

Why are desert ecosystems suited to solar energy development?

Solar energy development is a significant driver of land-use change worldwide, and desert ecosystems are particularly well suited to energy production because of their high insolation rates. Deserts are also characterized by uncertain rainfall, high species endemism, and distinct landforms that vary in geophysical properties.

Can solar development predict environmental impacts across desert landforms?

These results demonstrate that the ecological consequences of solar development can vary over space and time, and suggest that a nuanced approach will be needed to predict impacts across desert landforms differing in physical characteristics.

How can solar energy help combat desertification?

Compared to 2010, the greening area reached 30.80 km² after PV projects. Opportunity to combat desertification and improve people's welfare in desert areas. Solar energy is considered one of the key solutions to the growing demand for energy and to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Can solar energy development reduce biodiversity and socioecological resources?

Our study demonstrates the potential for solar energy development in deserts to reduce biodiversity and socioecological resources, as well as the role that ESs play in informing energy transitions that are sustainable and just. This is a preview of subscription content, access via your institution

Could the world's largest desert be transformed into a solar farm?

Researchers imagine it might be possible to transform the world's largest desert, the Sahara, into a giant solar farm, capable of meeting four times the world's current energy demand. Blueprints have been drawn up for projects in Tunisia and Morocco that would supply electricity for millions of households in Europe.

Are deserts a recipient environment for solar energy development?

Nature Sustainability 3, 1036–1043 (2020) Cite this article Deserts are prioritized as recipient environments for solar energy development; however, the impacts of this development on desert plant communities are unknown.

The first set of study sites was comprised five solar energy facilities (Genesis, Imperial Solar Energy Center West, McCoy, The main perennial vegetation cover type in the study area is creosote ...

Downloadable (with restrictions)! Deserts are prioritized as recipient environments for solar energy development; however, the impacts of this development on desert plant communities are unknown. Desert plants represent long-standing ecological, economic and cultural resources for humans, especially indigenous peoples, but their role in supplying ecosystem services (ESs) ...

Abstract Land-use change from solar energy development may affect desert ecosystems and the soils, plants, and animals therein, yet our understanding of these ...

Wind, solar, and hydrological energy are promoted as "green," "clean," and "renewable energy" forms, but the scale and quantity of kinetic energy, or "green" extraction technologies, have been met with increasing concern within political ecology and environmental justice studies (Avila Citation 2018; Dunlap Citation 2019; Menton et al. Citation 2020; Dunlap, ...

Take for example BrightSource Energy, which spent at least \$56 million relocating threatened desert tortoises from its Ivanpah solar development site in the Mojave Desert. ...

Photovoltaic development has played a crucial role in mitigating the energy crisis and addressing global climate change. However, it has also had significant impacts on the ecological environment.

Arid sandy areas have great potential for producing solar power, so many solar photovoltaic (PV) systems have been constructed in desert regions. Hexi corridor, a ...

effects of this development on desert plants are poorly understood. Solar energy helps reduce the risks of climate change for society at large, but local disturbance from solar development in desert ecosystems may negatively affect native plants and promote colonization by invasive species.

Worldwide, the use of solar and wind energy is expected to increase more than any other energy source of the middle of this century [1].Solar and wind energy is abundant, environmentally clean, quiet and a renewable source of energy [2].Therefore, solar and wind energy as a renewable energy source is conquering the peak among different alternative ...

Our study demonstrates the potential for solar energy development in deserts to reduce biodiversity and socioecological resources, as well as the role that ESs play in ...

Solar energy has long been hailed as a key solution in the fight against climate change, but questions often arise about its environmental impact. A groundbreaking study ...

sured the effect of solar energy development decisions on desert plants at one of the world's largest concentrating solar power plants (Ivanpah, California; capacity of 392 MW).

PV solar facilities require a large amount of land per unit of electricity generated (15.01 km² /TWhr land-use efficiency) relative to traditional energy sources (e.g., surface coal: 8.19 km² /TWhr, natural gas: 0.95 km² /TWhr; [5]), and as much as 41,700 km² - an area larger than the state of Connecticut - are needed for conversion to solar energy to meet ...

Solar energy development causes land-use change and habitat alteration that may affect desert ecosystems. Tenebrionid beetles have evolved to exploit desert environments and heavily contribute to ecosystem functionality in aridlands, yet their species-specific, ecological responses to solar energy development are unknown.

The global primary energy consumption is 1.76 · 10¹¹ MWh in 2021, which also means that based on the current energy demand, the volume of desert photovoltaic power is able to supply the world with energy. The power supply of deserts in the Middle East, East Asia, Australia, and North America is ranked in sequence.

China tames "sea of death" desert's shifting sand with giant solar wall, trees. The green belt, completed with the help of 600,000 people, includes desert poplar, red willow, and saxaul ...

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