

More Good News

Skepticism is the first step to Truth – D. Diderot

Albemarle County BOS

May 9, 2012

presentation

by

Charles Battig, MD

VA-Scientists and Engineers for Energy and
Environment

Peter Kareiva (chief scientist and vice president) *Nature Conservancy* writes

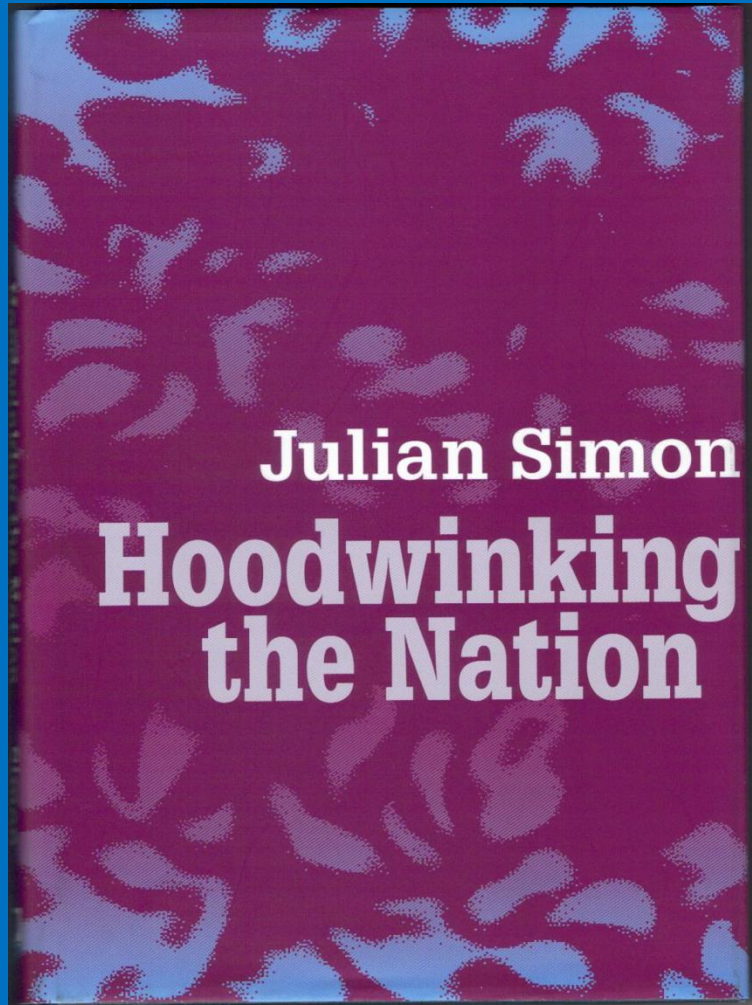
Conservation in the Anthropocene: (Breakthrough Journal No.2, Fall 2011)

“Kaveira argues that environmentalists are living in the past, and are effectively lying to their constituents about the state of nature, producing a doom-and-gloom view to sustain their relevance, at the expense of any sort of real progress”

“We love the horror story,” Kareiva said “We just love it. The environmental movement has loved it. That, I think, is ... [a] strategy failure. **And it’s actually not supported by science.**”*

* *Resourceful Earth:* Brian McGraw review April 23, 2012

True In 1999 Still True Today



- “False bad news” ...
- The vanishing farmland scam
- Scares about resources
- Scares about population growth
- Scares about the environment
- **Scared biologists**

True Way Back Then Still True Today

“The whole aim of practical politics is to keep the populace alarmed (and hence clamorous to be led to safety) by menacing it with an endless series of hobgoblins, all of them imaginary.” H. L. Menken
US editor (1880 - 1956)

The same might be said of a large portion of climate research which is based on computer generated suppositions which feed upon public and political gullibility

Our Tree Environment Is Flourishing

- Forests in the eastern United States appear to be growing faster than they have in 225 years in response to rising levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere...
- On average, the stands were expanding at a rate of two extra tons of mass per acre per year, by the end of the study — the equivalent of a single two-foot-diameter tree...”

Sean M. McMahon, Geoffrey G. Parker, Dawn R. Miller Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Forest Ecology Group, Edgewater, MD 21307-0028; Center for Tropical Forest Science, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute Feb. 2010

Deforestation: Where And Why?

Indonesia:

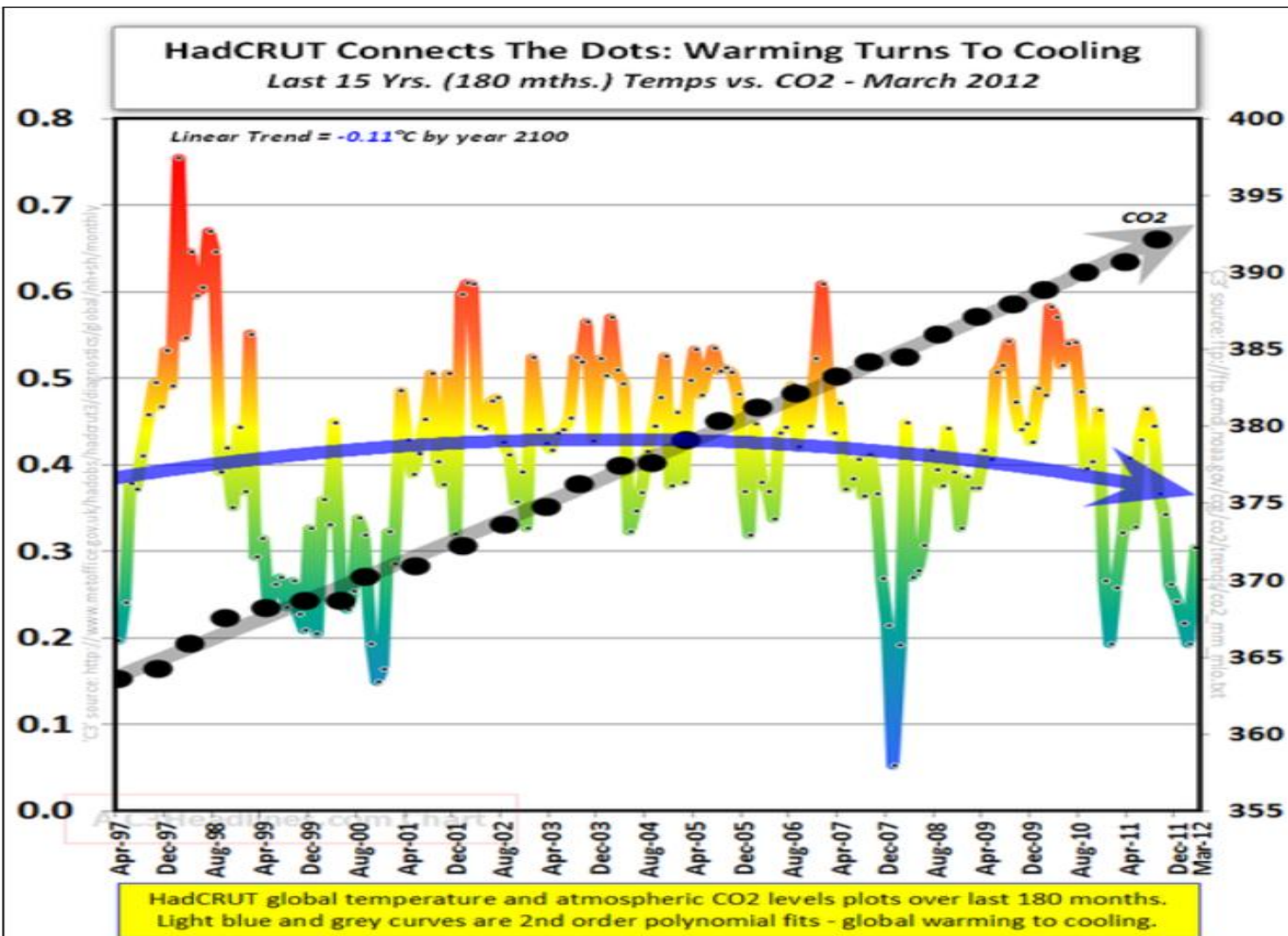
- Europe demands palm oil as a renewable oil source
- Indonesia responds by cutting down native tree species to plant palm trees

Brazil:

- Brazil and U.S. mandate sugar ethanol
- farmers respond by cutting down rain forest

A Reminder

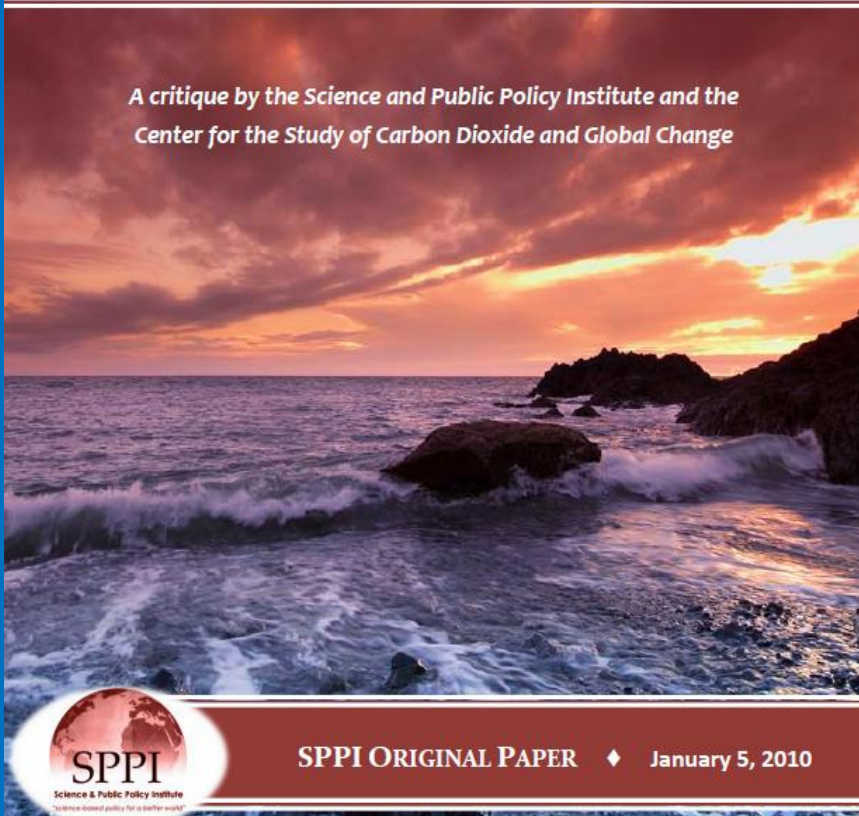
15 Years CO2 Up; Temperature Down



Scientific Facts In 150 Studies Vs. 2009 Sigourney Weaver Film “Acid Test”

“ACID TEST: THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE OF OCEAN ACIDIFICATION” – A NEW PROPAGANDA FILM BY THE NATIONAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL FAILS THE ACID TEST OF REAL WORLD DATA

A critique by the Science and Public Policy Institute and the Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change



- Ocean pH is *alkaline* 7.9-8.2 (7.0 neutral)
- A decrease of 0.1 pH unit is still an *alkaline* ocean
- “far too many predictions of CO₂-induced catastrophes are looked upon as sure-to-occur, when real-world observations show such doomsday scenarios to be highly unlikely or even virtual impossibilities. The phenomenon of CO₂-induced ocean acidification is no different. Rising atmospheric CO₂ concentrations are not the *bane of the biosphere*; they are an *invaluable boon to the planet’s many life forms.*”

UVA Arguments For LCAP

1. *“Argumentum ad Verecundiam”* The logical fallacy...argument from authority...we are experts on “X,” therefore we are experts on “Y,” in this case LCAP
2. No presentation has offered a logical link between what was said and a rationale for LCAP

UVA Arguments For LCAP

1. Use “Post-Normal Science” in place of traditional evidence and logical proof...Dr. J. Ravetz’s philosophical construct for when “*facts are uncertain, values in dispute, stakes high and decisions urgent.*” Traditional proof is replaced by squishy terms: “*value judgments,*” and “*an extended peer community.*”
2. None of the presentations demonstrated a logical link to or justification for LCAP

Signs Of Climate Change Presented, But...

- No definition of “Climate” has been offered
- No scientific linkage of signs of warming to causation
- Is the unstated claim that it is manmade? If so, how much, and where is the proof?
- Is the unstated claim that it is manmade CO₂? If so, how much, and where is the proof?
- What could LCAP do to change the climate; what would it cost, and how much measureable change would its proposals accomplish?