

The Changing Climate of South America

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The climate of South America is changing.

Reductions in rainfall and streamflow in the southern Amazon and Chile

Chile's record-breaking drought makes climate change 'very easy' to see

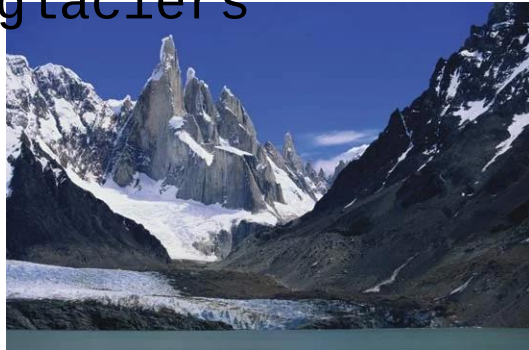
By Esteban Medel
August 10, 2021 4:23 PM CDT - Updated 3 years ago



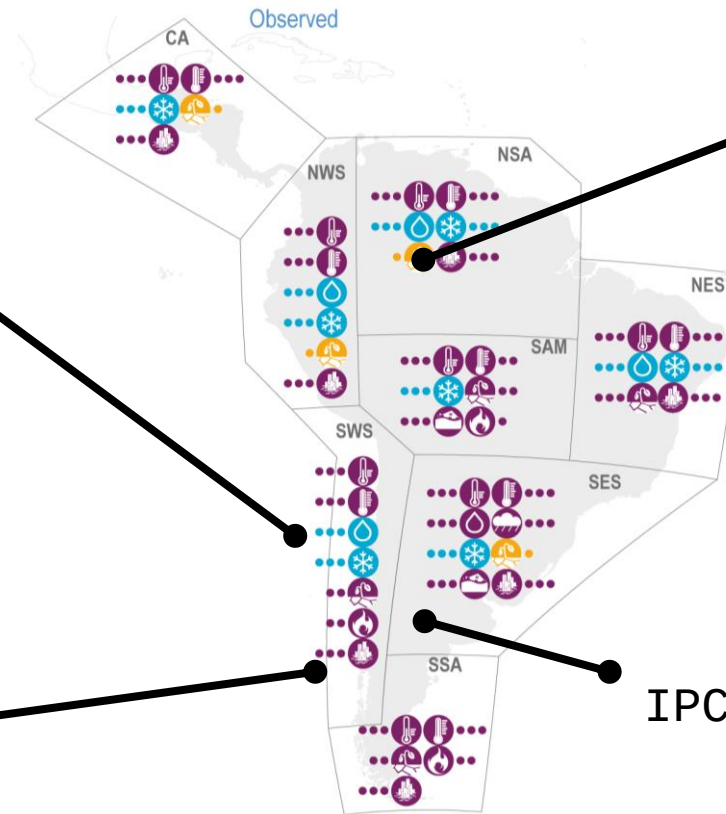
[1/5] A cow is seen on a land that used to be filled with water, at the Aculeo Lagoon in Paine, Chile January 9, 2019. REUTERS/Rodrigo Garrido [Purchase Licensing Rights](#)

<https://www.reuters.com/>
/ 2021

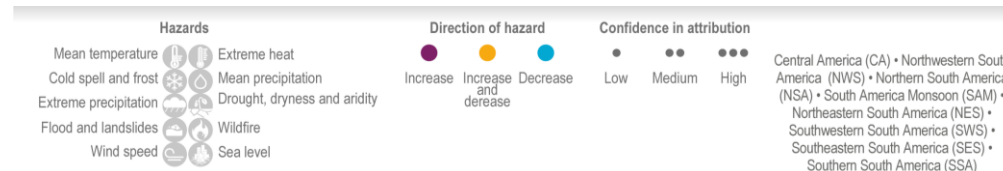
Melting Andean glaciers



Patagonia (Britannica)



IPCC AR6



A Severe Drought Pushes an Imperted Amazon to the Brink
The rainforest holds a fifth of the world's fresh water, but...
depression. Spending time and wondering how our habitats fit dry.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023>



<https://www.nytimes.com/2023>

Flooding in Argentina

Global warming and land-use change are posing significant threats to ecosystem health, exacerbating hydrological extremes, and jeopardizing water and food security for millions across the continent.

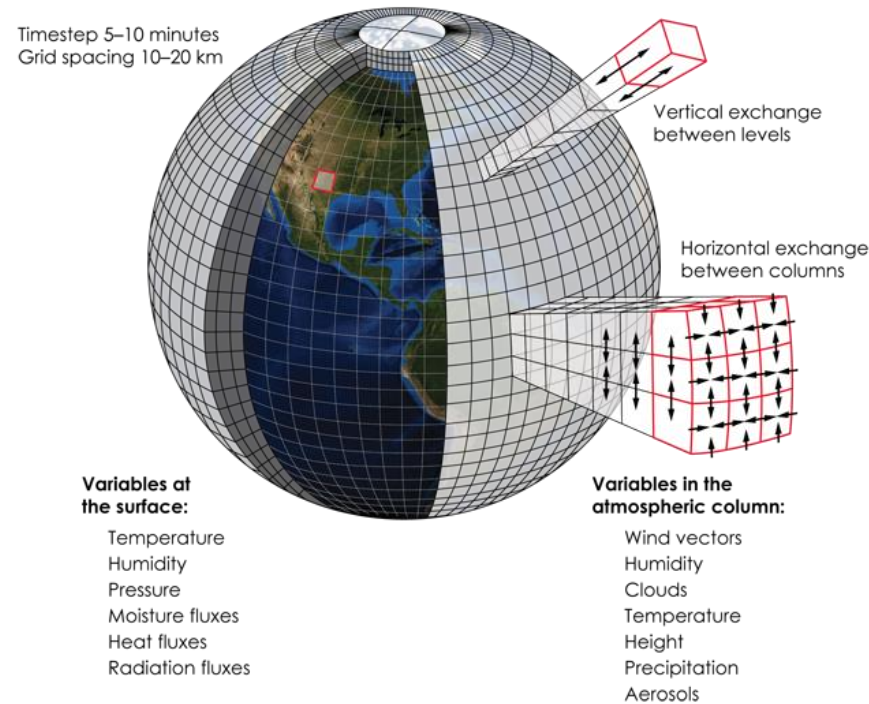


Coal-fired power station in Niederaussem, Germany. (AP Photo/Michael Probst, File)



Land being burned for cattle grazing in the Amazon rainforest near Porto Velho. Source: NYTIMES

Projections of future climate rely on GCMs. However, these models are still relatively coarse, with horizontal grid spacing on the order of tens of kilometers.



GCMs fail to correctly represent processes in mountainous regions such as orographic precipitation, snowfall, mountain snowpack and glaciers. GCMs also fail to realistically represent organized convective

The core of the South America Affinity Group effort are two 22-year WRF model simulations with an unprecedented high resolution of 4km grid spacing, representing historical and future climates over the continent.



Advancing South American Water and Climate Science through Multidecadal Convection-Permitting Modeling

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SAAG
video