

More Mostly Good News

VS.

Bad News (Bears)

Skepticism is the first step to Truth – D. Diderot

Albemarle County BOS

July 11, 2012

presentation

by

Charles Battig, MD

VA-Scientists and Engineers for Energy and
Environment

The Globe and Mail (Canada) April 4, 2012

“Healthy polar bear count confounds doomsayers”



“the bear population is not in crisis as people believed,” said Drikus Gissing, Nunavut’s director of wildlife management. “There is no doom and gloom.”

...media in southern Canada has led people to believe polar bears are endangered. “They are not.” He added that there are about 15,000 polar bears across Canada’s Arctic. “That’s likely the highest [population level] there has ever been.”

“ There are about 25,000 polar bears in the north circumpolar region, of which about 15,000 are in the Canadian High Arctic.”




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Cool Real Data vs. Hot Computer Models

Understanding sudden changes in cloud amount: The Southern Annular Mode and South American weather fluctuations...As presently programmed, climate models assume clouds result in net positive feedback and increased temperatures, this new paper and several others that have recently been published show that clouds instead result in net negative feedback and cooling.*

*JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH, VOL. 117, D13103, 7 PP., 2012
doi:10.1029/2012JD017626

A “Cool” Derecho July 4, 1977

35 Years Ago Today: Global Cooling Caused Severe Wind Damage

July 4th, 2012



The recent thunderstorm wind event which caused widespread wind damage from Ohio to the mid-Atlantic coast has, rather predictably, led to claims that global warming is the root cause.

Known as a “derecho“, these events are indeed uncommon, but have always been around: the term was originally coined in 1888 in a study of thunderstorm wind damage which occurred in 1877.

In fact, one of the most famous events occurred when global temperatures reached a *minimum*, back in the 1970’s. Known simply as “The Storm”, it occurred 35 years ago today, on July 4, 1977. There were widespread blowdowns of trees (see the photo, above). Even though the event occurred over relatively unpopulated areas in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan, the highest recorded wind speed was an astonishing 115 mph, officially recorded with an airport anemometer.

Not So Unusual...One Every Four Years For Virginia

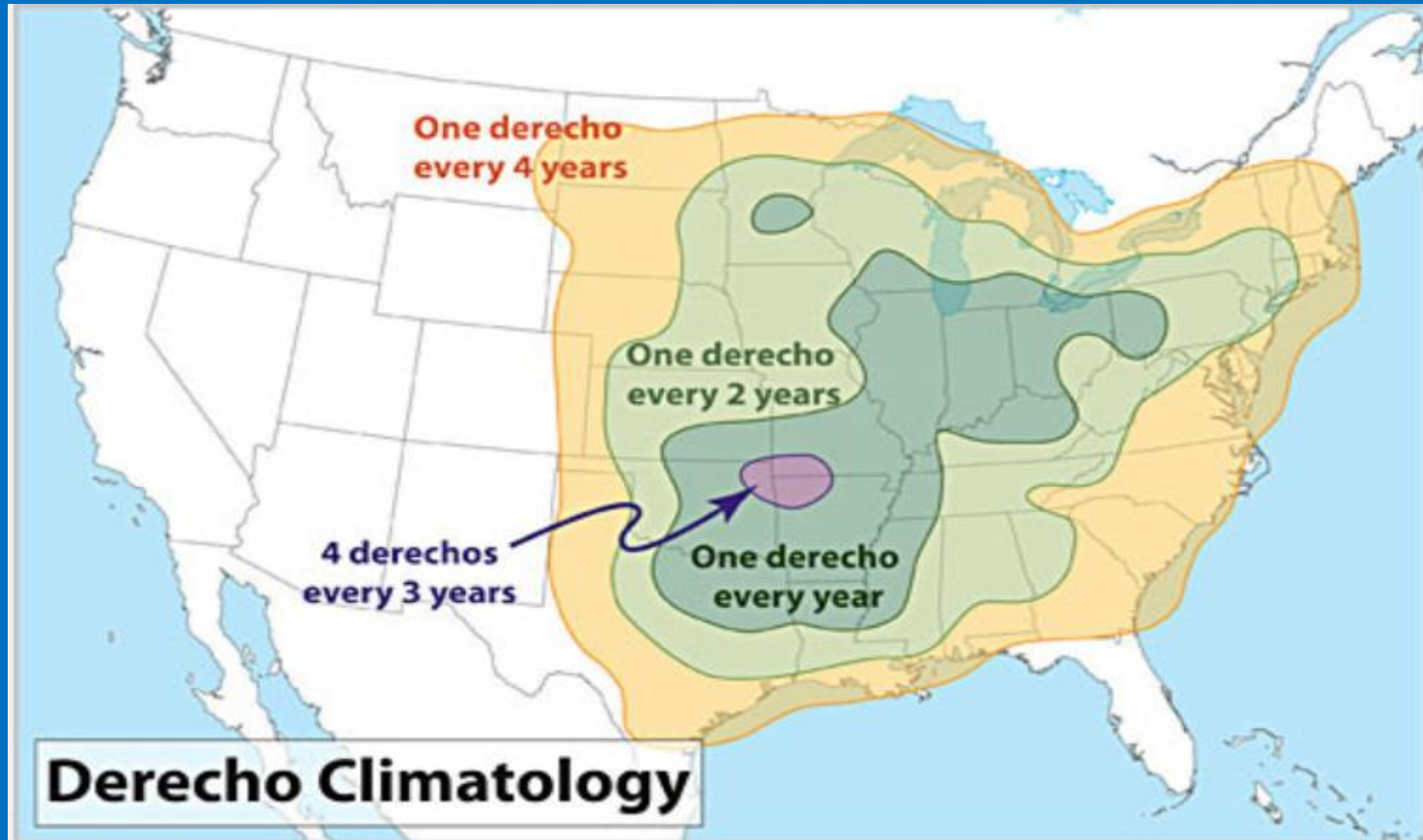


Image from NOAA Storm Prediction Center

“Twice as Many Emperor Penguins as Thought in Antarctica,” *



*Science Daily April 13, 2012

“Fawlty Model” Of Antarctic Ice

- Norwegian Polar Institute researchers* have gathered the first direct measurements of the Antarctic Fimbul Ice Shelf underside melting
- Past studies ***based on computer models without any direct data for comparison or guidance*** overestimated the water temperatures and extent of melting beneath the ice shelf. This led to the misconception, Hattermann said, that the ice shelf is losing mass at a faster rate than it is gaining mass, leading to an overall loss of mass.
- The model results were also contrary to the available data from satellite observations, which are supported by the new direct measurements

**“Elephant seals help uncover slower-than-expected Antarctic melting” Geophysical Research Letters, June 22, 2012 a publication of the American Geophysical Union.*

Climate Is Always Changing

- Human life span limitations and selective memory biases provide unreliable standards of “normal” climate, and feed the unbounded arrogance of a narcissistic view based on “me and now”
- There will always be some new or abnormal weather event somewhere
- How do you define “normal climate”?
- How do you define “climate”?

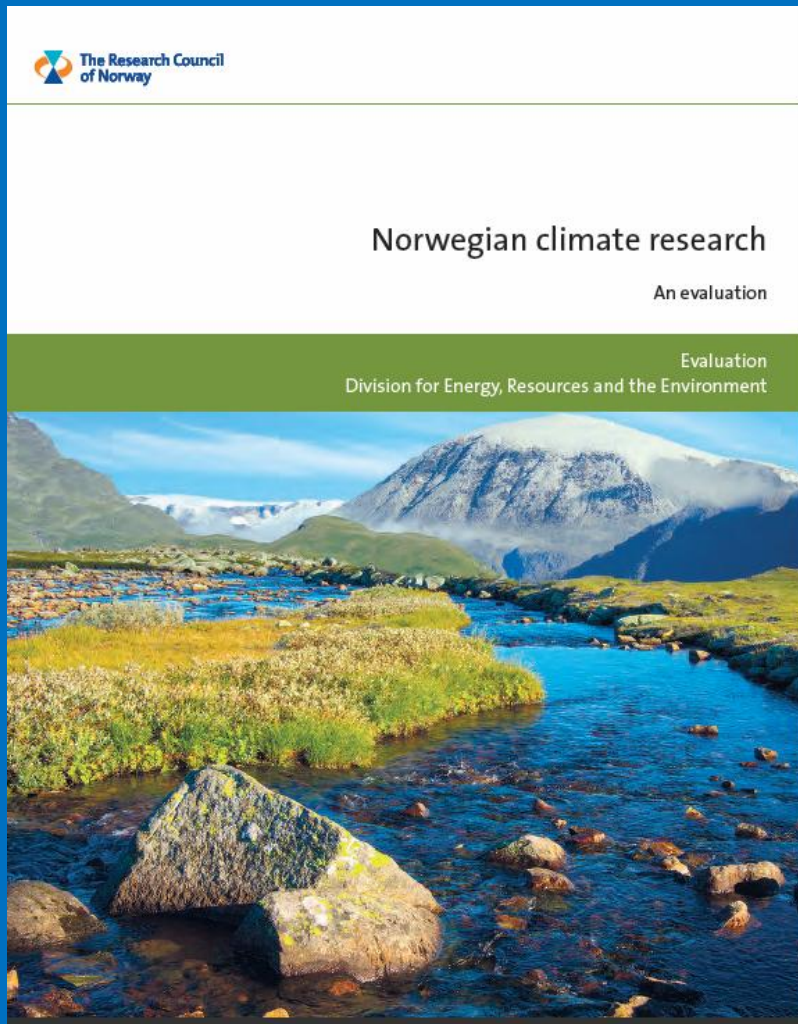
What Is The UN's Definition of Climate?

- UN Framework Convention On Climate Change (1992)
"Climate change" means a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods."
- UN IPCC Working group 1, AR4, 2007: "Climate change in IPCC usage refers to any change in climate over time, whether due to natural variability or as a result of human activity."

What Is The Real-World Answer To Date?

- Computer models designed to answer climate questions fail when compared to the real-world, historical, climate record
- Climate computer models fail the test of prediction, particularly at the regional level
- The sought-for, man-made component appears to be small and buried amongst the natural effects of variable atmospheric aerosols, poorly-understood cloud feedback mechanisms, ocean circulation patterns, and a variety of solar influences

What? No CO2? Norwegian Research Panel Concludes That...



"... this committee recommends an increased effort in research on the natural causes of climate change, in particular the activity variations of the sun, the mechanism of cloud formation, and the multi-decadal variations in ocean current systems."

June 2012

Our Recent Glimpse Of Life When Sustainability Goals Are Met And Power Fails

- *"Current lifestyles and consumption patterns of the affluent middle class – involving...use of fossil fuels, appliances, air-conditioning, and suburban housing - are not sustainable."*
Maurice Strong/UN Agenda 21 (1992)
- Sierra Clubs' Advertised Multiple Energy Goals: "Beyond Coal," "Beyond Oil," and "Beyond Natural Gas" leave consumers in the *Great Beyond*, groping for reliable energy
- Sierra Club not beyond accepting \$26 million (2007-2010) for its "Beyond Coal" campaign from natural gas company, Chesapeake Energy (*TimeScience* Feb. 2, 2012)
- EPA regulations help fulfill Sierra Club's advertised goal of closing 522 coal-fired power plants

Biodiversity Panic, Why?

- The 1992 UN Rio Earth Summit “Convention on Biological Diversity,”: *“Every hour three species disappear. Every day up to 150 species are lost.”* (computer model)
- Current estimates of the number of species varies from “two million species to over 30 or even 100 million species,” says Dr Braulio Dias, executive secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity. *“So we don't have a good estimate to an order of magnitude of precision.”*
- The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) lists 801 animal and plant species known to have gone extinct since 1500. Of 191 bird and mammal species 95 percent were on islands, where humans, and human-introduced predators and diseases brought about their destruction.
- According to IUCN data, only one animal has been definitely identified as having gone extinct since 2000. It was a mollusk.
- No one knows the non-human influenced “background rate of extinction”

BBC News Magazine Richard Knight April 24, 2012