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### Geosciences Bulletin Board – 31 August 2015

Just for fun: A unique maps of the continents, according to a geologic perspective

- <http://www.earthmagazine.org/article/hazardous-living-maps-according-geologists>

Wildfires continue to rage across the State of Washington (video)

- <http://news.yahoo.com/smoke-grounds-aircraft-battling-washington-wildfires-083016239.html>

New NASA model of sea level changes from satellite data...but wait... where is the effect of El Nino with warmer waters in the mid and eastern Pacific?

- <http://news.yahoo.com/nasa-model-maps-sea-level-rise-never-video-213847122.html>
- Video: <http://www.space.com/30375-22-years-of-sea-level-rise-measured-from-space-video.html>

History of the Snowball Earth glaciation

- <http://www.nature.com/ngeo/journal/v8/n9/full/ngeo2531.html>

Tempest Anderson became a volcanologist and took some amazing photographs

- <http://mentalfloss.com/article/67793/see-amazing-photography-pioneering-vulcanologist>

A better multi-dimensional approach to measuring water in the Sierra = Sn'o Water

- [http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Sno\\_water\\_in\\_Sierra\\_Nevadas\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Sno_water_in_Sierra_Nevadas_999.html)

Is the mineralogy of Earth unique in the cosmos?

- [http://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2015-08/ci-emu082615.php](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-08/ci-emu082615.php)

Not just in California...Groundwater pumping in Phoenix, Arizona, causing ground subsidence at rate of about 1 inch per year

- <https://asunews.asu.edu/20150811-groundwater-subsidence-phoenix-area>

Second ice age during Cryogenian period prior to 635 mya ended with regular advances and retreats of the ice caused by axial wobble of Earth...not rapid melting

- <http://phys.org/news/2015-08-snowball-earth-period.html>

Sea level and tectonics of the West Coast of the US

- [http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/New\\_data\\_changes\\_ideas\\_about\\_sea\\_level\\_and\\_coastal\\_uplift\\_along\\_Pacific\\_Coast\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/New_data_changes_ideas_about_sea_level_and_coastal_uplift_along_Pacific_Coast_999.html)

USGS releases report assessing landslides and predicting landslide prone areas in Nepal

- <http://www.scidev.net/south-asia/disasters/news/quake-leaves-nepal-prone-to-landslides.html>
- Report: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2015/1142/ofr20151142.pdf>

Understanding landslides and the destabilizing effect of EQ shocks on the landscape

- [http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Self\\_healing\\_landscape\\_Landslides\\_after\\_earthquakes\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Self_healing_landscape_Landslides_after_earthquakes_999.html)

With ongoing drought, there is still concern about viability of levees in California

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/08/150825083921.htm>

The wide geographic range of the woolly mammoth was limited by climatic dependent and independent factors

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/08/150825083839.htm>

A map of all the wildfires currently burning across the US

- <http://www.onearth.org/earthwire/smoke-western-wildfires>
- Map & tools: [http://airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=topics.smoke\\_wildfires](http://airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=topics.smoke_wildfires)

Connecting geology and Native American traditions in New Mexico

- <http://www.geosociety.org/gsatoday/archive/25/8/pdf/i1052-5173-25-8-26.pdf>

How old is the Antarctic Circumpolar Current?

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/08/150825132758.htm>

Computer model shows potential for significant tsunami in southern California

- <http://ucrtoday.ucr.edu/30986>

New ortho-image and topographic maps released for Wyoming

- <http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article.asp?ID=4299#.Vdzf4vIViko>

Major EQs & tsunamis in Indonesia have recurrence interval of about 600 to 900 years

- <http://phys.org/news/2015-08-geologic-ancient-earthquakes-tsunamis-future.html>

Were toxic metals in the ocean the reason for the end of Silurian extinction event?

- <http://news.sciencemag.org/chemistry/2015/08/death-metal-ancient-oceans>

Sediment tracer study may help reduce cost of coastal protection and reduce beach erosion

- <http://www.bymnews.com/news/newsDetails.php?id=146064>

Is there potential for an earthquake on Staten Island?

- [http://www.silive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/08/how\\_likely\\_is\\_an\\_earthquake\\_to.html](http://www.silive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/08/how_likely_is_an_earthquake_to.html)

Developing a plan to remove trash from the “Great Pacific Garbage Patch”

- <http://news.yahoo.com/researchers-sample-enormous-oceanic-trash-vortex-ahead-clean-100228947.html>

OTEC (105 kilowatt ocean thermal-energy conversion) demonstration power plant goes online in Hawaii

- <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-08-21/makai-builds-ocean-thermal-energy-demo-plant-in-hawaii>

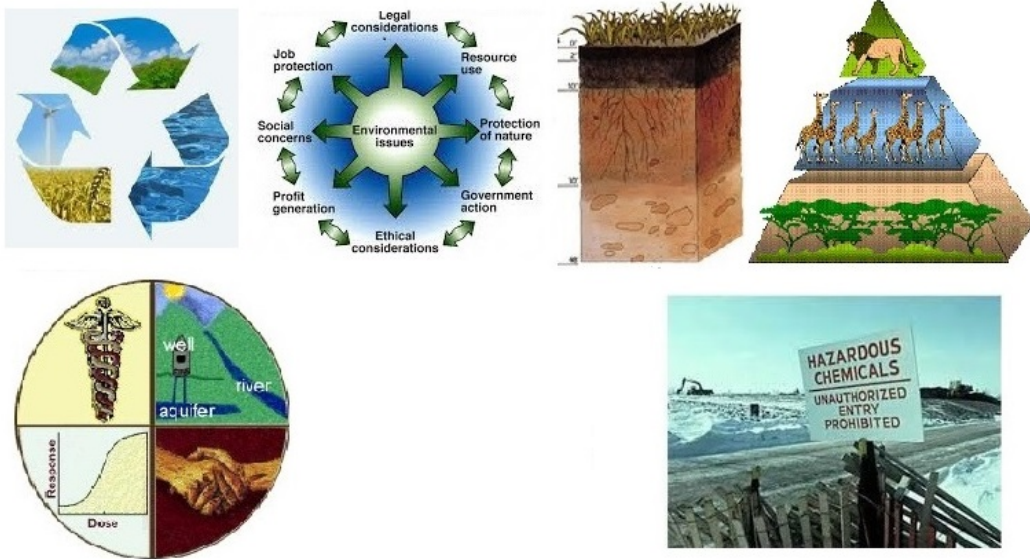
Warm-blooded dinosaurs....or cold-blooded dinosaurs....or maybe both (nerdy video)

- [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/were-dinosaurs-cold-blooded-or-warm-blooded\\_55d777e6e4b04ae4970335e2](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/were-dinosaurs-cold-blooded-or-warm-blooded_55d777e6e4b04ae4970335e2)

Variations in monsoon patterns over time, with cycles lasting over decades to millennium

- <http://www.scidev.net/south-asia/environment/news/monsoon-patterns-have-varied-through-history.html>

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**Enviro-Sciences Bulletin Board – 31 August 2015** – compiled by Elaine J. Hanford

Two important court rulings: States win suit over EPA surface water grab & US Army Corps of Engineers must bear cost of restoring Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet wetlands

- <http://af.reuters.com/article/commoditiesNews/idAFL1N1122RS20150827>
- [http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2015/08/federal\\_judge\\_to\\_corps\\_restore.html](http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2015/08/federal_judge_to_corps_restore.html)

*Yersinia pestis* that causes the plague is endemic to the US, but more human cases are occurring and resulting in deaths amongst a total of 12 cases

- [http://www.terradaily.com/reports/US\\_reports\\_unusual\\_spike\\_in\\_human\\_plague\\_cases\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/US_reports_unusual_spike_in_human_plague_cases_999.html)
- <https://www.yahoo.com/health/as-another-person-dies-of-the-plague-a-look-at-127790496977.html>

The reality and myth about kudzu in the US

- <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/true-story-kudzu-vine-ate-south-180956325/>

As urban environments grow, so too does the urban heat island effect...can it be cooled?

- <http://www.nature.com/news/how-cities-can-beat-the-heat-1.18228>

Duke University "Doomsday Equation" model predicts when unsustainable growing population and water use will change

- <http://www.asce.org/magazine/20150818-doomsday-equation-points-to-change-in-water-use/>

Public petition unsuccessful in getting road changed to protect koala population in NSW

- <http://www.coffscoastadvocate.com.au/news/government-unswayed-on-pacific-highway-koala-fears/2755413/>

Geographic impacts of change in California...from population growth to invasive species (interactive map)

- <http://stanford.maps.arcgis.com/apps/StorytellingTextLegend/index.html?appid=dafe2393fd2e4acc8b0a4e6e71d0b6d5>

Serious impacts of human migration...European countries have dire situations

- <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/photo-sums-slow-motion-tragedy-123900141.html>

Battling Lyme disease, one mouse at a time in the war against ticks

- <http://www.nature.com/news/the-growing-global-battle-against-blood-sucking-ticks-1.18227>

Emergency plan to construct pipeline to deliver Diablo Canyon desalinated water to San Luis Obispo County residents in California

- [http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2015/08/25/3777708\\_desalinated-water-diablo-canyon.html?rh=1](http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2015/08/25/3777708_desalinated-water-diablo-canyon.html?rh=1)

In Louisiana as hurricane season is underway, first responders are receiving training on animal rescues

- [http://www.lsureveille.com/daily/news/emergency-response-teams-train-to-protect-animals/article\\_b359bb3e-4b62-11e5-a548-13c8c3f2b606.html](http://www.lsureveille.com/daily/news/emergency-response-teams-train-to-protect-animals/article_b359bb3e-4b62-11e5-a548-13c8c3f2b606.html)

Nanotechnology is touted as the next big thing...but a risk assessment is necessary

- <http://www.technology.org/2015/08/25/big-questions-risk-assessment-nanomaterials/>

Carbon credits under the Kyoto Protocol resulted in 600 million tonnes of excess emissions rather than lowered emissions

- <http://phys.org/news/2015-08-credit-scheme-backfired-hiking-greenhouse.html>

A warning that degraded air quality in developing megacities in West Africa could seriously impact human health, meteorology and regional climate

- <http://phys.org/news/2015-08-scientists-air-pollution-megacities-west.html>

What would biodiversity look like if humans had never existed?

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/08/150820212652.htm>

Just how did the brown widow spider get to Tahiti?

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/08/150825083607.htm>

New tool to estimate impacts of estuary flooding on surrounding communities

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/08/150825111225.htm>
- Paper: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4339835/pdf/pone.0117030.pdf>

Ability of Ebola virus to survive in wastewater may have been underestimated ... that means transmission of the disease without direct human contact

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/08/150825115038.htm>

Ebola vaccine to protect wild chimpanzees and gorillas seems promising

- <http://www.theadvertiser.com/story/news/local/2015/08/25/ebola-vaccine-wild-apes-tested-new-iberia/32355601/>

Some forms of antibiotic resistance may be result of adaptive evolution

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/08/150825143926.htm>

Ants know when to take drugs... ingest peroxide after being infected with fungus

- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/08/150824064919.htm>

Nothing is ever all good or all bad... in this case it is war versus cleaner air

- [http://www.terradaily.com/reports/War\\_in\\_the\\_Mid\\_East\\_curse\\_on\\_humanity\\_boon\\_for\\_clean\\_air\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/War_in_the_Mid_East_curse_on_humanity_boon_for_clean_air_999.html)

WHO calls for dramatic changes in global epidemic response

- [http://www.terradaily.com/reports/WHO\\_chief\\_calls\\_for\\_urgent\\_transformation\\_of\\_global\\_epidemic\\_response\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/WHO_chief_calls_for_urgent_transformation_of_global_epidemic_response_999.html)

One year later, Napa still trying to recover from the earthquake

- <http://www.dailydemocrat.com/general-news/20150825/earthquakeaposs-fallout-still-felt-in-napa>

Judge set deadline for release of thousands of illegal immigrants... without word on the impacts

- <http://www.allgov.com/news/controversies/federal-judge-orders-obama-administration-to-release-children-held-in-immigration-detention-centers-by-october-23-150825?news=857269>

Failed plan to re-introduce flesh-eating turtles to clean up corpse pollution in the Ganges

- <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/indias-government-once-released-25000-flesh-eating-turtles-ganges-river-180953384/>

Lots and lots of genetic diversity exhibited by human eyes

- [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/eyeballs\\_55d38035e4b0ab468d9ea9a9](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/eyeballs_55d38035e4b0ab468d9ea9a9)



Endocrine disrupting chemicals (industrial chemicals and pesticides) in North Carolina river waters are causing male fish to develop female parts

- <http://www.treehugger.com/animals/chemicals-north-carolina-rivers-are-giving-lady-parts-male-fish.html>

9 years without US landfall of a Cat 3+ hurricane...but is that reason to celebrate or not?

- <http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2015/08/21/433474250/yes-the-u-s-is-on-a-historic-lucky-streak-in-dodging-major-hurricanes>

International tribunal says arrest by Russia of 30 Greenpeace activists was illegal

- <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/russian-arrest-of-greenpeace-arctic-30-activists-illegal-tribunal-says-20150825-gj79xr.html>
- [http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Russia\\_must\\_compensate\\_Dutch\\_over\\_Greenpeace\\_ship\\_international\\_court\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Russia_must_compensate_Dutch_over_Greenpeace_ship_international_court_999.html)

You might not see them, but urban areas are full of wildlife

- <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/victoria/documenting-the-wilds-of-melbourne-20150820-gj43yh.html>

Report predicts we will lose a massive amount of our tropical rain forests

- <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/environment/climate-change/earth-is-on-track-to-lose-an-indiasized-chunk-of-its-tropical-forests-by-2050-20150824-gj6saz.html>
- Report: <http://www.cgdev.org/sites/default/files/future-forests-complete-8-21-jo.pdf>

New tool for estimating cost of nuclear energy

- <http://phys.org/news/2015-08-interactive-tool-veil-nuclear-energy.html>
- Interactive calculator: <http://thebulletin.org/nuclear-fuel-cycle-cost-calculator>

Turning feedstock and manure into jet fuel?

- <http://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2015/08/20/433193445/food-waste-and-beef-fat-will-be-making-airplanes-soar>

How London foresees handling its sewage

- <http://www.theconstructionindex.co.uk/news/view/super-sewer-construction-starts-next-month>
- Thames Tideway Tunnel Project: <http://www.thamestidewaytunnel.co.uk/>

Weather conditions promote likelihood of mycotoxin outbreak in soy and cereal grains in US

- <http://www.wattagnet.com/articles/23900-steps-for-facing-a-mycotoxin-outburst-in-the-us>

Is our health care system ready for a new wave of tropical diseases?

- <http://www.cnn.com/2015/08/13/health/america-tropical-disease/>

Perhaps the animals should be more concerned about catching antibiotic resistant bacteria from humans

- [http://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2015-08/ehs-hcm082415.php](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-08/ehs-hcm082415.php)
- <http://www.kctv5.com/story/29866539/investigation-finds-ground-beef-frequently-contaminated>
- Related: <http://feedstuffsfoodlink.com/story-facts-antibiotics-75-71786>

Study to determine the long-term health impacts of surviving Ebola

- <http://news.yahoo.com/many-ebola-survivors-ailing-doctors-evaluate-situation-131738493.html>

10 years after Hurricane Katrina....many lessons learned...but still trying to engineer floods

- <http://cenews.com/article/10131/schooled-by-katrina>
- A man-made disaster: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/broken-promise-levees-failed-new-orleans-180956326/>

Algae bloom in Lake Erie continues to expand

- <http://news.yahoo.com/living-carpet-green-slime-expands-across-lake-erie-205619651.html>
- <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/capital-weather-gang/wp/2015/08/07/lake-erie-is-in-the-midst-of-yet-another-dangerous-disgusting-algae-outbreak/>
- Related: <http://www.lakeeriewaterkeeper.org/>

First US-Mexico cross-border wind farm completed in Baja California with power to go to San Diego County, California

- <http://www.bizjournals.com/sanantonio/news/2015/08/20/first-u-s-mexico-cross-border-wind-farm-completed.html>