



# First Friday All Climate Change Talks (FFACCTs)

Hosted by the USDA Forest Service

Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

June 7, 2013—11:00 a.m. (ET)



## FFACCTs Highlights – Opening remarks by Steve McNulty, Team Leader and Ecologist, Eastern Threat Center

### Washington Office Updates (Research and Development)

#### **Randy Johnson, National Program Leader, Genetics and Global Change Research**

- Secretary Vilsack has [announced](#) the formation of Regional Climate Hubs to support farmers and land managers.
- Randy's office is working with USDA to address concerns about reduced carbon sequestration projected in the [2010 Resources Planning Act Assessment](#).
- A Forest Health Summit with the Canadian Forest Service is in the works. Some proposed projects relate to climate change impacts; other projects could relate to pests, invasives, and inventory and monitoring.

### Southeast Climate Science Center (SECSC)

#### **Gerard McMahon, Director**

- The SECSC recently interviewed two final candidates for a new permanent ecological modeling position.

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

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

- The [Conservation Blueprint](#) continues to develop. Version 1.0 should be complete early next year.
- SALCC indicator models were discussed during the June [Third Thursday Web Forum](#).
- SALCC staff members met in Atlanta with representatives from the Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources, National Park Service, Forest Service Regional Office, and others to provide updates on SALCC efforts. Contact [Lori](#) for more information.

### Station Updates

#### **Kier Klepzig, SRS**

- SRS and Eastern Threat Center scientists presented during the [annual meeting](#) of the Southern Group of State Foresters.
- Steve McNulty has joined the [Southeast Watershed Forum](#) Board of Directors. Through July 15, Sierra Nevada Brewing Company will donate a portion of proceeds to the Forum through the Wild Rivers Campaign.

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

- The Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science received the NRS Station Director's Award for excellence in science and technology.
- The NRS budget allows funding for continued development of important climate information and tools.
- Silas Little and Howland Cooperating Experimental Forests were selected for continued long-term funding for the newly restructured AmeriFlux network.
- Dave is sitting in on a federal partners' climate working group. A recent call addressed coordinating responses to Hurricane Sandy, consistent use of national assessments for planning (per the Global Change Research Act), and moving toward wall-to-wall LIDAR coverage.

### National Forest System Updates

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

- The [Forest Adaptation Planning and Practices](#) workshop will be held August 20-21. Contact [Leslie](#) or [Maria Janowiak](#) for more information.



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### Presentation

- "Southeast Climate Science Center 2013/2014 Science Planning: Issues and Considerations in Implementing a Decision-Oriented Project Portfolio" – Gerard McMahon, PhD, Director, Department of Interior Southeast Climate Science Center, Raleigh, NC ([archived presentation](#))

### Round Robin

- *Emrys Treasure/Lisa Jennings* (Eastern Threat Center): The development team behind the Template for Assessing Climate Change Impacts and Management Options (TACCIMO) led a virtual workshop at the United South and Eastern Tribes [semi-annual meeting](#).

- *Michele Schoeneberger* (National Agroforestry Center): The National Agroforestry Center is working with Grant Domke (NRS) to advance the agroforestry component of the [COMET-FARM](#) tool. Secretary Vilsack mentioned COMET-FARM during [recent remarks](#) about agricultural solutions to environmental challenges.

\*\*\*Michele provided additional information of interest:

- Link to [Conservation Buffers Guide](#) that was discussed [Scientist: Gary Bentrup, Research Landscape Planner, [gbentrup@fs.fed.us](mailto:gbentrup@fs.fed.us)]
- Link to the latest [OVERSTORY: CLIMATE CHANGE & AGROFORESTRY](#) – excerpted from the agroforestry center's *Branching Out* paper. Gives a quick brief on "conservation buffers/agroforestry" as a climate change tool on private lands – should give context to planning and design guide to create multifunctional practices and landscapes.

\*\*\**The next FFACCTs will take place August 2. 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.*