



First Friday All Climate Change Talks (FFACCTs)

Hosted by the USDA Forest Service

Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

December 6, 2013—11:00 a.m. (ET)



Opening Remarks: Steve McNulty, Team Leader and Ecologist, Eastern Threat Center

Washington Office Updates (Research and Development)

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

- USDA climate change hub locations will be announced this month. Contact Randy Johnson (randyjohnson@fs.fed.us) for more information.
- Points of contact from the Washington Office attended a recent climate change coordinators' workshop. Objectives were to identify common goals to improve Scorecard guidance and performance, and to better align programs and policies with mitigation and monitoring efforts. Action plans were developed to improve vulnerability assessments, adaptation efforts, carbon assessment and stewardship, and monitoring. Workshops notes will be posted on the intranet at <http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/chief/climatechange/>.

Southeast Climate Science Center (SECS)

Aranzazu Lascrain, Program Coordinator

- The SECS's second annual report will be released in January.
- Visit the [Global Change Forum website](#) to view SECS newsletters or contact Aranzazu (alascrain@ncsu.edu) to sign up.

South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC) Update

Lori Barrow, Information Transfer Specialist/USDA Forest Service Liaison

- [Conservation Blueprint](#) design workshops were held in Savannah, GA, in November. About 200 attendees representing about 60 organizations participated. Information from the workshops is available for review and feedback at <http://salcc.databasin.org/>.
- LCC National Council Members have been [announced](#).

Station Updates

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

- The National Ecological Observatory Network tower at Bartlett Experimental Forest is in place and will be instrumented in 2014.
- Northeastern climate hub proposal responses were sent to the review panel. Jerry Hatfield (Agricultural Research Service) is heading the Midwestern hub proposal.
- Dave recently presented NRS climate change research to the NRS Leadership Team. A summary document is in development. Dave noted that about half of NRS research relates to climate change.

Steve McNulty, Team Leader and Ecologist, Eastern Threat Center

- Jim Vose and other SRS scientists are participating in the National Forest Drought Assessment. A report on recent kick-off discussions is in development.

National Forest System Updates

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

- [Forest Adaptation Planning and Practices](#) workshops were recently held in Vermont. More will be held in Michigan and Missouri in February.



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- The Eastern Region is developing a partnership with the [USA National Phenology Network](#) (USA NPN) in order to better use the USA NPN on National Forest lands. Regional working group meetings will begin in January. A pilot program will involve two Eastern Region National Forests; Southern Regional National Forests are welcome to participate. Contact Leslie at lbrandt@fs.fed.us.

David Meriwether, Ecosystems Management Coordinator, Southern Region

- The Southern Region received a regional carbon assessment report from the national team (Greg Kujawa and Sean Healey). National Forests have been briefed, and good perspective has been gained.

- The Region is focused on forest plan revisions and transitioning to climate change monitoring on all forests.

Presentation

- "Smart Forests for the 21st Century: How Cyber Technology and Big Data are Changing the Environmental Sciences" – **Lindsey Rustad**, PhD, Forest Service Northern Research Station Team Leader and Research Ecologist, Durham, New Hampshire ([archived presentation](#))

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