

TIDE MODEL REOPENS
ALCATRAZ MYSTERY

NEW HORIZONS
NEARS PLUTO

KAMIKAZE TYPHOONS
STOPPED KUBLAI KHAN

EARTH

DESCENT INTO A CALDERA



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Scientists and dam managers are studying how the very dams that disrupt river ecosystems can be used to restore them using controlled releases of water.

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NASA's New Horizons spacecraft, the first mission to Pluto, will reach the former planet on July 14, 2015. After that, it will fly by the Kuiper Belt to explore the most distant bodies in the solar system.

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What is it like to descend into a volcanic caldera? The author — a geoscience education consultant and ski instructor — travels to South America to find out.

| [Karin Kirk](#)

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Growing up in Southern California, the author knew the damage earthquakes could do, but didn't worry about it as much as distant friends and family did. New research suggests this phenomenon may come down to how we perceive probabilities and risk. | [Katherine Fox-Glassman](#)

64 GEOLOGIC COLUMN: Nature for Couch Potatoes

Why humans seem to fear nature so much — when we are the ones dominating it — is unclear. However, a glance at how nature and wildlife are portrayed in print and on screen reveals our long history (with some exceptions) of declawing it to make ourselves feel safer. | [Ward Chesworth](#)

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