

Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

Jan Salick

Curator of Ethnobotany
Missouri Botanical Garden

Diana Liverman

Director Environmental Change Inst
University of Oxford



Supported by: James Martin 21st Century School, Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford, The Christensen Fund, Darrell Posey Fellowship of the International Society for Ethnobiology, Missouri Botanical Garden, William L. Brown Center for Plant Genetic Resources.



Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

Just Released



- Climate Change 2007 –
IPCC Fourth Assessment
- Kaua'i Declaration 2007 –
Ethnobotany, The Science of Survival



Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

Kaua'i Declaration 2007 – Ethnobotany, The Science of Survival

“Such vital environmental resources as the air we breathe, the quality of the water we drink, the topsoil upon which our agriculture depends, the relatively stable global climate we have enjoyed until recently, and the global stock of biodiversity are all being degraded rapidly.



Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

Kaua'i Declaration 2007 – Ethnobotany, The Science of Survival

“Concurrently, human cultural diversity is being eroded rapidly everywhere. For example, one of the remaining 7,000 languages is being lost every week, yet each one represents a distinct philosophical and pragmatic approach to the organization of our lives.



Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

Kaua'i Declaration 2007 – Ethnobotany, The Science of Survival

“We are losing our cultural heritage at a rate that will seriously diminish our opportunities to achieve sustainability in the future.”



Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

Climate Change 2007 – IPCC Fourth Assessment

Working Group I – no mention of indigenous people

Working Group II – impacts, adaptation and vulnerability

summary mentions indigenous people in one section



Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

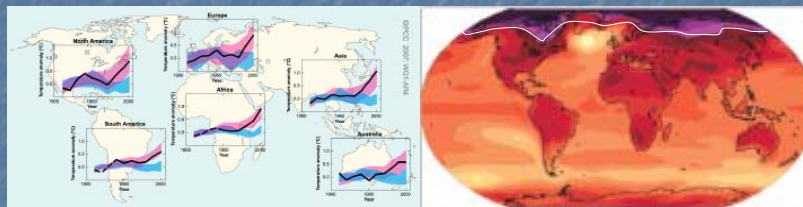
Climate Change 2007 – IPCC Fourth Assessment II

“Detrimental impacts would include those on infrastructure and traditional indigenous ways of life.”

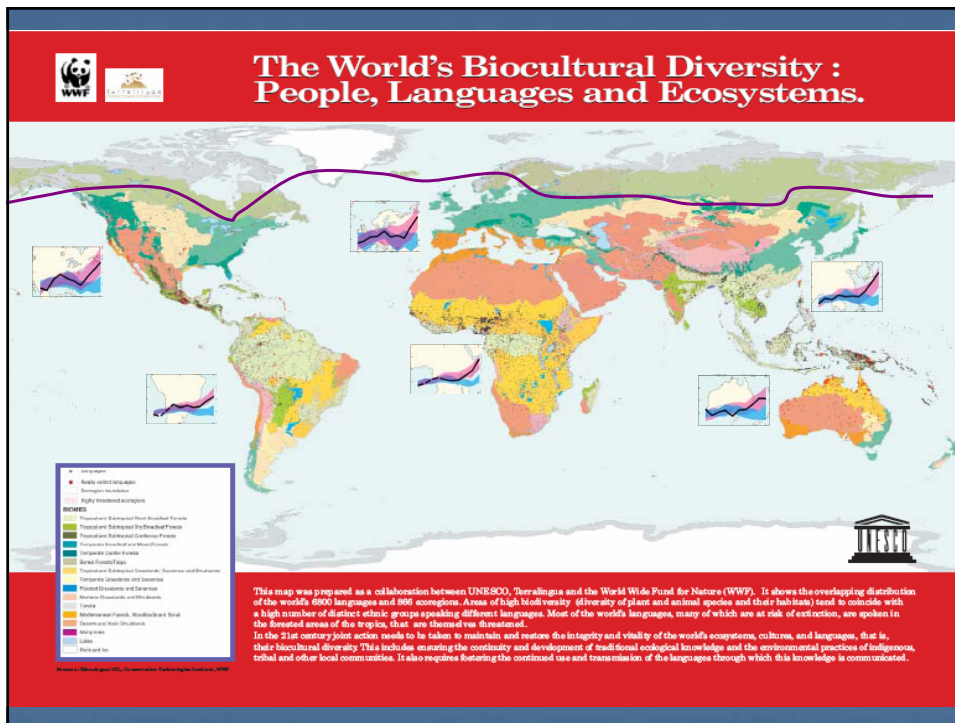
i.e., Climate Change will destroy our military bases, research stations, roads, and airstrips . . . And oh yes, there are some people living there too aren't there?



Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change



IPCC Fourth Assessment Report



Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

Climate Change 2007 – IPCC Fourth Assessment

Indigenous livelihoods are nearly ignored.

Kaua'i Declaration 2007 – Ethnobotany, The Science of Survival

“We are losing our cultural heritage at a rate that will seriously diminish our opportunities to achieve sustainability in the future.”



Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

To address this neglect of indigenous people in the climate change analysis, we have invited you – climate change scientists and ethnoecologists studying climate change – to interact and develop appreciation for our mutual concerns.

We greatly appreciate your coming!