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**Geosciences Bulletin Board – 18 January 2016 - compiled by Elaine J. Hanford**

Titanosaur skeleton (well, at least the cast of the skeleton) is unveiled in New York City (video)
- [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/titanosaur-american-museum-of-natural-history_569894f4e4b0778f46f8efc4](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/titanosaur-american-museum-of-natural-history_569894f4e4b0778f46f8efc4)

“Alex” is first January-born hurricane since 1938...formed as result of 170+ degree temperature contrast between ocean and the jet stream (video)

Swansea, England, tidal lagoon energy project being questioned...reverse tidal flow may not be as effective

Mining of green and blue clays may increase as their antimicrobial properties are recognized

3 deaths result from snow slab avalanche dislodged by skiers in the Alps, others missing (video)
• http://news.yahoo.com/avalanche-french-alps-hits-high-school-ski-group-180814462.html

Microanalysis of carbonate deposits that formed growth rings around rocks reveals climate history
• http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/01/160111162655.htm

Lessons learned from Nepal landslides may have bearing on slope stability in the Pacific NW if a Cascade Subduction Zone EQ occurs

Catastrophic, explosive “mass ejection landslides” may jump across rivers

Machimosaurus rex, a 6,000 pound marine crocodile, inhabited the sea and coast areas 130M years ago (video)
• http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/marine-crocodile-fossils-discovered_5693ec83e4b0c8beacf7d30e?

Update on potential Superfund listing for Yerington, Nevada, abandoned mine

Without media hyperbole, the ozone “hole” continues to wax and wane subject to annual variances, air flow patterns and other atmospheric dynamics
• http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/ozone-hole-was-super-scary-what-happened-it-180957775/

During the long Arctic winter, marine animals migrate vertically by the light of the moon
• http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/01/160107140410.htm

Lava lake explosion in Hawaii creates beautiful, but fragile Pele tear eggs
• http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/lava-lake-creates-glass-egg_569545d1e4b086bc1cd56625

Minerals and the origin of life on Earth
• http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/life-and-rocks-may-have-co-evolved-on-earth-180957807/
• “Life’s Rocky Start” http://www.pbs.org/video/2365642819/ (53 minute video)

Search for Malaysia Flight 370 reveals second shipwreck...this one from the 1800s

How to eliminate a 20 ton boulder that blocks road to Tahoe after a rock fall? Blow it up! (video)
Loop Current in the Gulf of Mexico may help sustain algal blooms and predict red tides
• http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2016-01/uomr-oioii1216.php
15 award winning oceanic life photos
• http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/ocean-life-photos_56901265e4b0c8beacf6f254
Report says China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand & Vietnam spew out up to 60 percent of plastic waste entering the ocean
• http://www.globalpost.com/article/6718373/2016/01/plastic-trash-ocean
Slower seismic wave propagation may indicate areas of crustal weakness and may improve EQ prediction
New geological evidence of prehistoric tsunami in the Aleutian Islands may help with hazards awareness around the Pacific Ocean
• http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2016-01/agu-nge011216.php
• Related: http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/01/12/462708068/aleutian-quake-zone-could-shoot-big-tsunamis-to-hawaii-california
Sediments in Lake Malawi, southern Africa, suggest mild winter followed eruption of Mt Toba some 74,000 years ago
Puna Geothermal fined for Clean Air Act chemical safety violations
These creatures dominated the seas during the Ediacarian 635M to 541M years ago
• http://www.livescience.com/53337-ediacaran-period-images.html
Mega-tsunami that hit Madagascar may have created its sand dunes
• http://www.livescience.com/53352-monster-tsunami-created-madagascar-dunes.html
Denmark develops new model that yields two-day warning of floods
• http://sciencenordic.com/new-model-can-help-predict-flooding-two-days-advance
Anticipating an earthquake in Kansas….yes, in Kansas … along reactivated faults
36,000 year old Chauvet cave paintings captured images of erupting volcano
Earth Science class can have long-lasting influence on the life of a student

Last known survivor of the 1906 San Francisco EQ and fire dies at age 109

As “Bertha” once again resumed drilling Highway 99 tunnel in Seattle, a sinkhole formed raising concerns for soils conditions yet to be encountered

Icebergs from Antarctica help keep nutrients and nature in balance....as it should be

Kink in fault beneath the Himalayas in Nepal may lead to large magnitude EQ

We are now witnessing the second geological epoch in human history

Flooding & erosion threaten California coast

Seismic activity in the form of "episodic tremor and slip" increasing in southern British Columbia

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An overview of Superfund...history, purpose, and controversies

Atmospheric mercury levels declined over two decades as humans reduce use in commercial products and reduce power plant emissions

WHO declares Ebola epidemic is over...now looking for natural reservoir

Policies are harming the grasslands of Tibet ... the policies are not guided by science

Mass die-off of birds continues along Prince William Sound, Alaska....investigating why (video)

Obama administration blocks the Keystone XL pipeline, but promotes an $18B pipeline in ... you guessed it... Kenya
Why TransCanada is suing the US government & officials for blocking the Keystone XL pipeline
- [http://www.wsj.com/article_email/why-were-suing-obama-over-keystone-1452729039-IMyQiAxME2NzExN1xMzQ0Wj](http://www.wsj.com/article_email/why-were-suing-obama-over-keystone-1452729039-IMyQiAxME2NzExN1xMzQ0Wj)

Domestication and selective breeding of dogs have had collateral genetic impacts

Searching for ways to take toxic chemicals out of high-tech devices to reduce threat to human health and the environment
- [http://ensia.com/features/these-companies-are-figuring-out-how-to-take-the-toxics-out-of-electronics/](http://ensia.com/features/these-companies-are-figuring-out-how-to-take-the-toxics-out-of-electronics/)

Roman sanitation systems helped improve human hygiene, but may also have helped spread parasites
- [http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/01/160108083458.htm](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/01/160108083458.htm)

Lack of appropriate and timely action at State & Federal levels allowed Flint, Michigan, drinking water contamination to become critical

Persistent banned chemicals like PCBs and DDT are declining in Great Lakes fish, but still accumulate at in top predators in the food chain

Some want Koi herpesvirus released into Australian waters to eradicate invasive carp...but need to assess the potential collateral impacts

Okinawa to investigate toxic chemical pollution at Camp Kinser -- dioxin, PCBs and pesticides may date to Vietnam War

CDC begins targeting E-cigarette ads...use by young people is growing...nicotine is highly addictive
By May 2016, elephants will no longer be part of the Ringling Brothers Circus


Investigating why it took a week for Peabody Energy to report collapse of dam wall at Wambo coal mine


EU commits 161M euros (~ $175M US) to support eradication, control and surveillance programs that aim to eliminate animal diseases and zoonoses


First ever federal rules issued for large scale offshore fish farming in the Gulf of Mexico

- Video of aquaculture techniques: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/stories/2016/01/offshore_aq_rule.html

Melioidosis is a neglected, under-reported and under-recognized disease with fatality rates of 20 to 50 percent and is resistant to wide range of antimicrobials

- Paper: http://www.nature.com/articles/nmicrobiol20158

Leading cause of death in 22 states is now cancer; heart disease deaths have declined more rapidly


In South America, humans must take responsibility for flooding and vulnerability to floods


Nuclear power plant in Darlington, Canada, to be refurbished at estimated cost of C$2.75B (US$1.94B)


Transmission line project approved in Nevada for export of “clean energy”

Disaster occurred when fire forced Bronze Age families to flee homes....preserved remnants give extraordinary glimpse into their lifestyle


Alternative energy was added to across the US power grid....but one must remember the costs of the subsidies involved vs. the true costs


Mumbai is getting a “Slum Museum”....isn’t that redundant??!!


Mutated strain of Infectious salmon anemia virus detected for first time in farm & wild fish in British Columbia, could devastate fishing along Pacific Coast


Spiders are amazing species....one of the best places to study them is Australia


How long have humans been polluting the atmosphere? A long, long time


Just how many microbes, on average, live in the human body? Be thankful because they maintain your health


Bonnet Carre spillway opened to relieve pressure of floodwaters in Louisiana, diverting some water to Lake Ponchartrain...increased development may be responsible for higher runoff

- [http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2016/01/bonnet_carre_spillway_opens_to.html#incart_2box_nola_river_orleans_news](http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2016/01/bonnet_carre_spillway_opens_to.html#incart_2box_nola_river_orleans_news)

New York State to use $125M federal disaster money to rebuild a hazardous dam, restore wetlands, improve drainage and install other resiliency measures


Study to improve understanding of the ecology of antibiotic resistance development in livestock


Fallout from atomic testing in the Pacific now being used to determine age of hawksbill sea turtles

How do animals get their spots? It’s all a matter of genetics and evolution

Microbes travel around the world by riding the atmospheric currents

Will it be possible to end all the impacts of e-waste in developing countries in Africa?