FALLING UPWARDS



New Science



Vita Quests



Extreme Weather



Movie Review





Activist Arrest

August 2024

Falling Upwards is Vita Sapien Organization's monthly magazine that outlines the simultaneous collapse of the global ecosystem and the transition to a potential sustainable future called the Verdant Age.

53 million western adults will become followers of Vita Worldview philosophy and help transform our planet.

Are you one of these Latent Vitans?

Stop the collapse, join the movement



Not drowning, ascending



At the edge of the climate & ecological abyss, human civilization awakens to its plight, embarks on a spiritual transformation for the Living Planet, and ascends towards survival.

vitasapien.org

Earth from L1

17 August 2024. The white dot is Hurricane Ernesto, and there's an absence of thick cloud over the Amazon Rainforest. Planet Earth is blue, and there's so much we can do.



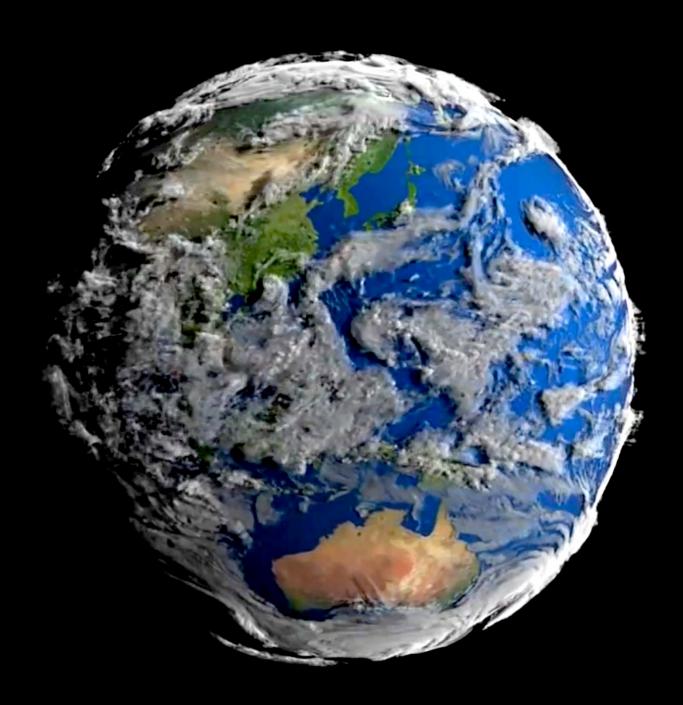
L1 is a location in space between the Sun and the Earth. At this location about 1.5 million kilometers from Earth is a satellite called DSCOVR with a special camera called EPIC takes photos of Earth which are uploaded to this website: https://epic.gsfc.nasa.gov

Vitae-planeta

Vitae-planeta is the name given to the spiritual belief that all the animals and plants on Earth - plus the ocean, atmosphere and soil - are a single living organism, and that we humans are cells in the greater body.

When we believe in Vitae-planeta, we change our frame of reference to the Earth and understand that our wellbeing is intertwined with interests of the Living Planet.

vitasapien.org/vitae-planeta



Pictures of Nature

Beautiful high-resolution pictures of nature that you can download for free from the internet.



https://www.pexels.com/photo/person-on-body-ofwater-2104152/

https://www.pexels.com/photo/yellow-roundsmall-fruit-54332/



https://www.pexels.com/photo/green-grass-duringsunset-1192671/

https://www.pexels.com/photo/macro-photography-of-dragonfly-on-plant-2918152/



https://www.pexels.com/pho to/body-of-waterphotography-3584309/

Vita Sapien Quests

The widespread adoption of Vita Sapien Quests could help humanity enter the Verdant Age. Learn more here: vitasapien.org/quests



i, biosphere



Live with Earthity



Practice Vitamission



Grow Something



Be in Nature



Embrace the Storm



Visit the Dam



Celebrate the Moon



Cosmos & Magma



Reinvent New Year



Know the White Horse



Enter the Flux

Vita Sapien Quests

Tick-off each of the quests as you achieve them. For a deeper understanding of the quests, see the webpage: vitasapien.org/quests:

I identify as i, biosphere
I Live with Earthity
I Practice a Vitamission
I care to Grow Something
I go to Be in Nature
I Celebrate the Moon
I have sensed Cosmos & Magma
I go to Visit the Dam
I choose to Embrace the Storm
I help to Reinvent New Year
I Know my White Horse
I seek to Return the Flux

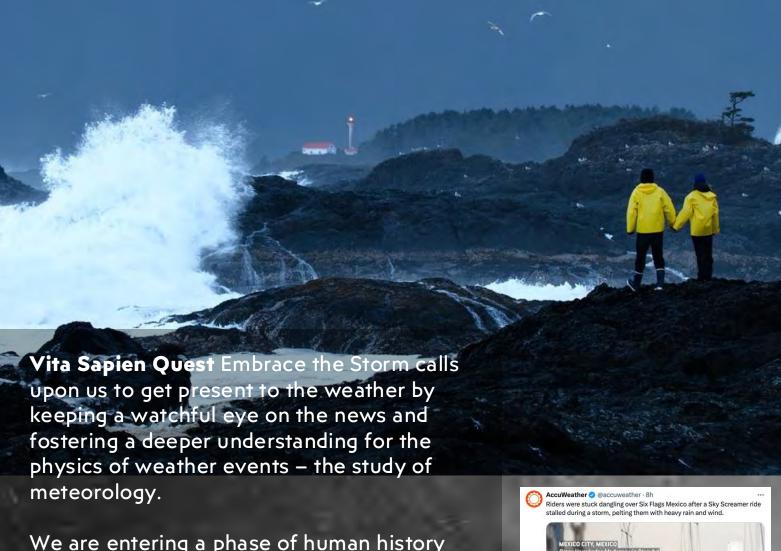
Vita Quest: Be in Nature





Vita Quest : Embrace the **Storm**

One of the Vita Sapien Quests asks us to develop an deeper understanding of extreme weather events.



We are entering a phase of human history where each one of us risks being swept away by extreme weather events that grow stronger and more frequent every day. We must embrace this reality to protect ourselves.

In addition to this, we can connect with Vitae-planeta by witnessing weather events as they roll around. By becoming present to weather systems, we protect ourselves and get closer to nature.



A non-recommended way of embracing the storm \odot

New Spiritual Framework

Vita Worldview views the term 'spirituality' as an umbrella concept that shelters many themes. There are six core themes, plus subthemes, that make-up the New Spiritual Framework. Vita does not claim that these themes represent the totality of spiritual experience. Instead, they form a frame of reference to make it easy to talk about the subject of spirituality. In this way, we are better able to discuss the potential for spirituality to foster radical pro-environmental behaviour change and Advance the Verdant Age.

1. The Main Themes

- The Bigger Thing
- The Golden Rule?
- Life's Big Questions

2. Journey Within

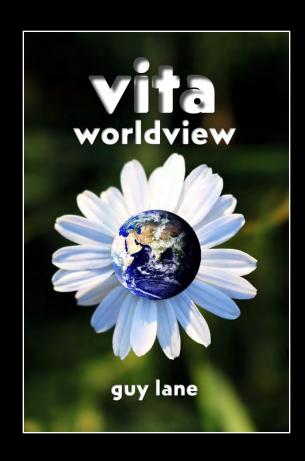
- Inner Self
- Grounding
- Self-Actualisation

3. Transcendence

- Peak & Trough Experience
- Awe, Wonder & Amazement
- Timelessness & Flow

4. Higher Tuning

- Phenomena & Insight
- Sacred & Profane
- Raison d'etre



Read **Vita Worldview** Today



Extreme Weather: August 2024 Hot Persians



- Post



Extreme Temperatures Around The World

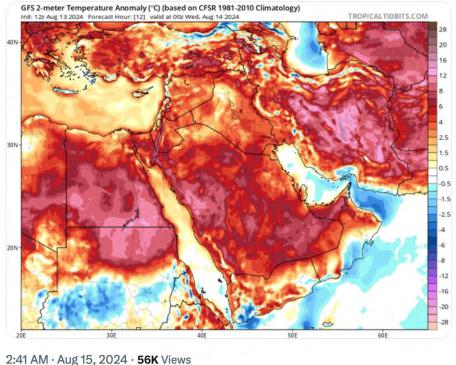
@extremetemps

WORLD'S WORST HEAT WAVE getting worse! Incredible heat at high elevations in IRAN *=all time 49.7 Tabas 711m * Tmin 34.7 45.6 Nehbandan 1188m * 44.2 Ferdous 1293m

43.2 Zahedan 1370m

SAUDI ARABIA HOTTEST AUGUST NIGHT IN HISTORY

Tmin 36.8 Madinah 700m asl Basrah Iraq tmin 36.5



Picture this: you are in a city in Iran and overnight the coolest it gets is 43.2 degrees Celsius.

Where will the Iranians go when Iran becomes uninhabitable due to climate change?

The meltdown of the climate system is underway because we have contaminated the atmosphere with heat trapping gases. We need to step up the fight against the fossil fuel industry and their enablers while there is still time.



Mediterranean Mayhem

Storm Dana takes sailors by surprise in Formentera, Spain wrecking some very nice sailing boats and holidays. Meanwhile in Sicily, superyacht Bayseian is struck by a waterspout and sinks in minutes with loss of seven lives.







China Floods This Electrical China Floods

Homes & cities swept away. Tofu Dreg infrastructure crumbles. People are sad. CCP = Climate Change Peril.











Halfway through the peak flood season, China has already experienced the highest number of significant floods since record keeping began in 1998, and the hottest July since 1961, authorities said on Friday.



Moon Rise Fire Fight

August 21 – Against a rising supermoon, a helicopter drops water on the Quimby Fire in San Jose, California.







The root cause of the climate and ecological crisis that threatens to sweep humanity and most life on Earth from the face of the planet is **unsustainable beliefs**. The solution this **sustainable beliefs** are outlined in Vita Worldview.

There are no Gods, crystals, or Woo-woo (okay, maybe a little Woo-woo) in Vita Worldview, just a synthesis of:

- Wisdom from ancient philosophies
- Environmental science
- Ecological-spirituality
- Indigenous perspective on nature

When 53 million Western adults adopt Vita Worldview as their primary framing of reality they will usher-in a mass-movement to end the Anthropocene and begin the Verdant Age.



Movie Review - Alien Romulus

Set in the year 2042 - some twenty years after the xenomorph destroyed Ellen Ripley's crew on the Nostromo - six young space farers bust into an abandoned station called Romulus. They are hunting treasure but instead find horror and death: a splatter-fest of face huggers, chest bursters and xenomorphs who tear humans into pieces with talons, tails, teeth, and acid blood.





While the Alien film franchise is comprised of sci-fi movies set in space in the future, it could just as easily be an allegory for contemporary Earth under the early stages of climate & ecological collapse.

Simply make the following translations:

- Nostromo, Romulus and the planetoid LV-426 represent Planet Earth.
- The alien in all its forms represents extreme weather, zoonotic pandemics, failing ecosystems, and social collapse.



- The people in the story represent the 8-billion humans on Earth being ravaged by a complex and powerful force that threatens to completely overwhelm them.

To test the idea, just consider the parallel between killing the alien and euthanizing the fossil fuel industry.

There are plenty of pulse rifles, but shooting the alien is a huge risk because its acid blood can eat through the hull of the spaceship.

Similarly, if we euthanize the fossil fuel industry too fast there will be starvation, economic collapse, and the ecological & meteorological termination shock as the aerosol masking effect vanishes and temperatures shoot up.

The only way out of this mess is to embrace reality, put the most qualified people in charge, and have everyone follow the plan.

However, as in space, so on Earth. There is always the company men running interference on behalf of the corporation, aided by a sociopathic Artificial Intelligence.

Just like no-one listens to Ripley's story about the alien who killed her crew, no one listens to Earth system scientists.

People are simply unwilling to hear and disbelieving of bad news. It's called the Cassandra Effect. Perhaps - somehow through Alien Romulus - the gutwrenching horror of the xenomorph dismembering youth can be translated into the message: this is your future-self under climate change. If only people empathised with their future-self, they might sit up and take notice.

SPACEXTINCTION

Elon Musk's rocket company SpaceX plans to create sonic booms over endangered marine turtle breeding beaches and feeding grounds of migratory birds in the US.

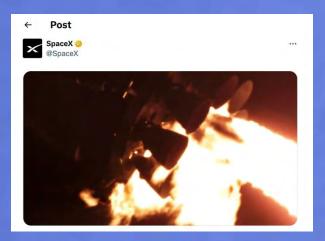
The sonic booms will occur as the Starship & Superheavy booster land at the launch site in the upcoming Integrated Flight Test 5 – IFT5, scheduled for late August.

Starbase, the launchpad, is located at Boca Chica, Texas, a locale surrounded by nature reserves.

This flagrant disregard for ecological integrity is further reason to believe that Musk has a Death Star in his mind.

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Spacex brags about sonic booms

https://x.com/SpaceX/status/1818030059422367857

Space launch vehicles have become objects of spiritual devotion for a legion of delusional Musk-bros. This is not a pathway to a sustainable civilization.



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Does Elon Musk Have a Death Star in His Mind?

Read the article on the Vita Sapien Ko-Fi site:

https://ko-fi.com/post/Does-Elon-Musk-Have-A-Death-Starin-His-Mind-Z8Z311ISJK



Does Elon Musk Have A Death Star in His Mind?



Our beliefs reside inside our minds and manifest through our actions and inactions. Beliefs can be seen as sitting on a spectrum with ecologically sustainable on one end and ecocidal on the other. Because of the way that unsustainable beliefs manifest, many people can be said to have a **Death Star in Their Minds**.



Space Tourism

There are two types of space tourism and neither actually go to space. You can get closer to space in a rocket or under a balloon. Both are unsustainable. The rockets leave global warming gases in the atmosphere, and the balloons are filled with helium. Helium is a finite and valuable commodity for humanity that is presently being squandered as it is vented from the balloon to the atmosphere on descent.

Space tourism promises the Overview Effect - marketing spin to help superwealthy people feel better about hammering the global ecosystem in new and unique ways to get a selfie in the stratosphere.

Whether great wealth is good or bad depends how it is acquired and how it is spent. If we are to persist with super-wealthy people, they need to grow a morality that sees them contribute to the well-being of the Living Planet and her people and not just fritter away their money on indulgences like space tourism.



Spending \$250,000+ for an afternoon joyride is a serious dereliction of responsibility to Vitae-planeta.

halospaceflight.com

Read Vita Worldview today



Vita Worldview offers humanity a chance at surviving the 21st Century and thriving beyond.

The worldview draws inspiration from environmental science, nature spirituality, indigenous cosmology, and a curated selection of ancient philosophies.

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Earth Science This Month

nature communications

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nature > nature communications > articles > article

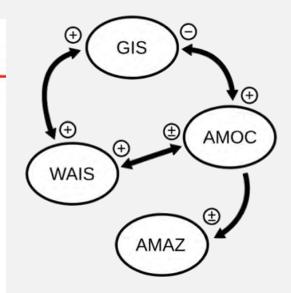
Article Open access | Published: 01 August 2024

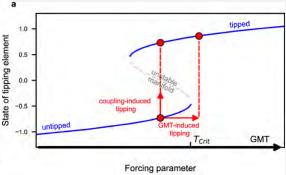
Achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions critical to limit climate tipping risks

<u>Tessa Möller</u> Manika Ernest Högner, <u>Carl-Friedrich Schleussner</u>, <u>Samuel Bien</u>, <u>Niklas H. Kitzmann</u>, <u>Robin D. Lamboll</u>, <u>Joeri Rogeli</u>, <u>Jonathan F. Donges</u>, <u>Johan Rockström</u> & <u>Nico Wunderling</u>

Abstract

Under current emission trajectories, temporarily overshooting the Paris global warming limit of 1.5 °C is a distinct possibility. Permanently exceeding this limit would substantially increase the probability of triggering climate tipping elements. Here, we investigate the tipping risks associated with several policy-relevant future emission scenarios, using a stylised Earth system model of four interconnected climate tipping elements. We show that following current policies this century would commit to a 45% tipping risk by 2300 (median, 10–90% range: 23–71%), even if temperatures are brought back to below 1.5 °C. We find that tipping risk by 2300 increases with every additional 0.1 °C of overshoot above 1.5 °C and strongly accelerates for peak warming above 2.0 °C. Achieving and maintaining at least net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2100 is paramount to minimise tipping risk in the long term. Our results underscore that stringent emission reductions in the current decade are critical for planetary stability.





https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-024-49863-0

Vita Sapien: The scientists keep firming-up the numbers. We must get atmospheric carbon under control – decarbonize and drawdown - or we are going to lose our beautiful planet.

This means euthanizing the fossil fuel industry as soon as possible. If you don't like that language, they try saying we need a rapid transition to clean energy. It's the same thing.

If we trigger the cascade of climate tipping points, we are going to the hothouse, which will be like a re-run of the Permian Extinction, just ten times as fast. We will lose half the species on Earth if we get to 3 degrees.

Vita Sapien believes that nothing short of a global spiritual movement for nature can provide the human impetus get us out of this mess. Join today: <u>vitasapien.org</u>

Greenland isn't so unmeltable, after-all

New evidence suggests that Greenland's monsterous icesheets might not be so unmeltable as first thought.

Greenland's ice sheets is melting, and if it all goes, sea levels will rise by over seven metres.

① AUGUST 5, 2024



Greenland fossil discovery stuns scientists and confirms that center of ice sheet melted in recent past

by University of Vermon



RIEF REPORT EARTH, ATMOSPHERIC, AND PLANETARY SCIENCES



Plant, insect, and fungi fossils under the center of Greenland's ice sheet are evidence of ice-free times

Paul R. Bierman S P., Halley M. Mastro, Dorothy M. Peteet P., 19, and Barry Rock Authors Info & Affiliations
Edited by Enc Rignot, University of California invine, Invine, CA; received May 9, 2024; accepted June 17, 2024

August 5, 2024 121 (33) e2407465121 https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2407465121

https://phys.org/news/2024-08greenland-fossil-discovery-stunsscientists.html

https://www.pnas.org /doi/10.1073/pnas.2407465121

Tumbling blindly into the hothouse

Climate models can't explain 2023's huge heat anomaly – we could be in uncharted territory



Taking into account all known factors, the planet warmed 0.2 $^{\circ}$ C more last year than climate scientists expected. More and better data are urgently needed

By Gavin Schmidt







When I took over as the director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, I inherited a project that tracks temperature changes since 1880. Using this trove of data, I've made climate predictions at the start of every year since 2016. It's humbling, and a bit worrying, to admit that no year has confounded climate scientists' predictive capabilities more than 2023



https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-00816-z

https://www.theguardian.com/environme nt/article/2024/aug/15/we-should-havebetter-answers-by-now-climatescientists-baffled-by-unexpected-paceof-heating

With 67.8K followers climate scientist Gavin Schmidt finally hit the Twitter wall and moved to Bluesky. See his final tweet:

8 Y

Pinned

Gavin Schmidt @ClimateOfGavin · Jul 3

Yeah, I'm done here. Thanks for all of the good moments over the years (and there were some!). Thanks for the folks I wouldn't have encountered elsewhere. But it's turned into the Nazi bar and I literally am too old for that

.

Find me on Bluesky if you like.

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https://bsky.app/profile/climateofgavin.bsky.social

AMOC Collapse PROBABLE by Mid-Century

Probability Estimates of a 21st Century AMOC Collapse

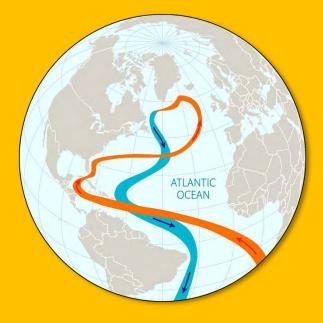
Emma J.V. Smolders, René M. van Westen, Henk A. Dijkstra

There is increasing concern that the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) may collapse this century with a disrupting societal impact on large parts of the world. Preliminary estimates of the probability of such an AMOC collapse have so far been based on conceptual models and statistical analyses of proxy data. Here, we provide observationally based estimates of such probabilities from reanalysis data. We first identify optimal observation regions of an AMOC collapse from a recent global climate model simulation. Salinity data near the southern boundary of the Atlantic turn out to be optimal to provide estimates of the time of the AMOC collapse in this model. Based on the reanalysis products, we next determine probability density functions of the AMOC collapse time. The collapse time is estimated between 2037–2064 (10–90% CI) with a mean of 2050 and the probability of an AMOC collapse before the year 2050 is estimated to be 59 +/- 17%.

https://arxiv.org/html/2406.11738vl

... the probability of an AMOC collapse before the year 2050 is estimated to be around 59% ...





AMOC

A - Atlantic - the Atlantic Ocean
M - Meridional - running along the
North/South axis, as in meridians of
longitude.

O - Overturning — the movement of water from the surface to the seafloor, and back to the surface again

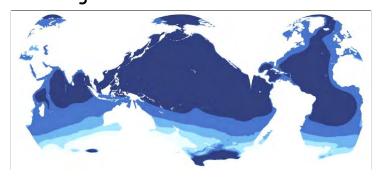
C - Circulation - a global ocean current

AMOC is the ocean current that delivers warm water to the North Atlantic and stops Western Europe freezing-over in winter. It is collapsing, in part, because Greenland is melting due to climate change and shedding billions of tons of freshwater into the North Atlantic. All the woe that is coming towards us is self-inflicted. We require a global mass movement—a deep spiritual awakening to the natural world—to avert the collapse of human civilization.

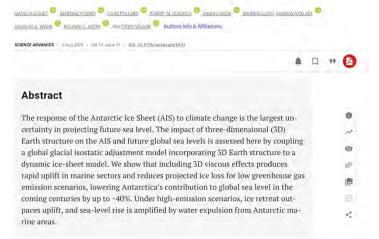
Paul Beckwith: The Latest Probability for an AMOC Collapse is Shocking: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=idT4XNiq1N0

Sea level rises more under high emissions scenarios

A McGill-led study suggests that Earth's natural forces could substantially reduce Antarctica's impact on rising sea levels, but only if carbon emissions are swiftly reduced in the coming decades. By the same token, if emissions continue on the current trajectory, Antarctic ice loss could lead to more future sea level rise than previously thought.



The influence of realistic 3D mantle viscosity on Antarctica's contribution to future global sea levels



https://phys.org/news/2024-08-yields-insights-link-global-sea.html

Streetlights make leaves inedible for insects

Compared with natural ecosystems, tree leaves in most urban ecosystems generally show little sign of insect damage. We were curious as to why," said the study's author, Dr Shuang Zhang of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Artificial light at night led to increased leaf toughness and decreased levels of leaf herbivory."

All-night streetlights make leaves inedible to insects, study finds

Scientists believe artificial light may be affecting natural ecology of plant life by creating extended photosynthesis

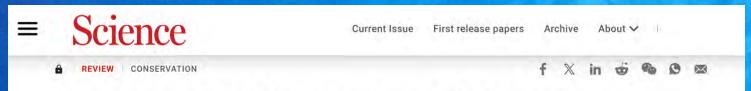


Research into tree leaves in urban environments found they were much tougher than rural equivalents. Photograph: David J. Green/Alamy

https://www.theguardian.com/environme nt/article/2024/aug/05/all-nightstreetlights-make-leaves-inedible-toinsects-study-finds

https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/plant science/articles/10.3389/fpls.2024.13922 62/full

Guess what? Sharks are good for the biosphere.



Ecological roles and importance of sharks in the Anthropocene Ocean



Editor's summary

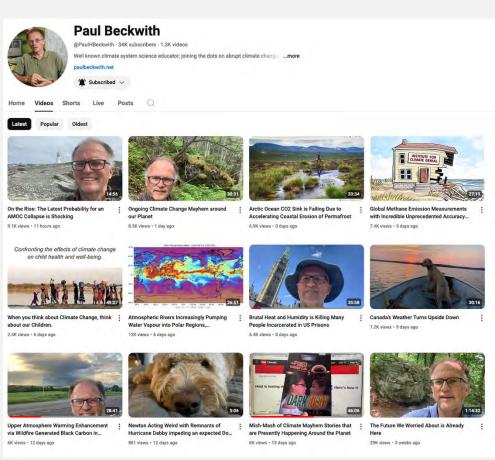
Sharks are well known as massive top predators with large pelagic ranges. This conception is accurate but too narrow. Sharks occupy a wide variety of niches and come in a range of sizes and shapes. Dedman *et al.* reviewed the ecological roles that sharks play and their importance in terms of how they affect their ecosystems. Many sharks are essential to ecosystem functioning, and many of these effects have been altered by human impacts on shark populations. Rebuilding these populations is essential not only for conserving sharks, but also for conserving their ecological function. —Sacha Vignieri

https://tiredearth.com/articles/oce ans-without-sharks-would-be-farless-healthy-says-new-research

https://www.science.org/doi/10.112 6/science.adl2362

Humans need to stop acting like unsustainable super-predators and find a harmonious balance with nature. Then we can all play on Earth deep into the Long Future. If you are looking for a mission in life, Vitae-planeta is calling out to you.

Youtubes For You



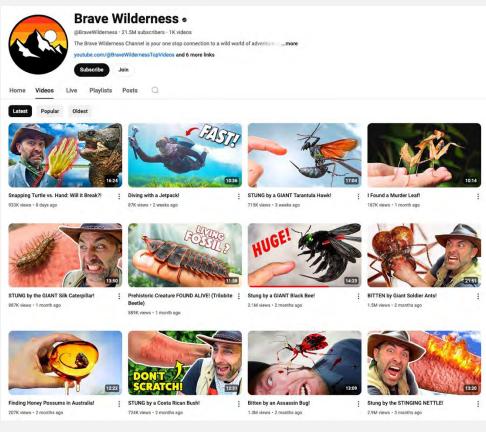
Paul Beckwith

Paul Beckwith is a parttime professor in climatology and a prolific communicator of Earth System Science.

His channel has hundreds of videos where he breaks down science papers and explains all.

Every now and then his pets get in on the action:

https://www.youtube.com/@PaulHBeckwith



https://www.youtube.com/@BraveWilderness

Brave Wilderness

Enter the Sting Zone with these crazy cats who travel the furtherest corners of the world seeking out rare and dangerous critters with the sole intention of getting bitten and stung on camera.

This channel is an entertaining way to learn about the diversity of life on Earth and why some animals are best left outside.

53 Million Latent Vitans









Just like Stoicism in Ancient Rome, Vita Worldview is framed to become the dominant philosophical school of thought amongst the educated classes, and particularly with reference to surviving the climate & ecological crisis.

Millions of people already hold beliefs similar to Vita Worldview, but these people are disparate, lacking a common nomeclature, and thus unable to tap into the power of their numbers.

A Latent Vitan is someone who frames their understanding of the world through science and reality, and is spiritually motivated to protect life on Earth - but who has yet to learn about Vita Worldview and the Vita Sapien Network.

It is believed that there are around 53 million Latent Vitans in the Western world alone. These people will adopt Vita Worldview as their primary philosophical system once it is put before them in a compelling manner. This represents about 8% of Western adults, a world-changing political and economic force.

Become a Vitan today by reading Vita Worldview and reviewing the Vita Sapien website. You become Vitan when you identify as such: vitasapien.org

Share Vita Worldview, to help grow the network and advance the Verdant Age.

Activist Arrest Climate activists block German airports

August 25, 2024: Climate activists glued themselves to the tarmac at four German airports this morning, forcing a temporary halt to flights as part of a "relentless" campaign against fossil fuels.

The Last Generation group said a total of eight activists were involved in the protests at Berlin, Cologne-Bonn, Nuremberg and Stuttgart airports, which started around 5am.

The group is demanding that the German government negotiate and sign an agreement on a global exit from the use of oil, gas and coal by 2030.



Left jab for Citi protester

A climate activist protesting Citi Bank's incessent funding of fossil fuel interests was punched in the face in New York and sent to hospital bleeding.



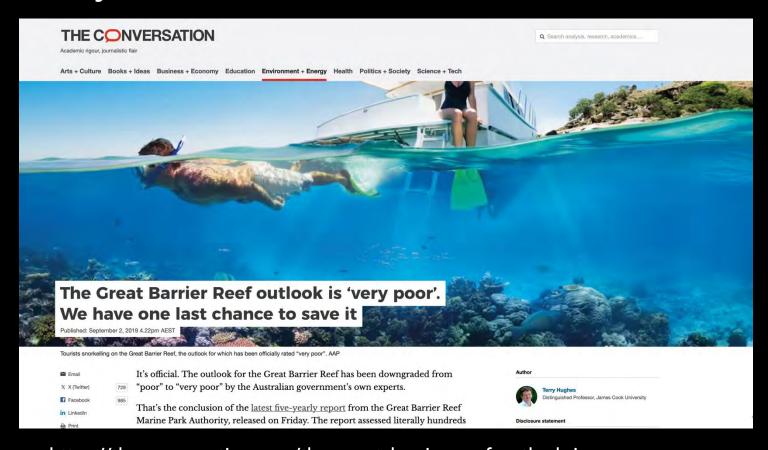
Angry old white men continue to use violence to prevent change that would inconvenience the fossil fuel industry and their enablers. Shame!





The Not So Great Barrier Reef

Every five years the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority releases an report on the wellbeing of the Great Barrier Reef. It's not looking good for the GBR. Ocean heating due to climate change and poor water qality coming from the land are making life difficult for this magnificent natural wonder. Read a plain-English summary by straight-talking Distinguised Professor Terry Hughes.

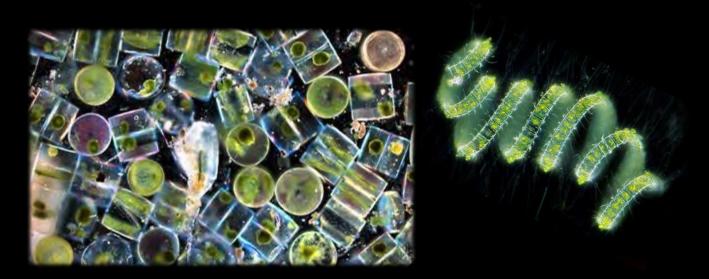


https://theconversation.com/the-great-barrier-reef-outlook-is-very-poor-we-have-one-last-chance-to-save-it-122785



The Phyto & the Zoop

Plymouth Marine Laboratory has led a study that has revealed dramatic changes in the abundance of phytoplankton [phyto] in the North Atlantic over the last 60 years, driven primarily by climate variability and North Atlantic warming.



Phyto are tiny marine plants that form the basis of the entire marine food web. Phyto produce more than half the oxygen you breathe, and they even help to form clouds. The Zoop is the zooplankton, the tiny animals that eat the Phyto.



https://www.pml.ac.uk/news/Dramaticchanges-in-the-abundance-of-phytoplankton "The fit that survive are not necessarily the lithe, athletic ones, but those that are most adaptable to change."

The world is changing. Are you adapting?



Falling Upwards August 2024

Vita Sapien is an Australian registered charity.
Our mission is to foster a global spiritual-movement for nature.

