Context for E&D colleagues: SueEllen talked to her editor at U of Cal press about this book at AGU, and he’s interested. We started with two alternative plans, one of which is about to be taken care of by a new *Global Warming Reader* edited by Bill McKibben, coming out from Penguin in March, with many key primary texts that we would have wanted to include. So we’re now thinking about the other plan, as below.

Audience:

* classes at universities and colleges that want to offer a multidisciplinary introduction to climate change: both single-discipline classes with an interest in the bigger picture, such as ATMOS 101: Climate Change, and general courses in environmental studies, sustainability, etc.
* non-specialist, non-major readers (including students in general education/core curriculum classes)
* general public (secondary)
* suitable for a quarter or semester but not as the sole text; rather, likely to be joined by more material from a single field or books on other subjects

Style:

* textbook use but not textbook style, size, or price
* lively, readable, verbs > nouns, zero jargon, direct address, 1st person OK
* 10-15 pages per chapter, unless an exception is better
* some color charts & art would be good but website/web links could substitute

Writers:

* experts with obvious credentials in the relevant fields, but coached and edited by us for readability, length, etc.
* introductory essay by me/us

Contents:

* overviews of key aspects of the climate change problem as it is seen by various perspectives, offering central information about the main issues, main current questions, what’s currently being done, and the main directions for future work
* subjects/perspectives based loosely on CC website, adjusted to fit academic structures (with alternative table of contents to indicate academic subjects)
* most written or revised for this book
* resource list at end of each section, provided by expert
* website (including sample syllabi) as supplementary source

Possible chapters with dream-team writers:

**Climate Itself:**

How it works, why it’s changing: Scott Denning

What’s natural, what’s not, and how we know (including paleo context, with somebody like Paul Mayewski):

What to expect (severe weather, etc): Mark Lynas (dream!)

**Natural Ecosystems (biology, ecology, oceanography, wildlife):**

Land plants and animals and ecosystems (phenology, weeds, extinctions, etc.): somebody like Richard Primack, Tom Lovejoy, Amy Seidl, David Inouye, Carol Boggs

Oceans (acidification, coral, warmer): Carl Safina, Healy Hamilton

**Food/Agriculture/Rangelands (ag, nutrition):**

Maybe one piece on food production (crops, rangelands, soils, weeds) and one on eating

**Human Face (social sciences, arts, humanities):**

Effects on People (include refugees, climate justice, solastalgia, cities, health, adaptability/resilience: this would probably be more than one essay!): Lori Peak

Ethics: Kathleen Dean Moore (or Michael P. Nelson)

Arts (visual & literary, or both): Marda Kirn for visual; Adam Trexler for literature (and/or Marybeth Holleman)

Attitudes & Psychology (Hearts and Minds): Tony Leiserowitz

Communication: Bob Henson

**Taking Action (business, economics, political science):**

Policy: Michele Betsill

Business/Economics:

Energy: someone from NREL?

Daily Life: Make this a final essay, What You Can Do

**Our big questions, for which we’re soliciting your help:**

Aim for fewer longer pieces, or more shorter ones? (The latter might be easier to recruit writers for.)

Organize mostly by traditional departments, or do by topics? For instance, do “Sociology,” or do “Vulnerability and Resilience” (including sociology and anthropology) or do “Who’s at Risk, and What Can We Do about It?” or do, say, “Rain and Floods” (which could include climate/weather, hydrology, geomorphology [Ellen Wohl], risk and vulnerability [Lori Peek], inland and coastal . . . . but which would not fit into a departmental/disciplinary organization).

And who to try to recruit from outside CSU! Expert enough, willing enough, a good enough writer in this way, OK with being coached and edited . . .