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FREEDOM RISING



CLIMATE PREDICTION SWINGS AND MISSES: A DECADE OF ALARMIST STRIKE OUTS, 2010-2019

ARTICLE TAGS

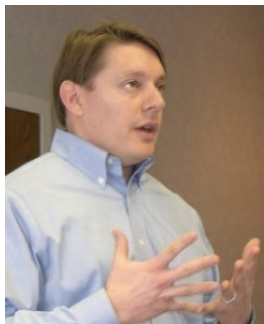
ENVIRONMENT

DECEMBER 23, 2019

By [Steven Milloy](#)

AUTHOR

What follows are climate predictions forecast to come true during the 2010s - one for each year. A few timely missed predictions for 2020 are also added as a bonus feature.



Steven Milloy

Steve Milloy is a recognized leader in the fight against junk science with more than 25 years of accomplishment and experience. He is also a policy advisor to The Heartland Institute.

[Full Bio >](#)

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WATCH THE VIDEO VERSION AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS POST.

2010

In 1988, NASA's James Hansen predicted that by 2010-2020, global temperatures will be 4 to 6 degrees warmer than 1958.

Congress Warned: Greenhouse is Here

By DAVID GOELLER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scientists are warning Congress that the long-theorized, life-threatening overheating of the Earth from man-made air pollution is now a frightening reality.

"The fact that the greenhouse effect is real is proven," said James Hansen, director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Goddard Institute for Space Studies.

"Global warming is inevitable — it's only a question of magnitude and time," said Robert Watson, director of NASA's upper atmospheric program. "We can expect significant changes in climate in the next few decades."

Hansen, Watson and other scientists delivered their oner assessments Tuesday as the Senate Environment subcommittee on environmental pollution opened two days of hearings on the greenhouse effect.

Backed by recent findings of severe ozone layer depletion in the atmosphere over Antarctica, they reiterated scientific predictions that the warming threatens the globe with floods, drought and more skin cancer by the middle of the 21st century.

And for Sherwood Rowland, a chemistry professor at the University of California, the picture further down the road is even bleaker. "If you have the greenhouse effect going on indefinitely, then you have a temperature rise that will extirpate human life" in 500 to 1,000 years.

The greenhouse effect is a shorthand term for global warming caused by chemicals such as chlorofluorocarbons, carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide accumulating in the atmosphere and trapping heat. The pollutants also destroy the ozone layer, which helps protect humans from the cancer-causing ultraviolet rays of the sun.

Under the greenhouse scenario, the Earth gets baked. Rich farmlands turn into deserts. Forests wilt and die. Coastal areas are inundated by oceans swollen by melted polar and glacial ice.

Hansen predicted that global temperatures should be nearly 2 degrees higher in 20 years, "which is about the warmest the earth has been in the last 100,000 years."

The pace of atmospheric destruction is increasing steadily and rapidly, said Rowland, who in 1974 published pioneering research on chlorofluorocarbons — gases used as refrigerants and aerosol-can propellants. This led the United States to ban their use in spray cans, but it continues elsewhere.

"There is now compelling observational evidence that the chemical composition of the atmosphere is changing at a rapid rate on a global scale," Watson said.

The scientists, calling for curbs on air pollution, said a recently completed five-year study in Antarctica provides an ominous signal to the world. During the period, there was an ozone loss over the South Pole of from 30 percent to 50 percent, they said.

Watson said scientists have calculated that if no action is taken to curb chemical emissions, "the greenhouse warming predicted to occur during the next 50 years should be about twice that which has occurred during the previous 130 years."

Hansen said the average U.S. temperature has risen from 1 to 2 degrees since 1858 and is predicted to increase an additional 3 or 4 degrees sometime between 2010 and 2020.

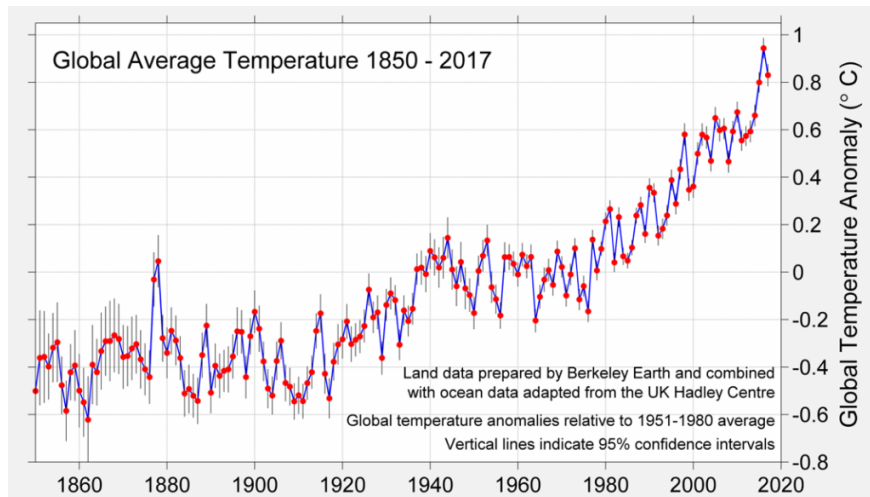
He said that with an expected doubling of atmospheric carbon dioxide by 2040, the number of days each year with temperatures over 85 degrees would rise from 35 to 85 in Washington, D.C., and Omaha, Neb.

Stephen Leatherman of the University of Maryland said that in the last 100 years the sea level has risen about one foot, with about half the increase attributed to global climate warming.

A one-foot rise, he said, generally will produce 100 feet of shoreline erosion on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. "Within the next 40 to 50 years, sea level will probably have risen by a foot, resulting in major impacts to coastal environments," he said.

Under this projection, the resort town of Ocean City, Md., will lose 39 feet of shoreline by 2000 and a total of 85 within the next 25 years, according to Leatherman.

Source: Associated Press, June 11, 1986 But average global temperature has increased by only by perhaps 1.8F since 1958.



Source: Berkeley Earth

2011

In 2008, Australian media fretted the ongoing drought would never break. But by 2011, Australia had so much rain, sea-level had fallen.

smh.com.au
The Sydney Morning Herald

This drought may never break

Richard Macey
 January 4, 2008

IT MAY be time to stop describing south-eastern Australia as gripped by drought and instead accept the extreme dry as permanent, one of the nation's most senior weather experts warned yesterday.

"Perhaps we should call it our new climate," said the Bureau of Meteorology's head of climate analysis, David Jones.

Source: Sydney Morning Herald, January 4, 2008

theguardian

Australian floods of 2010 and 2011 caused global sea level to drop

Puzzled oceanographers who wondered where the sea level rise went for 18 months now have their answer - it went to Australia




An aerial view of flood waters around Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, Australia, on 6 December 2010. Photograph: Les Smith/pool/EPA

Rain - in effect, evaporated ocean - fell in such colossal quantities during the Australian floods in 2010 and 2011 that the world's sea levels actually dropped by as much as 7mm.

Source: The Guardian, August 23, 2013

2012


Columnist predicts famine by 2012 unless we go vegan.



search The Guardian US edition

Famine

Why vegans were right all along
George Monbiot



Global development is supported by
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About this content
@GeorgeMonbiot
Mon 23 Dec 2002 20:01 EST

Famine can only be avoided if the rich give up meat, fish and dairy

The Christians stole the winter solstice from the pagans, and capitalism stole it from the Christians. But one feature of the celebrations has remained unchanged: the consumption of vast quantities of meat. The practice used to make sense. Livestock slaughtered in the autumn, before the grass ran out,

This is why biotechnology - whose promoters claim that it will feed the world - has been deployed to produce not food but feed: it allows farmers to switch from grains which keep people alive to the production of more lucrative crops for livestock. Within as little as 10 years, the world will be faced with a choice: arable farming either continues to feed the world's animals or it continues to feed the world's people. It cannot do both.

Source: The Guardian, December 23, 2002

2013

Navy researcher says Arctic to be ice-free by 2013.

BBC NEWS [Watch](#) **ONE-MINUTE WORLD NEWS**

Page last updated at 10:40 GMT, Wednesday, 12 December 2007

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Arctic summers ice-free 'by 2013'

By Jonathan Amos
Science reporter, BBC News, San Francisco

Scientists in the US have presented one of the most dramatic forecasts yet for the disappearance of Arctic sea ice.

Their latest modelling studies indicate northern polar waters could be ice-free in summers within just 5-6 years.

Professor Wieslaw Maslowski told an American Geophysical Union meeting that previous projections had underestimated the processes now driving ice loss.

Summer melting this year reduced the ice cover to 4.13 million sq km, the smallest ever extent in modern times.

Remarkably, this stunning low point was not even incorporated into the model runs of Professor Maslowski and his team, which used data sets from 1979 to 2004 to constrain their future projections.

"Our projection of 2013 for the removal of ice in summer is not accounting for the last two minima, in 2005 and 2007," the researcher from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California, explained to the BBC.

"So given that fact, you can argue that may be our projection of 2013 is already too conservative."

MINIMUM ICE EXTENT

RUSSIA
USA
CANADA
GREENLAND

— 30 Year average from 1979-2000

Arctic summer melting in 2007 set new records

[Open](#) [More details](#)

" In the end, it will just melt away quite suddenly "

Professor Peter Wadhams

Source: December 12, 2007

2014

In 2009, Al Gore predicted the Arctic would be ice-free in 2014.

Dec 14, 2009

Gore: Polar ice cap may disappear by summer 2014

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By Douglas Stanglin, USA TODAY
Updated 2009-12-14 4:36 PM

New computer modeling suggests the Arctic Ocean may be nearly ice-free in summer as early as 2014, Al Gore said today at the U.N. climate conference in Copenhagen.



The former vice president

By Attila Kisbenedek, AFP/Getty Images

Source: USA Today, December 14, 2009

2015

A study published in Nature warned that an ice-free Arctic in 2015 could lead to a catastrophic methane release.

Earth insight
Environment

Ice-free Arctic in two years heralds methane catastrophe - scientist

Professor Peter Wadhams, co-author of new Nature paper on costs of Arctic warming, explains the danger of inaction



▲ Leading Arctic expert Prof Wadhams warns that a summer ice free Arctic in 2 years could trigger dangerous methane release. Photograph: Jenny E Ross/Corbis

A new paper in the journal Nature argues that the release of a 50 Gigatonne (Gt) methane pulse from thawing Arctic permafrost could destabilise the climate system and trigger costs as high as the value of the entire world's GDP. The East Siberian Arctic Shelf's (ESAS) reservoir of methane gas hydrates could be released slowly over 50 years or "catastrophically fast" in a matter of decades - if not even one decade - the researchers said.

Source: The Guardian, July 24, 2013

2016




In 2013, a Navy scientist predicted the Arctic could be ice-free as early as 2016, '84 years ahead of conventional projections.'


Earth insight
Environment

US Navy predicts summer ice free Arctic by 2016

Is conventional modelling out of pace with speed and abruptness of global warming?

Nafeez Ahmed
Mon 9 Dec 2013 08:39 EST

   1,710 436



▲ Greenpeace icebreaking ship, Arctic Sunrise, among broken floes of Arctic sea ice, photographed from the air. This image was taken in the Fram Strait, in the month that the sea ice coverage receded to the second lowest extent since records began. Photograph: Nick Cobbing

An ongoing US Department of Energy-backed research project led by a US Navy scientist predicts that the Arctic could lose its summer sea ice cover as early as 2016 - 84 years ahead of conventional model projections.

The project, based out of the US Naval Postgraduate School's Department of Oceanography, uses complex modelling techniques that make its projections more accurate than others.

Source: [The Guardian, December 9, 2013](#)

2017

Prince Charles predicted back in 2009 that we only had 96 months to save the planet. July 9, 2017 came and went and we are still here.

Environment > Green Living

Just 96 months to save world, says Prince Charles

The price of capitalism and consumerism is just too high, he tells industrialists

Robert Verkaik | Thursday 9 July 2009 00:00 |

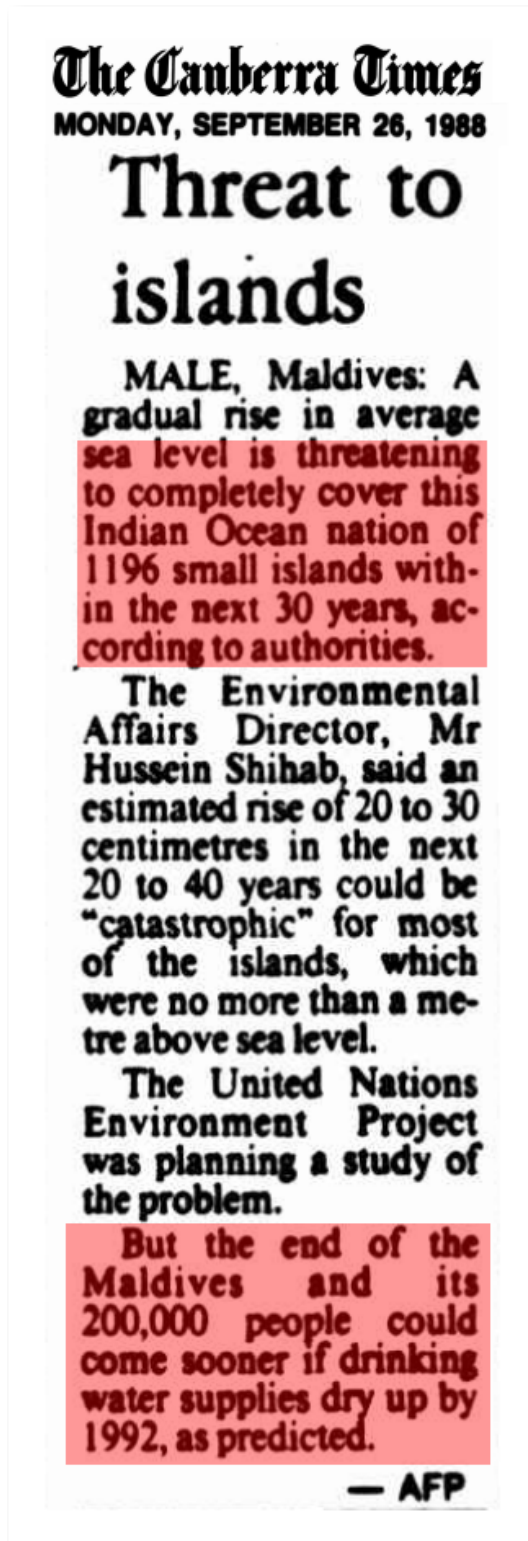


GETTY IMAGES

Source: [The Independent](#), July 9, 2009

2018

In 1988, the United Nations predicted the Maldives would be completely under water by 2018.



Source: Agence France-Presse, September 26, 1988

2019

In 1989, NASA scientist James Hansen predicted New York

City's West Side Highway would be underwater by 2019 among other never-happened calamities.



While doing research 12 or 13 years ago, I met Jim Hansen, the scientist who in 1988 predicted the greenhouse effect before Congress. I went over to the window with him and looked out on Broadway in New York City and said, "If what you're saying about the greenhouse effect is true, is anything going to look different down there in 20 years?" He looked for a while and was quiet and didn't say anything for a couple seconds. Then he said, "Well, there will be more traffic." I, of course, didn't think he heard the question right. Then he explained, "The West Side Highway [which runs along the Hudson River] will be under water. And there will be tape across the windows across the street because of high winds. And the same birds won't be there. The trees in the median strip will change." Then he said, "There will be more police cars." Why? "Well, you know what happens to crime when the heat goes up."

And so far, over the last 10 years, we've had 10 of the hottest years on record.

Didn't he also say that restaurants would have signs in their windows that read, "Water by request only."

Under the greenhouse effect, extreme weather increases. Depending on where you are in terms of the hydrological cycle, you get more of whatever you're prone to get. New York can get droughts, the droughts can get more severe and you'll have signs in restaurants saying "Water by request only."

When did he say this will happen?

Within 20 or 30 years. And remember we had this conversation in 1988 or 1989.

Does he still believe these things?

Yes, he still believes everything. I talked to him a few months ago and he said he wouldn't change anything that he said then.

Source: Salon, October 23, 2001

Bonus Failed 2020 Prediction

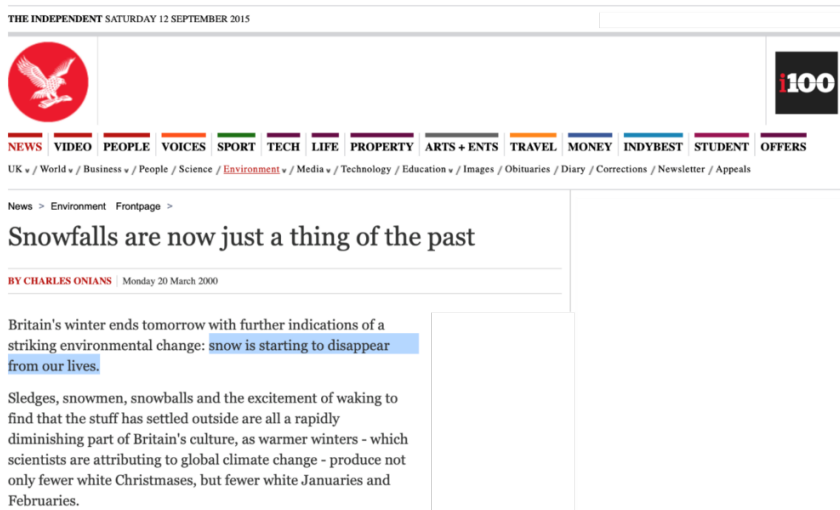
Secret 2004c Pentagon report says Britain will have a Siberian climate by 2020.



Source: The Guardian, February 21, 2004

Bonus Failed 2020 Prediction

In 2000, it was predicted that heavy snow would disappear for 20 years and then return an leave us “unprepared.”



Heavy snow will return occasionally, says Dr Viner, but when it does we will be unprepared. "We're really going to get caught out. Snow will probably cause chaos in 20 years time," he said.

Source: The Independent, March 20, 2000

Climate Prediction Swings and Misses: A Decade of Alarmist Strike Outs, 2010-2019



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