

We have no system to deal with escalating climate damages. It's time to build one.

David Roberts

VOX

September 21, 2017



A post-hurricane landscape. (Jonathan Falwell/AP)

While it may seem irrational, people still continue to buy real estate in disaster-prone areas, provoking more development in areas that are already very vulnerable. This article considers how, even in the wake of multiple natural disasters, climigration attitudes are influenced by this “pluralistic ignorance”, or: “when members of a group adopt a norm, belief, or habit because they mistakenly believe other members of the group share it.” Government has a role to play here too: proactive, rather than reactive, climigration strategies need to be considered thoroughly to help break the cycle.

Read the full piece [here](#).

Who pays to move people away from rising seas? No answer yet

Anne C. Mulkern

E&E News

September 20, 2017



The Ninglick River is eating away at the shoreline in Newtok, Alaska, shown here in August 2016. Engineers estimate the village is losing 70 feet of land per year. (Eric Keto/Alaska's Energy Desk)

In the wake of hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, Stanford researchers hosted the "Building Coastal Resilience: U.S. Risks and Preparedness" conference, to consider ways in which cities across the U.S. are undergoing, or considering, climigration. Among the difficult questions posed were who precisely should consider retreat, how far should they go, and who will pay for it. The conference also touches on the need for collaboration among local, state and federal governments when considering climigration strategies, despite the difficulties of balancing democratic representation with large-scale adaptation measures.

Read the full story (behind the paywall) [here](#).

Harvey and Irma are the new normal. It's time to move away from the coasts.

Elizabeth Rush
Washington Post
September 15, 2017



The Roseate Spoonbill, left, has taken to higher ground. We should follow its lead. (John Moore/Getty Images)

With a host of hurricanes hitting the U.S. in the last few months, many Americans are being forced to consider climigration. In this opinion piece for the *Washington Post*, Elizabeth Rush, author of “Rising: The Unsettling of the American Shore”, calls for people to consider this difficult question, as she notes other ecological examples of species abandoning flood-prone habitats in search of higher, drier areas. She also cites the need for more government assistance — both with climigration, and resettlement.

Read the full piece [here](#).

Splinters, Cha Cha Cha and a 'rising seas thing'

Adam Aton

E&E News

September 15, 2017



Damaged homes seen on Sunshine Key, Fla., in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma. (Mike Stocker/South Florida Sun-Sentinel via AP)

After Hurricane Irma destroyed an estimated one in four homes in the Florida Keys, this piece checks in with local homeowners about how they've seen both climate and housing values change in their lifetime. The residents express a mixture of concern and acceptance, and a shared love of their home — one they don't imagine having to leave soon.

Read the full story [here](#).

Abandon Florida? Not quite. But it's time for a retreat from flood zones.

Miyuki Hino, Katharina Mach, Christopher B. Field

VOX

September 14, 2017



Flooding homes are shown near the Barker reservoir in Houston following Hurricane Harvey, August 30. (Win McNamee/Getty Images)

When it comes to recovery after catastrophic events, some responses can send mixed messages. This article by environmental researchers at Stanford points to how government-subsidized programs to buy homes in flood-prone areas can help those interested in retreat, but depending on who buys it, the land could be developed even further for future habitation. This sends a confused signal to the sellers, and a general public, about just how dire the situation actually is.

Read the full piece [here](#).

What It Looks Like to Relocate a Town

William Widmer
Politico Magazine
September 1, 2017



In June, planners held meetings in the six parishes targeted by LA Safe, where they worked with local residents to plot their ideas for future development and infrastructure on maps that account for future flooding. (William Widmer for Politico Magazine)

This photo series documents how people are living in Houma, Louisiana, a community considering relocation due to increasing storms. Houma is part of the Louisiana Strategic Adaptations for Future Environments (LA SAFE), an effort to help communities facing imminent flood-risk plan for the future ahead.

See the complete slideshow [here](#), and read POLITICO's partner piece about LA SAFE [here](#), (also mentioned in our news [digest](#)).