



First Friday All Climate Change Talks (FFACCTs)

Hosted by the USDA Forest Service Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

Agenda

Date: Friday, March 3, 2017

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (eastern)

Audience: Forest Service internal and external partners and stakeholders, non-governmental organizations, universities, customers, and other interested individuals

Connection Information: Please connect 5 minutes prior to the start of the forum.

- Join the Adobe Connect web meeting: <https://usfs.adobeconnect.com/ffacct-500/>
[Select "Enter as a Guest," enter your name, and click "Enter Room."]
- Dial (888) 844-9904, and enter passcode 9066591# to access audio.

Welcome and Introductory Comments

Joel Larson, Acting Director, USDA Southeast Regional Climate Hub

Washington Office Update

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

Climate Science Center Updates

Toni Lyn Morelli, Research Ecologist, Northeast Climate Science Center & University of Massachusetts
Jerry McMahon, Director, Southeast Climate Science Center

Station, Region, and Hub Updates

Dan Lawson, National Leader, USDA Climate Hubs
Kier Klepzig, Assistant Director, Southern Research Station
Dave Hollinger, Director, USDA Northeast Climate Hub
Leslie Brandt, Climate Change Specialist (Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science), Eastern Region
Emrys Treasure, Regional Inventory, Monitoring, and Assessment Coordinator, Southern Region
Michael Gavazzi, Acting Program Coordinator, USDA Southeast Regional Climate Hub
William Gould, Research Ecologist, International Institute of Tropical Forestry, and Director, USDA Caribbean Climate Hub

Presentation*

"The effects of climate variability on vegetation phenology across Great Smoky Mountains National Park" - Steve Norman, Research Ecologist, U.S. Forest Service Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

Round Robin

Final Comments

***Presentation Summary**

Seasonal climate variation has a remarkable impact on the onset, cessation, and duration of the growing season with implications for vegetation productivity, water, and other concerns. This research documents the influence of seasonal weather on green-up and senescence for Great Smoky Mountains National Park (North Carolina and Tennessee) for the 2000-2015 period. Findings indicate that warm springs accelerate green-up and warm falls delay senescence, with less influence from precipitation for fall. Researchers also found evidence for cross-seasonal climate impacts as well, which could complicate efforts to model phenological responses to climate. Additionally, the ability to efficiently monitor phenology from satellite is hampered by differences in cover type and by the effects of disturbances, including the hemlock woolly adelgid.

About Robert Baily



Steve Norman is a research ecologist with the U.S. Forest Service Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center, which is headquartered at the Southern Research Station in Asheville, NC. His research mostly involves forest phenology and disturbance monitoring from remote sensing and other datasets. His primary research interest is in wildland fire and he has worked at the stand, landscape, regional, and global scales. His fire work includes understanding how and why human- and climate-influenced fire regimes have changed over time and place. Prior to joining the Eastern Threat Center, he worked in northern California with the Pacific Southwest Research Station.