the pteropod, a key food source for salmon.

Here is my challenge to my Republican colleagues who say they are not scientists: Ask the scientists. Ask the scientists at your own home State universities. And ask the folks, by the way, not just the out of state, the folks—the people who see the changes happening around them. Ask your park rangers. Ask your forest rangers.

If a colleague is from North Carolina, ask the scientists at the University of North Carolina Institute of Marine Sciences.

If a colleague is from Colorado, ask the scientists at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder.

If a colleague is from Iowa, ask the scientists at the Center for Global and Regional Environmental Research at the University of Iowa.

If a colleague is from Arizona, ask the scientists at the University of Arizona, which hosts the Climate Assessment Program at Arizona State University.

If a colleague is from Florida, ask the scientists at the University of Florida’s Climate Institute.

If a colleague is from Texas, ask the scientists at the Texas Center for Climate Studies.

If a colleague is from New Hampshire, ask biologist Eric Orff, who works for the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department for 30 years, what is happening to the moose. Ask Mike Bartlett of the New Hampshire Audubon Society what is happening to the purple finch, the State bird.

If a colleague is from Utah, ask the Park City Foundation and, while colleagues are at it, employees at Alta Ski Area, Canyons Resort, Deer Crest, Deer Valley, or Park City Mountain Resort what they foresee for that industry.

If a colleague is from Idaho, ask University of Idaho Professor Jeffrey Hicke how rising temperatures let loose the bark beetle and decimated almost 1,000 square miles of the iconic mountain pine forests.

If my colleagues like big business, if they think only the private sector knows anything, then ask the big property casualty reinsurers such as Munich Re or Swiss Re, who have billions of dollars at stake and have to get this right.

If a colleague is from Georgia, ask the folks from Coca-Cola. If a colleague is from Arkansas, ask the folks from Walmart. If a colleague is from North Carolina, ask the folks at $30 billion clothing maker VF Corporation. They all have a lot of money riding on getting this right, and they are making decisions based on business, not on ideology. So ask them.

If my colleagues trust the military, ask Army General Locklear, commander of U.S. Pacific Command, who says climate risk is the most dangerous long-term challenge we face in the Pacific.

If my colleagues are looking for some pretty good high-level scientists, they might want to ask NASA and NOAA. Remember NASA? They put a rover safely on the surface of Mars, and they are driving it around on Mars. Do my colleagues think they might know what we are getting into? If they do, I would love to hear from them.

If my colleagues need to hear it from Republicans, ask former Republican Treasury Secretaries, such as George Shultz and Hank Paulson. Ask former Republican administrators such as Bill Ruckelshaus, Christine Todd Whitman, William Reilly, and Lee Thomas. Ask James Brainard, the Republican mayor of Carmel, IN. Ask Bob Dixon, the Republican mayor of Greensburg. Ask Betty Price, the Republican mayor of Fort Worth, TX. Ask Republican mayor Sylvia Murphy and county commissioner George Neugent of Monroe County, FL.

If my colleagues are not scientists, just ask. Do your homework. Exercise your responsibility that will come with the great power you have won. But don’t pretend climate change isn’t real. Even your own young voters know better than that. A majority of Republican voters under age 35 think a political candidate’s stance on climate change is ignorant, out of touch, or crazy. Those were the words checked off in the poll.

To paraphrase Michael Corleone from that great movie, “Don’t tell me it isn’t real, because it insults my intelligence and makes me very angry.”

To our Republicans, I say I want to be your best friend in all of this, the kind of best friend who tells you when you are in no shape to drive and should hand over the keys until you are sober. Ask your Aggies get climate change. Check it out.

If a colleague is from Utah, ask the Park City Foundation and, while colleagues are at it, employees at Alta Ski Area, Canyons Resort, Deer Crest, Deer Valley, or Park City Mountain Resort what they foresee for that industry.

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percent of the country’s population lives in poverty and that land, wealth, and political power are concentrated in the hands of a few.

The conflict over land in Paraguay, which dates back hundreds of years, has gone on for generations due to the expansion of mechanized soy production, primarily for export. Government policies, including tax breaks, access to credit, and weak environmental and labor regulations, have favored large corporate farms which are often foreign owned, and the owners often have little regard for the farmers who live on these lands, hoping that they will be pacified to guarantee continued access to the land.

As we have seen in many other Latin American countries, the Paraguayan Government has used the army, police, and judicial inaction or bias to protect the interests of the large landowners. The 35 year dictatorship of Alfredo Stroessner ended in 1989. He ruled under a state of siege, imprisoned and tortured political opponents, and reported to the public he gave away or sold for a pitiable $20 percent of the country’s land to friends of his regime. Paraguay is slowly moving beyond the Stroessner years, but since 1989 more than 130 small farmers who have tried to defend their land against the agrarian reform law have reportedly been killed.

I mention this bit of history to put into context what happened on June 15, 2012. According to information I have received, on that day several hundred police officers, backed by tanks and including armored vehicles, cleared a community of about 60 landless farmers who were occupying an area known as Marina Kue in eastern Paraguay. In the ensuing violence, eleven farmers and six police officers were killed and others injured from the gunfire. There has apparently been no investigation of the conduct of the police, despite the existence of published reports about human rights abuses, but all the farmers were charged with crimes.

The case of the Paraguayan Government an important opportunity to conduct a thorough, independent investigation of the events of June 15, prosecute and punish those responsible for the killings and injuries of the farmers and police officers, and enable poor farmers in that community to acquire legal rights to land and put it to productive use to feed their families.

I understand that the Paraguayan Government recently began working to reach an agreement with the affected communities regarding the land dispute prior to the beginning of the trial of the farmers later this month. This is encouraging news, and it could be a turning point if it results in a thorough, independent investigation and prosecution of those responsible and a just resolution of the dispute.

Paraguay and the United States, while separated by more than 4,000 miles, share many interests. As chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations and Related Programs, I have supported programs to help Paraguay strengthen its democratic institutions, promote efficiency and transparency, and promote equitable economic development. I also supported the funding for the Millennium Challenge Corporation’s Threshold Program in Paraguay.

The way to achieve these goals is to help Paraguay build the capacity and accountability of its public sector, expand its economy, and sustainably manage its natural resources. Few things would do more to advance these goals, and improve sovereign nations’ view of their neighbors, than an honest resolution of the dispute.

There will be other ways the United States and the U.S. Treasury Department can help Paraguay advance its goals, and improve its standing as a friendly and important partner in the hemisphere.

CHIXOY DAM REPARATIONS AGREEMENT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, more than 30 years ago, in the midst of Guatemala’s civil war, the construction of a large hydroelectric dam on the Chixoy River resulted in destruction of 33 indigenous Mayan communities and the massacre of more than 1,000 villagers and many other lives.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a description of Saturday’s ceremony formalizing the agreement, provided by the Guatemalan Embassy in Washington, be printed in the Record, as follows:

PREPARED STATEMENT OF THE GUATEMALAN EMBASSY

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a description of my recent trip to Guatemala be printed in the Record, as follows:

President Perez Molina Formalizes Historic Agreement

The President of Guatemala, Otto Perez Molina, formalized an historic agreement for economical reparations for 33 communities of Baja Verapaz affected by the construction of the Chixoy Hydroelectric in 1978.

A public event was held in the Municipal Stadium in Rabil, Baja Verapaz on Saturday, where representatives of the Executive, the affected communities, the Right to Truth and Ombudsman’s Office, the Organization of American States and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights handed the Government Decree number 378-2014 to the Communities.

"Today is an historic day" expressed President Perez Molina, "one that closes a shameful chapter of abuses, human rights violations and injustices suffered by thousands of families that lived in the area where Chixoy was built". Also, in front of thousands of families that were affected, the President attended the formalization of the Government Decree at the Rabil Municipal Stadium, he ratified his administration’s commitment to comply with the terms of the Public Policy.

He continued to express, on behalf of the State of Guatemala, a public apology to the families of the 33 communities that were wronged by the construction in 1978 of the Chixoy Hydroelectric Dam. With this public apology, he began implementing the Government Decree for moral and material reparations. "I want to be the first to follow through with the public policy of reparations and comply with one of the main points of the agreement which guarantees the right of the Presidency of Guatemala. So today, in this historic day of happiness and celebration of