

Top 2009 Outdoor National News Stories

◆ **The Arctic is being hit by Melting Ice** - bringing hotter air and dying wildlife, according to a US government report on the impact of global warming there. (Source: Physics Org.Com News)

◆ **More Hurricanes Than last Year** - Hurricane forecaster William Gray called Friday for eight Atlantic hurricanes, four of them major, during the 2009 season. (Source: News Daily & Reuters: 2009 Hurricanes)

◆ **California Forest Fires predicted to be devastating in 2009** - The news media talked to University of Arizona fire ecologist Thomas Swetnam, who recently published a paper in Science linking global warming to an increase in the number of fires. The fire seasons are longer, he says, and the blazes themselves are reaching higher into the mountains. (Sources: Popular Science, Now Public.Com, & The World Press: Fire Earth)

◆ **The Fire Next Time- More Megafires to Come**, Fires of unprecedented ferocity are sweeping around the world, fueled by global warming and misguided environmentalism. (Sources: The Independent-UK On-Line News, & the Environment & Climate Change Newsfeed)

◆ **Federal Study Backs Installation of Shelters in Nation's Mines**, (Source: Insurance Journal.Com National News Summary)

◆ **World Water Shortage threatens world security** - If the current inefficient and destructive practices of water utilization are allowed to continue in the face of growing population, global water resource limits will be reached in a few decades. (Source: World Hunger Organization)

◆ **Pacific Ocean conditions are improving for fish** - This according to Bill Peterson, a NOAA fisheries biologist, at Oregon State University's Hatfield Marine Science Center. Ocean conditions during 2008 for many fish species in the Pacific Northwest, including Chinook salmon, were greatly improved because of a huge cold water influx that settled in across much of the northern Pacific Ocean – a phenomenon not seen on this scale in years. (Source: Natural Resource Report.Com)

◆ **As New Coal-Power Plants Boom**, Environmentalists launch legal assault to stop these projects. (Source: The Oregon Statesman-Breaking Business Stories)

◆ **Plague Growing but Overlooked Threat** - Plague, the disease that devastated medieval Europe, is re-emerging worldwide and poses a growing but overlooked threat, researchers warned on Tuesday. (Source: Reuters International Press-Science News)

◆ **Although Polar Bear are added to the Endangered Species List** - many problems remain. Scientists have reported that many areas previously undisturbed by global warming are now getting warmer. This news is particularly alarming for polar bear watchers who claim that the polar bear is now being threatened by warm water and diminished food sources. Furthermore, the Bush Administration has stated strongly that there is no connection between global warming and the reduced polar bear populations. (Sources: NewScientist.Com, & the National Wildlife Federation: Action Items.)

◆ **Salmon Population Declines in California, West Coast** - Californian Chinook salmon stocks appear to be undergoing a significant decline. Although marine biologists are currently verifying the numbers, the news source said that if the low abundance is confirmed, all marine and freshwater fisheries containing this important salmon stock would be affected. (Source: Science Daily.Com-News Releases)

◆ **Drought Could Force Nuke-Plant Shutdowns** - Nuclear reactors across the Southeast could be forced to throttle back or temporarily shut down later this year because drought is drying up the rivers and lakes that supply power plants with the awesome amounts of cooling water they need to operate. (Source: Physics Org.Com-News)

◆ **3.5 Million Ton Waste Heap found in North Pacific** - The world's largest trash dump does not sit on some barren field outside an urban center. It resides thousands of miles from any land — in the Pacific Ocean. (Sources: ABC News: Special Report, Greenpeace: Defending Our Oceans.)

◆ **Texas Hunters and Anglers Lead the Nation** - according to a recent study, Texas is the highest ranked “outdoor” state. It is No. 1 in total hunters and anglers (2.6 million), money spent (\$6.6 billion), jobs supported (106,000) and tax revenue generated (\$1.3 billion). Florida lands the trophy for the No. 2 spot. (Source: BigGameHunt.Net-Texas Leads the Nation)

◆ **Endangered Species Act Endangered** - Before leaving office, President Bush launched an assault on the Endangered Species Act. His proposal is the most significant, detrimental change to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in years. (Source: Audubon Society: New Issues & Threats.)

◆ **'Crunch time' for Climate Change** - The UN Sec-General announced at the Bali Summit, that if no action were taken, the world would face big impacts such as drought, famine, and rising sea levels very soon. (Source: The BBC On-Line, Nature & Science Newsfeed)