



First Friday All Climate Change Talks (FFACCTs)

Hosted by the USDA Forest Service

Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

December 2, 2016, 11:00 a.m. (ET)



FFACCTs Highlights – Danny Lee, Director, Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

USDA Climate Hubs Update

Dan Lawson, National Leader, USDA Climate Hubs (USDA Office of the Chief Economist)

- The hubs are currently assessing Fiscal Year 2016 outcomes for USDA's "Building Blocks for Climate Smart Agriculture & Forestry" report and discussing FY17 revisions and adjustments.
- The hubs are beginning to prepare for the upcoming Administration transition.

Climate Science Center Updates

Alexej Siren, Graduate Fellow, Northeast Climate Science Center (NE CSC)

- NE CSC Research Ecologist Toni Lyn Morelli recently sat on a panel at the [Vermont Monitoring Cooperative Annual Meeting](#) (themed "Healthy Forests, Healthy Watersheds") and spoke on climate change and invasive species.
- NE CSC Principal Investigator Anthony D'Amato, Paul Catanzaro (UMass Amherst), and Emily Silver Huff (U.S. Forest Service) have [created a guide, "Increasing Forest Resiliency for an Uncertain Future,"](#) for land owners and forest managers in New England.
- Alexej Siren is the lead author on two publications focused on forest and wildlife management: "[Spatial ecology and resource selection of a high-elevation American marten \(*Martes americana*\) population in the northeastern United States](#)" (*Canadian Journal of Zoology*) and "[Efficacy of remote telemetry data loggers for landscape-scale monitoring](#)" (*Wildlife Society Bulletin*).
- Toni Lyn Morelli gave the opening talk, "An Overview of the Impacts of Climate Change on Northeastern Wildlife," at [The Wildlife Society New England Chapter Fall Workshop](#). Contact Toni Lyn (tmorelli@usgs.gov) for more information.
- Toni Lyn is also involved in a new effort in the Pacific Northwest, the Refugia Research Coalition workshop, to facilitate the discussion of climate refugia management (following the publication of a [recent paper in PloS ONE](#)). Contact Toni Lyn (tmorelli@usgs.gov) with interest in extending this effort to the Northeast.

Ryan Boyles, Deputy Director, Southeast Climate Science Center (SE CSC)

- The SE CSC recently held a workshop focused on tribal engagement with the United South & Eastern Tribes.
- The SE CSC recently held its Workshop on Ecological Drought in the Southeast. A four-page newsletter will follow.
- An upcoming listening tour involving southeastern fish and wildlife agencies will identify priorities and how the issue of climate change fits into those priorities.

Station and Regional Updates

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

- The [Climate Change Resource Center](#) has released a third education module, "[Responses to Climate Change: What You Need to Know](#)," that provides an overview of adaptation options for resistance, resilience, and transition and describes how to incorporate these ideas into natural resource planning and activities.
- At the recent [Land Trust Alliance Rally](#), NIACS partnered with The Nature Conservancy on a 1-day seminar on "Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Land Stewardship Plans." Participants from around the United States and Canada considered how climate change might affect their conservation goals and worked in regional groups to develop adaptation responses. NIACS also led a fast-paced session, "Putting a 'Climate Change Filter' on Stewardship and Conservation," that introduced participants to a five-step process for considering climate change in their work.
- The Northern Forests Climate Hub partnered with the U.S. Department of the Navy, the California Climate Hub, and the U.S. Geological Survey on a recent workshop for natural resource management staff from multiple bases in the U.S. Navy's Southwest Region. Participants developed ideas for addressing climate change impacts and risk to their installations.
- The U.S. Forest Service and NIACS recently partnered with Minnesota natural resource agencies to host a workshop, "[Preparing Urban Forests in the Twin Cities for Climate Change](#)."
- The "[Preparing Urban Forests in the Boston Region for Climate Change](#)" workshop will be held in Cambridge, MA, January 24-25.



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- Weekly webinar sessions on "[Online Forest Planning and Practices for New England and New York](#)" will be held between January 16 and March 3.

Michael Gavazzi, Biological Scientist, Eastern Threat Center / USDA Southeast Regional Climate Hub (SERCH)

- SERCH was among the hubs participating in the recent Hub Forum held in Las Cruces, NM, which focused on measurable metrics for Fiscal Year 2017.
- SERCH Director Steve McNulty and Fellow Sarah Wiener will present at the "[Weather & Climate Decision Tools for Farmers, Ranchers, and Land Managers](#)" workshop in Gainesville, FL.
- Steve McNulty will participate in the upcoming "[Southern Ag Cover Crops, Soil Health, and Water Management Conference](#)" in Jonesboro, AR, and Drought Adaptation Workshop in Atlanta, GA.
- SERCH recently released its [first seasonal La Niña summary](#) to update subscribers on potential impacts.

William Gould, Research Ecologist, International Institute of Tropical Forestry, and Director, USDA Caribbean Climate Hub

- Leslie Weldon, Deputy Chief of the National Forest System, learned more about the Caribbean Climate Hub during a recent visit.
- A [video series](#) for the [ADAPTA project](#) includes "[Permaculture, Soil & Water Conservation for Climate Change Adaptation](#)," "[Climate Resilient Agriculture: Plantains & Vegetables](#)," and "[Cattle & Dairy Farming in the Tropics](#)." Some of these practices will be demonstrated in a series of related workshops, which will be recorded for use in local extension services.

Presentation

["The potential masking of eastern US forest vulnerability during the Anthropocene due to 20th Century climate"](#) — Neil Pederson, Senior Ecologist, Harvard Forest (Harvard University)

Round Robin

Joanna Mounce Stancil, Senior Advisor, U.S. Forest Service State and Private Forestry (S&PF)

- The [Educate, Motivate, Innovate \(EMI\) Initiative has extended its call for student climate justice abstracts to December 31](#). Abstracts will be presented at a workshop during the National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program (March 8-10), and students must be attending a Minority Serving Institution. Contact Joanna for (joannastancil@fs.fed.us) for more information.
- EMI is seeking paid internships for students presenting their abstracts during the workshop. Forest Service employees should send potential opportunities to Joanna (joannastancil@fs.fed.us) by January 17.
- EMI will hold a workshop during the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Climate Change Conference to be held March 15-19 in New Orleans, LA.

The next FFACCTs will take place February 3.

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.