



**No one can do everything. Everyone can do something.** Premium toilet paper really does come at an extra price: that extra fluffy TP demands the use of new trees (rather than recycled paper), and brands such as Kimberly Clark source up to 22% of their toilet paper fiber from trees in the Canadian boreal forests that are 200+ years old!! Is that really the highest and best use of such a valuable resource? Next time, consider buying TP made from recycled content. Read more here: <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/26/science/earth/26charmin.html?ref=us>

Thanks to Joni Packard, Dave Cleland, Al Steele, Becca Madsen, and Trey Schillie for their contributions! If you come across a great news item we may have missed, or find a great new resource, please let us know by emailing [ecosystems@fs.fed.us](mailto:ecosystems@fs.fed.us).

## News & Articles:

### general/carbon

#### *World Faces Last Chance To Avoid Fatal Warming: EU*

The world faces a final opportunity to agree an adequate global response to climate change at a U.N.-led meeting in Copenhagen in December, the European Union's environment chief said on Friday. World leaders from about 190 countries meet in Copenhagen in December to try to agree a global framework to replace the Kyoto Protocol on fighting global warming, which expires in 2012.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUSTRE51Q22X20090227?feedType=RSS&feedName=environmentNews>

#### *US Stimulus Would Cut Climate Emissions*

Energy efficiency and conservation proposals in President Barack Obama's original economic stimulus plan would cut climate-warming carbon dioxide emissions by 61 million tonnes a year, a new report says.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUSTRE5146EI20090205?feedType=RSS&feedName=environmentNews>

#### *Obama Budget Includes Billions from CO2 Trade*

President Barack Obama's budget includes hundreds of billions of dollars in revenues from a greenhouse gas emissions trading system, an administration official said on Wednesday. The revenues from the system would be spread out over many years starting in 2012, the official said.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUSTRE51P0UZ20090226?feedType=RSS&feedName=environmentNews>

#### *One-fifth of Fossil Fuel Emissions Absorbed by Threatened Forests*

Globally, tropical trees in undisturbed forest are absorbing nearly a fifth of the CO<sub>2</sub> released by burning fossil fuels. The researchers show that remaining tropical forests remove a massive 4.8 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the atmosphere each year. This includes a previously unknown carbon sink in Africa, mopping up 1.2 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> each year.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/02/090218135031.htm>

#### *IPCC: "Reasons for Concern"*

New data and a better understanding of vulnerability lead scientists to estimate greater damages from climate change impacts.

<http://www.pewclimate.org/global-warming-basics/ipcc-rfc>

<http://www.grist.org/news/2009/02/24/climatestudy/index.html?source=rss>

*New US Office Takes Fresh Approach to Carbon*

The Obama administration is off to a running start on climate change – pushing to let California and other states set tougher restrictions on greenhouse gases and accelerating higher gas mileage standards for cars and trucks.

<http://features.csmonitor.com/environment/2009/02/03/new-us-office-takes-fresh-approach-to-carbon/>

*Climate Flickering Ended Last Ice Age in North Atlantic Region*

An article published in the journal *Nature Geoscience* shows that the period towards the end of the ice age was engraved by extreme and short-lived variations, which finally terminated the ice age.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/02/090216092824.htm>

*Hemlock Trees Dying Rapidly, Affecting Forest Carbon Cycle*

New research by U.S. Forest Service Southern Research Station (SRS) scientists and partners suggests the hemlock woolly adelgid is killing hemlock trees faster than expected in the southern Appalachians and rapidly altering the carbon cycle of these forests. SRS researchers and cooperators from the University of Georgia published the findings in the most recent issue of the journal *Ecosystems*.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/02/090226122730.htm>

*Cleaning the Forests of Carbon: African Forests out of Balance*

Tropical forests hold more living biomass than any other terrestrial ecosystem. A new report in the journal *Nature* by Lewis et al. shows that not only do trees in intact African tropical forests hold a lot of carbon, they hold more carbon now than they did 40 years ago--a hopeful sign that tropical forests could help to mitigate global warming.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/02/090219105322.htm>

*Western Forestry Leadership Coalition Releases a Framework for Forests and Climate Change*

[http://www.wflcweb.org/pressandpolicy/policy\\_statements\\_resolutions.php](http://www.wflcweb.org/pressandpolicy/policy_statements_resolutions.php)

*Communicating Climate Change: Why Frames Matter for Public Engagement*

Optimists hope that the time has finally arrived in the United States for major policy action on climate change. Fueling expectations, U.S. President Barack Obama has assembled a team of climate experts who are working with Congress, states, and foreign governments to propose legislation and broker international agreements. Although the Obama administration is committed to addressing climate change, the necessary level of public engagement with the issue still appears to be missing.

<http://www.environmentmagazine.org/March-April%202009/Nisbet-full.html>

*Carbon Farming the Next Big Thing for Australia?*

Australian farmers struggling to make a dollar from planting wheat or canola could soon try a new crop - carbon. Conservation groups are scouting out farmland to turn into forests, or "carbon factories", to counter climate change. Up to 40 million hectares of land could be converted to forest under the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), due to start next year.

<http://tvnz.co.nz/business-news/carbon-farming-next-big-thing-aust-2497091>

*A Brief Tour of Brazilian Payments for Ecosystem Services*

Brazil is home to more than four million plant and animal species – and, it seems, nearly as many laws and mechanisms for preserving the environment. That's one reason the next [Katoomba Meeting](#) is taking place in the Brazilian state of Mato Grosso – at the heart of South America and the southern edge of the Amazon Rainforest. Leading up to that event, Ecosystem Marketplace is examining Payments for Ecosystem Services in Latin America.

[http://ecosystemmarketplace.com/pages/article.news.php?component\\_id=6524&component\\_version\\_id=9770&language\\_id=12](http://ecosystemmarketplace.com/pages/article.news.php?component_id=6524&component_version_id=9770&language_id=12)

## **water**

### *Big Business Urged to Ax Risk by Cutting Water Use*

Institutional investors are urging companies to measure, disclose and reduce their use of water to reduce long-term financial risks as supplies dry up from overuse and as higher temperatures melt glaciers away.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUSTRE51P6XR20090226?feedType=RSS&feedName=environmentNews>

## **bundled ecosystem services**

### Proposed Deal Would Preserve 187,000 Acres of Minnesota Forest and Wetlands

More than 187,000 acres of forest and wetlands in north-central Minnesota, an area almost as large as the entire existing state parks system, would be protected permanently under a proposal that will be unveiled Monday at the state Capitol.

[http://www.twincities.com/ci\\_11757263](http://www.twincities.com/ci_11757263)

### New Thinking to Tackle Old Problems

Organic and eco-friendly farming can feed the world, contrary to the common belief that biotechnology and chemical-intensive farming are indispensable, modern strategies to increase production, agricultural experts say.

<http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=45905>

## **etc**

### *Mountain Views Bi-annual Newsletter (Feb 2009)*

Mountain Views, the newsletter of the consortium for integrated climate research in western mountains (CIRMOUNT) is now available. Here's a brief rundown:

Adjusting to Climate Change in Mountain Ecosystems— A New Challenge for Resource Management

Climate Change, Fire, Insects, and Disturbance Interactions: Adaptation Challenges in the West  
Guidelines for Helping Natural Resources Adapt to Climate Change

Adapting to Climate Change in Forest Management—A Management Agency Response

Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead: Efforts to Address Climate Change and Variability

Adaptation Considerations for National Forests in the Face of Climate Change

The San Juan Climate Initiative: A Scientist-Stakeholder Partnership for Understanding and Adapting to Climate Change

Available at: [http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/cirmount/publications/pdf/Mtn\\_Views\\_feb\\_09.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/cirmount/publications/pdf/Mtn_Views_feb_09.pdf)

### *And in this week's edition of PointCarbon's Carbon Markets North America:*

Obama pressures Congress to draft carbon cap-and-trade law

RGGI prices and US market commentary

Congressman to introduce "cap-and-dividend" Bill

US EPA to turn the ship on carbon regulation

Western states debate upside of regional carbon trading

Failure not an option for Washington state climate bill: governor

US GHG reporting inadequate for cap and trade: experts

Bush administration climate advisor goes to Constellation

Etc...

<http://www.pointcarbon.com/news/cmna/1.1066752>

## Blogs:

*Obama Takes on the Farm Lobby – Er, Sort of.*

“...In fact, the *really* transformative idea in Obama’s Department of Agriculture budget proposal—redirecting the money that would otherwise go to agricultural subsidies to pay farmers for the ecosystem services they provide—gets only a passing mention....”

<http://blogs.tnr.com/tnr/blogs/environmentandenergy/archive/2009/02/26/will-obama-s-agricultural-subsidy-reform-do-much-good.aspx>

## Reports:

*Climate Change and Water Resource Management: A Federal Perspective*

Many challenges, including climate change, face the Nation’s water managers. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has provided estimates of how climate may change, but more understanding of the processes driving the changes, the sequences of the changes, and the manifestation of these global changes at different scales could be beneficial. Since the changes will likely affect fundamental drivers of the hydrological cycle, climate change may have a large impact on water resources and water resources managers.

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/1331/Circ1331.pdf>

*A Green Global Recovery? Assessing US Economic Stimulus and Prospects for International Coordination.*

Well-tailored “green” components of a recovery effort can create jobs and stimulate the economy while achieving significant energy cost savings for businesses, consumers and the government.

<http://www.wri.org/publication/green-global-recovery>

*Sustainable Rangelands: Ecosystem Goods and Services*

The Sustainable Rangelands Roundtable (SRR) recognizes the unique contributions rangeland resources make to the nation’s wellbeing. To communicate the importance of these commodity and amenity values, SRR participants developed this primer on rangeland ecosystem goods and services. It summarizes the history of the nation’s relationship with and reliance upon rangeland resources, as well as the evolution of SRR’s contribution to current concepts about advancing rangeland stewardship and conservation.

[http://welcome.warnercnr.colostate.edu/frws/outreach/srr/docs/Ecosystem\\_Goods\\_Services.pdf](http://welcome.warnercnr.colostate.edu/frws/outreach/srr/docs/Ecosystem_Goods_Services.pdf)

*The Washington Climate Change Impacts Assessment*

In July 2007, the Climate Impacts Group (CIG) launched an unprecedented assessment of climate change impacts on Washington State. The assessment, funded by the Washington State Legislature through House Bill 1303, involved developing updated climate change scenarios for Washington State and using these scenarios to assess the impacts of climate change to the following sectors: agriculture, coasts, energy, forests, human health, urban stormwater infrastructure, salmon, and hydrology and water resources.

<http://cses.washington.edu/cig/res/ia/waccia.shtml>

## Journal Articles:

Han, K.; Youn, Y.-C. The feasibility of carbon incentives to private forest management in Korea. *Climatic Change*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10584-009-9551-0>

Henebry, G.M. 2009. Global change: Carbon in idle croplands. *Nature* 457, 1089-1090. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/4571089a>

Nuckolls, A.E. Hemlock Declines Rapidly with Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Infestation: Impacts on the Carbon Cycle of Southern Appalachian Forests. *Ecosystems*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10021-008-9215-3>

Romsdahl, R.; Pyke, C. What does decision support mean to the climate change research community? *Climatic Change*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10584-008-9538-2>

## **Events:**

Preparing for the Carbon Markets: Forestry Offsets. Western Forestry and Conservation Association. March 5, 2009. Portland, OR. Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel. \$175 before Feb 28/\$225 after. [http://westernforestry.org/carbon\\_offsets/carbon\\_offsets.htm](http://westernforestry.org/carbon_offsets/carbon_offsets.htm)

Working Beavers Forum: A Discussion of the role of beavers as nature's engineers in helping to restore wetlands, regulate seasonal water flow, store spring runoff, and more. Spokane, Washington. March 31 – April 1, 2009. Registration deadline March 15. \$120. Contact Brian Walker at the Lands Council, 1-509-209-2408 or [www.landscouncil.org/wildlife/forum.asp](http://www.landscouncil.org/wildlife/forum.asp)

Carbon in Northern Forests: Integration of Research and Management  
June 10-11, 2009. Hagerty Center in Traverse City, Michigan. [www.forest.mtu.edu/cinf](http://www.forest.mtu.edu/cinf)