

We review 30 years of climate impacts projections for the Pacific coast of the United States under a variety of climate scenarios and compare them with observations from field and remote sensing. Summers have become warmer and drier, fire season longer, drought stress more severe, endemic pests more lethal, vegetation shifts obvious. We present results from a vegetation model that has been used since 1995 to simulate ecosystem responses to a variety of climate futures. Strengths and weaknesses of the vegetation model and its drivers are highlighted. The major conclusion of the study is that uncertainty with climate and vegetation model projections is much less than that of human choices and sociopolitical decisions.