



Stanford Experts on Hurricanes and Extreme Weather Events

Stanford scholars with expertise on hurricane drivers, flooding, and other related issues are available to comment for coverage of extreme weather and related impacts as well as response.

For assistance locating scholars, contact:

- Christine H. Black: christineblack@stanford.edu, (650) 725-8240
- Josie Garthwaite: josieg@stanford.edu or (650) 497-0947

Hurricanes, Extreme Weather, and Climate Science

Noah Diffenbaugh

Diffenbaugh studies the climate system, including the processes by which climate change could increase extreme weather events, including hurricanes. He has served as a lead author for Working Group II of the IPCC and has provided testimony and scientific expertise to the White House, the Governor of California, and U.S. congressional offices. Diffenbaugh is the Kara J Foundation Professor of Earth System Science and Kimmelman Family Senior Fellow at the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability and a senior fellow at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment.

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Chris Field

Field is a climate scientist focused on the global carbon cycle and environmental risk reduction. From 2008 to 2015, he served as co-chair of Working Group II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which provided the scientific foundation for the Paris Climate Accord. He is the Perry L. McCarty Director of the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment; founding director of the Carnegie Institution for Science's Department of Global Ecology; the Melvin and Joan Lane Professor for Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies at Stanford's School of Humanities and Sciences and the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability; and senior fellow at the Precourt Institute for Energy.

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Morgan O'Neill

O'Neill is a climate scientist who studies the physics of severe weather in a warming world. Her current research focuses on understanding the dynamics of some of the worst storms on Earth: hurricanes, tropical cyclones, and supercell thunderstorms. O'Neill is an assistant professor of Earth system science at the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability.

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Coastal Adaptation & Resilience

[Jenny Suckale](#)

Suckale focuses on understanding disaster risk and resilience by exploring the processes that govern extreme events in different natural systems and working with private and public partners to increase community resilience. She leads the Stanford Future Bay Initiative, a partnership committed to co-production of actionable intelligence to shape a more equitable, resilient, and sustainable urban future for Bay Area communities. Suckale is an assistant professor of geophysics at the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability; assistant professor, by courtesy, of civil and environmental engineering; and center fellow at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment.

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[Eric Hartge](#)

Hartge specializes in climate change impacts to coastal environments and coastal adaptation and resilience strategies with a focus on the preservation of natural features. He works with the [Natural Capital Project](#) and Stanford Law School using the spatial analysis tool “InVEST” to incorporate multiple benefits from natural habitats in decision processes regarding coastal adaptation planning. Hartge is the research development manager for the Center for Ocean Solutions.

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[Elliott White Jr.](#)

White Jr. is a coastal ecosystem scientist that studies the effects of saltwater intrusion and sea level rise on vegetation in the coastal land margin. His interdisciplinary approach to research draws from ecology, hydrology, biogeochemistry, and remote sensing. White Jr. is an assistant professor of Earth system science at the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability and a center fellow, by courtesy, at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment.

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Managing Urban Stormwater

[Richard Luthy](#)

Luthy focuses on environmental engineering and water quality with applications to water reuse, stormwater use, and systems-level analysis of urban water challenges. His research addresses management of persistent organic contaminants and contaminants of emerging concern in natural systems that are engineered to improve water quality and protect the environment and human health. Luthy is the Silas H. Palmer Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and an affiliate at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment.

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Law, Economics, & Insurance Issues with Major Storms & Disasters

[Barton “Buzz” Thompson](#)

Buzz Thompson is a leading expert in environmental and natural resources law and policy. His scholarship on environmental issues ranges from the future of endangered species and fisheries to the use of economic techniques for regulating the environment. He is the founding director of the Stanford

Law School's Environmental and Natural Resources Program and founding Perry L. McCarty Director and senior fellow of the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment.

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Charles Kolstad

Kolstad is an internationally known environmental economist with a focus on environmental economics, climate change, and energy. He has been a convening lead author for the IPCC (economics and ethics). His research interests are in information, uncertainty and regulation, with much of his applied work in the area of climate change and energy markets. He is a professor, by courtesy, of economics; senior fellow at the Precourt Institute for Energy; senior fellow at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment; and a senior fellow at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research.

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[Additional Stanford experts can be found here](#)