



WATER FOR LIFE

Safe, dependable, and affordable water now and into the future



Board of Water Supply
City and County of Honolulu

Stakeholder Advisory Group

**Board of Water Supply
City & County of Honolulu**

Thursday April 25, 2019



Dr. Charles H. Fletcher, III (Chip)

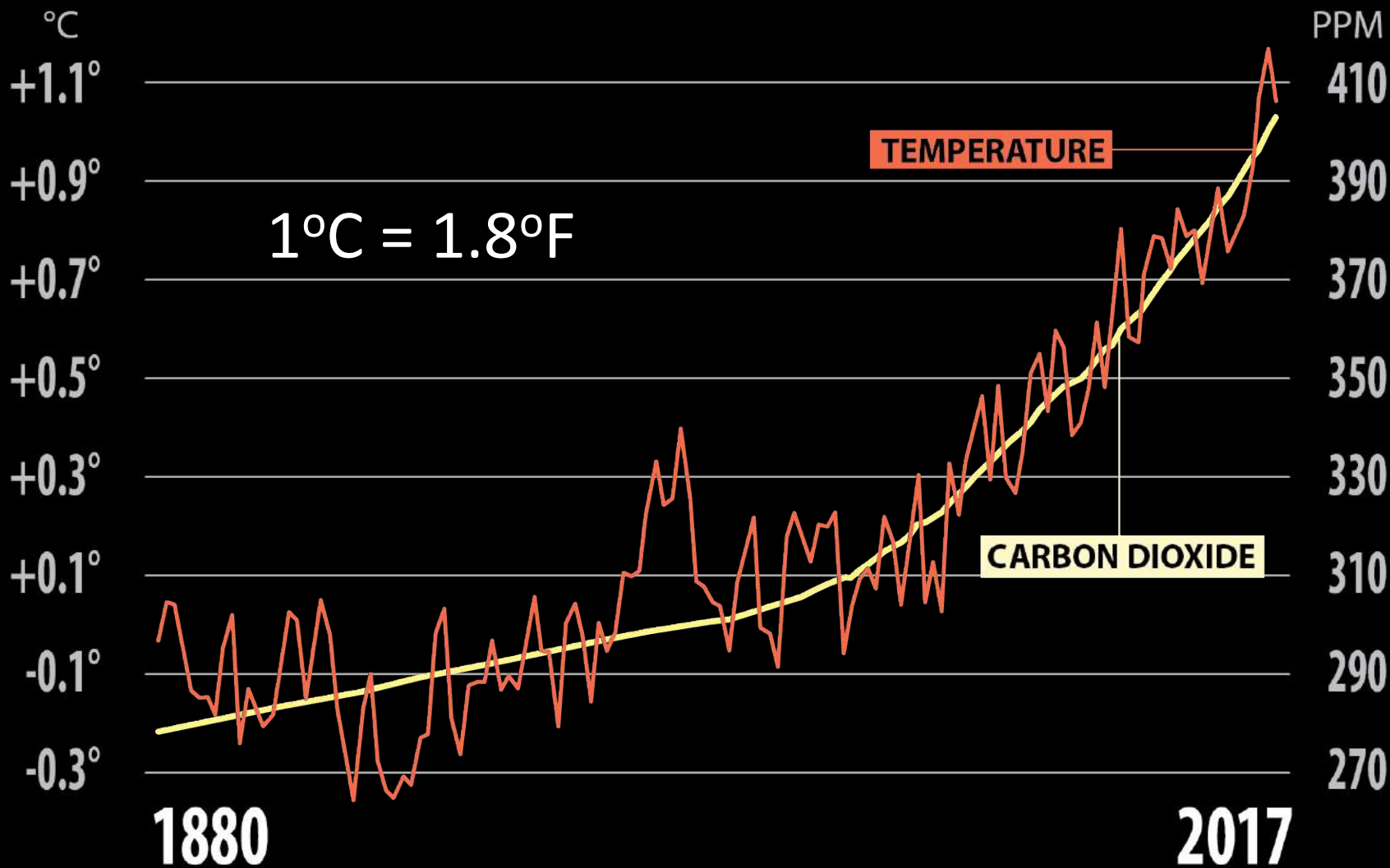
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of Earth Sciences
School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST)
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Vice-Chair of the Honolulu Climate Change Commission

CLIMATE CHANGE PANEL DISCUSSION

**We have 10
years to cut
emissions
by 50%**

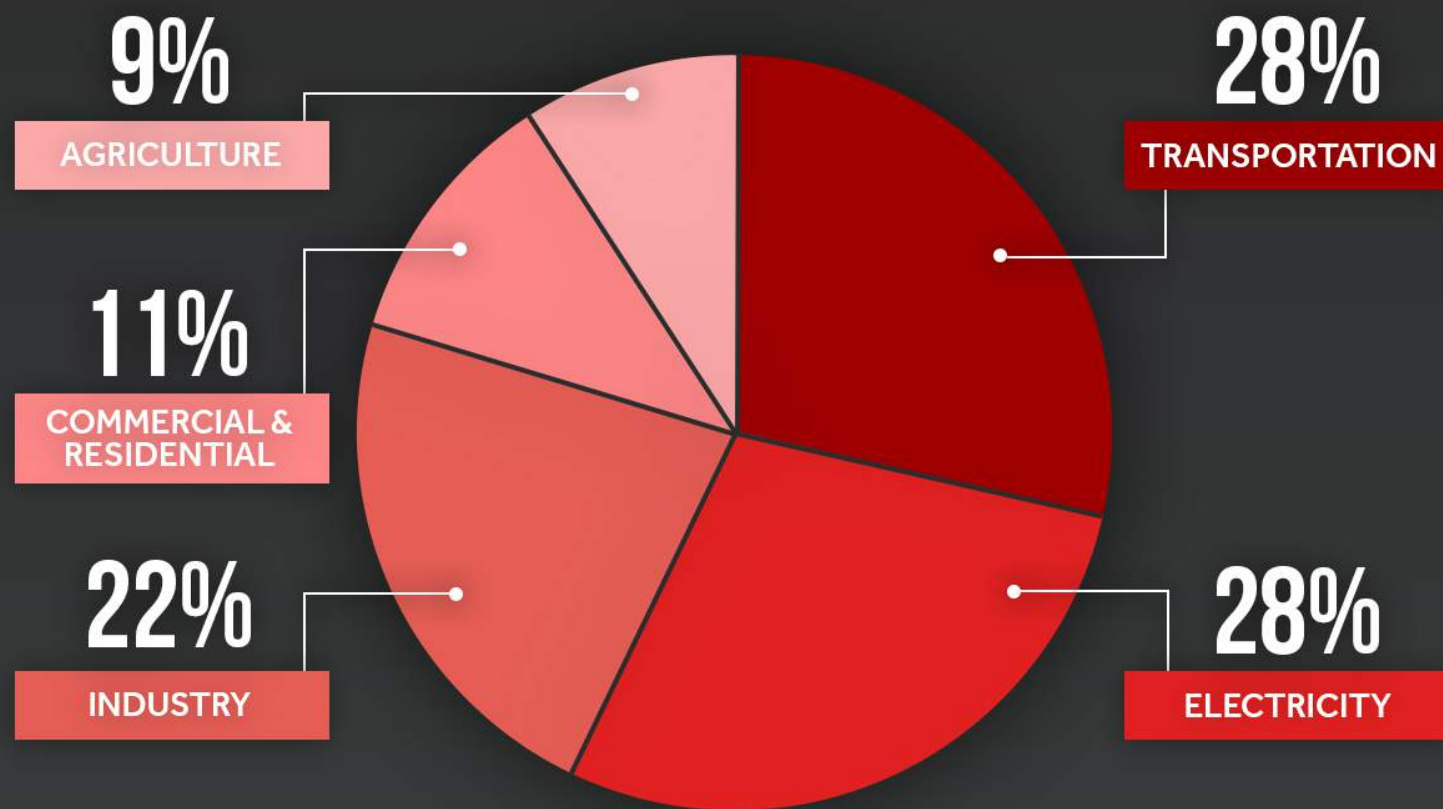


GLOBAL TEMPERATURE & CARBON DIOXIDE



GREENHOUSE GAS SOURCES

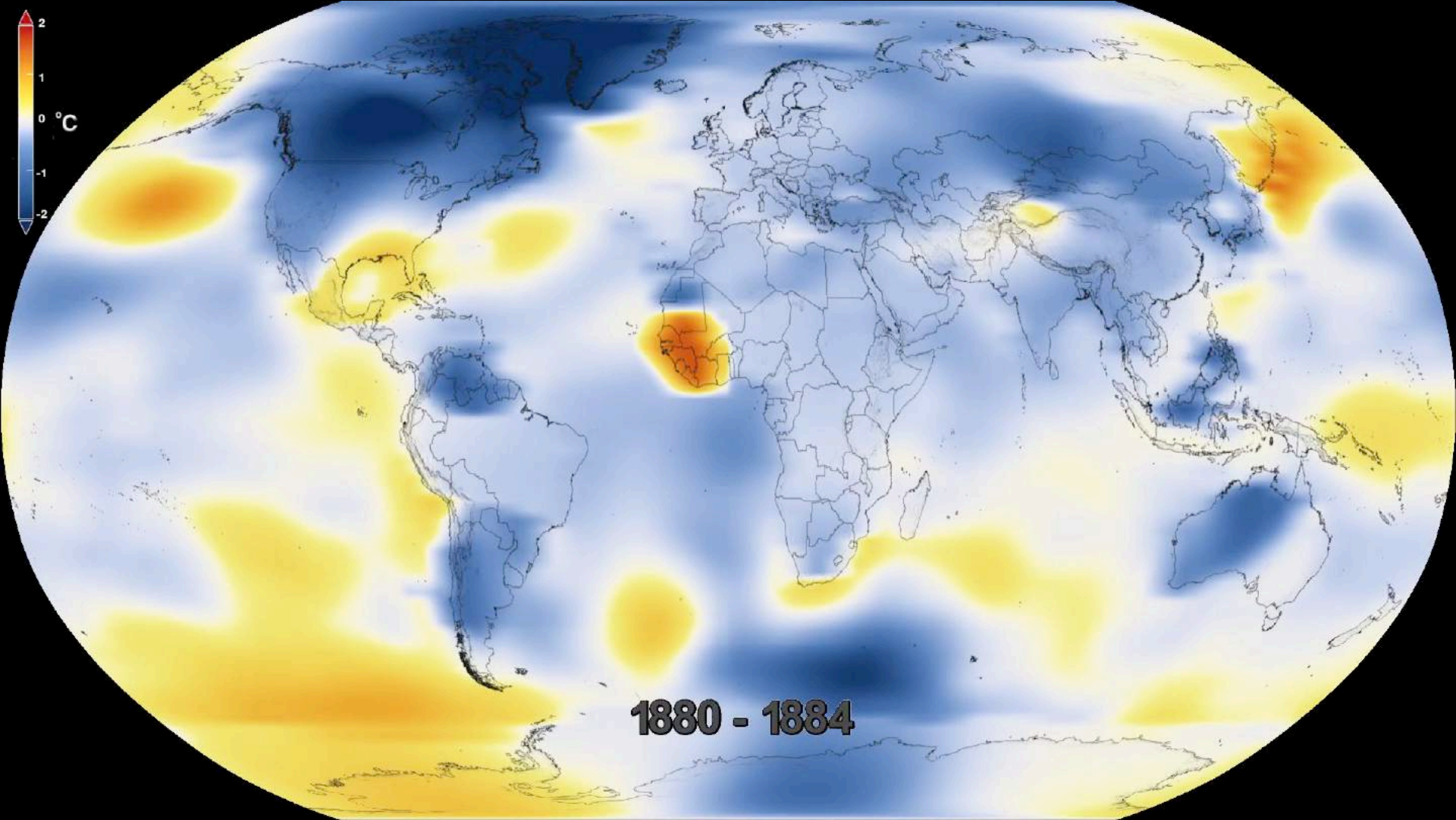
United States Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector



Source: US EPA

CLIMATE  CENTRAL

The world is now 1°C (1.8°F) warmer



Extreme rainfall has increased 12%

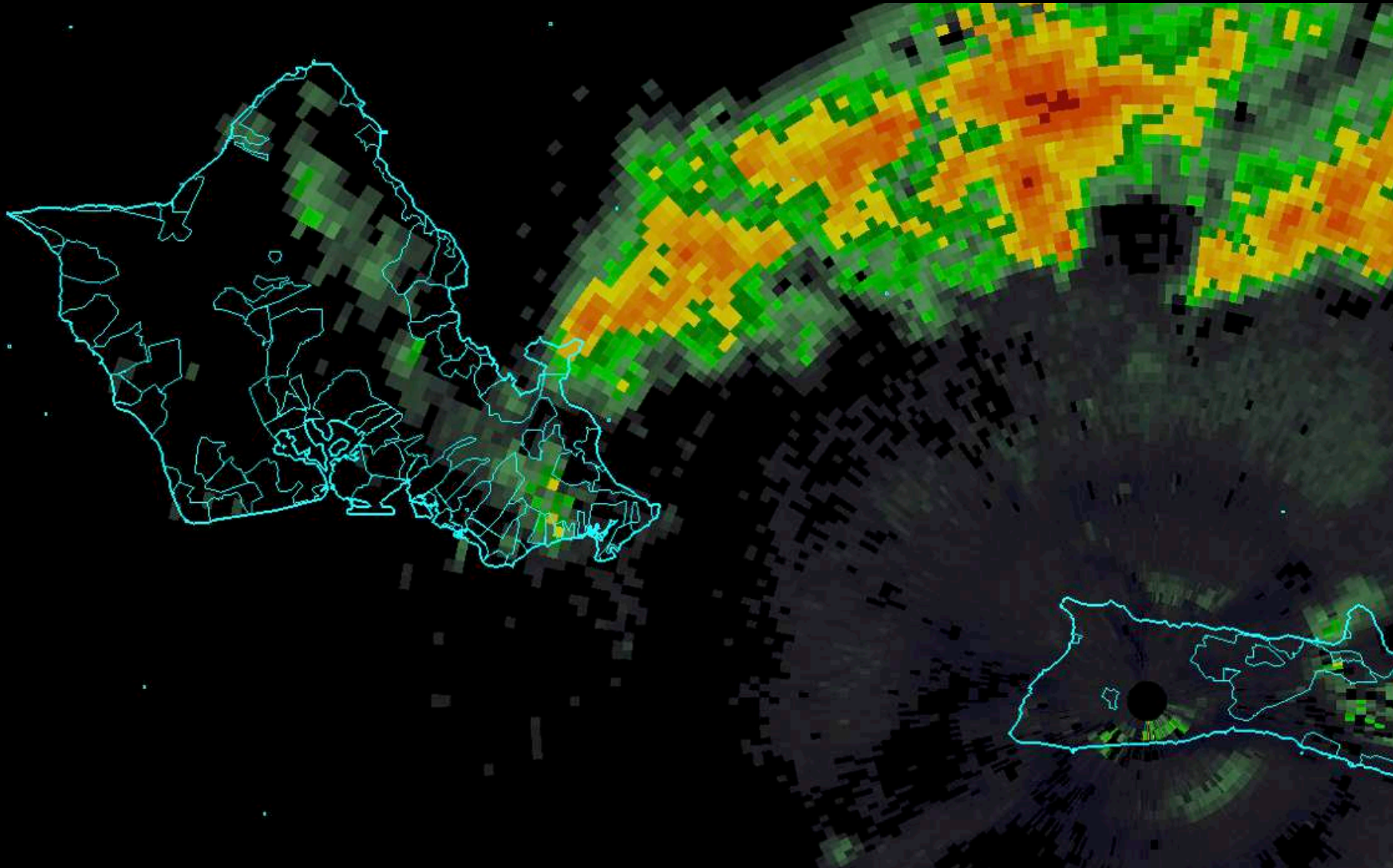


Extreme rainfall has increased 12%

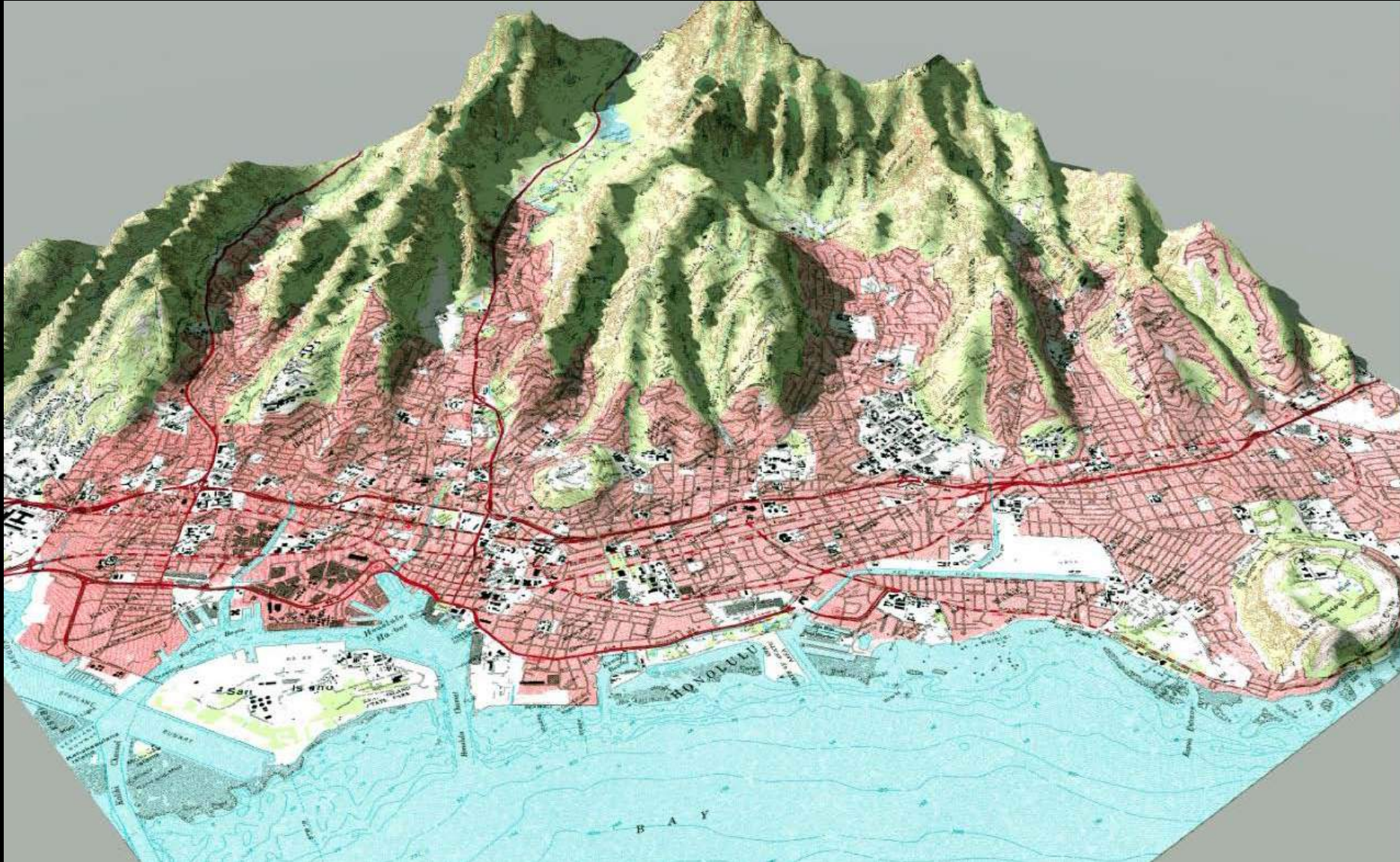


O'ahu, April 2018

State of Emergency, \$124 million

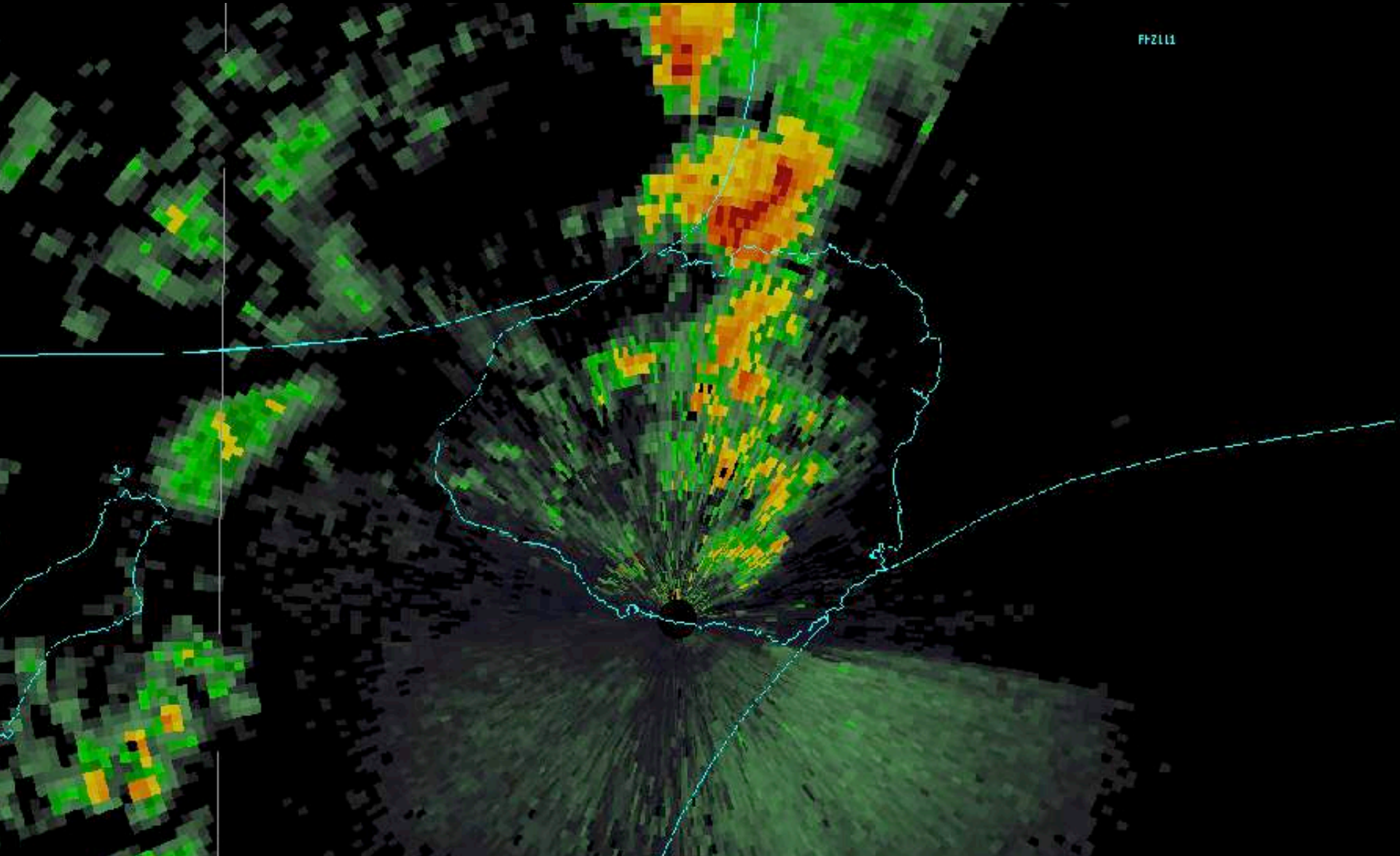


Short steep watersheds w/ heavy
development promote flooding



Kaua'i, April 2018

49.69 inches of rainfall in a 24-hour period, national record





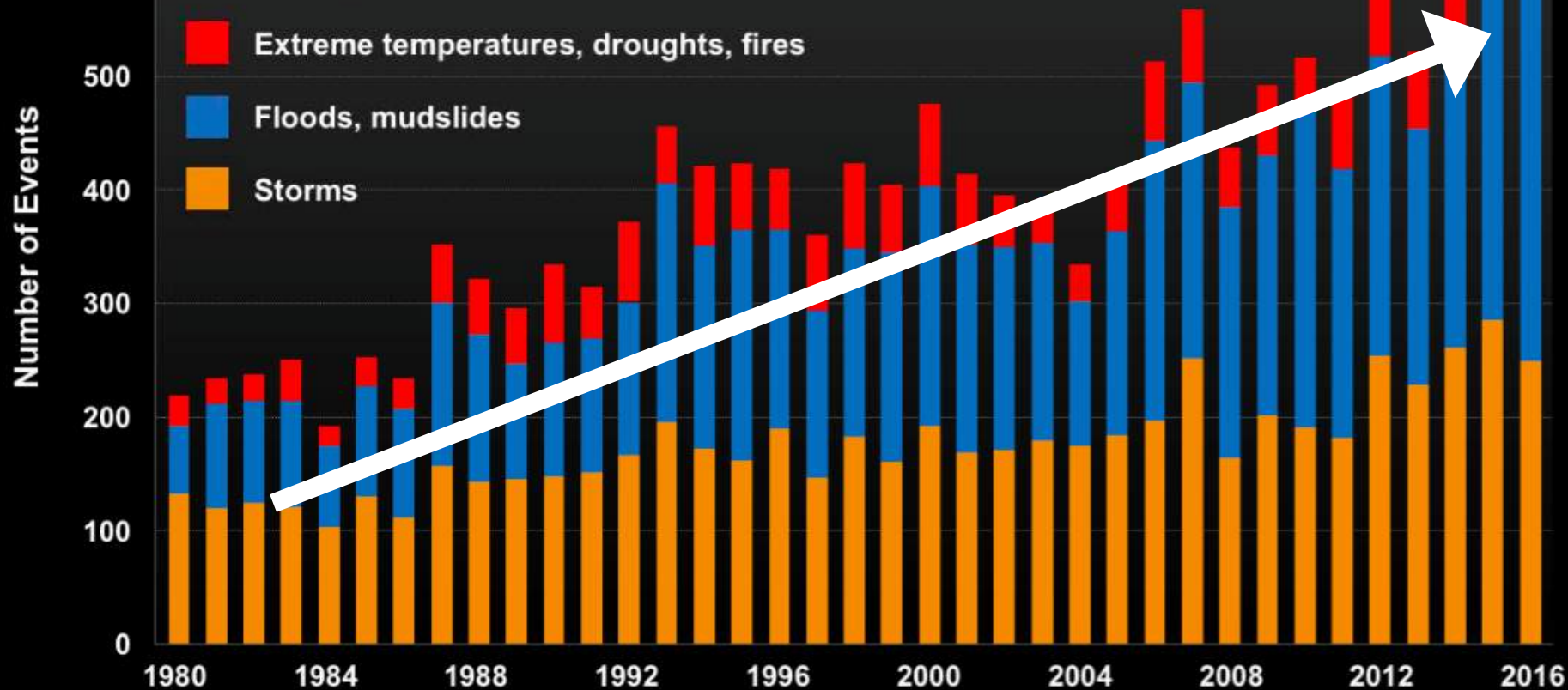




Weather disasters have doubled in two decades



Worldwide Extreme Weather Catastrophes 1980-2016



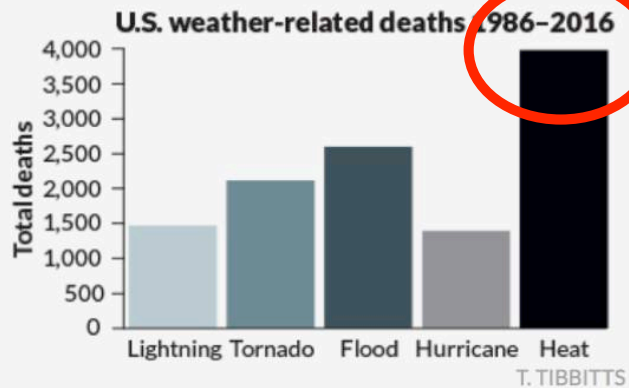
Data: Insurance Information Institute, January 2017



The western U.S. fire season is
150 days longer than 40 yrs
ago...

...the number of large
fires has tripled

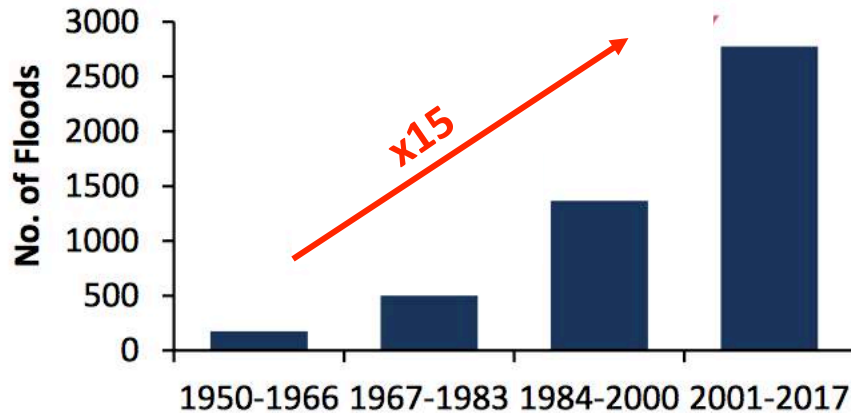
Heat waves are the deadliest natural disaster in the U.S.



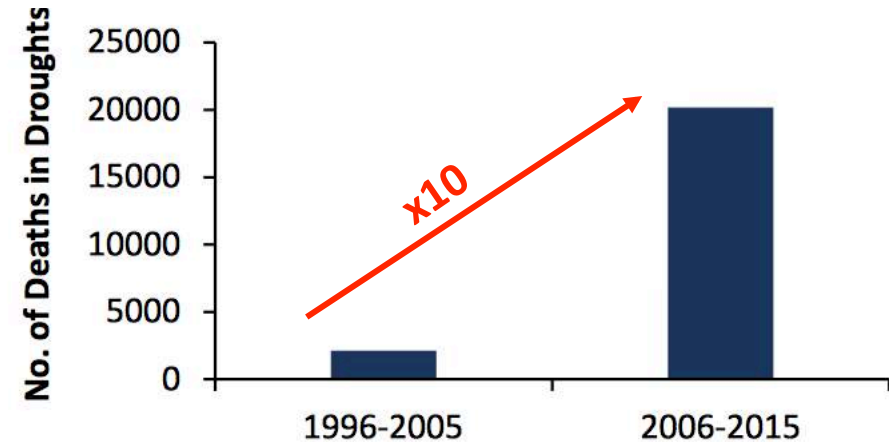
Source: National Weather Service

Global extreme weather events on the rise

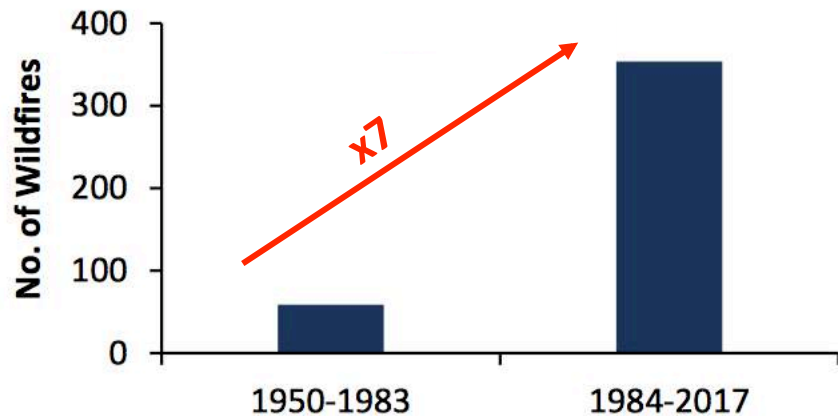
Floods



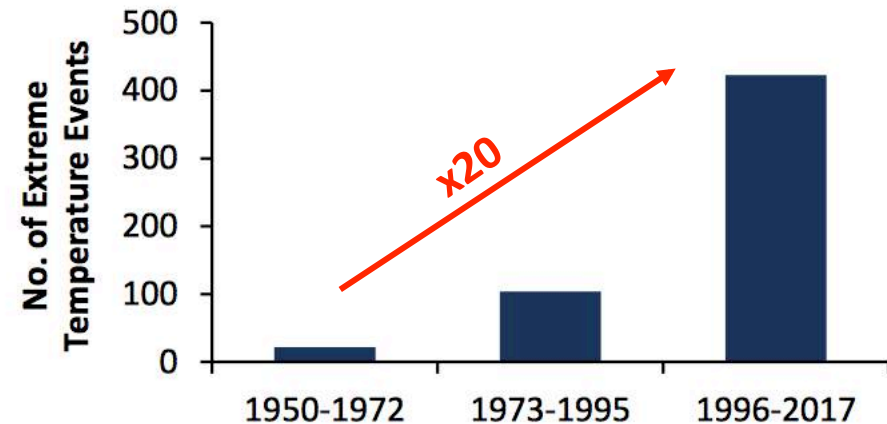
Drought Mortality



Wildfires

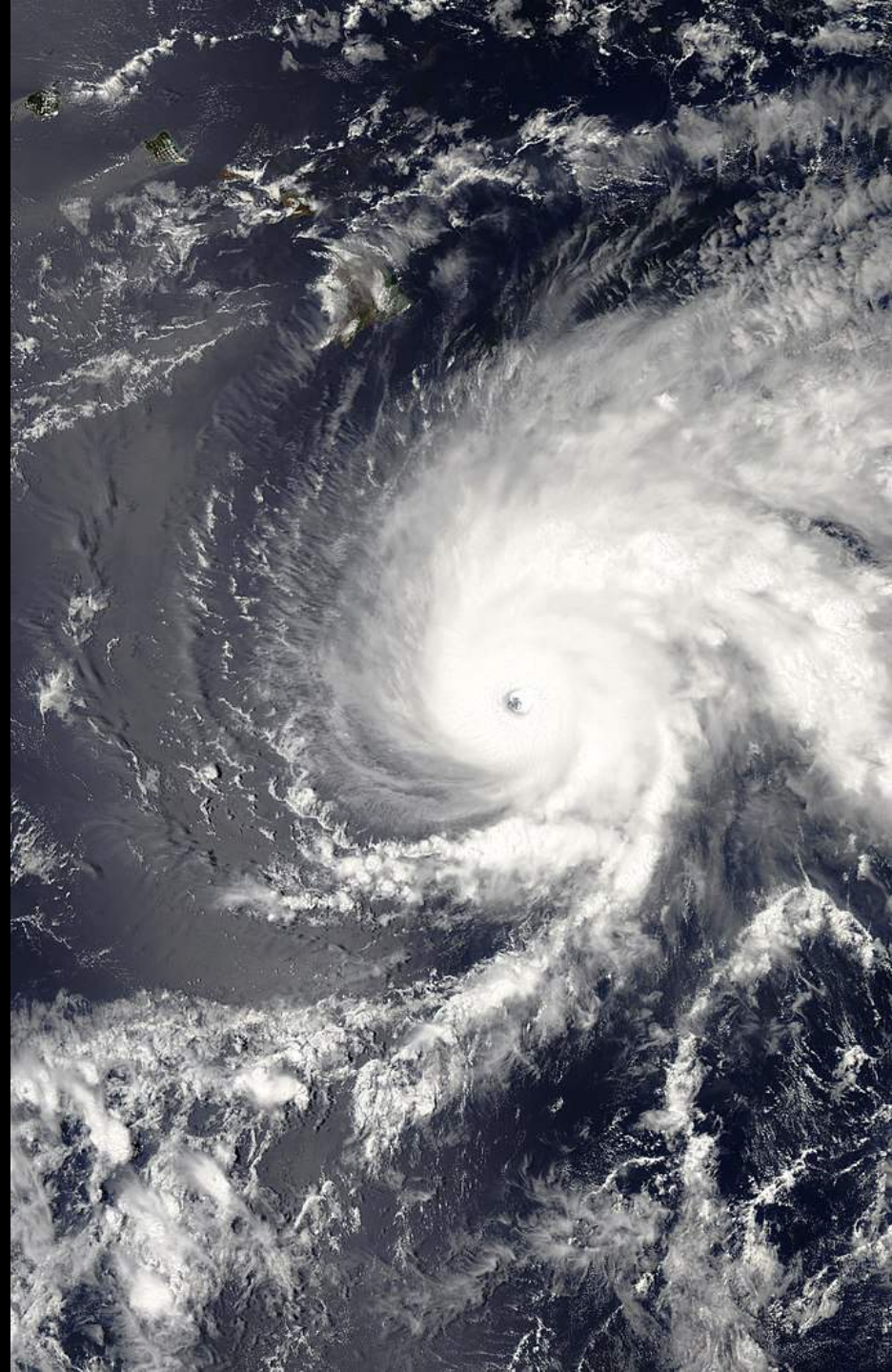


Extreme Temperature Events

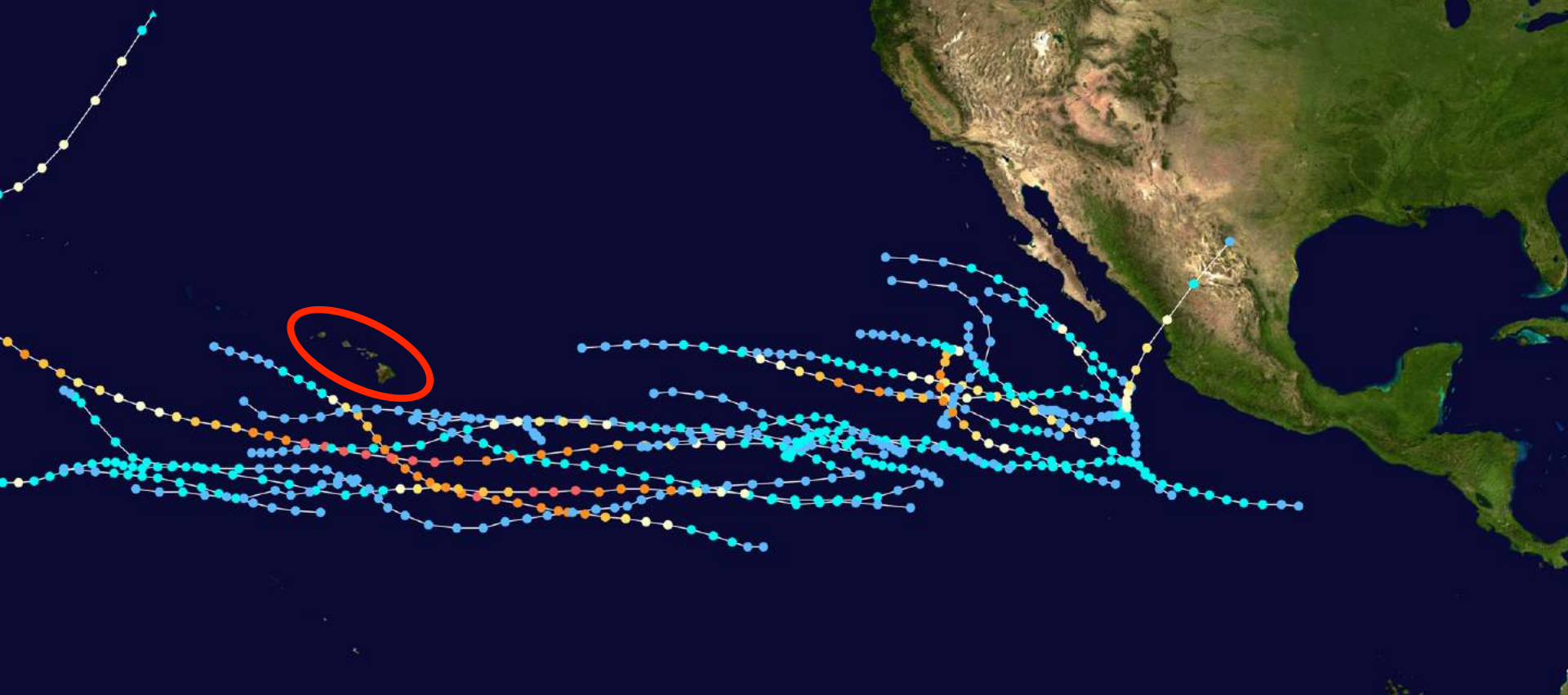


Hurricanes and Climate Change

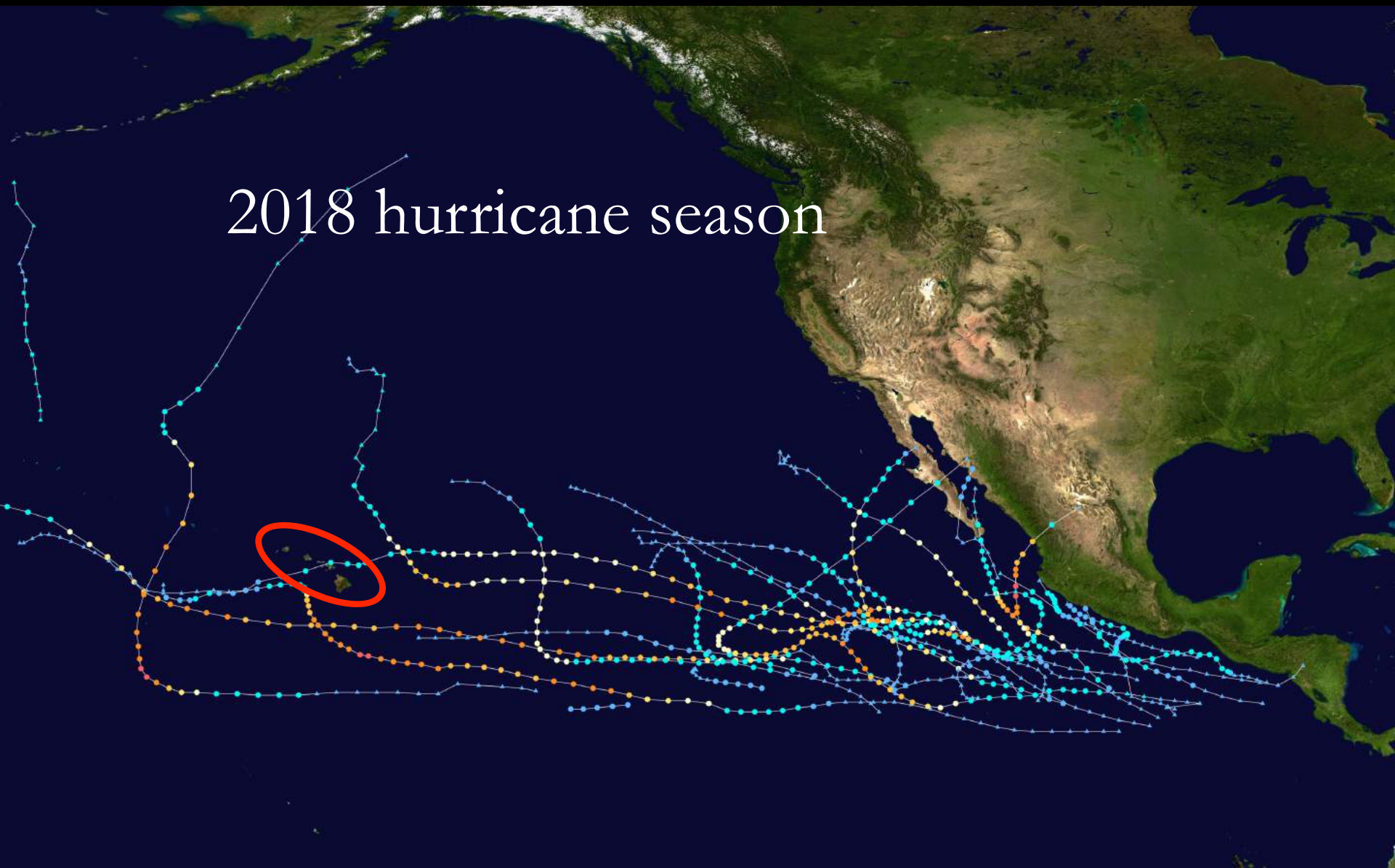
- Warmer water = More fuel
- Larger
- More rain
- Stronger wind = Higher category
- Slower = More damage
- Higher storm surge
- Shifting away from equator



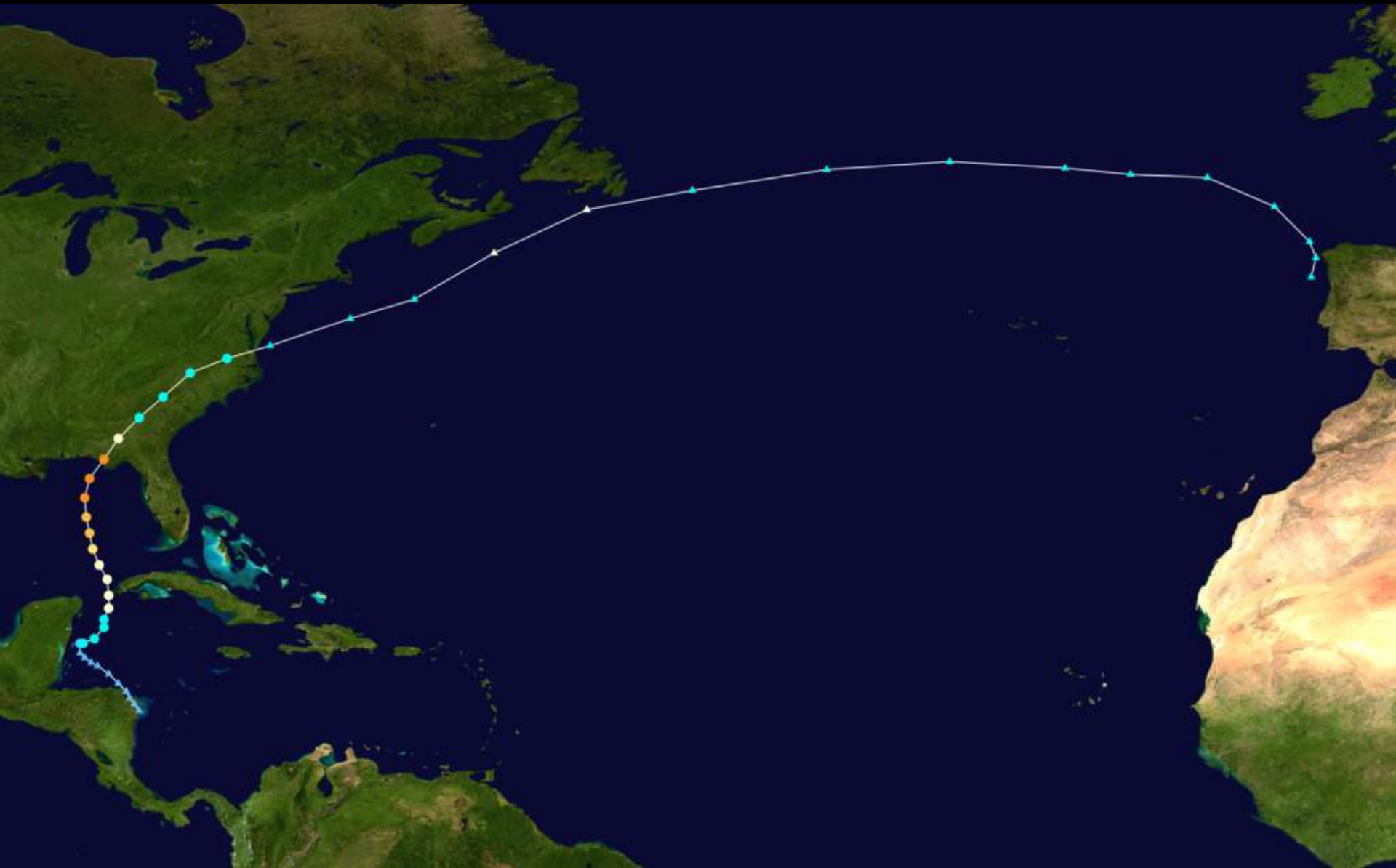
1994 hurricane season



2018 hurricane season



Hurricane Michael, Florida Panhandle, October, 2018



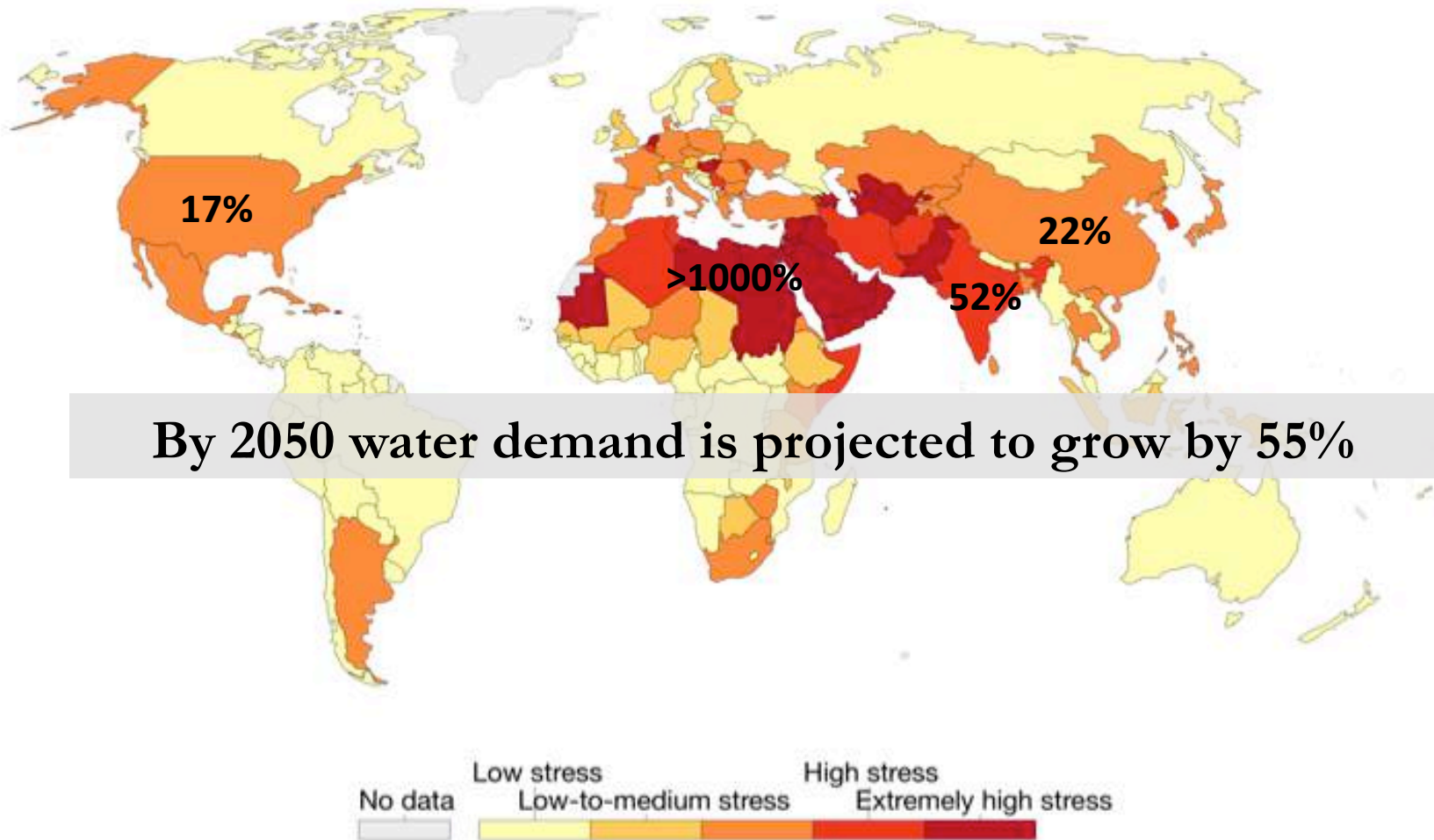
Hurricane Michael, Florida Panhandle, October, 2018



A young child with dark skin and short hair is crouching on a muddy, rocky bank. The child is wearing a light-colored, long-sleeved shirt and dark pants. They are holding a clear plastic bottle and filling it with water from a shallow, murky pool. The water is brown and contains some debris. The background shows more of the rocky bank and some scattered trash, including a white plastic bag. The overall scene suggests a lack of clean water access.

**By 2030 global
water requirements
will exceed
sustainable water
supplies by 40%.**

Freshwater withdrawals are already exceeding internal sources



Source: UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

OurWorldInData.org/water-access-resources-sanitation/ • CC BY-SA

Food is less
nutritious.

Decreased
zinc, iron,
and protein



Altmetric: 891 Citations: 186

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Letter

Increasing CO₂ threatens human nutrition

Samuel S. Myers , Antonella Zanobetti, Itai Kloog, Peter Huybers, Andrew D. B. Leakey, Arnold J. Bloom, Eli Carlisle, Lee H. Dietterich, Glenn Fitzgerald, Toshihiro Hasegawa, N. Michele Holbrook, Randall L. Nelson, Michael J. Ottman, Victor Raboy, Hidemitsu Sakai, Karla A. Sartor, Joel Schwartz, Saman Seneweera, Michael Tausz & Yasuhiro Usui

Nature **510**, 139–142 (05 June 2014)

doi:10.1038/nature13179

[Download Citation](#)

[Environmental health](#)

Received: 25 November 2013

Accepted: 24 February 2014

Published online: 07 May 2014

Abstract

Dietary deficiencies of zinc and iron are a substantial global public health problem. An estimated two billion people suffer these deficiencies¹, causing a loss of 63 million life-years annually^{2,3}. Most of these people depend on C₃ grains and legumes as their primary dietary source of zinc and iron. Here we report that C₃ grains and legumes have lower concentrations of zinc and iron when grown under field conditions at the elevated atmospheric CO₂ concentration predicted for the middle of this century. C₃ crops other than legumes also have lower concentrations of protein, whereas C₄ crops seem to be less affected. Differences between cultivars of a single crop suggest that breeding for decreased sensitivity to atmospheric CO₂

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Editorial Summary

Crop nutrient loss in high CO₂

It has been suggested that the concentration of important nutrients such as zinc and iron in food crops will decrease with increasing atmospheric CO₂ levels. However, some studies have not found this, and some of those that have relied on non-field crops or did not focus on edible crop parts. Myers et al. have assembled the largest data set to date from free-air CO₂ enrichment experiments and find that C₃ crops (grains and grasses) do indeed have reduced zinc and iron levels under the elevated CO₂ conditions predicted for the middle of this century. Crops using the C₄ photosynthetic pathway are less affected. These findings suggest that breeding cultivars for reduced sensitivity to elevated CO₂ may be an important public health priority in many parts of the world. [show less](#)

Associated Content

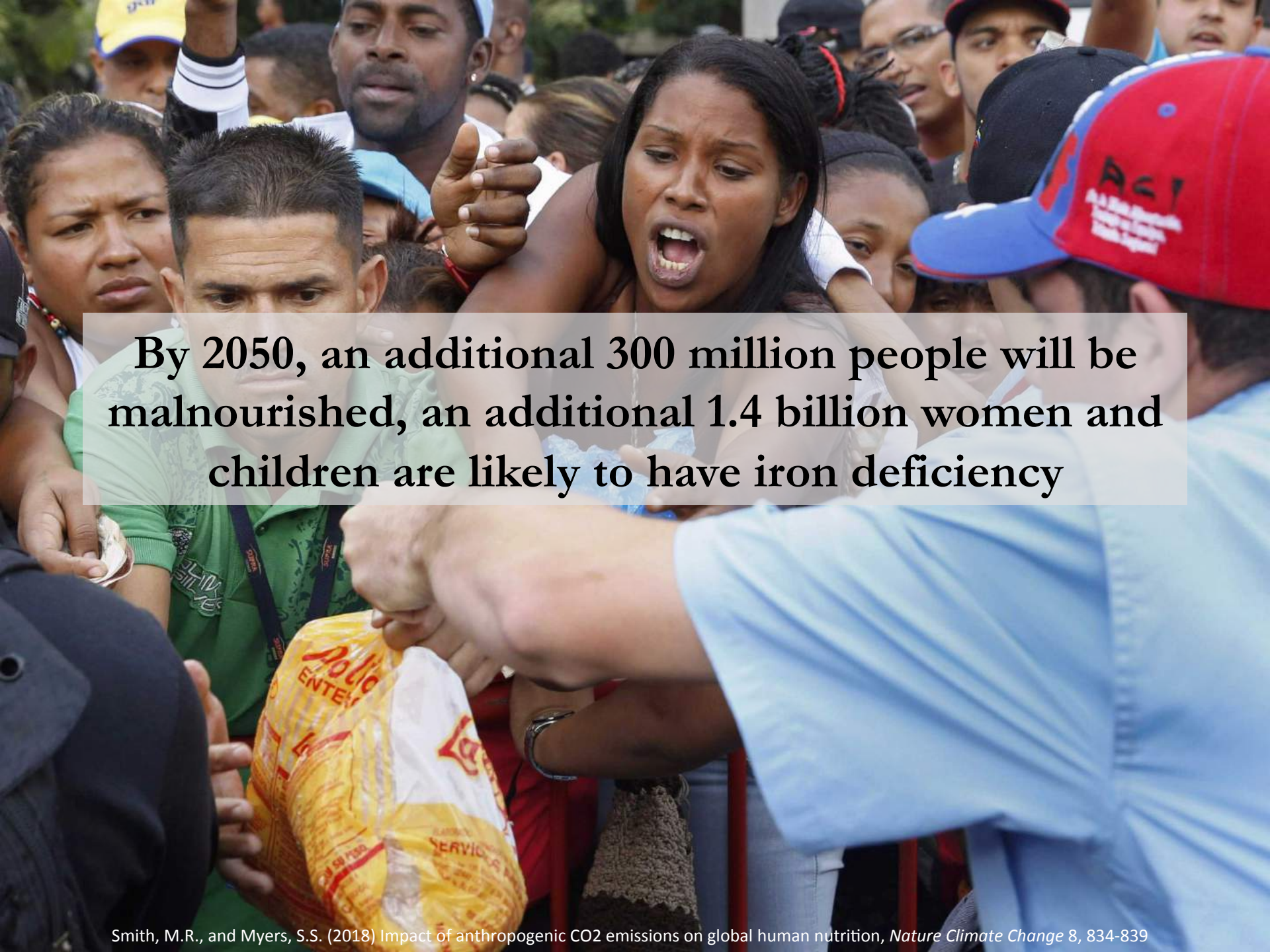
[Scientific Data](#) | [Data Descriptor](#) | [OPEN](#)

[Impacts of elevated atmospheric CO₂ on nutrient content of important crops](#)

Lee H. Dietterich, Antonella Zanobetti [...] Samuel S. Myers

A close-up photograph of two hands, one above the other, holding rice grains. The top hand holds a pile of yellow rice grains, while the bottom hand holds a pile of white rice grains. The background is a soft-focus green field of rice plants. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid in the center of the image.

Food staples grown under higher CO₂ have up to 17% less protein, zinc, vitamin B complex, and iron.

A photograph of a diverse crowd of people. In the center, a woman with dark hair is shouting with her mouth wide open. To her left, a man in a green shirt looks on with a serious expression. In the foreground, a hand is holding a yellow and white plastic bag with the word 'Lettuce' visible. To the right, a person wears a red baseball cap with 'ACI' and some text below it. The background is filled with other people, some wearing hats, suggesting a large gathering or protest.

By 2050, an additional 300 million people will be malnourished, an additional 1.4 billion women and children are likely to have iron deficiency

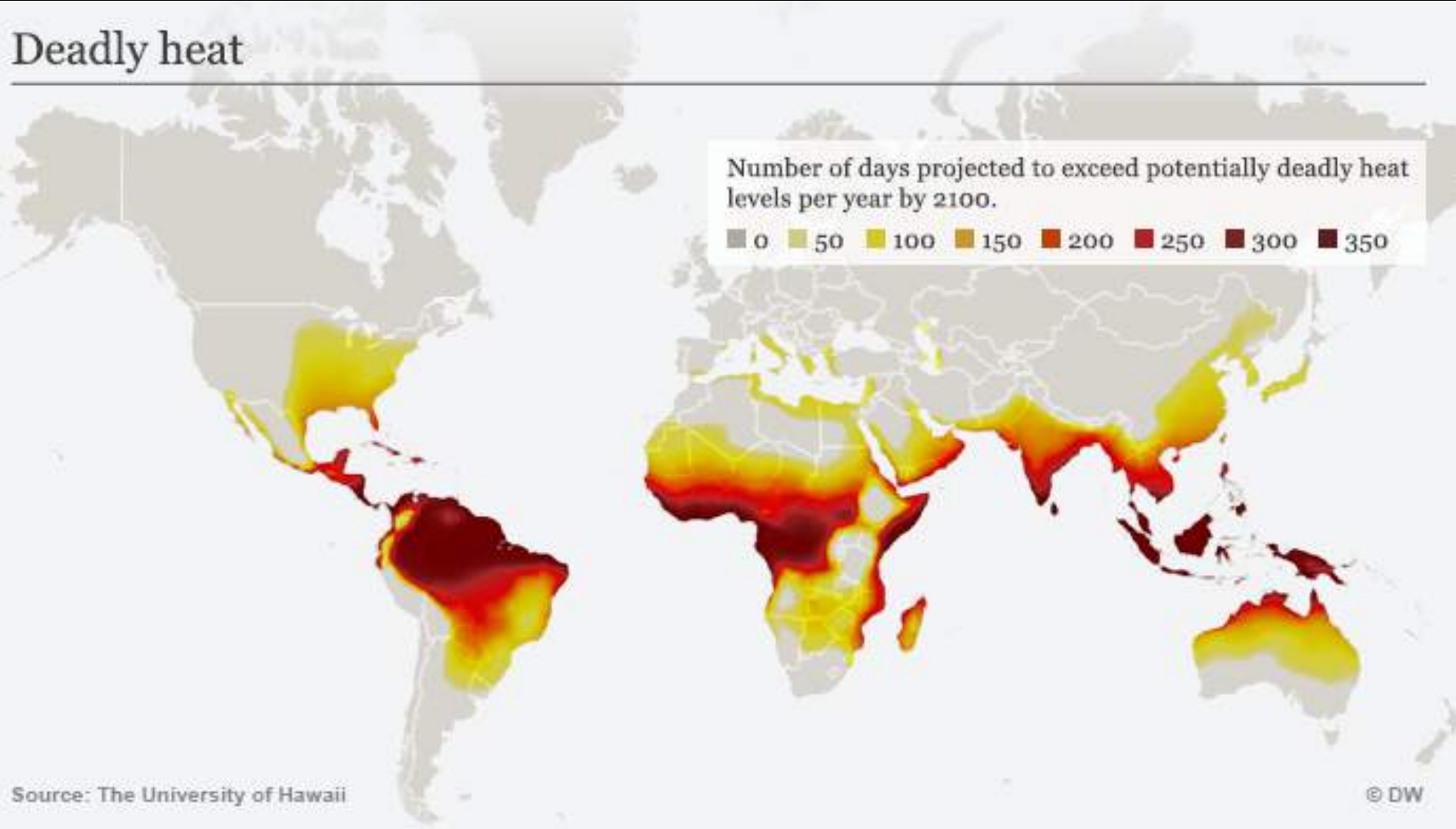
Food Shortages

- Global wheat provides 20% of human protein.
 - Yield is threatened by drought, flood, higher CO₂
 - By 2050 demand will increase by 60% (9 billion people)
 - But wheat yields will decline by 15%.



The Tropics are Becoming Unlivable

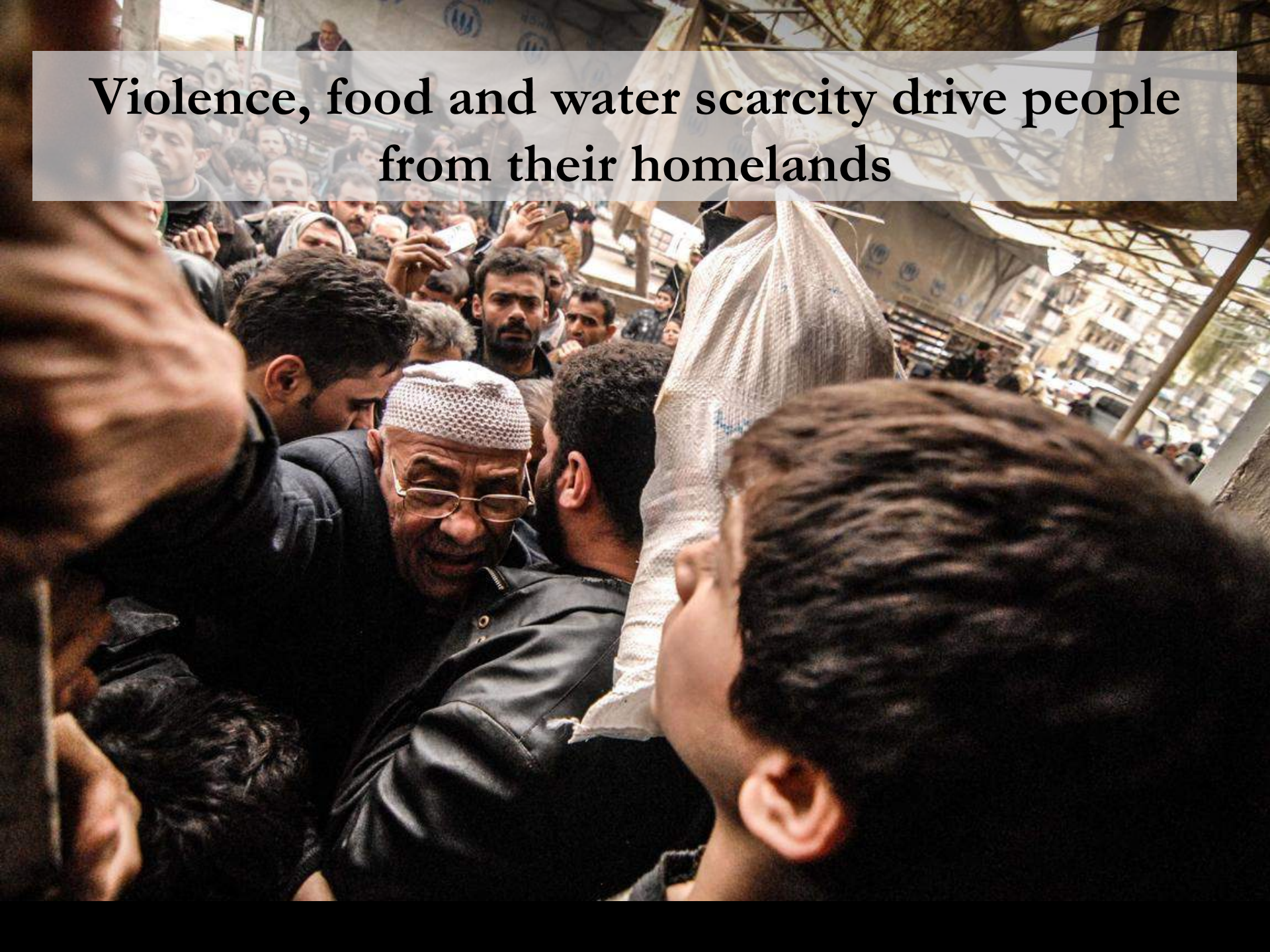
Deadly heat



Food and water shortages can lead to violent conflict, refugee crises



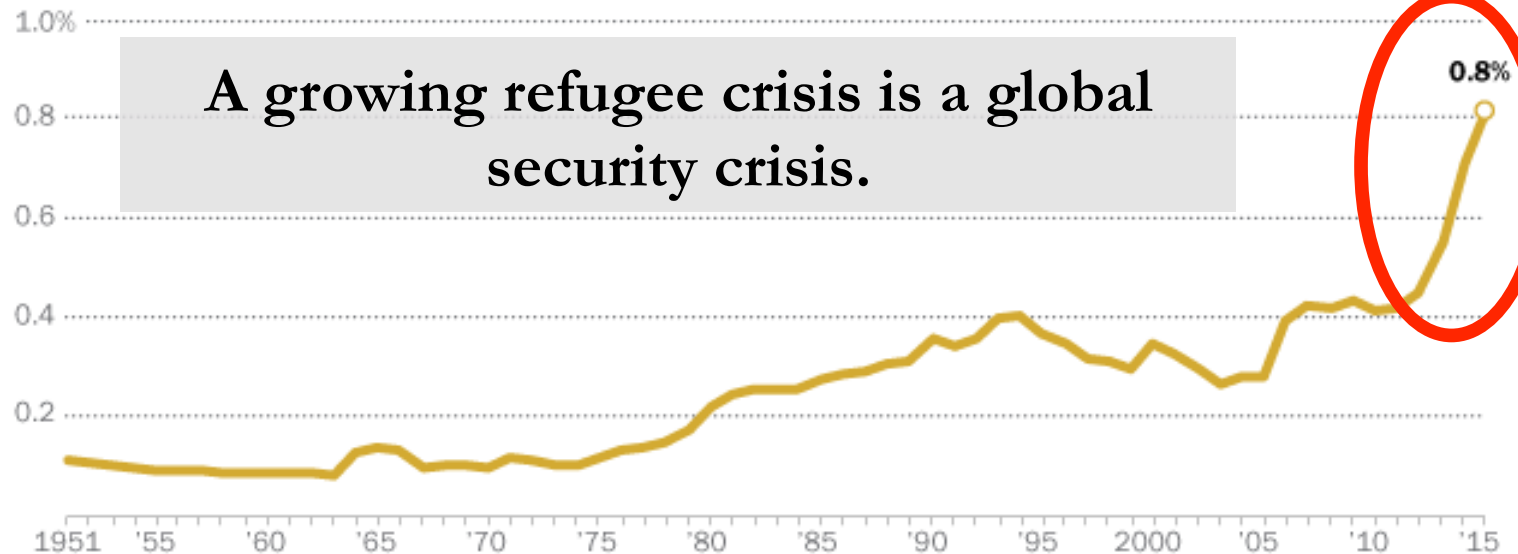
Violence, food and water scarcity drive people from their homelands



Worldwide nearly 1% of humanity are displaced from their homes

A record-high share of the world's population is displaced from their homes

% of world population that is forcibly displaced



Note: Displaced includes internally displaced persons within their birth country, refugees and asylum seekers living in a different country who have yet to resettle permanently, and Palestinian refugees registered with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of United Nations data, accessed July 20, 2016.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Drought in Syria led to civil war and terrorism

...the drought had a catalytic effect, contributing to political unrest.

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NEW RESEARCH IN Physical Sciences

Climate change in the Fertile Crescent implications of the recent Syrian drought

Colin P. Kelley, Shahrzad Mohtadi, Mark A. Cane, Richard Seager, and Yochanan Kushnir

PNAS 2015 March, 112 (11) 3241–3246. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1421533112>

Edited by Brian John Hoskins, Imperial College London, London, United Kingdom, and approved January 14, 2015 (received for review November 16, 2014)

Article Figures & SI Authors & Info PDF

Significance

There is evidence that the 2007–2010 drought contributed to conflict in Syria. It was the worst drought in the instrumental record, causing widespread crop failure and a mass migration of farming families to urban centers. Century-long observed trends in precipitation, temperature, and sea-level pressure, supported by climate model results, strongly suggest that anthropogenic forcing has increased the probability of severe and persistent droughts in this region, and made the occurrence of a 3-year drought as severe as that of 2007–2010 2 to 3 times more likely than by natural variability alone. We conclude that human influences on the climate system are implicated in the current Syrian drought.

Abstract

During the Syrian uprising that began in 2011, the greater Fertile Crescent experienced the worst drought in the instrumental record. For Syria, a country marked by poor governance and unsustainable agricultural and environmental policies, the drought had a catalytic effect, contributing to political unrest. We show that the recent decrease in Syrian precipitation is a combination of natural variability and a long-term drying trend, and the unusual severity of the observed drought is here shown to be highly unlikely without this trend. Precipitation changes in Syria are linked to rising mean sea-level pressure in the Eastern Mediterranean, which also shows a long-term trend. There has been also a long-term warming trend in the Eastern Mediterranean, adding to the drawdown of soil moisture. No natural cause is apparent for these trends, whereas the observed drying and warming are consistent with model studies of the response to increases in greenhouse gases. Furthermore, model studies show an increasingly drier and hotter future mean climate. Our findings suggest that the recent Syrian drought is not a natural phenomenon but rather a result of human influences on the climate system.

...worst drought in 1000 yrs, causing widespread crop failure and a mass migration of farming families to urban centers.

Physical Sciences

Using model and ecology

F-donating electrolyte for 5-V Li metal battery

Abrupt change of superconducting gap in $\text{FeSe}_{1-x}\text{S}_x$

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Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences

Precipitation formation from cloud seeding

Eocene tropical SST from clumped isotopes

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January 22, 2018 | Running Time: 5:53

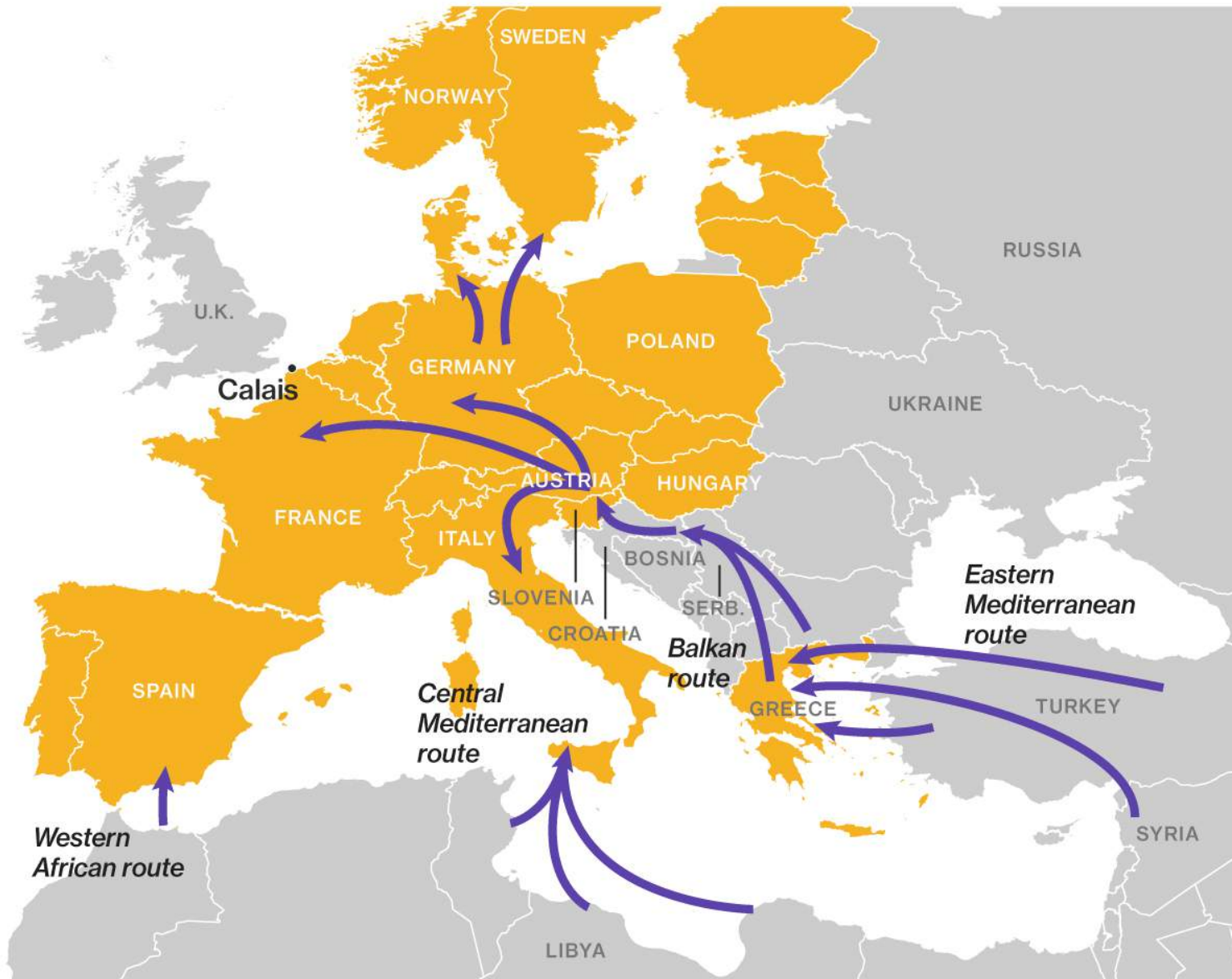
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Migratory Routes

■ Schengen area











Syrian refugees flooded into Europe by the millions



... creating a backlash among residents

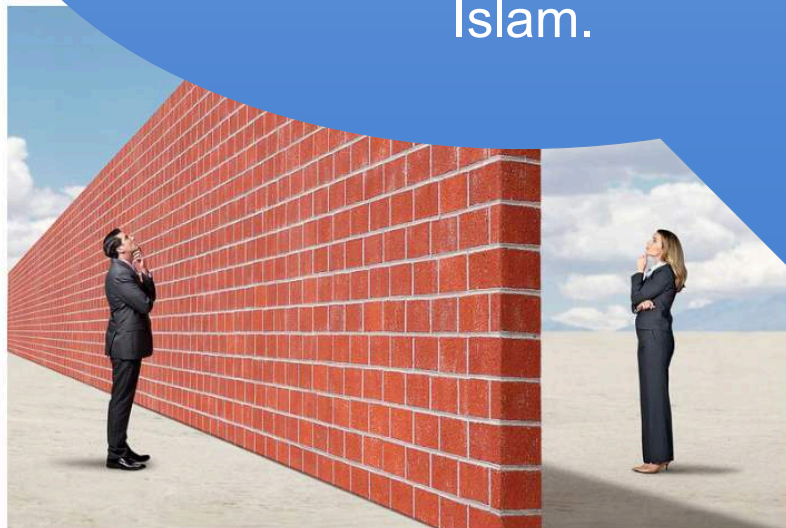


WATCH
LIVE
8:42 AM

Collins, Mur

October 19, 2017

Sebastian Kurz....campaigned on the need for tougher immigration controls, quickly deporting asylum-seekers whose requests are denied and outlawing the practice of Islam.



▲ PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: 731; PHOTOS: BLOOMBERG (1), GETTY IMAGES (2)

As Europeans assess the fallout from the U.K.'s Brexit referendum, they face a series of elections that could equally shake the political establishment. In the coming 12 months, four of Europe's five largest economies have votes that will almost certainly mean serious gains for right-wing populists and nationalists. Once seen as fringe groups, France's National Front, Italy's Five Star Movement, and the Freedom Party in the Netherlands have attracted legions of followers by

EUROPE NEWS

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Austria likely takes a right turn as 31-year-old minister declares victory in election

- Ballot projections show Austrian foreign minister Sebastian Kurz's People's Party leading in a national vote.
- This puts Kurz on course to become Europe's youngest head of government.
 - The party has focused on concerns about immigration and Islam.

Published 12:09 PM ET Sun, 15 Oct 2017 | Updated 22 Hours Ago

AP



Gallup | Getty Images

Austrian Foreign Minister and leader of the conservative Austrian Peoples Party (OeVP) Sebastian Kurz speaks to media as he arrives to cast his ballot in Austrian parliamentary elections on October 15, 2017 in Vienna, Austria.

Austria's 31-year-old foreign minister declared victory for his party Sunday in a national election that set him up to become Europe's youngest leader and puts the country on course for a rightward turn.

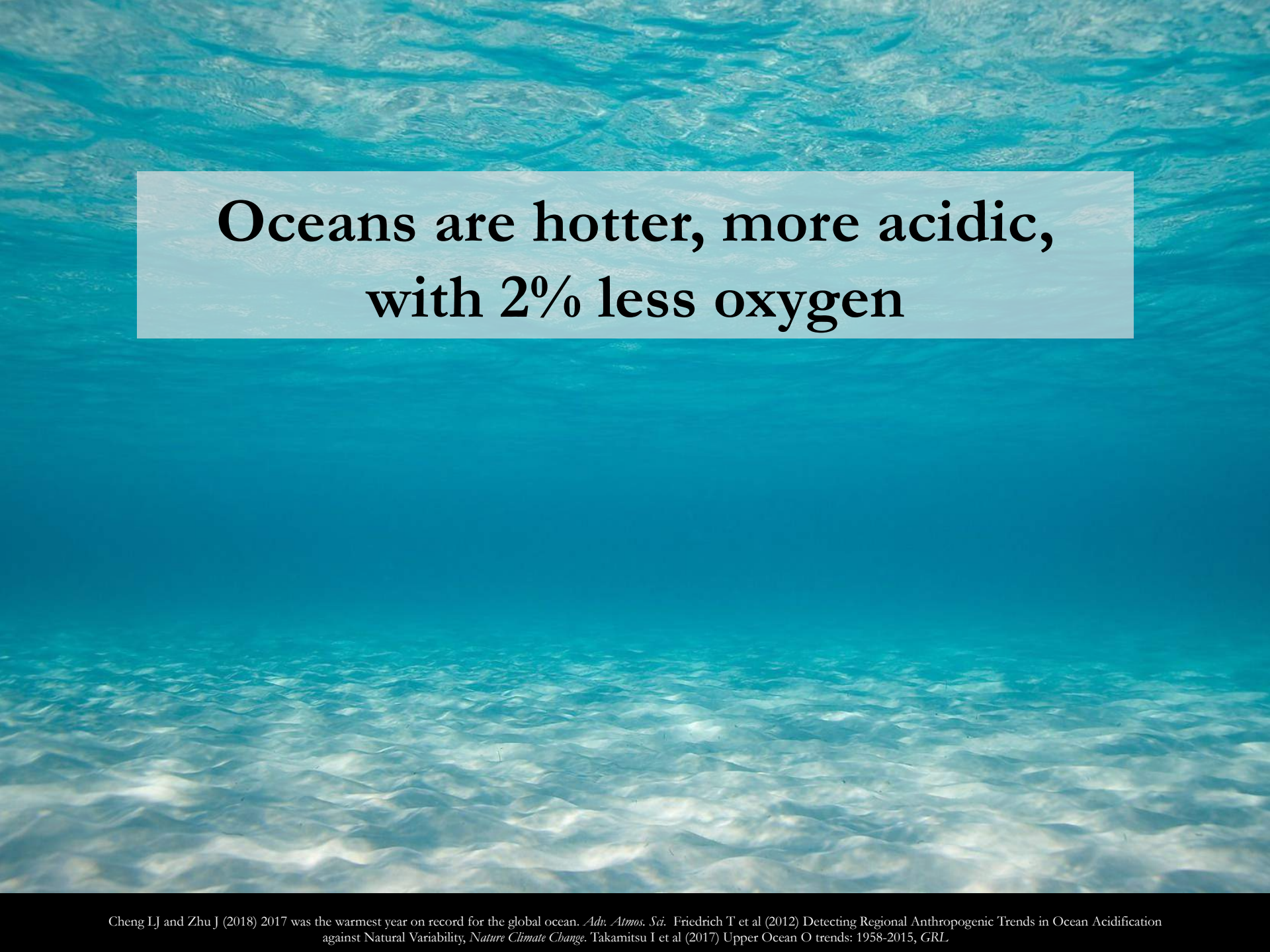
Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurz claimed the win as final results announced by the Interior Ministry showed his People's Party had a comfortable lead with almost all the ballots counted. Noting that his center-right party had triumphed over the rival Social Democrats only twice since the end of World War II, Kurz called it a "historic victory."

CLIMATE KINGS

How a new generation of authoritarian leaders are using climate change to seize power.

By SAMUEL MILLER MCDONALD | July 30, 2018





Oceans are hotter, more acidic,
with 2% less oxygen

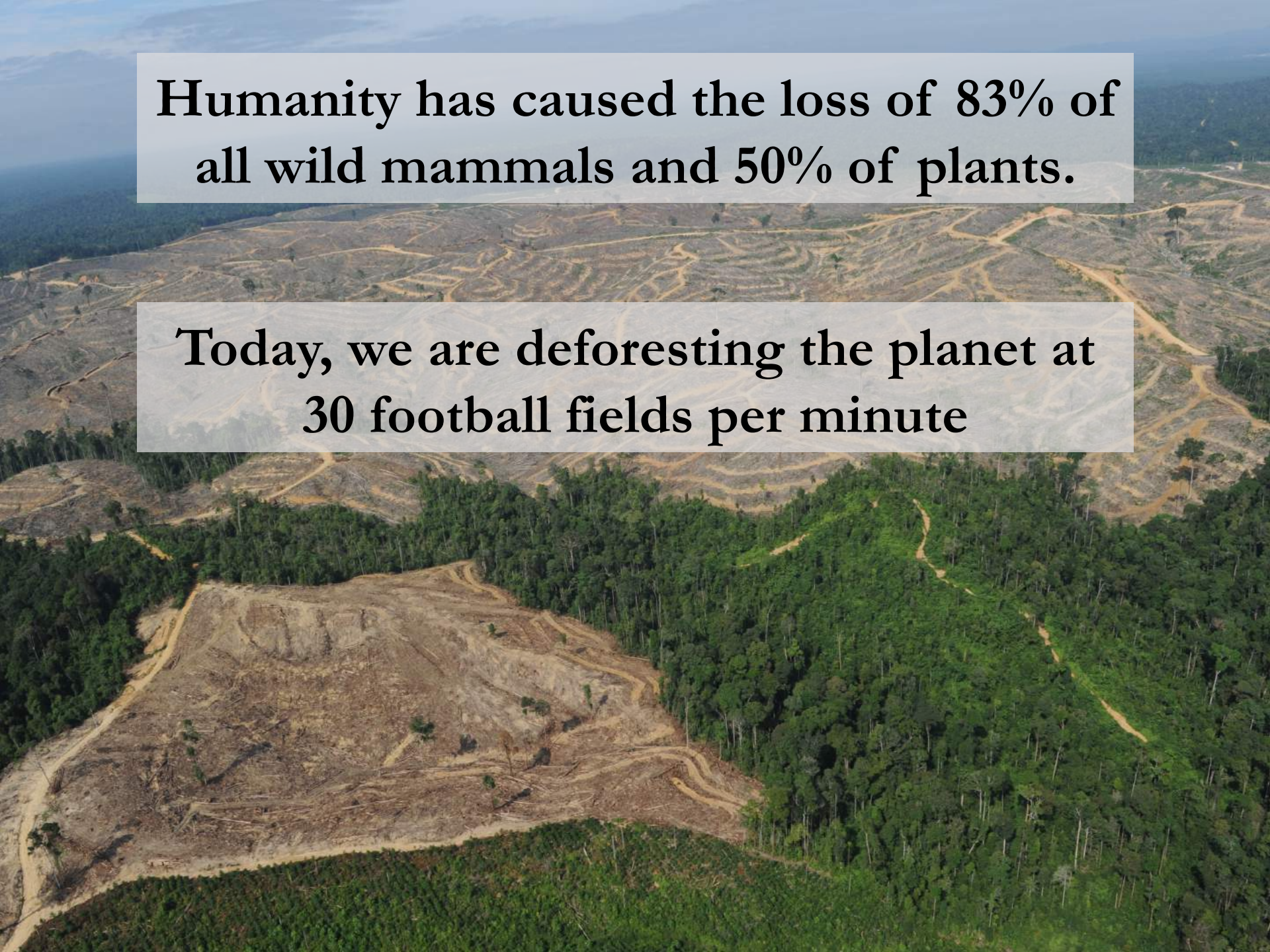
Four global bleaching events since 1998, none prior



By 2050 >98% of coral reefs will be afflicted by annual bleaching

**Humanity has caused the loss of 83% of
all wild mammals and 50% of plants.**

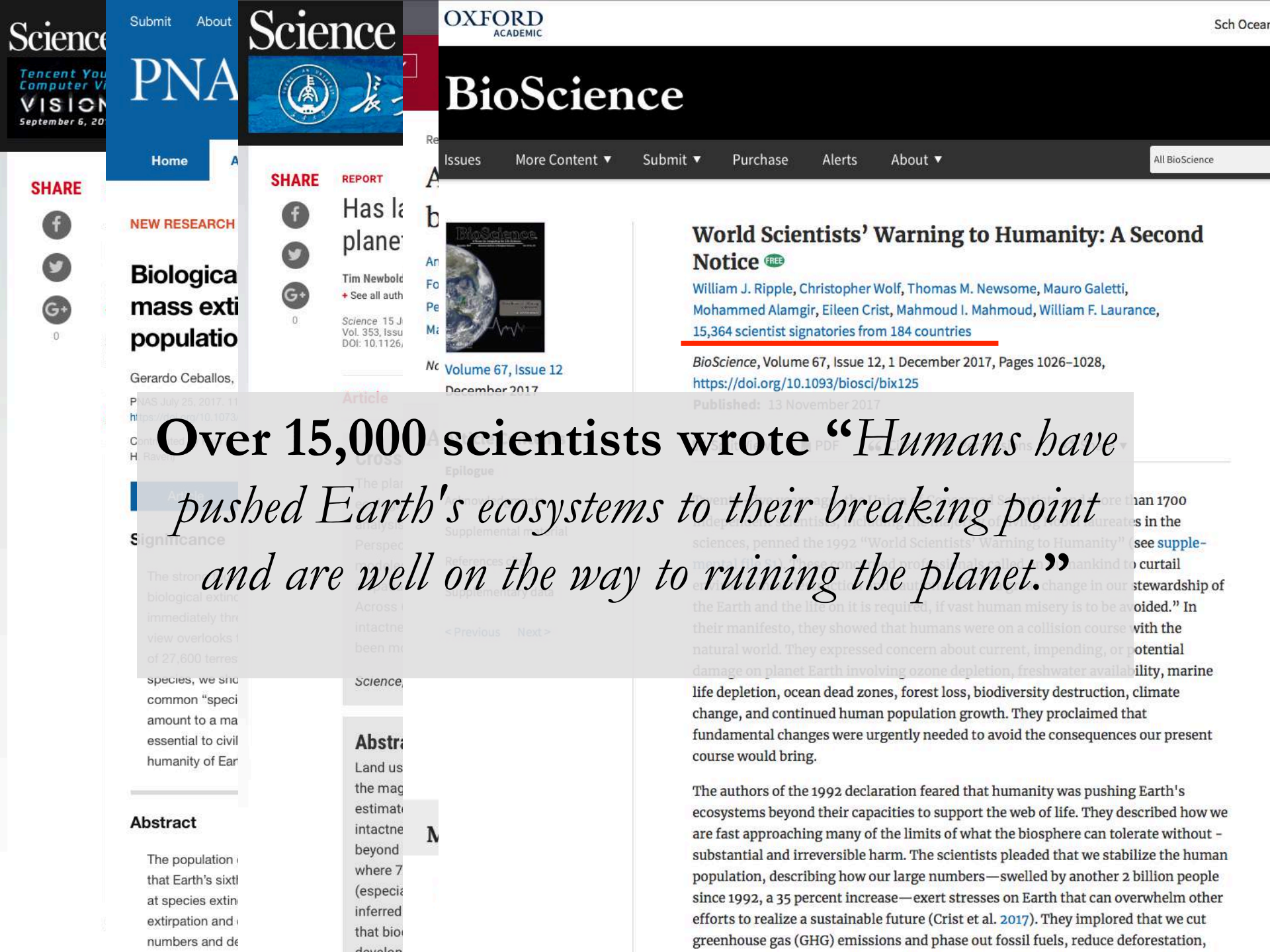
**Today, we are deforesting the planet at
30 football fields per minute**



Of all mammals on Earth, 96% are livestock and humans, 4% are wild.

Of all birds, 70% are chickens and other poultry, 30% are wild.

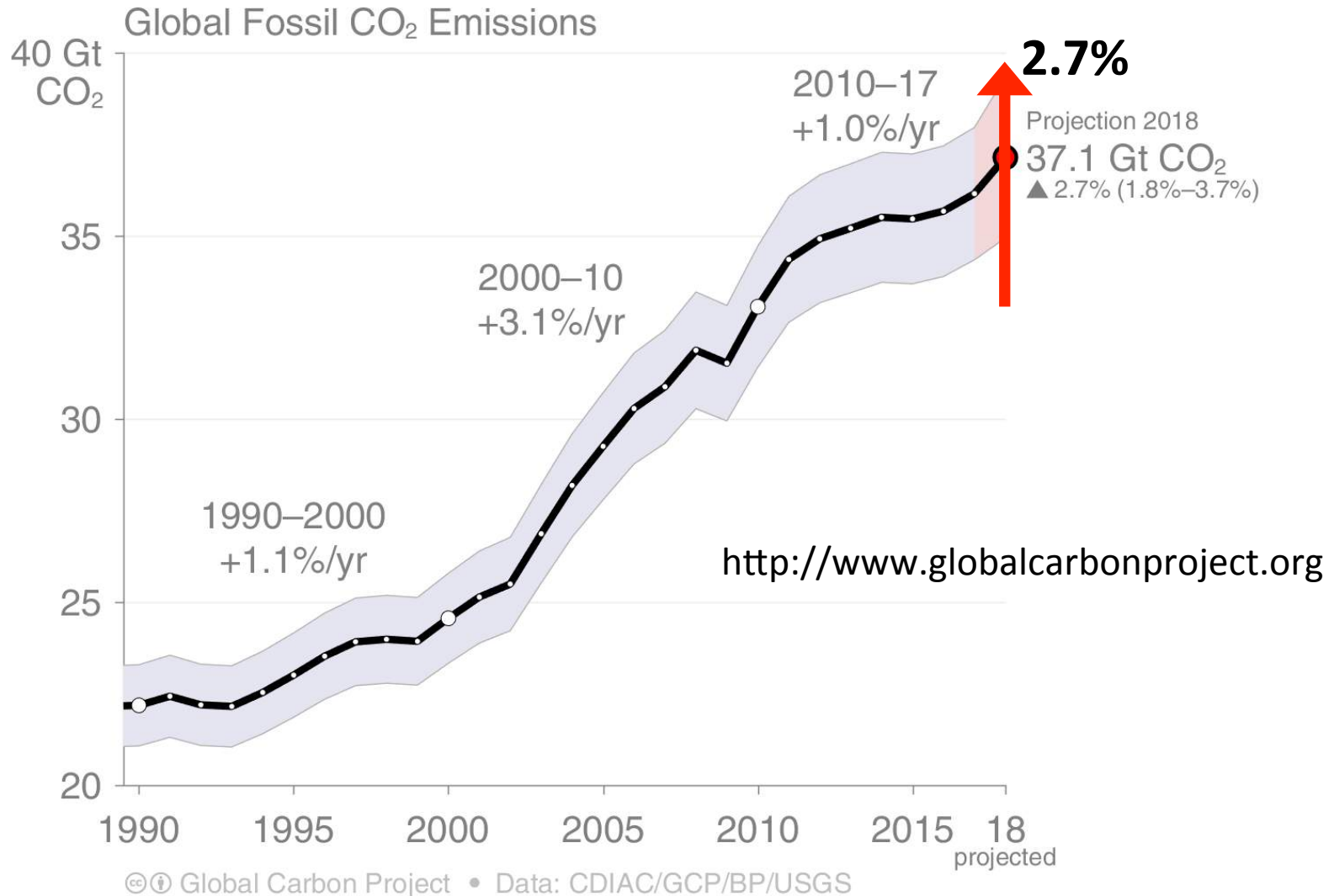




Over 15,000 scientists wrote “Humans have pushed Earth's ecosystems to their breaking point and are well on the way to ruining the planet.”’

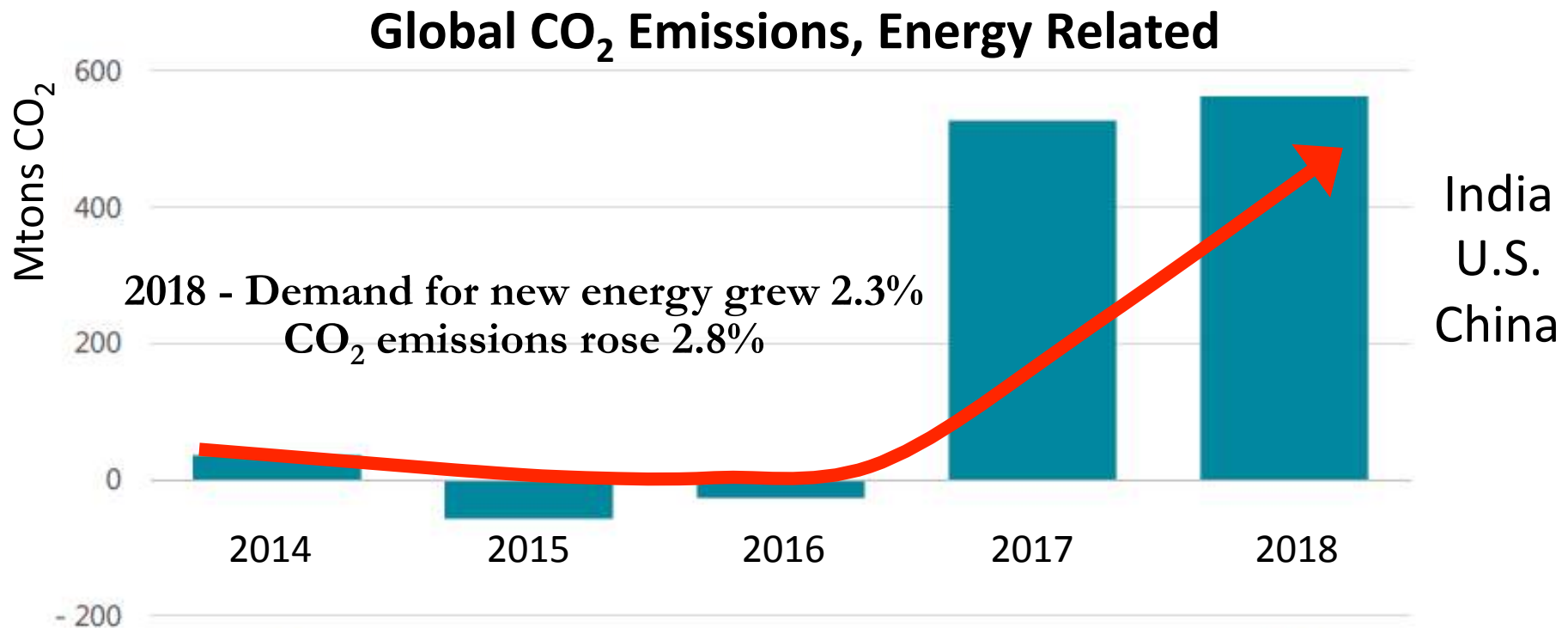
All of this is bad news.... But we're doing something about it, right?

Carbon Dioxide Emissions Have Risen 3 yrs in a Row

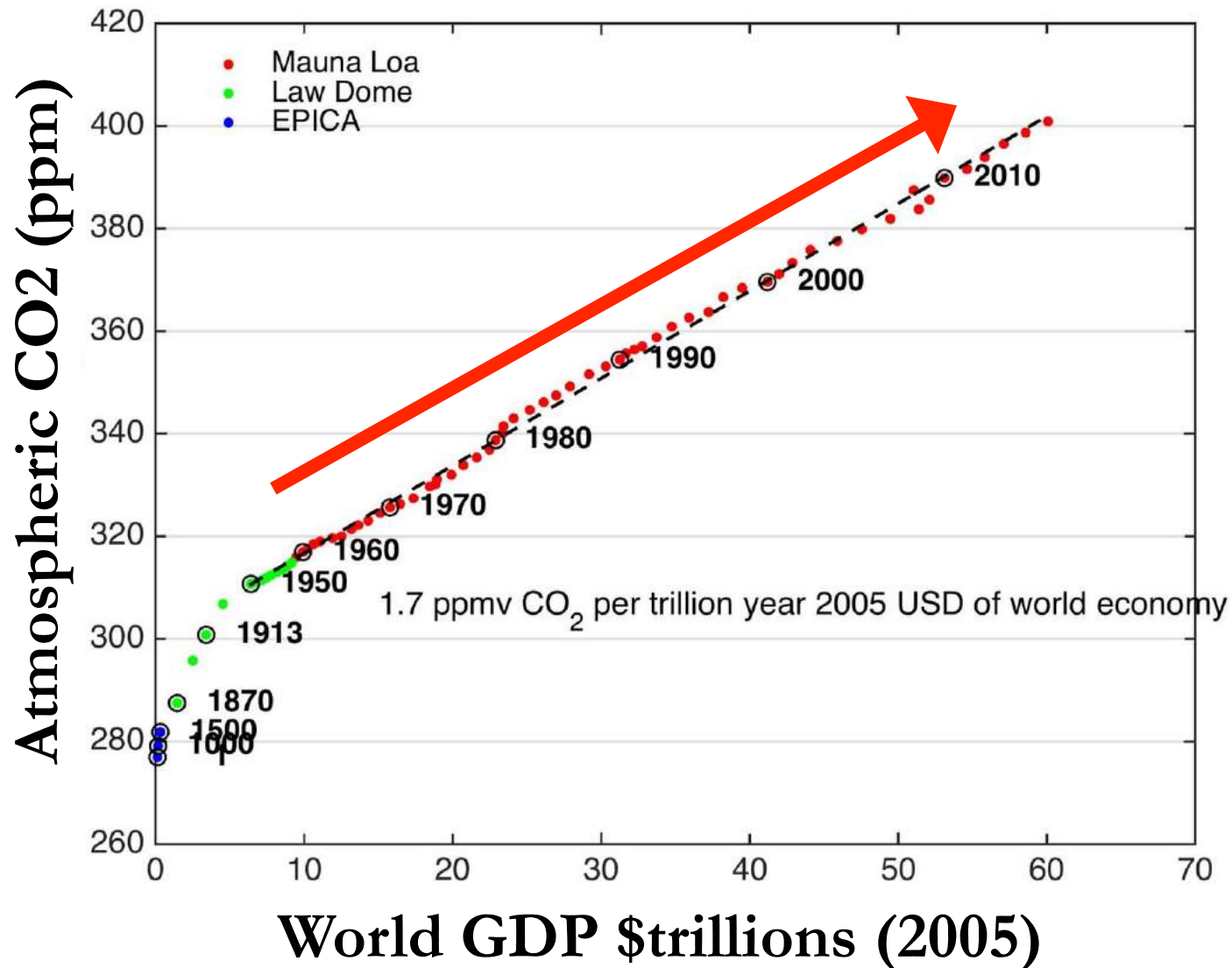


CO₂ Emissions rose because climate policy could not overcome economic growth.

The biggest factors pushing emissions down were energy efficiency & renewables, but they would have to be about **three times larger** to overcome economic growth.



Emissions Follow World GDP, +130% by 2050



Price Waterhouse Consultants (PwC) <https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/issues/economy/the-world-in-2050.html>

Tim Garrett - <https://twitter.com/nephologue/status/1051218794679390209> Garrett, T. J.: No way out? The double-bind in seeking global prosperity alongside mitigated climate change, Earth Syst. Dynam., 3, 1-17, <https://doi.org/10.5194/esd-3-1-2012>, 2012.



World Energy Outlook

The gold standard of energy analysis

Explore WEO 2018

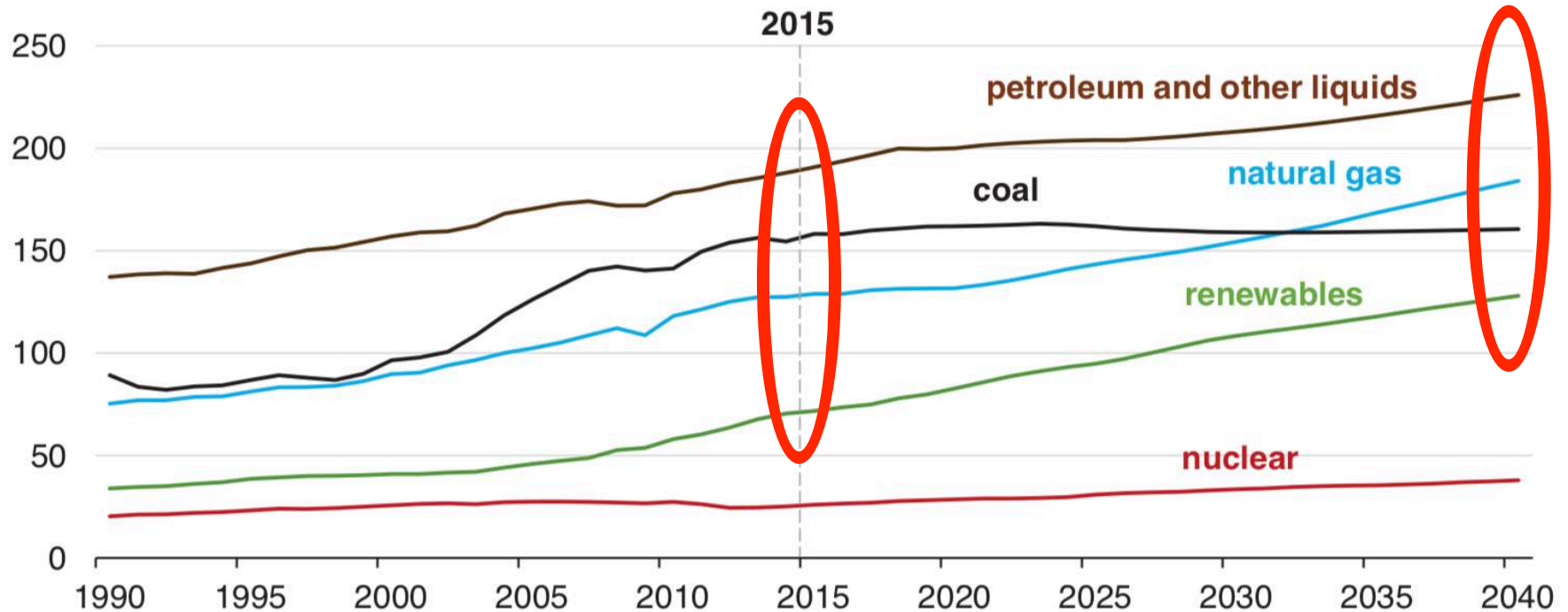
- Energy demand set to grow $>25\%$ by 2040
- Renewables make up only two-thirds of new capacity
- Oil consumption grows due to rising demand for petrochemicals, trucking, aviation, energy
- CO₂ emissions continue to increase to mid-century

U.S. Energy Information Administration

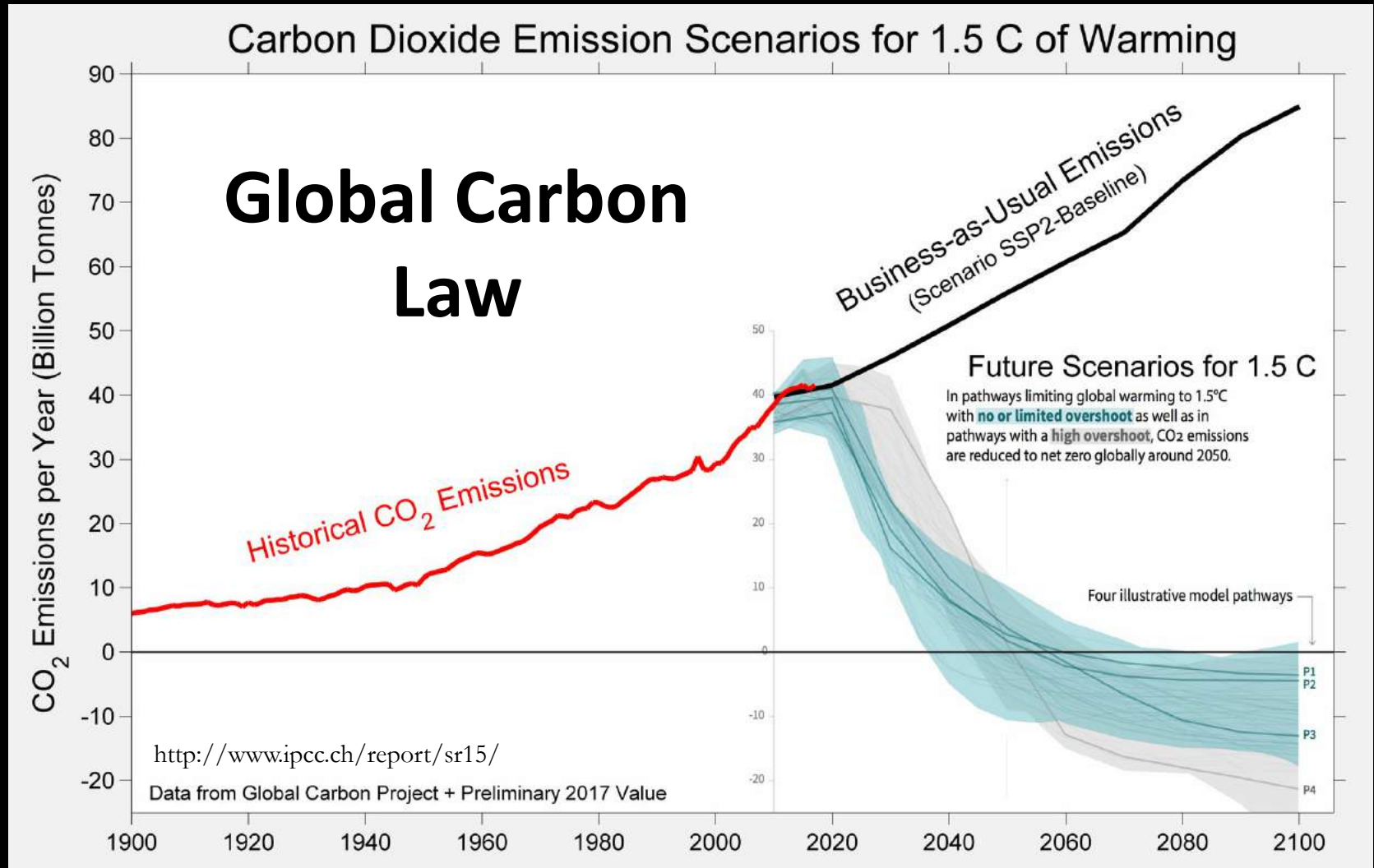
Energy Consumption increases to 2040 for all fuels but coal

World energy consumption by energy source
quadrillion Btu

Market share roughly unchanged

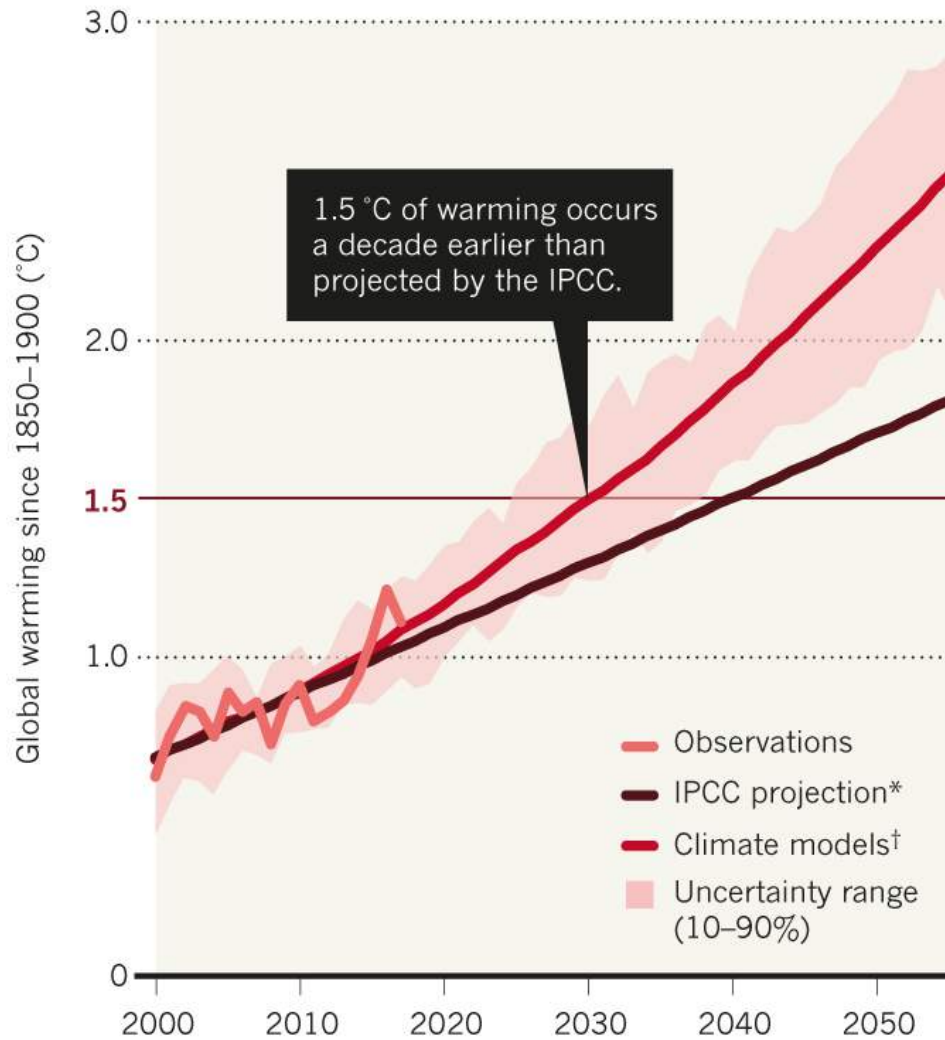


Global emissions must cut 50% by 2030



ACCELERATED WARMING

Climate simulations predict that global warming will rise exponentially if emissions go unchecked.



*Trend for 2001-15 extended with a constant rate of 0.2 °C per decade, as per IPCC special report. †Ten-year average, 37 climate models for the RCP8.5 scenario (IPCC Fifth Assessment, 2014).

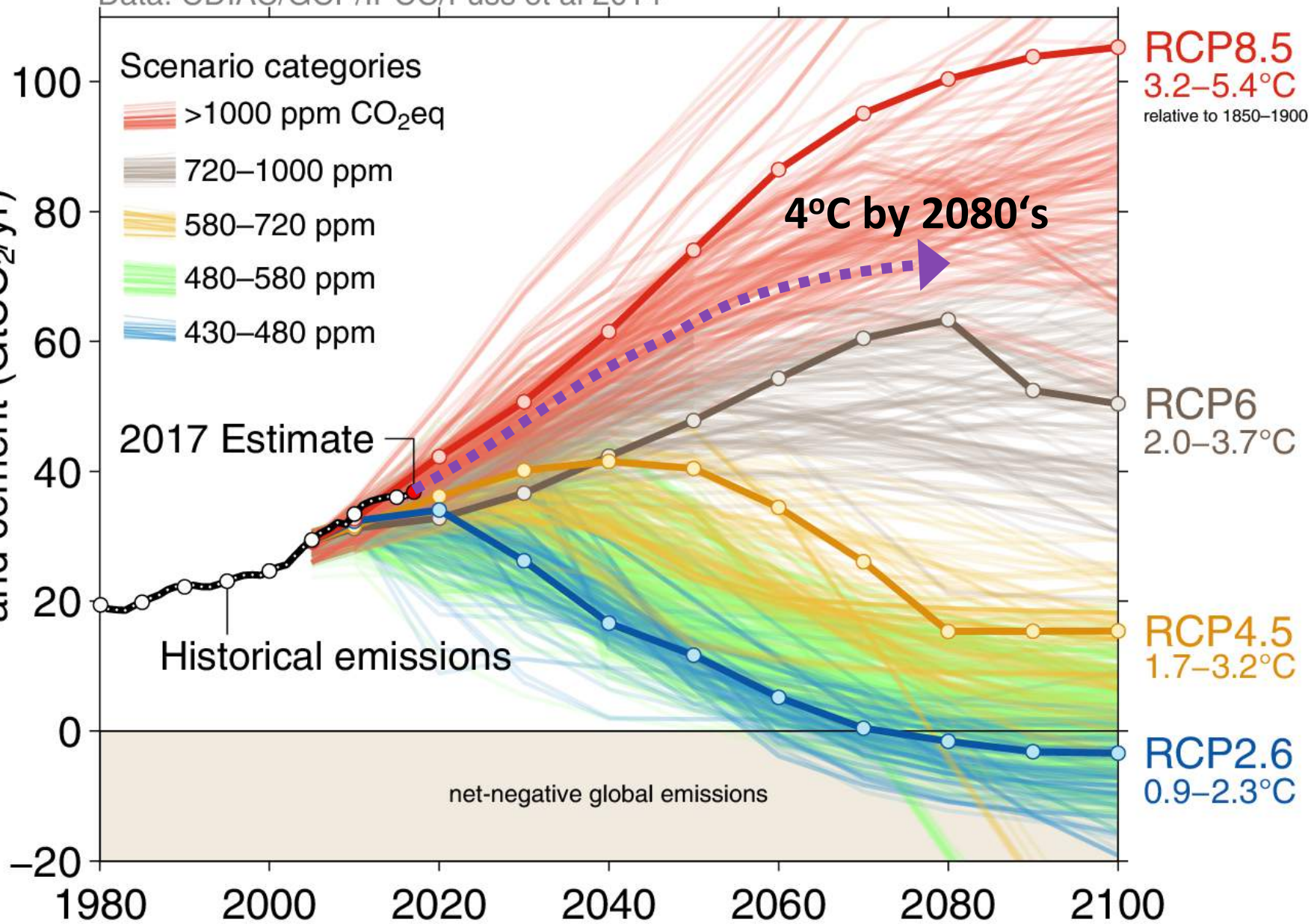
©nature

- Global Warming is Accelerating
 - Emissions rising
 - Emissions cleaner
 - Decreased ocean circulation
 - Pacific releasing heat (IPO)
- 1.5°C by 2030
- 2.0°C by 2045

Y. et al. (2018) Global warming will happen faster than we think, *Nature*, v. 564, Dec. 6

Data: CDIAC/GCP/IPCC/Fuss et al 2014

Emissions from fossil fuels
and cement (GtCO₂/yr)



Thank You For Your Time

