



First Friday All Climate Change Talks (FFACCTs)

Hosted by the USDA Forest Service

Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

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



FFACCTs Highlights – Steve McNulty, Director, USDA Southeast Regional Climate Hub

Washington Office Update

Karen Dante, Climate Change Adaptation and Policy Specialist, USDA Climate Hubs (USDA Office of Sustainability & Climate Change)

- First drought workshop was conducted in Atlanta with the Southern Region (R8).
- Will Continue to host drought workshops.
- White papers will come out of the workshops.

Climate Science Center Updates

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

- Spring webinar series announced! Find the list [here](#). The first seminar (Feb 8 @330) will focus on "Improving climate-adaptation planning for coastal communities: local planning informed by regional hazard exposure analysis". Nate Wood with the USGS and Taj Schottland from the National Wildlife Federation.
- Several of the NE CSC staff are authors for chapters in the Fourth National Climate Assessment.
- NE CSC Fellow [Nigel Golden](#) will be presenting at the [Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference](#) "Private Landscapes, Public Responsibilities" in Omaha, NE, on research and community involvement for urban monarch conservation "Assessment of Monarch Butterfly Habitat and Productivity in Urban Spaces: Methods and Approaches"; there will also be a poster by Toni Lyn Morelli on the "The Northeast Climate Science Center: Improving the way climate science informs resource management".
- Great publications out lately:
- Northeast U.S. Temperatures Are Decades Ahead of Global Average: Temperatures across the northeastern U.S. will increase much faster than the global average, according to a new study from researchers working with the Northeast CSC. Their analysis, based on climate model simulations, indicates that the Northeast will warm 2-degrees Celsius (the target in the recent Paris Agreement) about 20 years earlier than the world as a whole. Find out more [here](#).
- New England's 1816 "Mackerel Year," Volcanoes and Climate Change Today: In 1815, the eruption of Indonesia's Mt. Tambora resulted in the unlikely takeoff of New England's mackerel fishing industry. In the latest issue of Science Advances, researchers working with the Northeast CSC recount their investigation into the effects of Tambora's volcanic winter on coastal fisheries and explore the lessons that can be drawn from a past climate catastrophe. Find out more [here](#).

Ryan Boyles, Deputy Director, Southeast Climate Science Center (SE CSC)

- SE CSC conducting workshops on ecosystem drought.
- Finalizing the revisions to the 4-page glossy from that workshop.
- Strategic planning for next 5-10 years, reach out to Ryan with specific scientific interests.
- Listening tour of state fish and game agencies underway.

- Station and Regional Updates

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

- Drought workshop called Adapting Forest Watersheds to Climate Change held March 15-16 in Wisconsin and New Hampshire.
- Updated version of online adaptation workshop (adaptationworkbook.org) includes strategies for urban forestry and agriculture. Now more user friendly.
- Folks in Indiana are putting together a climate assessment for the state and are reaching out to researchers, so let Leslie know if you're interested in contributing.



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Emrys Treasure, Regional Inventory, Monitoring and Assessment Coordinator, USDA Forest Service, Southern Region

- Region 8 hosted the regional drought workshop.
- Continuing climate change efforts around forest plan revision: Francis Marion National Forest's new plan reflects 2012 planning rule, first in country to be out in final under the new rule.
- Working on forest plan revision in El Yunque NF in Puerto Rico.

Kier Klepzig, Assistant Director, USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station

- Attended R8 workshop in Atlanta.
- A recent article resulting from a partnership with Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, a new module on climate change impacts on indigenous needs can be found at <https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/compass/tag/eastern-band-of-chokeee-indians/>

Sarah Wiener, Research Fellow, USDA Southeast Regional Climate hub

- Michael Gavazzi detailing into SERCH Coordinator position.
- Acting director for SERCH needed through June 5 while Steve is on sabbatical.
- Attended R8 Workshop.
- Forward movement on Fire Weather Intelligence Portal expansion, Emerald Ash Borer alerts, and state fact sheets

William Gould, Research Ecologist, International Institute of Tropical Forestry, and Director, USDA Caribbean Climate Hub

- Establishing a project with a FSA liaison, national in scope, looking at relationships between drought as quantified by the drought monitor and the investments or payments to drought damages that FSA does through an indemnities programs, and relationship with NRCS incentive programs to reduce impacts to drought.
- Hosting a series of regional workshops with stakeholders, Caribbean on March 9-10. Remote connections available.
- Submission accepted for special issue of Climatic Change, paper on climate change and suitability for coffee growing – rising temps reduce suitability.
- Went into the field with farmers and university extension getting a project established on the use of cover crops and plantain growing.

Round Robin

Presentation

"[Managing for a Delicious Ecosystem Service under Climate Change: Can United States Sugar Maple \(*Acer saccharum*\) Syrup Production be Maintained in a Warming Climate?](#)" — Stephen Matthews, Assistant Professor of Wildlife Landscape Ecology, Ohio State University, and Ecologist, USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station.

The next FFACCTs will take place March 3.

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.