

First Friday All Climate Change Talks (FFACCTs)



Hosted by the USDA Forest Service
Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center
April 5, 2013—11:00 a.m. (ET)

FFACCTs Highlights — Opening remarks by Steve McNulty, Ecologist and Team Lead, Eastern Threat Center

Washington Office Updates (Research and Development)

Cathy Dowd, Natural Resource Specialist, Climate Change Advisor's Office

- The <u>National Environmental Justice Conference</u> recently took place in Washington, DC. Cathy shared information during a panel discussion, including the Forest Service's all-Station approach to tribes and climate change.
- During a recent kickoff meeting for the National Report on Sustainable Forests-2015, participants from the Roundtable on Sustainable Forests provided input on key forestry issues, report structure, and ideas for communicating report information.
- The <u>National Fish</u>, <u>Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy</u> has been released. Contact Cathy at cdowd@fs.fed.us for additional information.

South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC) Update

Lori Barrow, Information Transfer Specialist/USDA Forest Service Liaison

- Steering committee updates: Marshall Williams (Department of Defense) is the new chair, Mike Harris (Georgia Department of Natural Resources) will serve as vice chair, and Keith Lawrence (FS Southern Region) has joined.
- The Conservation Planning Atlas has been launched.
- The SALCC's 2012 Annual Report is now available.
- Join the <u>Triangle Climate & Landscape Researchers Brown Bag</u> monthly series. Information is available on the <u>SALCC</u> <u>website</u>.

Station Updates

Tom Schmidt, Assistant Director, Northern Research Station

- The NRS Strategic Foresight Group, led by Rich Birdsey (Climate, Fire, and Carbon Cycle Sciences), is focusing on long-range planning and adding a rapid response team.

National Forest System Updates

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

- Draft Vulnerability Assessments are available for the Central Hardwoods, Minnesota, and Michigan. Contact Leslie (lbrandt@fs.fed.us) to view the drafts.
- Demonstration projects are moving forward. Stephen Handler (NRS Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science) is leading a group working on the Superior National Forest. Patricia Butler and Maria Janowiak (NRS NIACS) will lead an expert panel workshop on incorporating vulnerability considerations in the central Appalachians.
- Contact Leslie with examples of climate change inclusions in NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) documents.



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David Meriwether, Ecosystems Management Coordinator, Southern Region

- Forest planning assessment efforts are ongoing for the Nantahala-Pisgah, Francis Marion, and El Yunque National Forests.
- There is a growing interest in understanding carbon dynamics and management aspects that affect carbon. Support and information are being provided to the National Forests.

Presentation

- "Changes in the abundance of tree species under climate projections for the Central Hardwoods and Central Appalachians" – Frank Thompson, research wildlife biologist with the Forest Service Northern Research Station in Columbia, MO (archived presentation)

Round Robin

- Steve McNulty (Eastern Threat Center): Steve was contacted by the United South & Eastern Tribes with interest in using TACCIMO (Template for Assessing Climate Change Impacts and Management Options) to examine forest management impacts on carbon. FFACCTs presentations provide an opportunity to engage potential user groups.

***The next FFACCTs will take place May 3. Please send comments, feedback, and presentation suggestions to Perdita Spriggs, Eastern Threat Center, (<u>pspriggs@fs.fed.us</u>) and visit the <u>FFACCTs webpage</u> for additional information.