



First Friday All Climate Change Talks (FFACCTs)

Hosted by the USDA Forest Service

Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

November 3, 2017, 11:00 a.m. (ET)



Welcome and Introductory Comments

Steve McNulty, Director, USDA Southeast Regional Climate Hub (SERCH)

Washington Office Update

Karen Dante, Climate Change Adaptation and Policy Specialist, Office of Sustainability and Climate (OSC)

- The OSC's [Drought Gallery](#) features information on drought and climate, factsheets on various resources, regional workshop updates, and maps of climate indicators changing over time. Please consider linking to the Drought Gallery, and follow up with Karen (sdantewood@fs.fed.us) with thoughts and ideas.

Climate Science Center Updates

Toni Lyn Morelli, Research Ecologist, Northeast Climate Science Center (NE CSC) & University of Massachusetts

- Bethany Bradley (University of Massachusetts) will present a [webinar on invasive species and climate change](#) on November 8. See the [NE CSC website](#) for more information, recorded webinars, and upcoming webinar schedules.

- The NE CSCS is holding a special afternoon session on the impacts of sugar maple and maple sugaring at the [Forest Ecosystem Monitoring Cooperative's annual meeting](#) on December 15 at the University of Vermont.

- The new [Northeast Refugia Research Coalition website](#) is available. The Coalition is moving forward on comparing maps of spruce-fir refugia across the Northeast, as well as developing a plan for managing cold water stream refugia for brook trout, etc., with the state of Massachusetts, Keith Nislow (NRS), Ben Letcher (USGS), and others. Contact Toni Lyn (tmorelli@usgs.gov) to join the Coalition.

Station and Regional Updates

Leslie Brandt, Climate Change Specialist (Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science - NIACS), Eastern Region

- The Climate Change Resource Center (CCRC) has a new topic page on the [Effects of Drought on Forests and Rangelands](#).

- NIACS will be offering two 7-session online adaptation training opportunities this fall and winter. An urban forestry adaptation online training will be held beginning November 7 (registration is closed). Another training will be held beginning January 15 that focuses on forests in New England and New York. Registration is currently open for that course. Visit the [Climate Change Response Framework website](#) for more information.

- NIACS is also offering a 3-day, in person training in Minneapolis February 27-March 1. This training is geared for Forest Service climate change coordinators and resource managers in the East. Contact Leslie (lbrandt@fs.fed.us) to register.

- NIACS will be working with several national forests on adaptation projects in November. Leslie Brandt and Kristen Schmitt will be visiting the Shawnee National Forest to film a project supported by the Wildlife Conservation Society Adaptation Fund and meeting with Hoosier National Forest staff on using the adaptation workbook with a new project there. Stephen Handler and Kristen Schmitt will be meeting with the Ottawa National Forest to go through the adaptation workbook.

Emrys Treasure, Regional Inventory, Monitoring, and Assessment Coordinator, Southern Region

- In addition to work continuing on the Nantahala-Pisgah National Forests, the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas are working on their forest plan assessment. As this assessment continues, the Southern Region is looking for best available science sources on a wide range of climate-related topics, including to build meaningful partnerships and collaborations.

- The [El Yunque National Forest](#) in Puerto Rico had nearly completed their plan revision when they were impacted by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Currently, as it should be, the focus is on the humanitarian response. All Forest Service employees have been accounted for. However, there is a long road ahead to recovery, including assessing the impacts on El Yunque and implications for their revised forest plan.

- There is lots of work and discussion related to restoration in the Southern Region, including longleaf and shortleaf restoration that is clearly aligned with increasing ecosystem resilience to many of the effects expected with climate variability and change.

- Sarah Wiener from the Southern Research Station and the USDA Southeast Climate Hub will be helping to design a "monitoring census" that will help to better define monitoring activities that may be important in informing understanding of climate variability and change. The first interview and survey phase of that project is nearly complete; the focus will be on analysis and interpretation of those data throughout the fall and winter.



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Presentation

["A Fire Weather Intelligence Portal for the Southeast"](#)—Corey Davis, State Climate Office of North Carolina

The next FFACCTs will take place December 1.

Please send comments, feedback, and presentation suggestions to Stephanie Worley Firley, Eastern Threat Center, (sworleyfirley@fs.fed.us) and visit the [FFACCTs webpage](#) for additional information.