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Geoscience Bulletin Board – 22 February 2021 – compiled by Elaine J. Hanford

Adding more detail on the Chicxulub Meteor – fragment of a comet

- <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/theory-claims-finally-reveal-dinosaurs-095947787.html>
- <https://arstechnica.com/science/2021/02/astronomers-a-comet-fragment-not-an-asteroid-killed-off-the-dinosaurs/>

Rare “smoke ring” from eruption of Fuego volcano in Guatemala

- <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/guatemala-volcano-fuego-smoke-rings-b1802419.html>

Triple ice volcanoes erupt on Lake Michigan

- <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2021/02/15/rare-triple-ice-volcanoes-lake-superior/4487895001/>

Well-preserved Cambrian metazoans discovered in Central Asian Orogeny Belt in Mongolia

- <https://natureecoevocommunity.nature.com/posts/exceptionally-preserved-early-metazoans-discovered-in-mongolia>

Narctes shonanmaruae - Discovery of a giant Yokazuna Slickhead in the ocean

- <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/new-species-fish-yokazuna-slickhead-deep-sea-predator-japan/>
- Paper: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-80203-6>

New simulations of outer core have magnetic field that matches paleomagnetic data

- <https://eos.org/articles/how-geodynamo-models-churn-the-outer-core>

Global winds shift as climate varies

- <https://eos.org/articles/dust-on-the-wind>

Sooty layers and charcoal in stalagmites of caves occupied thousands of years ago

- <https://eos.org/articles/sooty-layers-in-stalagmites-record-human-activity-in-caves>

Wind stress provides momentum for upper ocean – momentum flux may be larger than stress

- <https://eos.org/editor-highlights/wind-stress-is-not-the-ceiling-of-momentum-flux-to-the-ocean>
- Paper: <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1029/2020JC016839>

What happens if you are in the bathtub when a major earthquake hits?

- https://www.huffpost.com/entry/japan-bath-earthquake_n_6029f339c5b6591becd9f3f5

Rethinking the mammoth family tree base on new DNA data

- <https://arstechnica.com/science/2021/02/million-year-old-mammoth-dna-rewrites-animals-evolutionary-tree/>
- <http://www.sci-news.com/paleontology/pleistocene-mammoth-dna-09365.html>

Evidence from Australia of major shift in magnetic poles of Earth – Laschamp excursion

- https://www.spacedaily.com/reports/We_found_the_first_Australian_evidence_of_a_major_shift_in_Earths_magnetic_poles_999.html
- <https://theconversation.com/we-found-the-first-australian-evidence-of-a-major-shift-in-earths-magnetic-poles-it-may-help-us-predict-the-next-155040>
- <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/02/210216092853.htm>

Climate change at end of last Ice Age, along with human hunting, killed off megafauna

- https://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Climate_change_killed_off_mammoths_sloths_megafauna_999.html
- Paper: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-021-21201-8>

Model of 30-meter-deep methane crater in Siberian permafrost

- https://www.spacedaily.com/reports/3D_model_shows_off_the_insides_of_a_giant_permafrost_crater_999.html

Spillover effect of marine reserves

- https://www.nsf.gov/discoveries/disc_summ.jsp?cntn_id=302122&org=GEO&from=news
- Paper: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-021-82371-5>

New thermodynamic model for crystallization of peridotite in the mantle

- <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/02/210217091022.htm>
- Paper: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-021-21343-9>

Crocodiles are resilient – they survived the Ice Age glaciations

- <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/02/210217091049.htm>

Earthquakes triggered large rockslides in the Eastern Alps

- <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/02/210216133402.htm>
- Paper: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-021-21327-9>

Do fish poop in the ocean? Contribute 1.65 billion tons a year

- <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-fishes-contribute-roughly-billion-tons.html>

Eskay Creek is among highest-grade open-pit assets in the world

- <https://investors.skeenaresources.com/high-grade-open-pit-gold/>

USGS updates mineral database for the mineral commodity niobium

- https://www.usgs.gov/news/usgs-updates-mineral-database-niobium-deposits-united-states?qt-news_science_products=1#qt-news_science_products

Trying to explain severe winter storms as consequence of “global warming” – do they not want to admit the glaciers might be returning?

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/freak-cold-texas-scientists-discussing-201215265.html>
- <https://news.yahoo.com/extreme-winter-storms-arent-inconsistent-with-global-warming-and-will-continue-for-decades-expert-says-100049313.html>

Cold lava flood from Mount Semeru on Java Island

- <https://en.tempo.co/read/1434574/cold-lava-flows-from-mount-semeru-today>

Ancient Kauri tree log from New Zealand allows more accurate analysis of last magnetic field reversal

- https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2021-02/ggph-4ta021921.php
- <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-earth-magnetic-field-broke-years.html>
- <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-ancient-relic-earth-history-years.html>

Continental Drift was once considered “pseudo science”

- <https://www.discovermagazine.com/planet-earth/continental-drift-a-revolutionary-theory-that-was-once-considered>

New 3D model of full spectrum of slip behaviors in Nankai Subduction Zone – co-seismic slip & after-slip

- <https://eos.org/research-spotlights/an-innovative-approach-for-investigating-subduction-slip-budgets>

Saharan dust arriving in Europe

- <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-saharan-europe-weekend.html>

The messy business of mining sand

- <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/messy-business-sand-mining-055618294.html>



Environmental Science Bulletin Board – 22 February 2021 – compiled by Elaine J. Hanford

Texas crisis once again demonstrates there is no such thing as a “natural disaster”

- <https://slate.com/technology/2021/02/texas-no-such-thing-as-natural-disaster.html>

A financing “hiccup” for the estimated \$8B high-speed rail from LA to Las Vegas

- <https://www.constructiondive.com/news/brightline-socal-rail-project-still-on-track-despite-financing-cost-issues/594835/>

35 bison moved from Montana to Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota

- https://billingsgazette.com/outdoors/american-prairie-reserve-donates-bison-to-south-dakota-tribes/article_6e2425d4-d608-5cbd-95c6-4be2fe09adb8.html

Chairman of Senate Energy Committee asks for reversal of decision to cancel Keystone XL Pipeline

- <https://apnews.com/article/joe-biden-business-climate-change-west-virginia-joe-manchin-33dc75f4e63ad43cdc861d0450e227f4>

Ice shuts down wind turbines in Texas

- <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/frozen-wind-farms-just-small-002954294.html>

Hamburg, Iowa, receives approval from US Army COE to raise flood protection levee - \$8M to raise 8 feet

- <https://apnews.com/article/floods-iowa-b1b61ce296b4ac9755ae5ce910950e74>

“Proper” restoration of the Everglades will alleviate many environmental concerns

- <https://keysweekly.com/42/proper-everglades-restoration-will-alleviate-many-environmental-concerns-expert-says/>

CRS Report: SCOTUS Preview of Environmental & Energy Law Cases & Rulings 2019-2021

- <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R46667>

More trees do not necessarily equate to a cooler climate

- <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-trees-cooler-planet-geographer.html>
- Paper: <https://advances.sciencemag.org/content/7/7/eaax8859>

Is “green steel” a possibility? Reducing environmental impacts of the steel industry

- <https://www.afr.com/companies/manufacturing/the-race-for-green-steel-depends-on-hydrogen-advances-20210122-p56w2p>
- <https://www.spglobal.com/platts/en/market-insights/latest-news/metals/012121-feature-green-steel-whos-paying>
- <https://www.nord-lock.com/insights/knowledge/2020/green-steel/>

Heavier cell phone use increases risk of tumors

- <https://www.saferemr.com/2020/11/new-review-study-tumor-risk.html>

Corn Belt in the Midwest has lost a third of its carbon rich soil across nearly 100M acres

- <https://www.umass.edu/newsoffice/article/corn-belt-farmland-has-lost-third-its>

Black panther spotted in Puglia, Italy, likely an escaped “pet”

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/black-panther-spotted-southern-italy-090024816.html>

The root cause of their injuries is blatantly illegally crossing the US Border

- <https://www.youtube.com/https://www.yahoo.com/news/war-zone-migrants-wounded-falling-060204038.htmlwatch>

Environmental cleanup underway on 1,400-acre former oil refinery on Schuylkill River in South Philadelphia

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/massive-refinery-cleanup-faces-century-104141262.html>
- <https://news.yahoo.com/150-years-spills-philadelphia-refinery-110121876.html>

Two died in Houston, Texas, from carbon monoxide poisoning from using car for heat in the garage

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/two-dead-carbon-monoxide-poisoning-130200411.html>

Winter storm in Pacific Northwest caused power outages & brings potential for flooding

- <https://apnews.com/article/floods-storms-power-outages-oregon-boise-e3ee77c6b30d19447f4de19817d32dd9>

Renewing call for removal of 4 hydroelectric dams (estimated cost \$33B) on Snake River despite \$17B “improvements” that did little to help salmon

- <https://apnews.com/article/mike-simpson-spokane-dams-fish-salmon-4faa591c3a7bd32a3f7a43dc94164adb>

Technological hazard: reassessing cybersecurity of water plants

- <https://www.mlive.com/public-interest/2021/02/michigan-urges-water-plants-to-eyeball-cybersecurity-after-florida-breach.html>

50 years after Sylmar EQ & failure of Lower Van Norman Dam – dams remain at risk in California

- <https://www.latimes.com/environment/story/2021-02-10/earthquakes-climate-change-threaten-california-dams>

Remediation delayed at many sites as Superfund moneys have dwindled

- <https://cen.acs.org/environment/pollution/Declining-funds-slow-US-hazardous/99/web/2021/02>
- <https://uspargedfund.org/news/usf/new-report-toxic-waste-cleanup-efforts-lag-putting-americans-risk>
- Report: https://uspargedfund.org/sites/pirg/files/reports/USP_AME_SuperfundUnderfunded_1.pdf

Anti-energy policies may lead to even bigger problems for the country

- <https://www.msn.com/en-us/weather/topstories/texas-grid-trouble-offers-warnings-about-biden-s-anti-energy-policies/ar-BB1dKg3M>

Sea-to-Sea project proposed to import ocean water to the Salton Sea – a very expensive BandAid

- <https://holtvilletribune.com/2021/02/holtville-local-news/salton-sea-could-ocean-water-import-be-fix/>

Modest in name “Regional Conveyance System” pipeline to take Colorado River water to San Diego would not be modest in cost (estimated \$5B) nor environmental impacts

- https://www.gazettextra.com/news/nation_world/a-5-billion-water-project-could-drill-through-anza-borrego-park-is-it-a-pipe/article_a432e5b6-b465-5157-bc04-ae621fdbfcb3.html

Proposed project to stop 48M gallons of combined sewage overflows into Rouge River & Lake Erie

- <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/oakland/2021/02/10/oakland-wayne-project-rouge-river-sewage-overflows/6705291002/>

OMG! Humans have a plan to “fix” the biodiversity crisis

- <https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg24933223-300-rescue-plan-for-nature-how-to-fix-the-biodiversity-crisis/>
- Link to IPBES Report: <https://ipbes.net/global-assessment>

Assessing demands for water and energy in California – can demands be met?

- <https://eos.org/articles/adaptation-can-compound-climate-change-impacts-on-energy-and-water>

Visualizing demographics – countries with most old and young people

- <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/worlds-youngest-and-oldest-countries/>

Call for investigation of management of Texas power grid during winter storm – shocking bills

- <https://www.npr.org/2021/02/16/968357225/texas-governor-calls-for-investigation-into-group-that-manages-state-power-grid>
- <https://arstechnica.com/science/2021/02/texas-power-grid-crumple-under-the-cold/>
- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/5-152-power-bill-texas-192316981.html>

How cold is it in Texas? Cold enough to bring the animals inside to help them survive!

- <https://currently.att.yahoo.com/news/chimpanzee-monkeys-die-texas-sanctuary-192037908.html>

Environmental activists were killed in 2020

- <https://www.npr.org/2021/02/09/965830153/when-defending-the-land-puts-your-own-life-at-risk>
- Link to report: <https://www.globalwitness.org/en/campaigns/environmental-activists/defending-tomorrow/>

Legislative measures on Public Lands next week face vote in House next week

- <https://www.nationalparkstraveler.org/2021/02/package-public-lands-bills-expected-face-house-vote-next-week>

Two unrelated outbreaks of Ebola – Guinea & more cases in DRC

- <https://arstechnica.com/science/2021/02/ebola-outbreak-erupts-in-guinea-as-cases-tick-up-in-the-drc/>

Remote sensing to measure photosynthesis on Earth

- https://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Measuring_photosynthesis_on_Earth_from_space_999.html
- Paper: <https://essd.copernicus.org/articles/13/281/2021/>

Flash flood from collapse of valley glacier in India causes water degradation in Delhi

- https://www.terradaily.com/reports/Himalaya_flood_disaster_hits_Delhi_water_supply_999.html

Sicilian village cleaning up volcanic debris following eruption of Mount Etna

- <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-sicilian-village-ash-stones-mt.html>

Detailed chemical profile of air pollution sources in Delhi

- <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-chemical-profile-delhi-air-pollution.html>
- Paper: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0045653521003829?via%3Dihub>

Reducing health risk in swimming pools by reducing chlorine disinfection by-products

- <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-pools-safer-chlorine-disinfection-byproducts.html>

People are leaving the City by the Bay – population exodus from San Francisco

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/bay-area-exodus-leading-edge-130214666.html>

Dupont accused of selling plant in south Louisiana to avoid paying for emission offsets

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/revealed-chemicals-giant-sold-louisiana-110018424.html>

CRS In Focus: Federal Land Management Agencies & Federal Lands and Related Resources

- <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF10585>
- <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R43429>

Change in federal policy means our southern border & national sovereignty are no longer secure

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/number-migrant-families-arriving-mexico-141710031.html>
- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/migrants-move-again-mexico-central-050136039.html>
- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/migrants-mexican-camp-brave-icy-182106902.html>
- <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/politics/biden-s-dangerous-border-policy/ar-BB1dNr07>

COLD winter temperatures are killing off destructive emerald ash borer in Minnesota

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/editorial-tree-pests-freezing-too-230000615.html>

Chemistry can help make plastics less harmful – but didn't chemistry help create the problem?

- <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00391-7>

Progress on Ellicott City flood mitigation efforts – video: Ellicott City Safe & Sound

- <https://www.baltimoresun.com/maryland/howard/cng-ho-safe-and-sound-update-20210217-4zftidks2ffazkqwafc7vv5pwi-story.html>

Touting green design for \$1.6B Bois d'Arc Lake drinking water reservoir project in Texas

- <https://stormwater.wef.org/2021/02/north-texas-river-project-champions-green-design/>

Requesting more extensive environmental review of plutonium core project in New Mexico

- <https://apnews.com/article/new-mexico-south-carolina-30d3e3dd6a7633c833e6b61830983687>

US to rejoin Paris Accord – now the nation will pay extra for what it has already accomplished assuming that CO2 emissions are meaningful

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/u-rejoins-paris-climate-agreement-100014018.html>
- <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/12/climate-change-emissions-environment-paris-agreement-emitters/>
- <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/greenhouse-gas-emissions-continue-decline-american-economy-flourishes-under-trump-0>
- <https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/inventory-us-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-sinks>
- 1990-2019 Report: <https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/draft-inventory-us-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-sinks-1990-2019>
- <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-pandemic-track-paris-climate-goals.html>

Cloning the endangered black-footed ferret – attempt to increase genetic diversity?

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/two-month-old-ferret-clone-031153748.html>

Technological hazard: breaching cybersecurity of civilian government networks

- <https://apnews.com/article/us-cybersecurity-hacks-solarwinds-4ae46954c9fd6cb881207d5384c2b250>

Technological hazard: Facebook shuts down (blocks) users in Australia

- <https://slate.com/technology/2021/02/australia-facebook-news-blackout.html>

New damage detected at Fukushima Nuclear Plant – 2011 damage worsened by recent M7.3 earthquake

- <https://www.manufacturing.net/safety/news/21284018/water-leaks-indicate-new-damage-at-fukushima>

Half of all rivers in the world are heavily impacted by humans – loss of fish biodiversity

- <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-decade-long-rivers-world-heavily-impacted.html>

Potential new approach to farming – not just crop rotation but moving crop locations to reduce pollution

- <https://www.farmprogress.com/crops/study-looks-reallocating-crops-pollution-reductions>

Release of nutrients from lake-bottom sediments in Lake Erie enhance annual “dead zone”

- <https://news.umich.edu/release-of-nutrients-from-lake-bottom-sediments-worsens-lake-eries-annual-dead-zone-could-intensify-as-climate-warms/>
- Paper: <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsestwater.0c00138>

Global assessment suggest nature sanitizes 2M+ cubic meters of human waste (feces & urine) each year

- <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-global-cities-nature-sanitizes-million.html>
- Paper: [https://www.cell.com/one-earth/fulltext/S2590-3322\(21\)00049-X](https://www.cell.com/one-earth/fulltext/S2590-3322(21)00049-X)

Photo-essay: Wildlife in India is dying in human filth

- <https://techio.co/in-photos-indias-diverse-wildlife-is-drowning-and-dying-in-human-filth/>

CORONAVIRUS

Coronavirus COVID-19 statistics by country (click on USA to get State statistics)

- <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>
- <https://time.com/5800901/coronavirus-map/>
- interactive maps: <https://geodacenter.github.io/covid/map.html>

'Politicized science' and 'consensus science' are not the scientific method – rational empiricism & skepticism are inherent in the scientific method

- <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/politicized-science-is-not-science-at-all-opinion/ar-BB1dNXyV>

Assessing the state of infection in India – why are “cases” dropping

- <https://currently.att.yahoo.com/news/coronavirus-pandemic-finally-coming-end-002235377.html>

“Cases” and deaths across the US are declining significantly – Why? not because of vaccines though policy makers are trying to take credit

- <https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/medical/why-are-covid-19-cases-really-falling/ar-BB1dO6QL>
- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/covid-19-cases-dropping-us-223500142.html>
- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/coronavirus-cases-fall-44-states-100035520.html>

A return to “normal” by Christmas????

- <https://www.cnn.com/2021/02/16/politics/biden-town-hall-february/index.html>

Visualizing Global attitudes toward vaccines

- <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/visualizing-global-attitudes-towards-covid-19-vaccines/>

Are new school guidelines really “science based” and free from political meddling?

- <https://arstechnica.com/science/2021/02/cdc-releases-updated-science-based-school-guidelines/>

Virus will become endemic if this time it is successful in cross-species transmission

- <https://currently.att.yahoo.com/att/cm/health-officials-coronavirus-likely-become-103017281.html>

What % efficacy means – it is an estimate of likelihood that it prevented illness during drug trial

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/interpret-efficacy-rates-coronavirus-vaccines-150800901.html>

Why healthcare workers are rejecting vaccines

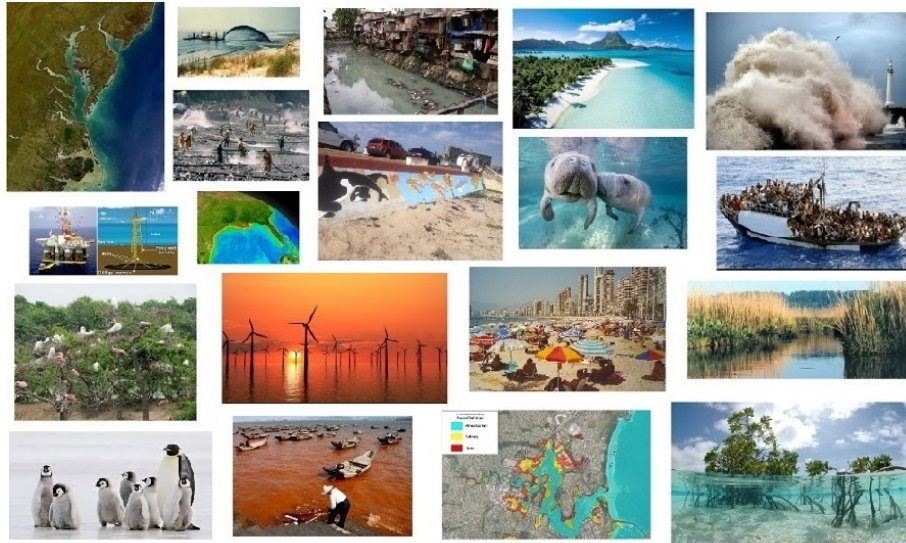
- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/heres-why-surprising-number-healthcare-140332141.html>

Vaccines to be tested in pregnant women

- <https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/central-ny/news/2021/02/18/pfizer-biontech-covid-vaccine-pregnant-women-study>

Last surviving male member of exterminated indigenous Juma group in Brazil dies

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/last-surviving-male-member-exterminated-142328587.html>



Coastal Zone Management Bulletin Board – 22 February 2021 – compiled by Elaine J. Hanford

Manatees and dolphins basking in shallow waters of Florida

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/nearly-200-florida-manatees-filmed-080006963.html>
- Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Twk28BV7kWQ>

Sea turtles rescued from Texas Gulf Coast waters

- <https://www.yahoo.com/news/dozens-struggling-sea-turtles-rescued-154813500.html>

Optimism that coral transplants at Dry Tortugas will be successful

- <https://www.nationalparkstraveler.org/2021/02/researchers-optimistic-over-elkhorn-coral-transplants-dry-tortugas>

Debate begins on \$550M port upgrades in South Carolina

- <https://apnews.com/article/nfl-technology-columbia-football-financial-markets-addd00772d5c87d4b414cb8fefade0b9>

Controversial US Army COE plan to protect Miami-Dade coast from flooding & storm surge

- <https://www.local10.com/news/local/2021/02/16/us-army-corps-of-engineers-plan-to-protect-miami-dade-coast-from-flooding-and-storm-surge-ongoing/>

MIDAS model predicts migration to threatened coastal areas may increase in some areas

- <https://www.princeton.edu/news/2021/02/17/despite-sea-level-rise-risks-migration-some-threatened-coastal-areas-may-increase>
- Paper: <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/abdc5b/pdf>

A1A Scenic & Historic Coastal Byway now designated as All American Road

- <https://www.palmcoastobserver.com/article/a1a-scenic-and-historic-coastal-byway-designated-as-an-all-american-road>

In Maine, “blue carbon” coastal ecosystems provide vital function

- <https://www.pressherald.com/2021/02/18/maine-voices-blue-carbon-for-a-green-future/>

Gloucester, Massachusetts, maritime history helps draw artists

- <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/article/why-this-salty-massachusetts-coastal-town-casts-a-spell-on-artists>

Port of San Diego mimics tide pools as part of pilot project to test effectiveness for coastal protection

- <https://www.thelog.com/local/port-of-san-diego-testing-out-new-tide-pool-armor-as-coastal-protection-on-harbor-island/>

“Coastal darkening” caused by murky water is viewed as environmental nuisance & threat to marine life

- <https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2021/02/coastal-darkening-threatening-marine-life/618007/>

Call for ban on hunting in Cowichan Bay Estuary

- <https://www.cowichanvalleycitizen.com/opinion/ban-hunting-in-the-cowichan-bay-estuary/>

Muck trap to keep Lake Worth Lagoon, Florida, clean does not always work

- <https://www.palmbeachpost.com/story/weather/2021/02/18/muck-trap-keep-lake-worth-lagoon-clean-doesnt-always-work/6762086002/>

Bobcat spotted in Squamish Estuary

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