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Geosciences Bulletin Board – 27 March 2017 - compiled by Elaine J. Hanford

Cores of crystalline salt from 1,000 feet below the bed of the Dead Sea reveal drought 120,000 and 10,000 years ago on scale never recorded by humans


Panel discusses asbestos, spillway failure, water management and the Oroville Dam


Solid evidence for global warming … OR … flat-lining of emissions … OR … Doomed … OR … hype?

- http://www.terradaily.com/reports/A_new_study_provides_solid_evidence_for_global_warming_999.html
- http://www.energy-daily.com/reports/Emissions_flat_for_three_years_in_a_row_IEA_says_999.html
- https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/03/170320143856.htm

Fossil footprints can reveal much about extinct life


Namib Desert in Africa sustained by fog and dew derived from underground water resources


The “Big One” overdue in California and may cause abrupt sinking of land

Cloud Atlas adds 12 new cloud-related features & International Cloud Atlas now online
  • Atlas: https://www.wmocloudatlas.org/home.html

Off-road vehicles disturb naturally occurring asbestos in Boulder City-Eldorado area, Nevada
  • http://bouldercityreview.com/opinion/road-vehicles-affect-naturally-occurring-abestos-ignored-too-long

Analysis of anatomy suggests new dinosaur family tree and shaking up century-old groupings
  • https://www.sciennews.org/article/anatomy-analysis-suggests-new-dinosaur-family-tree

In recognition of World Water Day (22 March), do you know these 36 facts about water?
  • http://www.treehugger.com/clean-water/36-eye-opening-facts-about-water.html

What happened at Oroville Dam leading to the spillway failure? What risks remain? (video)
  • Possible fix: http://www.enr.com/articles/41664-how-to-fix-oroville-dam

Petroglyphs in the Altai Mountains in Mongolia record human history and climate
  • https://psmag.com/dating-the-petroglyphs-of-the-mongolian-altai-6aa8bf24b4dd#.4cqcjgrn4

BBC film crew gets pelted and injured by volcanic tephra when Mount Etna releases small eruption
  • http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/bbc-crew-injured-mount-etna-volcano_us_58cae573e4b0be71dcf2cad0

Geological evidence of massive waves from rare tsunami or unusual hurricane hit the Caribbean sometime between 1200 and 1480 AD
  • Paper: http://geosphere.gsapubs.org/content/early/2017/03/17/GES01356.1.full.pdf

How do dinosaurs get their names?
  • http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/t-rex-pantydraco-how-dinosaurs-get-their-names-180962602/

First deep-sea mining venture to launch in 2019 on floor of the Bismarck Sea off coast of Papua, New Guinea seeking copper and gold reserves

Simulating how fullerite becomes harder than diamond

Kondyor Massif in eastern Siberia is a perfect circular intrusion approximate 6 miles in diameter

4.3 billion year old basaltic rock found near Hudson Bay, Quebec, Canada
  • http://www.kcra.com/article/earth-original-crust-basalt/9148654
  • http://www.sci-news.com/geology/early-earths-crust-04709.html

Satellite data, ground sensors & field mapping show 2016 Kaikoura EQ in New Zealand ruptured and cascaded across at least 12 major fault lines
  • http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-4346392/Researchers-dramatically-underestimate-risk-earthquakes.html

New super high resolution view of the lithospheric magnetic field of Earth (video)
  • http://www.livescience.com/58363-satellites-map-lithosphere-magnetic-field.html
  • http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/magnetic-map-shows-earth-youve-never-seen-it-180962612/
Cliffs of Newfoundland contain 500 Million year old Ediacaran fossils
• http://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/darwin-loved-cliffs-newfoundland-500-million-years-old-180962472/

Preparing for a major tsunami along the coast of Washington State

Just how did Smilodon use those saber tooth fangs?
• http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/how-did-sabercats-use-their-fangs-180962604/

Artificial intelligence on EO-1 spacecraft assisted in imaging eruption at Erta’Ale volcano in Ethiopia

Biocrusts change color in arid regions in response to climatic conditions

Illegal/unregulated gold mining in Venezuela is plagued by violent crime, hazardous working conditions, mercury poisoning, & malaria
• http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/venezuelas-gold-rush-illegal-miners-face-malaria-mercury-poisoning-organised-crime-1612873

Perovskite has become popular for solar cells, but how does it work?
• https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/03/170321124033.htm

Cascolus ravitis, a new well-preserved 430 myo fossil named in honor of Sir David Attenborough
• https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2017-03/uol-4mf032117.php

Pyroclastic flows, not collapse of the caldera, caused the 1650 BC Santorini tsunami
• https://www.earthmagazine.org/article/pyroclastic-flows-not-caldera-collapse-caused-santorini-tsunamis

Subtle fluctuations in the magnetic field may reveal ocean temperatures
• https://www.earthmagazine.org/article/earths-magnetic-field-illuminates-ocean-temperatures

Monitoring soil moisture may help predict where power outages will occur during hurricanes
• https://www.earthmagazine.org/article/soil-moisture-may-help-predict-power-outages-hurricanes

Earth Observing-1 satellite will be powered off on 30 March 2017 after 17 years of monitoring Earth
• http://www.technology.org/2017/03/17/nasa-says-goodbye-to-a-pathfinder-earth-satellite-after-17-years/

Glowing lava flow on Mount Etna can be seen from space, but is outshined by urban lights
• http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/mount-etnas-fiery-eruptions-are-visible-space-180962659/

Slab roll-back and the steep rise of the Bernese Alps following continental collision

Arctic seafloor has accumulated 20 times more trash over the past decade
• https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/deep-sea-dump-trash-collecting-arctic-seafloor

Questioning the rationale for Arctic oil exploration

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Environmental Sciences Bulletin Board – 27 March 2017 – compiled by Elaine J. Hanford

We live in chemical soup – 8 ways to detox your home and protect your health
• http://www.care2.com/greenliving/8-ways-to-detox-your-home.html

USDA has dropped plan to start testing for glyphosate (Roundup®) residue in food
• http://www.ecowatch.com/usda-glyphosate-testing-2326808630.html

Why the US Environmental Protection Agency was created

Royal Dutch Shell accused of hiding health hazards from oil spills in Nigeria
• http://www.breakingnews.ie/world/geologist-alleges-shell-are-hiding-health-hazards-from-oil-spills-in-nigeria-782979.html

UN Perspective: Recycling wastewater to ease global water shortage and protect the environment
• http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Wastewater_key_to_solving_global_water_crisis_UN_999.html

US Marines have blown up a number of dams to “re-wild” parts of Orange County, California

Belle Fourche Pipeline oil spill in North Dakota in December 2016 now estimated at 530,000 gallons

Google Street View cars now conducting pilot programs in cities detecting natural gas leaks
• http://newatlas.com/google-street-view-methane-locate/48556/

Book Review: “The Death and Life of the Great Lakes”
• http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v543/n7646/full/543488a.html
Removing GINA protections sounds like 1984: big brother is watching – workplace genetic testing is unethical and scientifically unsound
- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/workplace-genetic-privacy-bill-gina_us_58c6e4c5e4b081a56dee48cf

Texas VMA wisely calls for studies before Warfarin poison (Kaput®) dispersed to kill feral hogs

Rusty patched bumble bee is first bee to be listed as an endangered species
- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/rusty-patch-bumblebees-endangered-status-us_us_58d19a566e4b0b22b0d17d71

Congress votes to remove protections for wolves, bears & other predators from hunting in Wildlife Refuges in Alaska
- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/senate-approves-alaska-predator-hunting-wildlife-refuges-us_us_58d1c633e4b0b22b0d17ff7

A wet winter yields a “Super Bloom” of flowers in the desert of California – and weeds

Trying to unravel potentially fraudulent research on impacts of micro-plastics on fish

Bovine tuberculosis (TB) previously found only in central Mexico is diagnosed in South Dakota & Nebraska slaughterhouses

Bringing to light consequences of the atomic age – acute radiation sickness from fallout
- https://www.newscientist.com/article/2125202-180962611/

LLNL posting videos of US atmospheric nuclear weapons tests to YouTube
- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/nuclear-bomb-test-videos-lawrence-livermore-lab_us_58caaf5ae4b0ec9d29d95d43
- LLNL YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvGO_dWo8VfcmG166wKRy5zGIJ_OQND5

Ruling by Kansas Supreme Court will now allow construction of new 895-MW coal-fired power plant

Chile designates 11 million acres of land in five new National Parks

Hawaiian volcanoes continue to create new crust that will be home to new communities of organisms

So far, so good – reintroduction of Scimitar Oryx into home range in north-central Africa

A better way to farm: Living off the land by raising grass-fed livestock

Despite 7-hour surgery to remove 915 coins, Omsin the sea turtle has died
Hypoxic dead zones, along with bleaching, are threat to coral reefs
  • http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/coral-reefs-now-face-deep-water-dead-zones-as-if-climate-change-were-not-enough-180962587/
  • Paper: http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2017/03/15/1621517114.full.pdf

Agro-terrorism bill passes House, moves to US Senate

Snakes also flee from flood waters (video)

The biggest tree canopy at Thimmamma Marrimanu stretches across almost five acres

Archeological evidence of cannibalism 10,000 years ago in Spain as the Ice Age was ending
  • https://arstechnica.com/science/2017/03/the-10000-year-old-case-of-the-spanish-cannibals/

PFC levels exceed recommended health limits in New Jersey in stream that runs from wastewater plant at Maguire-Fort Dix-Lakehurst military base into Rancocas Creek
  • http://www.njspotlight.com/stories/17/03/21/water-borne-chemicals-near-military-base-exceed-epa-health-guidelines/

Over-fishing and unemployed fishermen are directly linked
  • http://www.treehugger.com/ocean-conservation/why-overfishing-and-unemployed-fishermen-are-directly-linked.html

These mega-cities have the worst air quality: polluted with ammonia, formic acid, methanol and ozone

Time-lapse images of 3 decades of urban grown in China (videos)
  • https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2017/mar/21/timelapse-satellite-images-china-fastest-growing-cities

Developing new strategies to protect fish in the Sacramento & San Joaquin River Delta
  • https://www.usgs.gov/news/water

Demand for “medicine” in China results in slaughter of donkeys in Africa
  • http://www.seeddaily.com/reports/Chinas_demand_for_medicine_fuels_African_donkey_slaughter_999.html

Reliable surveys of wildlife are critical, but are traditional survey methods reliable?
  • https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/03/170322092210.htm

Sex appeal in dung beetles is in their transcription factor

It is Spring migration time and here are some of the best places to see migrating birds
  • http://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/best-places-america-see-spring-migration-180958494/

Map projection changes perspectives people have about the world

Why is coal ash being imported when we have a hazardous abundance of it already in this country?

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Coastal Zone Management Bulletin Board – 27 March 2017 – compiled by Elaine J. Hanford

Cemented beach rocks reveal history of industrial waste production resulting from metallurgical activity during industrial development along Nerbioi-Ibaizabal Estuary
• https://phys.org/news/2017-03-industrial-history.html

50-year coastal land loss to cost Louisiana $11.2 billion

Major Louisiana coastal restoration project won’t get permits before 2022, Corps of Engineers says
• http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2017/03/mid-barataria_sediment_diversi.html

US wind energy blasts forward with new $9 million offshore lease

Supreme Court decision could alter some vacant lot sales in coastal zone
• https://efficientgov.com/blog/2017/03/20/supreme-court-coastal-zone-property-decision/

Giant hammerhead shark surprises hundreds of small sharks – and videographer
• http://www.grindtv.com/wildlife/giant-hammerhead-shark-surprises-hundreds-smaller-sharks-videographer/#WEgGVmBVl68CHju8.97

With neighboring marine labs, Bowdoin commits to long-term Gulf project – Maine
• http://community.bowdoin.edu/news/2017/03/with-neighboring-marine-labs-bowdoin-commits-to-longterm-gulf-project/

UT Austin receives $5.6M for long-term study of Alaska’s Arctic coast
• https://news.utexas.edu/2017/03/15/ut-austin-receives-56m-to-study-alaska-s-arctic-coast

FEMA’s updated flood map for Charleston County shows a smaller high-risk flood zone
• http://www.postandcourier.com/charleston_sc/fema-s-updated-flood-map-for-charleston-county-shows-a/article_91af83b8-0d96-11e7-bf2d-2b1af90d1fe8.html
Central coast steelhead are tough, but still need our conservation help

Haiti – NOTICE: tsunami warning exercise (Caribe Wave 17)
• https://www.thedailyherald.sx/islands/64567-four-resorts-take-part-in-caribe-wave-exercise

80% of world’s wastewater discharged without treatment
• http://odishasuntimes.com/2017/03/22/80-of-worlds-wastewater-discharged-without-treatment/

How Gold Coast council plans to protect endangered animals from cruise ship terminal - Australia

T-shirts designed to help protect an endangered species: the fisherman – North Carolina

New LSU study underscores regional economic costs of coastal land loss – Louisiana

Europe faces annual extreme coastal floods in future

Fishermen say water pollution killing marine life - Barbados

Sewage facility concerning some Mamaroneck residents – New York

New studies planned on coastal erosion and flood defenses – Isle of Wight, England