



## First Friday All Climate Change Talks (FFACCTs)

Hosted by the USDA Forest Service

Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

February 7, 2014—11:00 a.m. (ET)



### FFACCTs Highlights — Opening remarks by Steve McNulty, Director, USDA Southeast Regional Climate Hub, and Ecologist

#### Washington Office Updates (Research and Development)

##### **Greg Kujawa, Senior Staff Assistant, Climate Change Advisor's Office**

- The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) provided guidance for updating climate change adaptation plans in response to [Executive Order 13653](#), Section 5 (Federal Agency Planning for Climate Change Related Risk). The Forest Service is developing a draft document (due to CEQ in March) that includes information about climate change impacts to agency operations and mission delivery. Climate change adaptation plans will be updated every four years to coincide with the [National Climate Assessment](#).

##### **Karen Dante, Climate Change Fellow, Climate Change Advisor's Office**

- Secretary Vilsack [announced](#) the USDA Regional Hubs for Risk Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change on February 5.

#### Southeast Climate Science Center (SECSC)

##### **Jerry McMahan, Director**

- The SECSC held a [grand opening](#) in January at North Carolina State University involving many partners and [speakers](#).
- The [Global Change Forum](#) provides a joint presence for the [SECSC's website](#) as well as the new [Southeast Regional Climate Hub \(SERCH\) website](#).
- The SECSC's FY15 request for proposals will be released in March.

#### South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC) Update

##### **Lori Barrow, Information Transfer Specialist/USDA Forest Service Liaison**

- The draft [Conservation Blueprint](#) has been released and identifies shared priorities and opportunities for pooling resources. A feedback survey is available.
- Lori and Emrys Treasure (Eastern Threat Center) will participate in a public workshop as part of the [Francis Marion National Forest's plan revision](#) process. They will demonstrate how the forest fits into the larger landscape using the Conservation Blueprint, [TACCIMO](#), and other tools and models.
- Representatives from all 22 LCCs attended the LCC science coordinator staff workshop held in January.
- The LCC National Council Meeting was held this week. Mary Wagner (Forest Service Associate Chief) is part of this council. Lori will share more information during the next FFACCTs.

#### Station Updates

##### **Kier Klepzig, Assistant Director, Southern Research Station (SRS)**

- The SRS will lead the [Southeast Regional Climate Hub \(SERCH\)](#) in Raleigh, NC. A sub hub will be located in Río Piedras, Puerto Rico.
- The SRS just completed a Deputy Chief's review. Climate change research, SERCH, the Eastern Threat Center, and TACCIMO were among the efforts highlighted. Lori Barrow (SALCC) served on a panel of partners.

##### **Lindsey Rustad, Team Leader and Research Ecologist, Northern Research Station (NRS)**

- The NRS will lead the [Northeast Climate Hub](#) in Durham, NH. A highly interactive website is in development, and listening sessions with stakeholder groups are being planned.



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### **National Forest System Updates**

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

- The [Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science](#) will collaborate with the Northeast Climate Hub and Midwest Climate Hub (as part of a sub hub located in Houghton, MI).
- [Forest Adaptation Planning and Practices](#) workshops were recently held in Michigan and Missouri.

### **Presentation**

- "Research Support for National Forest Carbon Assessments" – **Richard Birdsey**, PhD, Forest Service Northern Research Station Strategic Foresight and Rapid Response Group Program Manager, Newtown Square, PA

***\*\*\*The next FFACCTs will take place March 7. Please send comments, feedback, and presentation suggestions to Perdita Spriggs, Eastern Threat Center, ([pspriggs@fs.fed.us](mailto:pspriggs@fs.fed.us)) and visit the [FFACCTs webpage](#) for additional information.***