Sciline Media Briefing:
The Role of Climate in Heat, Fire & Floods

Slides presented by
Dr. Marshall Shepherd
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It is now possible to estimate the influence of climate change on some types of specific extreme events, in particular:

- Heat waves
- Cold events
- Droughts
- Heavy Precipitation

**Asking the right questions:** The way attribution questions are posed influences how they are answered.
Asking the Right Questions

- A definitive answer to the commonly asked question of whether climate change “caused” a particular event to occur cannot usually be provided.
- Natural variability almost always plays a role (cookie analogy).

Not-so-great question:
- Was this event caused by climate change?

Better questions:
- Are events of this severity becoming more or less likely because of climate change?
- To what extent was the storm more or less intense because of climate change?
Understanding of effect of climate change on event type

Rain

Drought

Snow & ice

Cold

Heat

SCS

Trop. cyclones

Extra-tropical cyclones

LOW

HIGH

LOW

HIGH

Understanding of effect of climate change on event type
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Slides presented by
Dr. Timothy Brown
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