Climate Change Individual (Partner) Research Topics:

Now that we have had a chance to discuss some of the natural and anthropogenic drivers of climate change, and looked at a set of surface temperature data of the contiguous US, I would like you to each dig a little deeper into a topic of your choice.

This topic should include:

* Organizing and analyzing a data set or sets (lots of public data available!)
* Researching and explaining the reasons this data is important / useful / related to climate change
* Researching and explaining the influence humans have had on this “change” (if any).
* Researching if there is anything being done to mitigate the impact of this data (if applicable)
* Researching how this data might connect to other drivers of climate change (potential as feedback mechanism).

Steps:

1. Look through some of the websites I have posted (or any others that you deem useful) to find a topic that interests you.
2. See what publicly available data you can find and work with it.
3. Analyze and interpret what it all means and do further research into the implications of this data and how it relates to other drivers/impacts of climate change.

Grading:

* Organization and analysis of data set (20 pts)
* Explanation of how and where the data was collected and how it in general relates to climate change. Ex. is it a negative or positive driver or is it an impact? Is it human cause, natural, or a combination? (20 pts)
* Integration of scientific research that offers a deeper explanation of your data. For example cause/effect relationships, temporal changes, human/natural inputs, feedback loops. (20 pts)
* Presentation of your work (20 pts)