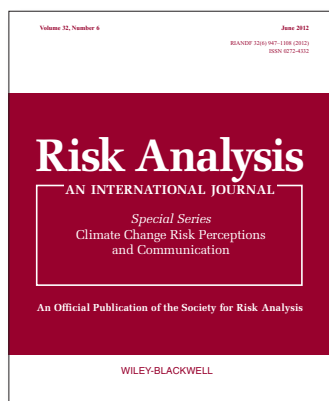


Risk Analysis

Special Series

Climate Change Risk Perception and Communication

Volume 32,
Issue 6



Climate change is an increasingly salient issue for societies and policy-makers worldwide. It now raises fundamental interdisciplinary issues of risk and uncertainty analysis and communication. The growing scientific consensus over the anthropogenic causes of climate change appears to sit at odds with the increasing use of risk discourses in policy: for example to aid in climate adaptation decision making. All of this points to a need for a fundamental revision of our conceptualization of what it is to do climate risk communication. This Special Collection comprises seven papers stimulated by a workshop on “Climate Risk Perceptions and Communication” held at Cumberland Lodge Windsor in 2010. Topics addressed include climate uncertainties, images and the media,

communication and public engagement, uncertainty transfer in climate communication, the role of emotions, localization of hazard impacts, and longitudinal analyses of climate perceptions. Taken as a whole, the papers in this special collection add significantly to the contemporary scientific debate about climate risk communication within risk research and climate policy. They also help to underline some of the many conceptual and methodological challenges emerging in this critical area of risk perception and communication research.

In this issue:

Climate Change Risk Perception and Communication: Addressing a Critical Moment?

Nick Pidgeon

The Psychological Distance of Climate Change

Alexa Spence, Wouter Poortinga, Nick Pidgeon

Climate Change Communication: A Provocative Inquiry into Motives, Meanings, and Means

Branden B. Johnson

Unquestioned Answers or Unanswered Questions: Beliefs About Science Guide Responses to Uncertainty in Climate Change Risk Communication

Anna Rabinovich, Thomas A. Morton

The Interplay Between Knowledge, Perceived Efficacy, and Concern About Global Warming and Climate Change: A One-Year Longitudinal Study

Taciano L. Milfont

The Rise of Global Warming Skepticism: Exploring Affective Image Associations in the United States Over Time

Nicholas Smith, Anthony Leiserowitz

Risk Communication, Public Engagement, and Climate Change: A Role for Emotions

Sabine Roeser

Rural Nevada and Climate Change: Vulnerability, Beliefs, and Risk Perception

Ahmad Saleh Safi, William James Smith Jr., Zhnongwei Liu

Risk Analysis, the official journal received by all members of the SRA, provides a focal point for new developments in the theory and practice of risk analysis for researchers and practitioners from a wide range of disciplines, including behavioral, biological, decision, economic, engineering, health, physical, and social sciences. Its research and perspective articles focus on risk assessment, management, perception, and communication in the topic areas of human health, safety, and the environment.

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