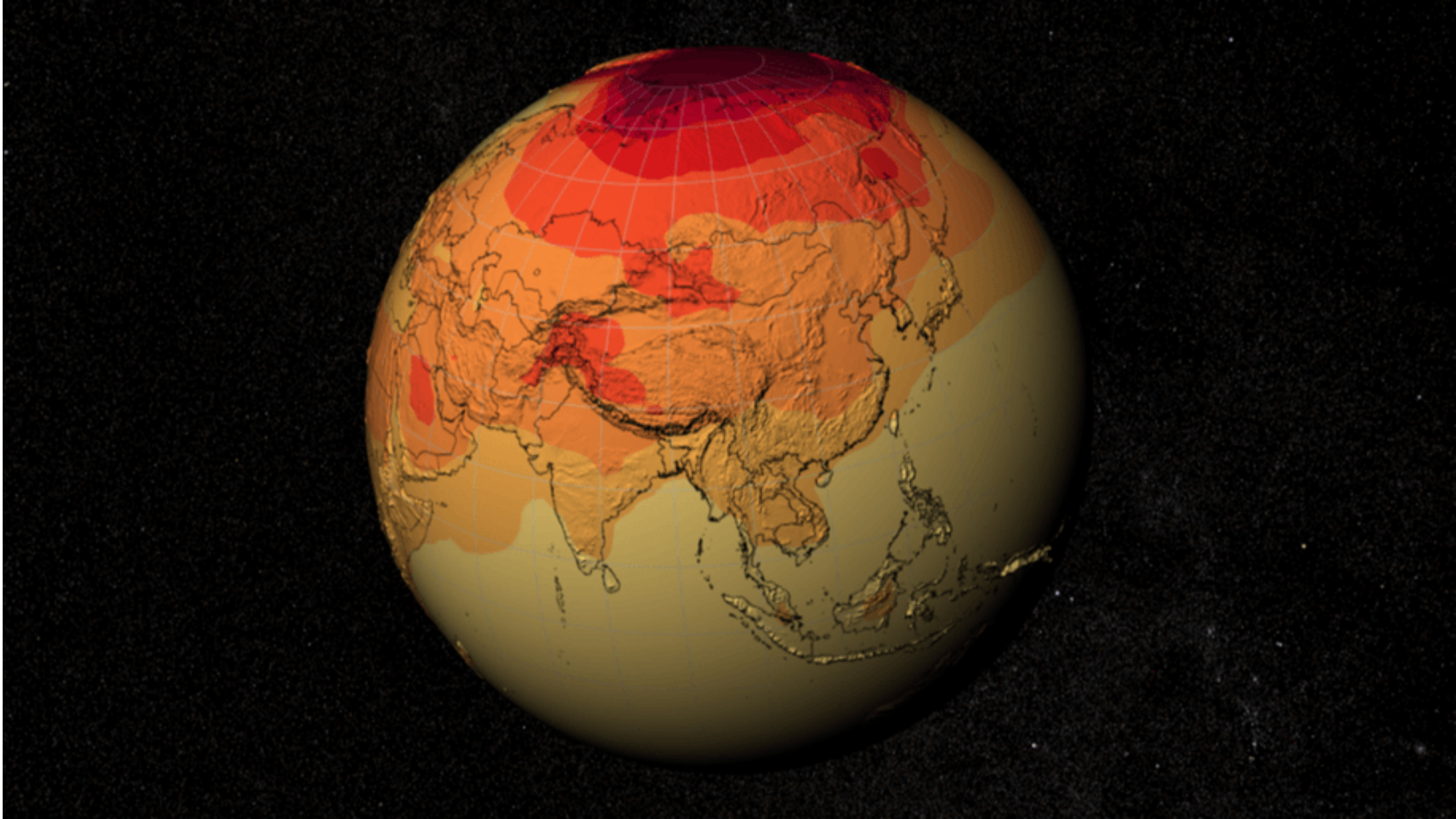


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url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dailykos.com%2Fstory%2F2017%2F12%2F12%2F1723505/-The-Worst-Case-Climate-Predictions-Seem-To-Be-the-Most-Accurate-Ones&text=Study%3A%2F%2Fwww.dailykos.com%2Fstory%2F2017%2F12%2F12%2F1723505/-The-Worst-Case-Climate-Predictions-Seem-To-Be-the-Most-Accurate-Ones



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In the 1970s, scientific consensus increasingly acknowledged that global warming was a clear and present danger if greenhouse gases were not curtailed.

Since that time, “the year 2100” has been humanity’s selfish delusion that you can push catastrophic climate change to your children and grandchildren to fix. If we had taken incremental steps over the decades, as President Jimmy Carter had argued, we may very well have solved the crisis for ourselves and future generations. But we didn’t and, summer is coming. Eric holthaus of Pacific Standard

(<http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/bill-mckibben-winning-slowly-is-the-same-as-losing-w512967>), repeats the warning (<https://psmag.com/environment/enormous-consequences-of-americas-catastrophic-weather-this-year>); “Without urgent attention and transformative climate action at the local, state, national, and international levels, America's climate problem will begin to exact an ever-greater toll on our economy and our selves”.

Incrementalism will not work now. We now need to throw everything we have at the global warming problem. I am not convinced that we will do that. It’s not all our fault that we did not act as fossil fuel industries and their political supporters “have seized on the uncertainty inherent in climate models as reasons to doubt the dangers of climate change, or to argue against strong policy and mitigation responses”.

MIT Technology Review (<https://www.technologyreview.com/s/609620/global-warmings-worst-case-projections-look-increasingly-likely/>) writes on a study based on satellite observations where it concludes that “temperatures could rise nearly 5 °C by the end of the century”. The Paris Climate Accord set the goal of 1.5 °C by 2100.

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The paper (<http://nature.com/articles/doi:10.1038/nature24672>), published on Wednesday in *Nature*, found that global temperatures could rise nearly 5 °C by the end of the century under the the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s steepest prediction for greenhouse-gas concentrations. That’s 15 percent hotter than the previous estimate. The odds that temperatures will increase more than 4 degrees by 2100 in this so-called “business as usual” scenario increased from 62 percent to 93 percent, according to the new analysis.

Climate models are sophisticated software simulations that assess how the climate reacts to various influences. For this study, the scientists collected more than a decade’s worth of satellite observations concerning the amount of sunlight reflected back into space by things like clouds, snow, and ice; how much infrared radiation is escaping from Earth; and the net balance between the amount of energy entering and leaving the atmosphere. Then the researchers compared that “top-of-atmosphere” data with the results of earlier climate models to determine which ones most accurately predicted what the satellites actually observed.

snip

The simulations that turned out to most closely match real-world observations of how energy flows in and out of the climate system were the ones that predicted the most warming this century. In particular, the study found, the models projecting that clouds will allow in more radiation over time, possibly because of decreased coverage or reflectivity, “are the ones that simulate the recent past the best,” says Patrick Brown, a postdoctoral research scientist at the Carnegie Institution and lead author of the study. This cloud feedback phenomenon remains one of the greatest areas of uncertainty in climate modeling.

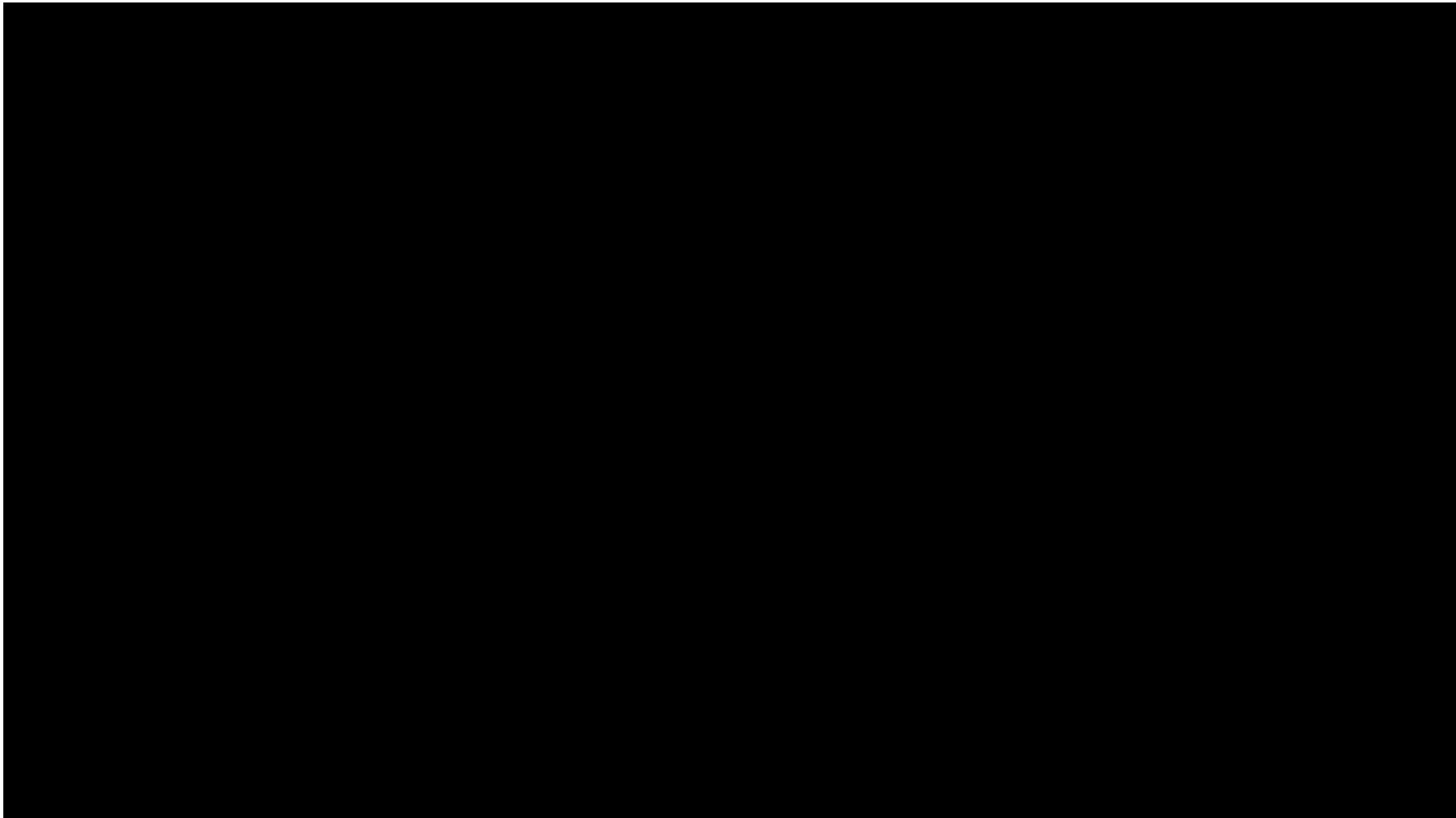
snip

“There are problems with climate models, but the ones that are most accurate are the ones that produce the most warming in the future.”

In fact, the new paper is the latest in a growing series that project larger impacts than previously predicted or conclude that climate change is unfolding faster than once believed.

This video is from NASA in 2014. (<https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/details.cgi?aid=11453>)

Roughly every six years, the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) enlists hundreds of climate scientists worldwide in producing assessment reports. IPCC report authors rigorously evaluate the latest results from climate models run on supercomputers. Internationally, a few dozen modeling groups—including NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies—contributed projections of 21st century climate to the current IPCC Fifth Assessment Report. The models simulated how Earth might respond to different scenarios of greenhouse gas emissions and reduction measures. Watch the video to see how global temperatures respond to the “business as usual” scenario, where carbon dioxide concentrations rise to 936 parts per million—more than double today's levels of 400 parts per million—by the year 2100.



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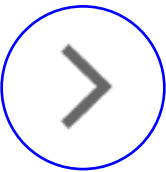
[url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dailykos.com%2Fstory%2F2017%2F12%2F12%2F1723505%2F-
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We Say Farewell - To Goldie.Hawn.

Nobody ever thought this is
how it would end for-
Goldie.

[yourhealthbeauty2027.com](#)



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3 Common Foods Surgeons Are Now Calling "DEATH FOODS"

1MD

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A Russian Fisherman Catches A Monstrous Titan From The Darkest Depths Of The Ocean

Design Bump

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Heart Surgeon Warns “Do Not Eat These Fatigue Causing Foods!”

Gundry MD

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12 Insanely Cool Gadgets Flying off Shelves

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The Perfect Female Body & How The Media Portrayed It Over 100 Years

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NEW&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=Wild+Wolf%27s+Reaction+After+Seeing+A+Couple+Walking+Their+Dog+Is+Incredible+https%3A%2F%2Fprezna.cc
7922600548653545845.jpg&utm_term=dailykos)

Wild Wolf’s Reaction After Seeing A Couple Walking Their Dog Is Incredible

PP Corn

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NEW&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=Wild+Wolf%27s+Reaction+After+Seeing+A+Couple+Walking+Their+Dog+Is+Incredible+https%3A%2F%2Fprezna.cc
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Want A Gorgeous Head Of Hair Again? Don't Use This Popular Product

JuveTress

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AllowedKE&utm_term=dailykos&utm_campaign=This+Place+Is+Forbidden+And+Most+Protected+Place+On+Earth)

This Place Is Forbidden And Most Protected Place On Earth

HistoryInOrbit.com

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(http://www.directexpose.com/black-hole-death-cave/?utm_source=talas&utm_campaign=M_TS_DE_US_D_HoleofDeath_v3_2910-

These+Divers+Found+Something+Underwater+That+May+Change+Human+History+Forever-https%3A%2F%2Fstorage.googleapis.com%2Fcaw-

uploads%2Fabcde5eb-e5d4-4690-a162-

be87ace355d7.JPG&utm_term=dailykos&utm_medium=M_TS_DE_US_D_HoleofDeath_v3_2910&utm_content=newnext)

These Divers Found Something Underwater That May Change Human History Forever

DirectExpose

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These+Divers+Found+Something+Underwater+That+May+Change+Human+History+Forever-https%3A%2F%2Fstorage.googleapis.com%2Fcaw-

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Wedding Moments Captured That Will Leave You Speechless

Lifestylogy

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When This Pit Bull Saw Who Was Adopting Him, His Reaction Was Beyond Words

Scribol

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NEW&utm_medium=cpc&utm_content=Precious+Is+So+Skinny+Now+And+Looks+Like+A+Model+%E2%80%93+We+Can%E2%80%99t+Stop+Staring+https%3/

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Precious Is So Skinny Now And Looks Like A Model – We Can’t Stop Staring

Healevate

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NEW&utm_medium=cpc&utm_content=Precious+Is+So+Skinny+Now+And+Looks+Like+A+Model+%E2%80%93+We+Can%E2%80%99t+Stop+Staring+https%3/

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Homeowners Born Before 1985 Get A Big Pay Day

HARP Mortgage Quiz

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12+17%3A28%3A22&campaign_item_id=56117870&campaign_id=718004&campaign=d.refi-original.t1)

(http://eternallysunny.com/dog-babies-hc-es/?as=2020010906252&utm_source=taboola&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=dog-babies-hc-

es_es_us_english_desktop_c0_t0_v20171118_&utm_term=57322024&utm_content=dailykos&adv_img=http%3A%2F%2Fs3.amazonaws.com%2Fboredom-

therapy-image-bucket%2Fimg2%2Fdog-babies-hc-2-taboola.jpg&adv_txt=She+Was+Worried+Her+Dog+Will+Be+Jealous.+Its+Actual+Reaction+Is+Priceless)

She Was Worried Her Dog Will Be Jealous. Its Actual Reaction Is Priceless

Eternally Sunny

(http://eternallysunny.com/dog-babies-hc-es/?as=2020010906252&utm_source=taboola&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=dog-babies-hc-

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therapy-image-bucket%2Fimg2%2Fdog-babies-hc-2-taboola.jpg&adv_txt=She+Was+Worried+Her+Dog+Will+Be+Jealous.+Its+Actual+Reaction+Is+Priceless)

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The Most Daring Red Carpet Gowns of 2017

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36 COMMENTS

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(/user/Pakalolo)

Pakalolo (/user/Pakalolo) Dec 12 · 08:03:30 AM (/comments/1723505/68649028#comment_68649028)

Tip Jar

★ 62 Recommend



(/user/SARBill)

SARBill (/user/SARBill) Dec 12 · 08:11:55 AM (/comments/1723505/68649064#comment_68649064)

Hey y’all lets forget Earth Observation on Planet A (no habitable planet B) and lets go to the moon and to Mars. Let’s dream big dreams and forget about the colossal job of cleaning up our only bedroom, house, work, food source.....

s/USA VP

★ 8 Recommend



(/user/PJEvans)

PJEvans (/user/PJEvans) ▶ **SARBill** Dec 12 · 10:18:46 AM (/comments/1723505/68650004#comment_68650004)

I notice Himself didn’t say where all the needed billions of dollars would come from. He’s a fool, distracting people from reality.

★ 3 Recommend



(/user/Bobs Telecaster)

Bobs Telecaster (/user/Bobs Telecaster) ▶ SARBill

Dec 12 · 10:26:45 AM (/comments/1723505/68650085#comment_68650085)

I've never understood the argument that we can only do one thing. The expertise gained in the study of other planetary bodies helps us to learn more about our own, and is one of the main motives for doing it.

Honestly, NASA's budget is a mere pittance — I wish we could flip NASA's budget with the military's. Want to learn how to cool the planet, move more fully to electrical power, and learn what the geological systems of the Earth portend? Space exploration is one of the likeliest sources of the technology and knowledge required to figure it out.

★ 13 Recommend



(/user/Casey and Miranda)

Casey and Miranda (/user/Casey and Miranda) ▶ Bobs Telecaster

Dec 12 · 10:41:31 AM (/comments/1723505/68650229#comment_68650229)

Thank you.

Also: never discount the social benefit of actually spreading the eggs to more than one basket. We often think about FTL and colonization as a way to save the species from an itchy nuke finger, off-world dangerous and dirty tech, and bleed off overpopulation. But it may also lead to intrepid Roy Moore / Richard Spencer types taking their loony followers and blasting off to found Planet Deseret or Welthauptstadt Germania.

Their Iron Age social order and general anti-intellectualism will then lead their society to completely collapse and/or murder itself within a few generations of founding, which, in an unforgiving environment with only a small margin for error... I'm just sayin'.

★ 3 Recommend



(/user/Bobs Telecaster)

Bobs Telecaster (/user/Bobs Telecaster) ▶ Casey and Miranda

Dec 12 · 10:43:46 AM (/comments/1723505/68650246#comment_68650246)

I'd gladly pay twice the taxes if NASA uses the first SLS mission to send Roy Moore, Richard Spencer, and Trump on a one way trip to Mars!

★ 2 Recommend



(/user/Casey and Miranda)

Casey and Miranda (/user/Casey a... ▶ Bobs Telecaster

Dec 12 · 10:55:38 AM (/comments/1723505/68650402#comment_68650402)

What do you have against Mars?

★ 4 Recommend



(/user/Bobs Telecaster)

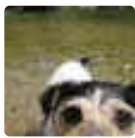
Bobs Telecaster (/user/Bobs ... ▶ Casey and Miranda

Dec 12 · 10:58:21 AM

(/comments/1723505/68650445#comment_68650445)

OK, Pluto. It got demoted to Dwarf Planet, and it will drive Trump crazy that he got his accommodations downgraded.

★ 3 Recommend



(/user/jayden)

jayden (/user/jayden) ▶ **Bobs Telecaster**

Dec 12 · 11:40:36 AM (/comments/1723505/68651062#comment_68651062)

Why send them away from the sun? They want hell on earth so send them toward the sun so they'll feel more at home.

★ 2 Recommend



(/user/ian douglas rushlau)

ian douglas rushlau (/user/ian douglas rushlau) Dec 12 · 09:01:59 AM (/comments/1723505/68649363#comment_68649363)

Pakalolo,

Incrementalism will not work now. We now need to throw everything we have at the global warming problem. I am not convinced that we will do that.

I guess I'm more cynical and pessimistic than you. I am convinced we won't do that.

The sources of energy that produce the most greenhouse gases are the ones **we rely on most** (<https://www.utilitydive.com/news/eia-coal-generation-will-top-natural-gas-in-2018/448932/>) for electrical generation:

- Coal generation will exceed natural gas this year as well as next, the U.S. Energy Information Administration predicted in its most recent Short Term Energy Outlook (<https://www.eia.gov/outlooks/steo/>). Rising exports of natural gas, along with consumption and prices, will help fuel the trend.
- The total share of gas-fired utility-scale generation this year will average 31%, down from more than a third last year, Coal's share of United States generation rises from 30% last year to almost 32% this year (<https://www.utilitydive.com/news/eia-coal-generation-to-narrowly-exceed-gas-in-2017/447403/>). Looking ahead to next year, those levels are expected to remain stable.
- The projected generation shares for natural gas and coal are nearly identical in 2018, averaging between 31% and 32%.

The GOP is dismantling environmental regulations, and trying to undercut the progress we're making with renewables. The 'heartland' culture of this country is the culture of NASCAR, muscle cars and what I like to call 'BSPUT's' (Big Stupid Pickup Trucks').

We're facing global catastrophe, and our political opponents are an obstacle to solving it, and they currently hold the Congress and the White House, and 2/3 of state governments.

Things are going to get much worse.

Elections have consequences.

★ 16 Recommend



(/user/Pakalolo)

Pakalolo (/user/Pakalolo) ▶ ian douglas rushlau

Dec 12 · 09:06:57 AM (/comments/1723505/68649399#comment_68649399)

I understand. All we get is rhetoric from the powerful. This is not going to end well for us.

★ 8 Recommend



(/user/ckallen)

ckallen (/user/ckallen) ▶ Pakalolo

Dec 12 · 09:54:09 AM (/comments/1723505/68649795#comment_68649795)

Maybe, when the earth heals itself, God will see what a horrible mistake he made, and populate it sans homo sapiens.

★ 2 Recommend



(/user/Screwysquirrel)

Screwysquirrel (/user/Screwysquirrel) ▶ ckallen

Dec 12 · 11:01:36 AM (/comments/1723505/68650491#comment_68650491)

what do you think will get the healing underway?

★ 0 Recommend



(/user/ckallen)

ckallen (/user/ckallen) ▶ Screwysquirrel

Dec 12 · 11:21:51 AM (/comments/1723505/68650783#comment_68650783)

The end of humans will be a good start. All you have to do is look at what we've done to this planet. Some island are already under water. I'm not a scientist. I have no idea how long it will take the climate to stabilize enough to support life. Just know that if humans are a part of that the first thing they will do is start strip mining for coal again.

★ 2 Recommend



(/user/antirove)

antirove (/user/antirove) ▶ ckallen

Dec 12 · 11:38:27 AM (/comments/1723505/68651027#comment_68651027)

And to think, so-called scientific Westerners, suffering from delusions due to the steady bombardment of Fake News generated by America's coast to coast propaganda industries, as well as a certain dim dotard's corrupt and ineffectual leadership, have nearly all failed to grasp that Dear Leader Kim Jong-il is controlling the weather (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/northkorea/8965694/50-fascinating-facts-Kim-Jong-il-and-North-Korea.html>)?

Which means the climate is in great, small but beautiful, hands, the hands of a beloved demigod, terrifying to NK's enemies. So the climate is therefore completely outside of US control, although the US military

scientists are trying in vain to figure it out, since they realize the risks posed to their navies and aircraft...a power at least as dangerous as nuclear weapons. Now we know why the US leadership, it’s class of exploitive corrupt billionaires, has finally given up their feeble efforts at trying to control the climate—these leaders now realize that Kim already does with ease.

Do you yet doubt? No surprise there. Consider these empiric facts—that ever since Kim Jong-il took power, a steady stream of Category 5 hurricanes each summer has been hitting America’s ruling class plantation mansions in its South and East coast, as well as their wastefully luxurious private island resorts—those should be a real undeniable clues and signs to the world as to the Generalissimo’s power over nature, as well as why the illusive yet wonderful unicorns love him and send their rainbows over the mountains showing their loving approval. Kim even sent hurricane up to England this year to show the feeble old queen and Lords of Parliament who was really in charge.

/s

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Dave Brown)

Dave Brown (/user/Dave Brown) ▶ ian douglas rushlau

Dec 12 · 09:57:09 AM (/comments/1723505/68649812#comment_68649812)

I think that the world had it’s chance to at least mitigate the effects of global warming, but missed it. I don’t know what drives those responsible to bury their head in the sand, but in doing so, they’ve buried the future of humanity.

At least if humanity is wiped out, they'll get their dream of no more abortions...

★ 4 Recommend



(/user/mattakar)

mattakar (/user/mattakar) Dec 12 · 09:06:36 AM (/comments/1723505/68649393#comment_68649393)

Well, this needs to be carefully weighed against the existential threat of Hillary’s emails...

★ 10 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Pakalolo)

Pakalolo (/user/Pakalolo) ▶ mattakar

Dec 12 · 09:07:38 AM (/comments/1723505/68649402#comment_68649402)

And that voice!

★ 3 Recommend



(/user/donniepiddlepants)

donniepiddlepants (/user/donniepiddlepants) Dec 12 · 09:53:22 AM (/comments/1723505/68649788#comment_68649788)

Wow! Humanity may survive this, but lots of humans won’t.

★ 5 Recommend

[new]



(/user/The grouch)

The grouch (/user/The grouch) ▶ **donniepiddlepants**

Dec 12 · 10:05:40 AM (/comments/1723505/68649884#comment_68649884)

Although I have no children, I’m still appalled and saddened by the likely scenario of devastation, starvation, and mass die-off. The fact that we know it’s happening, and we know why, and don’t have the will or the wits to stop it is dumbfounding.

★ 6 Recommend



[new]



(/user/toys)

toys (/user/toys) ▶ **The grouch**

Dec 12 · 10:44:09 AM (/comments/1723505/68650252#comment_68650252)

Yes, and when someone sees a Bitter Old Man, they could ask themselves “Why?” Maybe it’s because he had tried so hard for so long and sacrificed so much, only to see it all fail, for a stupid reason.

★ 1 Recommend



[new]



(/user/Screwysquirrel)

Screwysquirrel (/user/Screwysquirrel) ▶ **The grouch**

Dec 12 · 11:02:24 AM (/comments/1723505/68650500#comment_68650500)

Are humans smarter than yeast?

All evidence says ‘no’

★ 2 Recommend



[new]



(/user/antirove)

antirove (/user/antirove) ▶ **Screwysquirrel**

Dec 12 · 11:40:03 AM (/comments/1723505/68651050#comment_68651050)

And consider that no human ever infects yeast. It’s the other way around, and for good reason.

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/SunPanther)

SunPanther (/user/SunPanther) Dec 12 · 10:10:45 AM (/comments/1723505/68649928#comment_68649928)

According to a number of studies, at 936 ppm, we’re going to see a measurable effect on human cognition: thinkprogress.org/ (https://thinkprogress.org/exclusive-elevated-co2-levels-directly-affect-human-cognition-new-harvard-study-shows-2748e7378941/)..., and we don’t know for sure what the threshold of negative effects is. Look at it this way: our most recent brain evolution, involving the cerebral neocortex, happened in an atmosphere where CO2 was between 180 and 280 ppm. What happens when you double or triple that top level, including to developing fetuses and infants during rapid brain development, is a question we probably should be asking.

★ 7 Recommend



[new]



(/user/PJEvans)

PJEvans (/user/PJEvans) ▶ **SunPanther**

Dec 12 · 10:19:56 AM (/comments/1723505/68650015#comment_68650015)

I remember reading about that a couple of years ago, at Science News. (Among other bad effects of high CO2 levels.)

★ 2 Recommend

[new]



(/user/antirove)

antirove (/user/antirove) ▶ **SunPanther**

Dec 12 · 11:44:28 AM (/comments/1723505/68651118#comment_68651118)

Well, I hate to point out that the embarrassing rise of anti-education Trumpism does seem to correlate with increasing ppm of CO2. Sadly, this may also prove that the old saying, “Ignorance is bliss”, is woefully wrong, if anyone has enough working cognition remaining to appreciate that proof and dangers of its implications.

★ 0 Recommend



(/user/dylanfan)

dylanfan (/user/dylanfan) Dec 12 · 10:16:54 AM (/comments/1723505/68649983#comment_68649983)

I am not sure I want any grand children. I don't see a future for the planet and it will be an ugly ending imho. At least my grown children get no pressure from me. Of course I want the blessing of grandchildren but not the fretting about their future lives!

★ 7 Recommend



(/user/Shockwave)

Shockwave (/user/Shockwave) Dec 12 · 10:56:49 AM (/comments/1723505/68650418#comment_68650418)

I wrote a diary about global warming back in 2006;

Cheney's 1% Doctrine and Global Warming (<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2006/09/26/250009/-Cheney-s-1-Doctrine-and-Global-Warming>)

The consequences of global warming are terrifying. Much more terrifying than any nuclear bomb in the hands of a terrorist. Millions of people, including most Americans, displaced by rising waters, starved to death, diseases gone wild, all within 50 years.

Even if you think that this scenario has only a 1% chance of happening, does it not make sense to try to do your utmost to stop it?

And again in 2015;

Have we reached the tipping point? 3 minutes to midnight because of global warming (<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2015/1/25/1360190/-Have-we-reached-the-tipping-point-3-minutes-to-midnight-because-of-global-warming>)

We are headed for a mad Max World unless we do all we can to stop global warming.



★ 7 Recommend

[new]



(/user/forgore)

forgore (/user/forgore) ▶ **Shockwave**

Dec 12 · 11:20:19 AM (/comments/1723505/68650757#comment_68650757)

I remember reading the diary in 2006, it was spot on

★ 1 Recommend



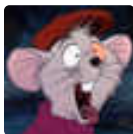
(/user/AoT)

AoT (/user/AoT) Dec 12 · 10:56:59 AM (/comments/1723505/68650421#comment_68650421)

Incrementalism will not work now. We now need to throw everything we have at the global warming problem.

From your lips to God’s ears. But I’m not holding my breath. The party certainly isn’t taking the necessary steps.

★ 2 Recommend



(/user/Miscweant)

Miscweant (/user/Miscweant) Dec 12 · 10:58:59 AM (/comments/1723505/68650452#comment_68650452)

Since the end of WWII America has rebuilt itself around the Car and its attendant Suburban Sprawl. Survival without a car outside of a major city is close to impossible, but anyone stuck in a traffic jam, anyone looking at the endless spaghetti of ramps at major highway interchanges knows *there are just too damn many cars*. It would take close to a revolution — or an unbelievable environmental catastrophe — to uproot this culture, and even then it might be too late.

The greedy people who are profiting from the current scheme of things don’t care. They might even be aware of the cost of their self-imposed ignorance, but worst comes to worst they’ll repair themselves to a domed “Galt’s Gulch” hidden in some mountain range where they’ll be protected from the ravaged environment they’ve helped to destroy.

★ 3 Recommend

[new]



(/user/libera nos)

libera nos (/user/libera nos) ▶ **Miscweant**

Dec 12 · 11:21:40 AM (/comments/1723505/68650779#comment_68650779)

Interesting article in today's Star-Ledger about the future of the auto mechanic business. Apparently electric vehicles need far less servicing, and far more of it can be done by the owner. Even hybrid vehicles need less (and my sense reading between the lines is not even proportionately as much, perhaps because the IC motor is not in continual use).

Combine this with autopiloted cars—resulting, one hopes, in better performance and fewer crazies or incompetents on the road (and I don't drive, because I'd be one of the latter), and the direct contribution of vehicles to global warming should start going down.

That leaves only the indirect costs. But (Dolt-45 to the contrary) renewable sources are providing an ever larger share of power generation, with lower pollution, so maybe that isn't as large a problem as we thought a generation back.

★ 3 Recommend



(/user/Mantis)

Mantis (/user/Mantis) ▶ libera nos

Dec 12 · 11:46:47 AM (/comments/1723505/68651144#comment_68651144)

The recommended frequency of oil changes for my Prius is every 5,000 miles, as opposed to every 3,000 for standard gasoline-powered vehicles. In practice, that means once every 10,000 is just fine.

★ 1 Recommend

(/user/acroterion)

acroterion (/user/acroterion) ▶ Miscweant

Dec 12 · 12:01:03 PM (/comments/1723505/68651400#comment_68651400)

The cruel twist is that low density suburban development actually has certain advantages for building a solar-electric world, including electric cars. Solar power generation is first and foremost a function of panel area, especially because for the kind of polycrystalline silicon panels that most people use, you can get more electricity cheaper from just installing more panels than you can from upgrading to more efficient panels. High density urban development packs a lot of demand for electricity into buildings with a low surface area to volume ratio, which is good for heat retention but doesn't provide enough panel area on the roof or south facing walls. Tall buildings also shade each other, and the same surface area to volume ratio can make it difficult to provide sunlight (for lighting and passive solar heating) to every part of the interior, especially since skylights aren't an option. The rooftops of suburban houses and sprawling commercial and industrial buildings can provide all or a large percentage of the building's electricity demand (especially if you use daylighting and passive solar climate control as well), and large suburban parking lots can in theory be covered with solar panels on shade structures (as has been done at a Wal-Mart in my area), both obviating the need for acres and acres of greenfield solar parks.

★ 2 Recommend



(/user/veritas curat)

veritas curat (/user/veritas curat) Dec 12 · 11:39:34 AM (/comments/1723505/68651041#comment_68651041)

Just curious, what do you think of this diary, rescued a few days ago: We're Winning the War on Climate (<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2017/12/4/1720830/-We-re-Winning-the-Fight-on-Climate>)

From the comments about “house Eeyores” and “Doomsayers” :

The doomsayers drive me nuts. Their doomsaying is not based on any science, it is just an outburst of emotion. The best science is in the IPCC reports, and we should base our views of the future on that. The rejection of science has been the bedrock of the deniers, we should not join them by swinging the pendulum all the way to the other side. It is hard to understand how if we keep warming to 2 degrees above baseline, things are all fine, but if we warm by 2.5 degrees the very existence of the human race is now in question.

Some people seem to think that being more pessimistic than the last person makes them automatically smarter and more sophisticated. It doesn't.

★ 0 Recommend



(/user/mochajava13)

mochajava13 (/user/mochajava13) Dec 12 · 12:25:26 PM (/comments/1723505/68651734#comment_68651734)

Climate change is my number 1 issue on voting. Period and full stop. If we can't get congress to change - we have to. We need a strategy to enact he change that Congress won't. Boycotts and all. There's is no good reason to not have renewables as the primary energy source. None. If we have to allocate all of our defense dollars to this issue - then do it.

On a more morbid note - no models incorporate nuclear winter, which seems increasingly likely.

★ 0 Recommend

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