



First Friday All Climate Change Talks (FFACCTs)

Hosted by the USDA Forest Service

Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

November 7, 2014—11:00 a.m. (ET)



FFACCTs Highlights

Welcome and opening remarks by Sarah Workman, Extension & Tech Transfer Specialist, SRS-Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

Washington Office (Research and Development) Update

Karen Dante, Climate Change Fellow, Climate Change Advisor's Office (CCAO)

- On October 8, the Administration released the Climate and Natural Resources Priority Agenda. It identifies a suite of actions the Federal Government will take to enhance the resilience of America's natural resources to the impacts of climate change. The agenda, which was called in the President's Executive Order on Climate Preparedness was developed jointly by Federal agencies and is informed by the President's State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience and other stakeholder engagement.
 - The agenda provides a strategy with four focal areas: foster climate resilient lands and waters, manage and enhance US carbon sinks, enhance community preparedness and resilience by utilizing and sustaining natural resources and modernize Federal programs, investments, and delivery of services to build resilience and enhance sequestration of biological carbon.
 - Report found here -
http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/enhancing_climate_resilience_of_americas_natural_resources.pdf

USDA Climate Hubs Update

Rachel Steele, National Hub Coordinator, USDA Office of the Chief Economist

The Climate Hubs launched their website at <http://www.usda.gov/climatehubs> and they are continuing work on regional vulnerability assessments to highlight the risks and vulnerabilities to the primary crops, livestock, and forest types in each region. The website highlights the climate hub regions and tools that could be useful to their stakeholders.

Northeast Climate Science Center (NECSC) Update

Toni Lyn Morelli, Program Manager, Northeast Climate Science Center Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Environmental Conservation University of Massachusetts

- The Northeast Climate Science Center will be announcing six new projects in the next few weeks - stay tuned for the press release. In addition, the Fy15 RFP review is on, with 10 full proposals received.
- NE CSC Consortium Member College of Menominee Nation held a successful Shifting Seasons Summit 2 weeks ago, with nearly 150 tribal, federal, state, local, and NGO representatives attending. More information can be found at: <http://sustainabledevelopmentinstitute.org/shifting-seasons-summit/>
- The Northeast Climate Science Center Fall 2014 Webinar Series is going strong! Previous webinars, which can be found at our website (necsc.umass.edu), include Jana Stewart's presentation on the NorEaST Stream Temperature Mapper and Tony D'Amato's presentation on Developing Forest Adaptation Strategies. Join us for the exciting webinars we have left in the semester, held on Wednesdays at 3:30 pm ET.
 - November 12, "Transposing Extreme Rainfall to Assess Climate Vulnerability"
Ken Potter & David Liebl University of Wisconsin - Madison To join, visit: <https://necsc.umass.edu/webinars/transposing-extreme-rainfall-assess-climate-vulnerability>
 - November 19, "Making decisions in complex landscapes: Headwater stream management across multiple agencies using structured decision making"
Rachel Katz, UMass Amherst To join, visit: <http://necsc.umass.edu/webinars/making-decisions-complex-landscapes-headwater-stream-management-across-multiple-agencies-us>



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- o December 3, "Building Tribal Capacity for Climate Change Adaptation"
Chris Caldwell, College of Menominee Nation To join, visit: <http://necsc.umass.edu/webinars/building-tribal-capacity-climate-change-adaptation>

Southeast Climate Science Center (SECS) Update

Aranzazu Lascrain, Program Coordinator, SECS/Global Change Forum

- Our external reviewers are currently reviewing proposals that were submitted for our FY2015 RFP. We are about to announce our two FY2014 projects.
- The SE CSC held two workshops in October:
 - o 1) A 1.5 day science video making workshop with Karen McKee (USGS and The Scientist Videographer) to a cohort of 18 participants.
 - o 2) A science communication workshop (principles of and practitioner BMPs). One of the presenters was Susan Hassol, lead communicator for the National Climate Assessment
- Four Climate Science Centers including the SE CSC presented at the Shifting Seasons Summit at the Menominee Nation on October 15-17. Feedback was positive from many that it was a terrific conference.
- SE CSC organized a poster session for the AGU Fall meeting in San Francisco: New Opportunities in Global Change Collaboration: Utilizing Federal-University Partnerships to Develop Actionable and Needs Driven Science Agendas. USDA Climate Hub, NOAA-RISAs, and Climate Science Centers are presenting.
- The United States Eastern Tribes (USET) have invited the SE CSC to present at their annual meeting, Dec 2-4, in Oneida, NY, on services and opportunities for collaboration with eastern tribes.

Station Updates

Sarah Workman, Extension & Tech Transfer Specialist, SRS-Eastern Forest Threat Assessment Center, Southern Research Station (SRS) Update

- SRS went through a Chief's review in mid-October. Region 8 and IITF participated in the review, and climate change was one of the topics addressed in the review.

David Hollinger, Project Leader (Climate, Fire, and Carbon Cycle Sciences), Northern Research Station (NRS)

- NRS scientist Lindsay Rustad is working on the SMART Forest Initiative. The goal of SMART is getting the experimental forest in NRS connected to produce real time climate data. A press release will be coming out Nov. 25 about work done at the New York City Urban Experiment Station site. http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/sustaining_forests/monitoring_assessment/smart_forests/
- Lindsay has also initiated a drought experiment at the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest, and that forest will be hosting an international meeting in Nov. with focus on larger scale ecosystem manipulation.
- Rich Birdsey, Chirs Woodall and other NRS scientists are continuing to work on the NASA Carbon Monitoring Systems Project. A team meeting applications workshop will be occurring later this month.
- The NE Climate Hub is interviewing for a part-time content manager.
- NRS will soon send out a call for proposals on adaptation strategies and tools.
- Echo feedback on shifting seasons as a terrific conference.



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National Forest System Updates

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

- Leslie recently attended the Minnesota Adaptation Conference, and NIACS received an Institutional Award for Adaptation for their work in Minnesota. She acknowledged much credit is due to Seven Handler for his role the work's success.
- NIACS will co-host the Urban Tree Conference, Nov.18-19 with The Morton Arboretum. The topic of the conference is Managing Urban Forest in a Changing Climate.
- A workshop on Bottomland Hardwood Restoration, January 21-22 in southern Illinois.
- Work on climate change adaptation strategies with the National Forests -- working with the Green Mountains and the White Mountains on adaptation planning. We will also be working with them on monitoring guidance for compliance with the 2010 planning rule.

David Meriwether, Ecosystems Management Coordinator, Southern Region

- R8 has nearly completed its score card accomplishments evaluations, and all but two forests are meeting the score card goals for 2015. R8 plans to focus on the training element in FY15 with respect to adaptation, response, monitoring, and carbon management.
- With attention on the training element and adaptation response, especially monitoring, work will focus on Forest Plans and Restoration Projects. The intent is to learn from experiences, share knowledge and strengthen support for the National Forests. >> We know we have carbon stock estimates and some trend data but what does that mean for us?
- We plan to have evaluations completed by our next call.

Presentation

"Building climate-resilient stream and river ecosystems in the northeast US: science and applications" -- Keith Nislow, Research Fisheries Biologist, Northern Research Station, and Adjunct Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts

Q&A with Keith Nislow

Round Robin Discussion

No additional comments.

The next FFACCTs will take place December 5. See <http://www.forestthreats.org/news/upcoming-events/ffaccts> for details.

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.