



Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership

Dear MCCIP news subscriber,

The MCCIP website has recently been updated with new marine climate change news and events. Below is a brief summary of the new items that have been added. For more details on all of the items listed below, simply go to www.mccip.org.uk and go to the relevant links in the 'news and events' box on our homepage. Please note that the material presented in MCCIP news does not necessarily reflect the views of MCCIP.

- **[Climate change will alter ocean bacteria crucial to food chain](#)**

Climate change will have impacts on ocean microorganisms that could trigger dramatic effects further up the food chain. The cyanobacteria *Trichodesmium* is known for surviving in nutrient-poor parts of the ocean, where it fixes atmospheric nitrogen into ammonium, a nutrient used by other organisms. When exposed to high levels of carbon dioxide the bacteria went into reproductive overdrive while consuming vast quantities of other nutrients that are in limited supply in the ocean. Unexpectedly this behavioural change was discovered to be irreversible, which could have dramatic effects on its natural, very-low nutrient oceanic habitat. **[Full story]**

- **[Marine species populations halve in size since 1970](#)**

Marine species around the world, including populations of fish critical to human food security, are in potentially catastrophic decline according to a new research report. **WWF's Living Blue Planet report**, an updated study of marine mammals, birds, reptiles and fish, shows a decline of 49% in the size of marine populations between 1970 and 2012.

- **[Big fish may help with climate change](#)**

A loss of ocean predators may have a severe impact on climate change strategies and large fish populations that should be kept intact for carbon capture and long term storage, according to a recent study. Large fish populations are essential to the accumulation of carbon. The loss of large fish and major ocean predators

through over-culling and over-fishing can have major environmental impacts. Further investigations are needed regarding the influence of predators on carbon cycling, to help improve policy and management regarding blue carbon reserves. [\[Full story\]](#)

- [**UN Framework Convention on Climate Change: Paris Climate Change Conference – November 2015**](#)

The twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) will take place from 30 November to 11 December 2015, in Paris, France. This will be a crucial conference as it needs to achieve a new international agreement on the climate, applicable to all countries, with the aim of keeping global warming below 2°C. The European Union has a major role in climate negotiations. [\[Paris COP21\]](#)

News stories: If there are any relevant news items or events that you would like to highlight on the MCCIP website please contact Susana Lincoln at office@mccip.org.uk. New items will be added to the website next month.

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