

TUWaterWays

Water News and More from the Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law & Policy

[August 13, 2021](#)

Do You Ever Just Not Know Where to Begin? Or End?

How to talk about climate change news this week... Let's see... About the [IPCC report](#) that says it's [not possible to keep things from getting worse](#) over the next 30 years? Or about how it maps out [pathways](#) that show, without drastic socioeconomic change, we're looking at temperature changes twice as much as what we've already experienced? About climate change's proven connection to extreme weather like heat waves and fires? [Like the floods that are exposing more and more people to danger?](#)

Do you start with talking about the IPCC report's [sliver of hope](#) that there is still a window to mitigate climate change and greatly improve the chances of limiting sea level rise to just another foot or two and avoid tipping point disasters like the collapse of the West Antarctica Ice Sheet? Or do you just turn around and talk about how so much media coverage references how this is all tied to carbon emissions without saying where those carbon emissions are coming from, [for some reason?](#) Or about how, despite wider media falling short, there's a [Gen Z climate TikTok](#) out there? No cap.

How far do you go in talking about how, despite this limited window of time in which huge structural changes must take place, [the Democrats in Congress are in some sort of brinkmanship or gridlock with themselves](#) (never mind [the Republicans' lack of, uh, zeal](#)) between the infrastructure bill and the budget bill? Do you talk about how those two bills have [plenty of good climate adaptation stuff](#) in them but [the infrastructure bill also continues the Trump administration's rollbacks of the National Environmental Policy Act?](#)

Should you look at the [announced \\$1.16 billion from FEMA for pre-disaster funding](#) to increase climate resilience for underserved communities as an unmitigated good? Or should you wonder if any of that \$1.16 billion could make much difference if climate change in places like California are [turning drought disasters into simply a dry state of being?](#)

Do you look at the \$26 billion opioid settlement and the possibility that it might be [a blueprint for a climate settlement](#) for Big Oil? And the fact that the suit against the state of Montana by several young people will be [allowed to go to trial?](#) Does all of that make you think that there might be more ways to fund the changes the new IPCC report says we need and that governments can be held responsible when they don't do the work of ensuring a livable place for younger and future generations? Or do you get stuck on the latest decision from the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals here in New Orleans that made a [procedural ruling](#) in the cases where parishes are suing for damages related to coastal use permit violations by oil

The **Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy** is a program of the Tulane University Law School.

The Institute is dedicated to fostering a greater appreciation and understanding of the vital role that water plays in our society and of the importance of the legal and policy framework that shapes the uses and legal stewardship of water.

Coming up:

[AWWA: Desalination in India](#); August 17

[Structured Decision Making as a Tool for Coastal Restoration: A Case Study on Ship Island, Mississippi](#); August 17

[ELI: Environmental Justice and Corridor Projects: Case Study of a Former Mining Town in Rust Belt Kentucky](#); August 18

[Mississippi River Commission: Public Hearings Aboard the MV Mississippi](#); August 23: Caruthersville, MO; August 24: Memphis, TN; August 25: Greenville, MS; August 27: Morgan City, LA

[18th Annual EPA Drinking Water Workshop: Small System Challenges and Solutions](#); August 30-September 2

[Eighth Biennial University of Florida Water Institute Symposium Abstract Deadline](#): October 6

[The Seminar Group: Coastal Law in Louisiana](#); October 21-22

Water jobs:

[Summer Associate](#) and [Associate Attorney](#); Sher Edling LLP; San Francisco, CA

[Policy Analyst/Economist on Water](#); Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development; Paris, France

[TMDL and Water Quality Improvement Lead](#); State of Washington Water Quality Program; Lacey, WA

[Program Operations Associate](#); The Ocean Foundation; Washington, DC

[Associate Attorney](#); The Wilderness Society; Denver, CO and Washington, D.C, and other locations

[Assistant or Associate Scientist in Hydrogeology](#); The Jones Center at Ichauway; Newton, GA

[Senior Attorney, Fossil Fuels Program](#); Earthjustice; New Orleans or Texas

[Water Policy Manager](#); Conservancy of Southwest Florida; Naples, FL

[Water Policy Advisor](#); Tuvli; Washington, DC

[Senior Manager, Environmental Policy \(EMEA\)](#); Amazon; Brussels, Belgium

6325 Freret Street, 1st Floor
New Orleans, LA 70118
504-865-5982

tulanewater.org

and gas companies? Do you talk about how the ruling will just allow for a couple more years (at least) of procedural tactics, keeping the issue from actually going to trial?

Or do you circle back around to that IPCC report and the upcoming COP 26 meeting in [Glasgow](#) in November? Do you take solace in the fact that it's the city that gifted the world [Billy Connolly](#)? Do you worry about that it's also the city where the summer's heat had kids [opening up fire hydrants for relief](#)? Do you worry about their [endangered water voles](#) and their [increased flooding](#)? Or at the end of it all, if there is an end of it all, are you just grateful for [the dog who helped to push a car out of the floodwaters](#)?