



First Friday All Climate Change Talks (FFACCTs)

Hosted by the USDA Forest Service

Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

April 1, 2016, 11:00 a.m. (ET)



FFACCTs Highlights – Opening remarks by Kier Klepzig, Assistant Director, Southern Research Station

Washington Office (WO) Update

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

- As part of President Obama's Climate Action Plan (2013), the Administration announced the National Drought Resilience Partnership, an interagency working group initiative to help communities prepare for future droughts and to reduce the impact of droughts on health, livelihoods, and the economy. In March, the President issued a Presidential Memorandum on Building National Capabilities for Long Term Drought Resilience and a Drought Resilience Action Plan which lays out a series of activities to fulfill the President's drought resilience goals including data collection, communication, drought planning, market-based approaches, and innovations.

USDA Climate Hubs Update

Rachel Steele, National Coordinator, USDA Climate Hubs

- Building Blocks for Climate Smart Agriculture & Forestry workshops were recently held in Beltsville, MD, and Chicago, IL. Two remaining workshops will be held in Las Cruces and Albuquerque, NM. Workshop findings, including regional challenges and opportunities, will be communicated in June.

- Abstracts have been submitted for a special issue of the *Journal of Climatic Change* based on vulnerability assessments.

Climate Science Center Updates

Alex Bryan, Climate Scientist / Postdoctoral Fellow, Northeast Climate Science Center (NE CSC)

- Julio Betancourt (U.S. Geological Survey) presented "Patterns, Sources, and Consequences of Seasonal Timing Variations and Trends in the U.S." during the Engaging Stakeholders in Climate Adaptation seminar series on April 6. The webinar will be archived at <http://necsc.umass.edu>.

- The Early Career Climate Forum recently featured a [NE CSC blog](#) on women in science.

- "[Changes in seasonal climate outpace compensatory density-dependence in eastern brook trout](#)" (Bassar et al.) was recently published in *Global Change Biology*.

- New research from Rob DeConto (University of Massachusetts), [published in Nature](#) and [covered in the New York Times](#), suggests that seas may rise by 6 feet by 2100.

Aranzazu Lascurain, Program Coordinator, Southeast Climate Science Center (SE CSC)

- A Department of the Interior inspector visited the SE CSC to discuss the relationship between CSCs and Landscape Conservation Cooperatives.

- The SE CSC will attend the Southeast and Caribbean Climate Community of Practice workshop in Georgia on April 13.

- The SE CSC is planning a workshop with United South and Eastern Tribes this summer to assist with adaptation planning within their communities.

- Applications are being reviewed for a Deputy Director to be in place by the end of 2016.

- The SE CSC recently hosted a seminar, "Facts Are Not Enough: Why Does a Climate Scientist Care about a Faith Based Response to the Impacts of Climate Change?" A panel discussion featured climate scientist Katharine Hayhoe and representatives from Catholic, Jewish, and Islamic faiths.

Station Updates

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

- A [report](#) on the [Northern Forest Futures Project](#) is now available online

- Dave recently visited the Oak Ridge National Lab and discussed recent results from the [Spruce-Peatland Response Under Climate and Environmental Change \(SPRUCE\) Experiment](#).



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- The first Northeast Climate Hub newsletter was recently published. Contact Dave (dhollinger@fs.fed.us) to sign up.
- Funding is available from the Washington Office for climate hub-related projects. Proposals are due April 18.

Kier Klepzig, Assistant Director, Southern Research Station

- The Southeast Regional Climate Hub (SERCH), with assistance from the Climate Learning Network, is offering a [new series of webinars](#) on demand. The webinars were originally presented during SERCH's two-day online Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Workshop held in January.
- SERCH recently supported the Women Owning Woodlands Workshop directed by University of Arkansas extension specialist Tamara Walkingstick.
- Glenn Fowler, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) risk analyst, has joined the SERCH team as an APHIS liaison. John Lee joined the SERCH team as a USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) liaison on detail from his position as NRCS Arkansas state agronomist.

National Forest System Updates

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

- Hanna Abbotts will join NIACS on April 11 as the content manager for the [Climate Change Resource Center](#).
- Stephen Handler recently met with the Hiawatha National Forest to incorporate climate change into a management project. Maria Janowiak recently met with partners in New England.
- The USDA Midwest Regional Climate Hub hosted a workshop to highlight information, resources, and strategies to help producers prepare for and respond to changing weather and climate. Co-hosts for the event included NIACS, the University of Wisconsin Extension, and the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts.
- The USDA Northern Forests Climate Hub and Forest-Climate Working Group recently held a workshop on forest carbon and greenhouse gas in Chicago. With a diverse audience of practitioners from private industry, non-governmental organizations, Land Trusts, Academia, and USDA, the meeting addressed key concepts on forest carbon mitigation and accounting, and solicited feedback on barriers practitioners encounter implementing mitigation projects in the field. The information gained at this workshop will be used during a second workshop for Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service program managers in Washington, DC, on May 17.

Presentation

["Office of Sustainability and Climate Change"](#) — Cynthia West, Executive Director, Forest Service Office of Sustainability and Climate Change

The next FFACCTs will take place May 6.

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.