



## Stanford Experts on Drought and Water Issues

Scholarly experts from Stanford University are available to comment on recent research related to record low snowpack levels in California, the influence of climate change and the state entering a fourth year of drought.

*Expertise and contact information on Diffenbaugh and other Stanford water, climate and drought experts are listed below. Click on scholars' names below for more information. For assistance in locating these experts, contact:*

Christine Harrison Black at [christine.harrison@stanford.edu](mailto:christine.harrison@stanford.edu) or (650) 725-8240  
Paige Miller at [paige.miller@stanford.edu](mailto:paige.miller@stanford.edu) or (650) 498-0607

### [Noah Diffenbaugh](#)

Associate Professor of Environmental Earth System Science; Stanford Woods Institute Senior Fellow  
Contact: [diffenbaugh@stanford.edu](mailto:diffenbaugh@stanford.edu), (650) 223-9425

**Expertise:** An expert in the dynamics and impacts of climate change, with emphasis on climate extremes such as drought and the impact of climate change on Western water issues. He also is the contact for his Ph.D. student, Daniel Swain, creator of the California Weather Blog at [weatherwest.com](http://weatherwest.com), who coined the term "Ridiculously Resilient Ridge" to explain the causes of California's persistent dry spell.

### [Leon Szeptycki](#)

Executive Director, Water in the West Program  
Contact: [leonsz@stanford.edu](mailto:leonsz@stanford.edu)

**Expertise:** Water quality, water use and watershed restoration. Water in the West designs, articulates and advances sustainable water management for the people and environment of the American West.

### [Barton \("Buzz"\) Thompson](#)

Professor of Natural Resources Law; Co-Director of the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
Contact: [buzzt@stanford.edu](mailto:buzzt@stanford.edu), (650) 723-2518

**Expertise:** Can speak on the law and politics of California water in a drought situation.

## Other Stanford Experts on Water, Climate and Drought

### [Newsha Ajami](#)

Director of Urban Water Policy, Water in the West Program  
Contact: [newsha@stanford.edu](mailto:newsha@stanford.edu), (650) 724-8162

Expertise: Water supply reliability, water financing, water policy and governance in relevance to water supply and water quality, alternative water supply sources (reuse and desalination), water/energy nexus issues

#### [Bruce Cain](#)

Professor of Humanities and Sciences; Faculty Director of the Bill Lane Center for the American West  
Contact: [bcain@stanford.edu](mailto:bcain@stanford.edu), (415) 336-0570

**Expertise:** The politics of California water in a drought situation

#### [Chris Field](#)

Professor of Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies; Director of Carnegie Institution's Department of Global Ecology; Stanford Woods Institute Senior Fellow; Co-Chair of Working Group II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Contact: [cfield@ciw.edu](mailto:cfield@ciw.edu), (650) 823-5326

**Expertise:** International expert on climate change, its impacts and adaptation measures

#### [David Freyberg](#)

Associate Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering; Stanford Woods Institute Senior Fellow

Contact: [freyberg@stanford.edu](mailto:freyberg@stanford.edu), (650) 723-3234

**Expertise:** Rivers, dams, reservoirs and sediment hydrology and water resources management in California and the American West; resource recovery from wastewater

#### [Rob Jackson](#)

Douglas Professor of Environment and Energy, School of Earth Sciences, and Senior Fellow, Woods Institute for the Environment and Precourt Institute for Energy; Co-Chair of the Global Carbon Project ([globalcarbonproject.org](http://globalcarbonproject.org))

Contact: [rob.jackson@stanford.edu](mailto:rob.jackson@stanford.edu); (650) 497-5841

**Expertise:** Expert on climate change, droughts, land use and energy-water interactions; his group also published the first research studies on fracking and drinking-water quality

#### [Rosemary Knight](#)

Professor of Geophysics in the School of Earth Sciences; Stanford Woods Institute Senior Fellow, by courtesy

Contact: [rknight@stanford.edu](mailto:rknight@stanford.edu)

**Expertise:** Using geophysical methods to image the top 100 meters of Earth to obtain the information needed to evaluate and manage groundwater resources

#### [Richard Luthy](#)

Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Stanford Woods Institute Senior Fellow, Director NSF Engineering Research Center for Re-inventing the Nation's Urban Water Infrastructure, [ReNUWIt](#)

Contact: [luthy@stanford.edu](mailto:luthy@stanford.edu), (650) 721-2615

**Expertise:** California urban water systems, water reuse, stormwater use in California