



BAY AREA CLIMATE NEWS

February 2017

The Big Picture

Oroville is a Warning for California Dams, As Climate Change Adds Stress

See the bigger context behind this [NYT headline](#), including the Bay Area's own Peter Gleick: "We are not maintaining the water infrastructure adequately. We are not maintaining it in Flint, Michigan, and we are not maintaining it at our big dams in California. We need to spend more money and time on maintaining these."

Oroville Dam Shows Urgent Need for Climate Adaptation

Excellent op-ed in the Sacramento Bee by our Hyperion Project colleague Alex Hall (UCLA). Alex and his academic partners have recently completed a big climate impacts [study](#) for the Sierra Nevada.

Droughts, On Average, End With a Bang (and begin with a whimper)

Seems the right time to reprise this old CRI News [item](#) from a 2015 Sonoma workshop or see [Droughts Often End with Floods](#) from PPIC. Then, connect this with brand new [research](#) on the super-potency of Atmospheric Rivers from NASA's Duane Waliser.

Bay Area Methane Emissions May Be Double What We Thought

New [research](#) from Berkeley Lab on this potent GHG. At the same time, while global CO2 emissions have flattened for the last 3 years, global methane emissions are spiking according to new studies in [Environmental Research Letters](#).

C-A-L-I-F-O-R-N-I-A!!

If you haven't seen the [video](#), take a few minutes for a much-needed pep-up. Our Governor's not-a-stump-speech [blast](#) on climate, science, and the Golden State. Couple that with the HOW, the hot-off-the-press [2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan](#), the 137-page, California plan to reach our new 2030 GHG targets.

3 New and Interesting Reads!

Opportunities for Equitable Adaptation in Cities

Georgetown University Climate Center workshop with 50 U.S. thought leaders. (By the way, the Bay Area's Resilient Communities Initiative has new a Coordinator, Phoenix Armenta, phoenix@rootedinresilience.org).

The Latest Attempt to Brand Green Practices is Better Than It Sounds

Nature editorial —short and to-the-point!

Economic Impacts of California's Major Climate Programs on the San Joaquin Valley

Brand new NEXT 10 report is the 1st comprehensive cost/benefit study of our climate policies in the San Joaquin Valley. Finds over \$13 billion in economic benefits, mostly in renewable energy.

Cool Bay Area Projects

Spare the Air and Cool the Climate

Now available for review and comment: BAAQMD's big DRAFT 2017 plan to "lead the region to a post-carbon economy, to continue progress toward attaining all State and Federal air quality standards, and to eliminate health risk disparities from exposure to air pollution among Bay Area communities."

Resilient By Design: Bay Area Challenge

Long in limbo, RBD is now moving ahead with a \$4M+ grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. Read [here](#) about this "open call to help shape the future by harnessing our region's innovative spirit to combat the threat of climate change and sea level rise." RBD = "interdisciplinary teams and passionate Bay Area communities working together to design solutions that protect the bay shore and make us more resilient — for today and tomorrow."

Safer Bay Feasibility Report

The San Francisco Creek JPA's strategy to advance flood protection, ecosystems and recreation along the Bay. The project is evaluating infrastructure alternatives to protect Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, and Palo Alto against extreme tides with sea level rise, and enhance shoreline habitat and trails. See an *Almanac* [cover story](#) on the project. Click [here](#) for the October 2016 Feasibility Report of project objectives, approach, and findings for East Palo Alto and Menlo Park (a similar study of alternatives to protect and enhance Palo Alto will be completed in 2017).

CRI Projects

CRI has reached a big milestone: We are now supporting 10 climate adaptation research projects at Berkeley and Berkeley Lab. February highlights:

RISeR Project: Mark Lubell (UC Davis) and CRI have finished 3 Bay Area focus groups on potential governance SOLUTIONS for sea level rise. Great input from a wide range of Bay Area organizations. Summary report on governance out this Spring.

Hyperion Project: CRI and Berkeley Lab recently designed and facilitated a large stakeholder workshop in D.C. on state-of-the art climate modeling for water agencies representing the Sacramento/San Joaquin, Upper Colorado, Susquehanna, and Kissimmee watersheds.

Ocean Protection Council AB 2516 Project: CRI is conducting a series of group interviews with sea level rise practitioners from San Diego to the North Coast to hear how new on-line resources and related services could best support their planning efforts.

Photo of the Month

California Takes Charge! (from Salon.com)



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