

# Concerned Scientists' Weekly News Bulletin

## [March 8, 2022]



*Our weekly bulletin collects and digests news of the past week.*

*Contributions welcome.*

*[Click here](#) to view this weekly news bulletin on a web page. Previous weeks' bulletins are archived [here](#).*

### **NEWS ITEMS AND ARTICLES**

*Guardian:* [World leaders agree to draw up 'historic' treaty on plastic waste](#)

World leaders at the UN environment assembly in Nairobi, Kenya, call for a legally binding treaty covering the “full lifecycle” of plastics from production to disposal, to be negotiated over the next two years. It is hailed as the biggest climate deal since the Paris climate accord in 2015.

*EOS:* [Climate report rebukes overshoot plans with “irreversible consequences”](#)

Many pathways to stopping climate change involve overshooting 1.5°C temporarily. The latest synthesis of 34,000 references says that’s a bad idea.

*New York Times:* [Supreme Court considers limiting E.P.A.’s ability to address climate change](#)

Members of the court’s conservative majority voiced skepticism that Congress had authorized the agency to decide what they said were major political and economic questions.

*SwissInfo:* [Swiss Re takes \\$4 billion hit from Covid and natural disasters](#)

Swiss Re, one of the world’s biggest reinsurers, took a combined hit of more than \$4 billion last year from the Covid-19 pandemic and a series of natural catastrophes. Many investment banking firms are viewing fossil fuel producers and utilities in a high risk category, akin to car insurance firms' rates for bad drivers and those who live in greater risk regions.

## **REGIONAL NEWS**

*IPB News:* [Science advocates, students want Indiana University to make a climate action plan](#)

Concerned Scientists @ IU and Advocates for Science @ IU sent a letter to university administrators last week. The letter asks the university to examine how it affects the climate, commit to going carbon neutral by a set date, and create an inclusive climate task force to implement that plan.

*Indiana Environmental Reporter:* [Report warns time is running out to affect climate change, Indiana dawdles on fossil fuels](#)

Indiana's government is working to prolong the life of fossil fuels rather than to seriously decrease the state's significant greenhouse gas output from fossil fuel emissions.

*IndyStar:* [Indy area hospitals to track health inequities following Dr. Susan Moore's death](#)

In an ongoing effort to narrow the health disparities gap, Indiana's five major hospital systems are collaborating to create a dashboard that will track how patients of different racial backgrounds are treated.

*Indiana Public Media:* [Indiana Senate narrowly passes bill to allow companies to store CO<sub>2</sub>](#)

A bill that allows companies that pollute to capture their carbon emissions and store them underground narrowly passed the state Senate on Tuesday.

## **OPINION AND ANALYSIS**

*Guardian:* [Oil and gas lobbyists are using Ukraine to push for a drilling free-for-all in the US](#)

Fossil-fuel firms want to turn the war into an oil and gas propaganda-generating scheme. The goal: a drilling bonanza.

*Scientific American:* [What Biden Said--and Didn't Say--on Climate during the State of the Union](#)

After searching for a climate win during the first year of his presidency, Biden used his speech to focus on other crises.

*CNN:* [West Virginia v. EPA explained: Supreme Court hears greenhouse gas case](#)

The US Supreme Court is hearing what could be a landmark case in the United States government's effort to fight the climate crisis. Experts say *West Virginia v. EPA* is a highly unusual case, because there is no current EPA rule on power plant emissions. Plaintiffs are asking the court to block the EPA from implementing future rules.

*The Hill:* [Latest energy wake-up call: How long must we depend on autocratic petro-states?](#)

We need to move past our addiction to foreign oil. It's time to say goodbye to fossil fuels once and for all. Hopefully, this latest threat to global energy supply will inspire us to act, and act swiftly.

*Earth.org:* [Examining the Economic Impact of the Paris Agreement](#)

Despite any economic impact the Paris Agreement might bring, if adhered to properly, the Paris Agreement represents the most viable economic option to mitigate climate change.

*Los Angeles Times:* [Op-Ed: Climate change wrecks health. Climate doctors are needed](#)

Healthcare workers, if schooled in existing and novel climate threats and armed with strategies and resources for change, can play a central role in strengthening our communities for the climate challenges ahead.

*Vox:* [Why climate solutions will fail without the help of social scientists](#)

The hard sciences and traditional climate modeling typically fall short when it comes to incorporating the factors of wealth, politics, identity, and gender dynamics. A UN report author on why social science holds the key to some of the biggest climate challenges.

### **TAKE ACTION AND RESOURCES FOR ACTIVISTS**

*MC-IRIS:* [Monroe County Identify and Reduce Invasive Species](#)

MC-IRIS is a coalition of Monroe County citizens aimed at reducing the environmental and economic impact of invasive species in our county through education and action.

Take action by joining and invasive species pull or documenting the species in your backyard.

*The CSIU Weekly News Bulletin is now available on the web. To view this page online go to <https://csiub.org/weekly-news-bulletins>. To view archives of past bulletins, see <https://csiub.org/bulletin-archives>.*

*Our CSIU news bulletin is intended to provide a brief update on recent news, editorials, as well as action items related to science integrity and science policy. Note that editorial pieces and action items are assembled from a variety of sources and organizations; they do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policy priorities of Concerned Scientists @ IU. This week's news bulletin was compiled by ASIU members sophomore Rose Schnabel, freshman Ana Lim, and (new to the team!) sophomore Amangul Hydyrova. If you'd like to volunteer—or if you have additional links you'd like to share for future bulletins, send them to Rose at [raschnab@iu.edu](mailto:raschnab@iu.edu).*

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