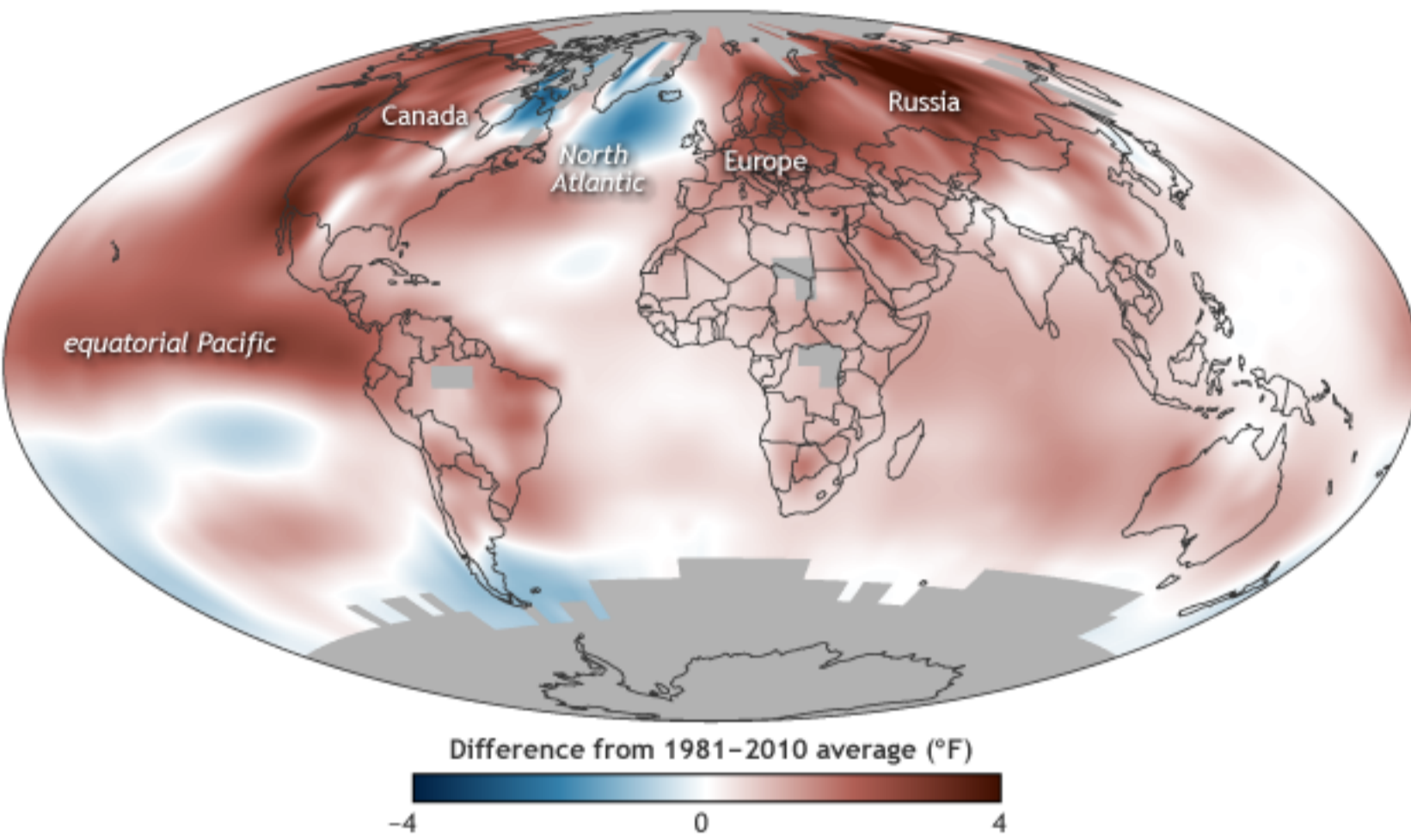


2015 State of the Climate: Highlights

Author:
August 2, 2016

Rebecca Lindsey (<https://www.climate.gov/author/rebecca-lindsey>)

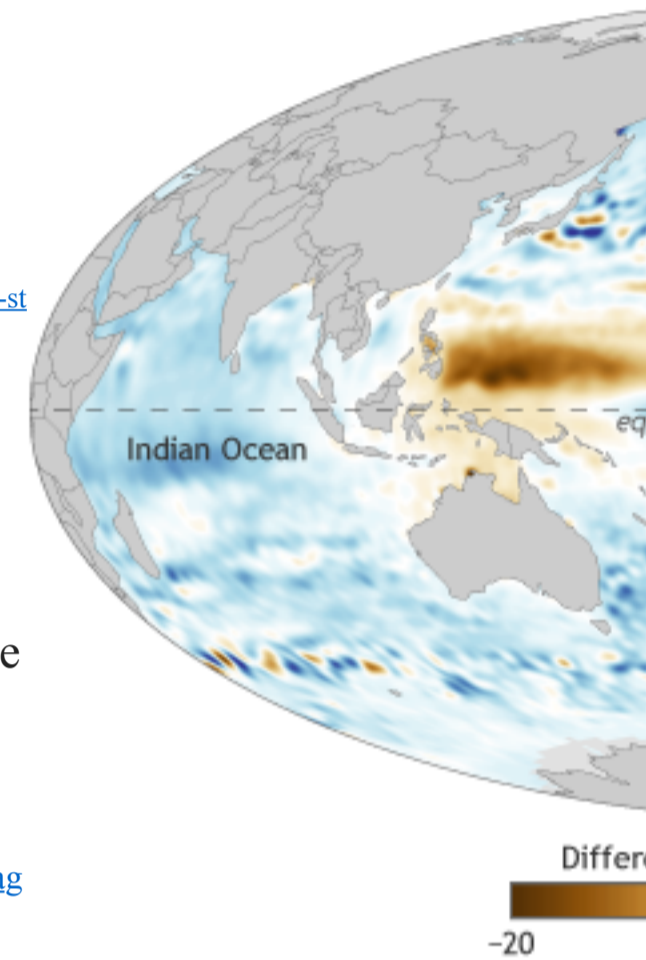
VERY FEW COOL SPOTS IN 2015



(<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/featured-images/2015-state-climate-global-temperature>)

NOAA Climate.gov, adapted from State of the Climate 2015

EL NIÑO BOOSTS 2015 SEA LEVELS



(<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/featured-images/2015-state-climate-climate>)

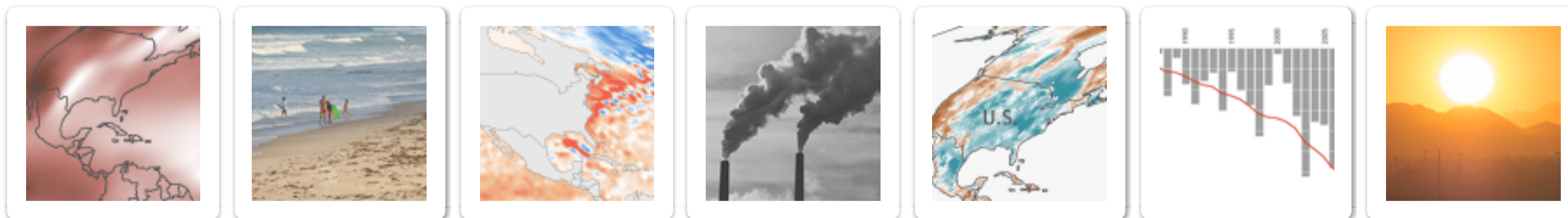
Global temperature

(<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/featured-images/2015-state-climate-global-temperature>)

Global surface temperature in 2015 easily beat the previous record holder, 2014, for the title of warmest year in the modern instrument record. The long-term warming trend of the surface and lower atmosphere continued.

read more...

(<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/featured-images/2015-state-climate-global-temperature>)



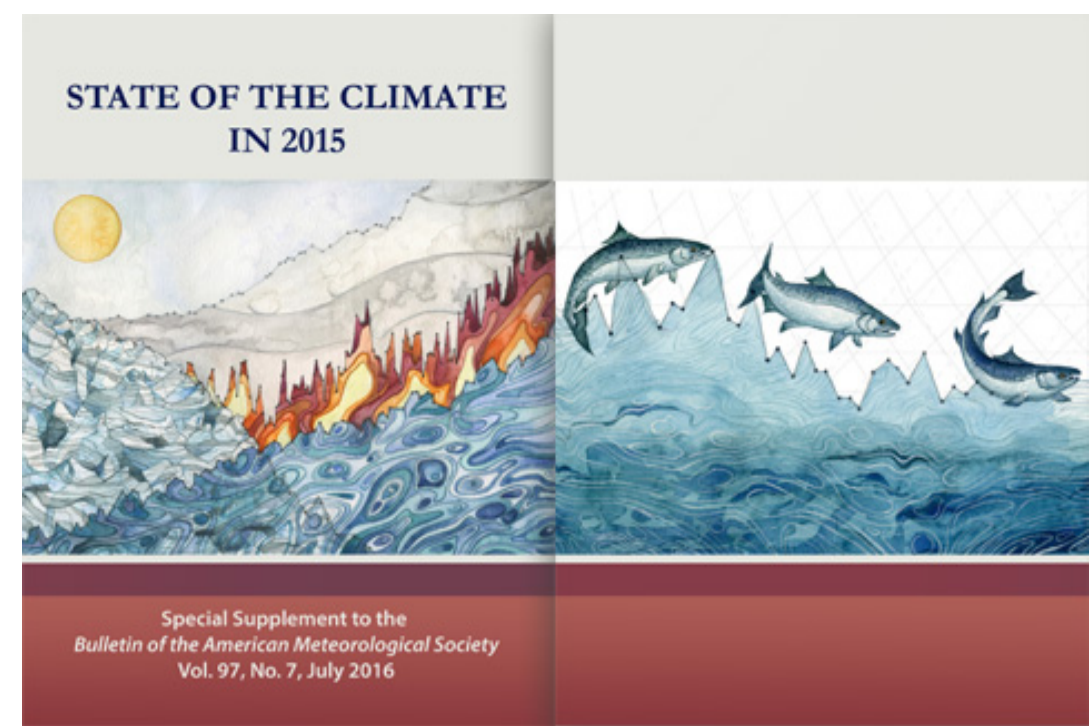
About the report

The *State of the Climate* report series is the authoritative annual summary of the global climate. Published in the *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, the report is edited by scientists at NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information. The 2015 report

<https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/publications/bulletin-of-the-american-meteorological-society-bams/state-of-the-climate/> is based on contributions from more than 450 scientists from 62 countries, drawing on tens of thousands of measurements of Earth's climate.

The report confirmed that 2015 surpassed 2014 as the warmest year since at least the mid-to-late 19th century. The record heat resulted from the combined influence of long-term global warming and one of the strongest El Niño events the globe has experienced since at least 1950. Most indicators of climate change continued to reflect trends consistent with a warming planet. Several markers, such as land and ocean temperatures, sea levels, and greenhouse gases, broke records set just one year prior. Browse the articles below to learn more about our changing planet.

Press release <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/bams> | report index page <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/bams/2015>



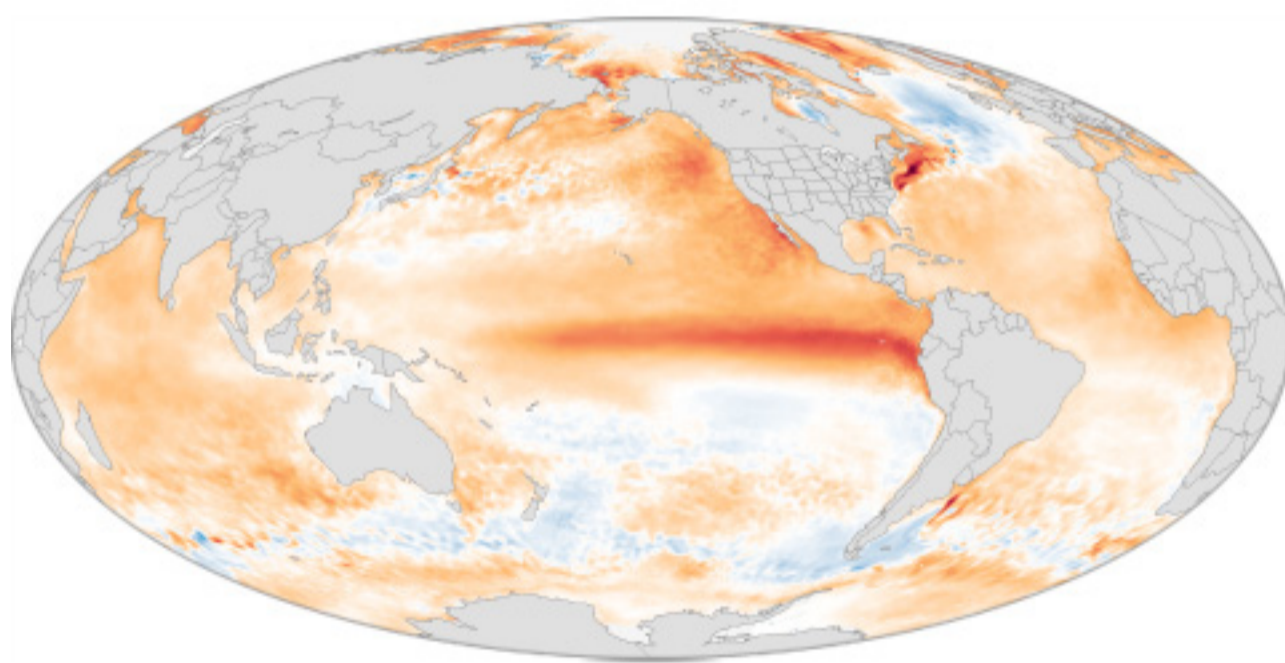
<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/featured-images/state-climate-extreme-events>

Interactive map of extreme events & anomalies

Climate scientists keep careful records of extreme events around the globe and whether those events are becoming more frequent or intense.

From devastating cyclones to crippling drought, this map highlights 2015's most significant events.

read more <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/featured-images/state-climate-extreme-events>



<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/2015-state-climate-el-ni%C3%B1o-came-saw-and-conquered>

El Niño came, saw, and conquered

<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/2015-state-climate-el-ni%C3%B1o-came-saw-and-conquered>

A record-smashing hurricane season in the central North Pacific. Record high CO2 concentrations on record. Severe drought in Ethiopia. The hottest year on record.

Those are just a few of 2015's major climate happenings documented in the *State of the Climate* report from the American Meteorological Society. While the events were scattered across the globe, they were all part of a record-breaking El Niño on record.

read more <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/2015-state-climate-el-ni%C3%B1o-came-saw-and-conquered>



Father and daughter talk about their connection to climate

<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/features/%E2%80%99s-climate>

Glacier scientist Mauri Pelto provides an annual update on the state of the world's glaciers. A watercolor illustration of a glacier and a family appears on the report's covers. Pelto and his daughter talk about their family together.

read more <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/features/%E2%80%99s-climate>



<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/2015-state-climate-warm-oceans-loss-sea-ice-behind-big-changes>

Warm oceans, loss of sea ice behind big change

<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/2015-state-climate-warm-oceans-loss-sea-ice-behind-big-changes>

Loss of sea ice is changing the behavior of Arctic walrus and out of the Barents Sea. Report editor Jessica Blunden surveys so

read more <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/2015-state-climate-warm-oceans-loss-sea-ice-behind-big-changes>