

**Abstract by Bradley Udall, Director of the Western Water Assessment (WWA) at the University of Colorado**

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<http://www.tribalclimate.org/>

**Impacts of Global Warming to the Colorado River Basin**

This presentation will cover the basics of global warming and the potential impacts to the Colorado River Basin. The first part of the presentation will cover the natural greenhouse effect and the general climate of the Earth, including the relationship between the recent warming trend and large emissions of greenhouse gasses. Secrets of the Earth's past climate from tree-rings and ice cores will be discussed. The presentation will include climate experts' best forecasts for the future. Areas of active research and underappreciated and difficult to grasp aspects of the climate change problem will be presented. The second part of the presentation will address questions directly related to the Colorado River Basin, such as: what has happened to precipitation and temperature in the basin in recent years; and what is the scientific consensus for future precipitation, snowfall, river flows, evaporation, and droughts in the basin during the next 100 years.