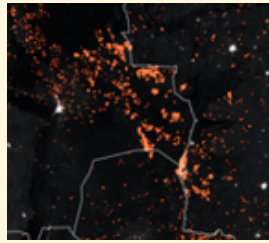


SIO 15: 2019 NUMBERS AND TRIVIA



5th-wettest

tropical cyclone recorded in the continental U.S. when Imelda's rains caused flooding in southeast Texas.



2,240,000 acres

total burn area in the Amazon rainforest. This is five times the area of California's largest fire.

over 80%

the fraction of wildfires in the U.S. that are started by humans. Less than 20% have a natural cause.

heat waves

in the U.S., the #1 natural disasters killer, in the last few decades.



295

km/h sustained wind speed when Hurricane Dorian made landfall in the Bahamas. Together with the Labor Day 1935 hurricane this is the strongest Atlantic hurricanes at landfall.

1042

confirmed tornadoes in the U.S., as of Sep 26. Three of these were EF4. With 301 tornadoes, the most serious outbreak occurred May 17-30.



2975

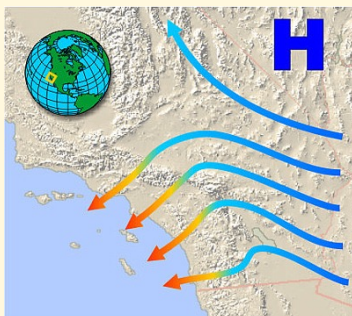
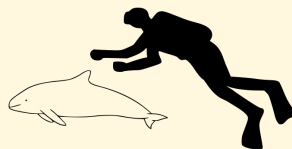
updated fatalities in Puerto Rico from 2017 Hurricane Maria. The initial estimate was 64. Surpassing 2005 Katrina, Maria became the deadliest recent natural disaster on U.S. territory.

9

vaquita left in the wild. Down from 60 in 2015 and 30 in 2016. The small dolphin in the Gulf of California is caught as by-catch in gill nets intended for totoaba, a critically endangered fish. Totoaba swim bladders are highly priced on the Chinese market.

October

peak of wildfire season in SoCal. Santa Ana weather brings low humidity and strong winds near the end of the dry summer season. Low humidity makes it easier to start and spread a fire and strong winds quickly push a fire out of control.



Indonesia

#3 contributor to greenhouse gas CO₂. The top two contributors are China and the U.S.. China surpassed the U.S. as #1 in 2007. While both are top CO₂ emitters, Indonesia's contribution is through deforestation.

2

Northern white rhinos left in the world. The two females are too old to reproduce. The last male died in March 2018.

450

years it takes for a plastic bottle to degrade fully.