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Geosciences Bulletin Board – 29 December 2014

Do you know of a colleague and/or student who would be interested in receiving this Bulletin Board? Please forward to them. A quick email to Geosciences-BBoard@att.net with the word “subscribe” in the subject line and the email address will be added to the listing.

2014 was year of recognizing new dinosaurs!

- <http://www.sciencenews.org/article/year-review-roster-dinosaurs-expands>

TED talks....content can be valuable for geoscientists!

- <http://www.earthmagazine.org/article/geologic-column-what-geoscientists-can-learn-ted-talks>

Archived aerial photographs of Antarctica being released from archives...reveal changes

- <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-30471542>

Dendrochronology reveals climatic record of droughts in California

- <http://earthsky.org/earth/tree-ring-study-shows-californias-drought-worst-in-1200-years>

Fuego volcano is erupting in Guatemala ... ash warning issued

- http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Ash_from_Guatemala_volcanoes_prompts_flight_warning_999.html

Popocatepetl volcano, southeast of Mexico City, emits 3.5 km high plume of gas, ash and steam

- <http://www.news24.com/Green/News/Mexican-volcano-flares-up-spews-ash-20141228>

New legal venue legacy of nuclear testing

- <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/12/28/world/a-former-ground-zero-goes-to-court-against-the-worlds-nuclear-arsenals-.html>

Glaciers are very dynamic...flowing, ablating, calving, surface melting, accumulation...

- <http://news.yahoo.com/greenlands-ice-loss-now-comes-surface-141536542.html>

Boom should mean not just more taxes, but also increased demand for geotechnical services

- <http://www.spokesman.com/stories/2014/dec/26/public-services-in-oil-towns-struggle-to-keep/>

Thawing submarine permafrost is an ongoing process....methane being released

- <http://phys.org/news/2014-12-methane-leaking-permafrost-offshore-siberia.html>

New short-necked Triassic marine reptile discovered in China: *Eohupehsuchus brevicollis*

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/12/141217154014.htm>

Studying tooth enamel may tell us more about fossil animals

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/12/141222165445.htm>

This fossil fish has preserved retinas (rods and cones) which show animals had color vision 300 million years ago

- <http://www.sci-news.com/paleontology/science-carboniferous-fish-fossil-well-preserved-retina-02367.html>

Perspective: Fracking is a “red herring” with economic & environmental consequences

- <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/grantham-us-fracking-very-large-133500425.html>

Will ionic liquids lead to improved methods for extraction of rare earth elements from ores?

- <http://phys.org/news/2014-12-ionic-liquids-door-rare-earth-materials.html>

How to teach volcanology if you don't have a volcano near your campus (video)

- <http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/science/2014/12/21/01-magma-and-rubber-ducks.html>

Winter Solstice is not the coldest day of the year

- <http://www.csmonitor.com/Science/2014/1222/Winter-solstice-Why-isn-t-the-shortest-day-also-the-coldest>

Photos of ancient stromatolites at Lake Helen in Banff National Park, Canada

- <http://blogs.agu.org/mountainbeltway/2014/12/25/stromatolites-helen-lake-1-photos/>

Rock slide and protalus rampart (?) on the trail to Helen Lake, Banff National Park, Canada

- <http://blogs.agu.org/mountainbeltway/2014/12/24/rock-slide-pro-talus-rampart-trail-helen-lake/>

Major EQ and landslides may have caused disappearance of Sanxingdui culture in China

- <http://www.livescience.com/49247-chinese-civilization-disappearance-explained.html>

Five prehistoric monsters you might not want to meet in a dark alley! (video)

- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/12/24/prehistoric-mammals-video_n_6276622.html

Earth Observation satellite images the week for 2014

- http://www.esa.int/spaceinimages/Sets/Earth_observation_image_of_the_week

Mapping the salinity of the ocean (video)

- http://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Observing_the_Earth/SMOS/Salinity_matters

Super Typhoon Haiyan waves washed storm-driven giant boulders onto beaches

- <http://www.livescience.com/49201-haiyan-waves-moved-giant-boulders.html>

Mineral of the month: Strontium

- <http://www.earthmagazine.org/article/mineral-resource-month-strontium>

Subsidence of about 3 inches per year of Jakarta, Indonesia, due to groundwater withdrawal

- <http://news.yahoo.com/special-report-jakarta-sinking-feeling-too-real-143316821.html>

Enviro-Sciences Bulletin Board – 29 December 2014 – compiled by Elaine J. Hanford
 Compilation of selected current news articles pertinent to the discipline:

Ebola

- Christmas parties banned: <http://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-12-sierra-leone-christmas-parties-ebola.html>
- 2014 review: <https://www.sciencenews.org/article/year-review-science-faces-ebola-epidemic>
- Lab exposure: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/cdc-reports-potential-ebola-exposure-in-atlanta-lab/>
- clinical trial: http://www.sciencecodex.com/scientists_report_on_trial_of_earlygeneration Ebola_marburg_vaccine_candidates-148043
- New cases: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/12/29/liberia-ebola_n_6390234.html

Whooping cough (pertussis) is rapidly evolving....danger of vaccines becoming less effective

- <http://www.bbc.com/news/health-30551093>

TCE and other toxic chemicals...a Superfund site...the vagaries of developers...buyer beware

- <http://news.yahoo.com/old-plant-tainted-land-worried-homeowners-050219348.html>

Listeria outbreak - CDC Updates Listeriosis Outbreak Linked to Caramel Apples

- <http://foodpoisoningbulletin.com/2014/cdc-updates-listeriosis-outbreak-linked-to-caramel-apples/>

E. coli from livestock feed-lots can contaminate neighboring produce fields

- <http://foodpoisoningbulletin.com/2014/study-e-coli-from-cattle-feedlots-can-blow-onto-neighboring-produce-fields/>

A question of ethics: lab scientists create precursors to human egg and sperm

- <http://phys.org/news/2014-12-egg-sperm-scientists-precursors-human.html>

Deforestation of tropical rain forests has significant impacts on the global climate

- <http://www.natureworldnews.com/articles/11399/20141222/tropical-deforestation-triggers-changes-just-as-costly-as-carbon-pollution.htm>

This Laysan albatross named "Wisdom" is still breeding at an estimated age of 63

- <http://earthsky.org/earth/wisdom-has-a-new-egg>

As wolf population rebounds across Europe, conflict grows, livestock grazers try to protect flocks

- <http://theweek.com/article/index/273838/germany-has-a-serious-wolf-problem>

Pilot project reduced phosphorus levels in stream waters by changing ag management practices

- <http://phys.org/news/2014-12-phosphorus-river.html>

Meteorologists in Norway try to produce 4-day forecasts for air pollution

- <http://sciencenordic.com/four-day-forecasts-air-pollution>

Federal budget cuts of EPA are not consistent with American voters support for stronger enforcement of water and air quality standards

- <http://www.allgov.com/news/where-is-the-money-going/epa-staff-cut-to-smallest-number-in-25-years-141224?news=855187>

EPA ruling on coal ash is disappointment for environmental groups

- http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_COAL_ASH_REGULATIONS

EPA pilot program will focus on 20 communities and their water supplies

- <http://www.asce.org/magazine/20141223-epa-pilot-program-focuses-on-water-utilities/>

These floating outhouses on Tonle Sap Lake in Cambodia are designed to clean themselves

- <http://www.npr.org/blogs/goatsandsoda/2014/12/23/371862099/floating-toilets-that-clean-themselves-grow-on-a-lake>

Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve now expanded

- <http://cavingnews.com/20141223-oregon-caves-national-monument-expands>
- Website: <http://www.nps.gov/orca/index.htm>

Australia in another hot cycle...affects animals, plants and cricket players

- <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/environment/climate-change/as-shepherds-watched-it-got-hotter-and-hotter-20141223-124o27.html>

People versus sharks...debate in Western Australia

- <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/wa-news/the-drum-line-debate-what-2014-meant-for-sharks-in-wa-20141223-1246qz.html>

White paper: Urban Resilience & Infrastructure

- <http://cenews.com/post/6725/new-whitepaper-available-on-urban-resilience-infrastructure>
- Report download: <http://media.mhfi.com/documents/MHFIGI-Building-Resilience.pdf>

White Paper: Potable water reuse is most affordable option for “more water”

- <http://cenews.com/post/6727/whitepaper-potable-reuse-most-affordable-source-of-new-water>
- Report download: <https://www.watereuse.org/product/14-08-1>

Desert soils can host complex microbial communities

- <http://www.technology.org/2014/12/23/barren-deserts-can-host-complex-ecosystems-soils/>

Humans are still evolving...our bones are becoming weaker

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/12/141222165033.htm>

Judicial ruling puts Gray wolves of the Great Lakes back on the endangered species list

- <http://news.sciencemag.org/plants-animals/2014/12/judge-returns-great-lakes-wolves-endangered-species-list>

This rare northern cardinal exhibits split-sex “gynandromorphs”

- <http://news.sciencemag.org/biology/2014/12/half-male-half-female-bird-has-rough-life>

Images from the ship’s artist on the Beagle put online and reveal Darwin’s voyage

- <http://www.theguardian.com/science/2014/dec/24/charles-darwin-beagle-artist-conrad-martens-cambridge-university>
- Sketchbook images: <http://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/view/MS-ADD-07984/1>
- Darwin's manuscripts: http://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/collections/darwin_mss

Earth Observation satellite images the week for 2014

- http://www.esa.int/spaceinimages/Sets/Earth_observation_image_of_the_week

Perspective: John Muir's Last Stand...on the 100th anniversary of his death on 24 Dec

- <http://www.resilience.org/stories/2014-12-24/john-muir-s-last-stand>

Perspective: The true cost of food

- <http://www.resilience.org/stories/2014-12-19/the-true-cost-of-food>
- Report: <http://www.neweconomics.org/publications/entry/urgent-recall>
- http://b.3cdn.net/nefoundation/1bfd1f66401d3b5f4b_fsm6vjoti.pdf

If we are to improve conditions in the world, then we must all become indigenous

- <http://www.resilience.org/stories/2014-12-24/becoming-indigenous-settling-a-population-adrift-in-an-unstable-world>

Should we have said an environmental “bah, humbug” to Christmas lights?

- <http://mashable.com/2014/12/24/christmas-lights-bad-for-environment/>
- Related: <http://www.livescience.com/49258-what-holiday-lights-look-like-to-nasa.html>

Will the Los Angeles River ever be without concrete again?

- <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-30456672>

Noise pollution from traffic causes significant number of deaths each year in EU countries

- <http://ens-newswire.com/2014/12/19/eu-traffic-noise-causes-10000-premature-deaths-a-year/>
- Link to report: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/noise-in-europe-2014>
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New trade center for endangered big cats is identified on Myanmar border with China

- <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-30556409>

New tick-borne virus called “Bourbon virus” identified in Kansas after causing one death due to multiple organ failure (video)

- <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/bourbon-virus-researchers-discover-mystery-tickborne-deadly-virus-9942584.html>

\$1 Billion office & residential redevelopment in Pittsburg, PA, described as “sustainable”

- <http://www.post-gazette.com/business/development/2014/12/24/Former-LTV-site-to-set-sustainability-standard/stories/201412240110>

“Green River” immortalized by CCR, designated by CF&GC as a “Wild Trout Water” (video)

- <http://www.sacbee.com/news/local/environment/article4748376.html>

“Grand Canal” across Nicaragua: economic success or environmental disaster?

- <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/worldviews/wp/2014/12/23/why-the-chinese-backed-nicaragua-canal-may-be-a-disaster/>

Grizzly bears suffer collateral impacts of mountain pine beetle infestations

- <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/meet-tiny-beetle-thats-killing-222817946.html>

Ban on fracking in New York State is not about climate change...it's about public health

- <http://www.fool.com/investing/general/2014/12/23/3-reasons-why-new-yorks-fracking-ban-changes-every.aspx>
- Report:
https://www.health.ny.gov/press/reports/docs/high_volume_hydraulic_fracturing.pdf

Water diversion tunnels to protect Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta will now be gravity fed

- <http://www.sacbee.com/news/local/environment/article4644687.html>

New \$1.6M grant to US-UK researchers to study infectious agricultural diseases (bovine TB & Johne's disease) that affect animal and human health as well as wildlife

- <http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/2014/12/scientists-get-16m-study-infectious-farm-diseases>

\$718M for 18-mile levee proposed to help protect against hurricanes...but will it work?

- http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2014/12/federal_review_panel_approves.html

"Clean India" campaign tries to reverse collateral impacts of social caste system

- <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/maids-deemed-too-pure-touch-183001607.html>

Update: unlicensed doctor arrested for infecting many in Cambodian village with HIV

- <http://news.yahoo.com/unlicensed-cambodian-doctor-charged-over-mass-hiv-infection-003905720.html>

Subsidence of Jakarta, Indonesia, due to groundwater withdrawal...sewage flows through canals & watershed is impacted

- <http://news.yahoo.com/special-report-jakarta-sinking-feeling-too-real-143316821.html>

Diversity is important in predicting human responses to chemical exposures by lab mouse testing

- <http://www.healthcanal.com/environmental-health/57123-diversity-outbred-mice-better-predict-potential-human-responses-to-chemical-exposures.html>