



First Friday All Climate Change Talks (FFACCTs)

Hosted by the USDA Forest Service

Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

December 7, 2012—11:00 a.m. (ET)



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

Washington Office Updates (Research and Development)

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

- The 2010 Resources Planning Act Assessment report is available in hard copy and will be online at a later date. Contact Linda Langner (llangner@fs.fed.us) for copies.
- The National Climate Assessment General Technical Report should be released in January.
- Downscaled data discussions are exploring common scenarios that should be used across R&D and the National Forest System (NFS). Contact Randy (randyjohnson@fs.fed.us) to get involved in the conversation.
- Randy's office gave a presentation to the Chief about R&D support provided to the National Forest System.
- A draft paper on Forest Service assisted migration policy is available.

South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC) Updates

Ginger Deason, Information Transfer Specialist/USDA Forest Service Liaison

- The Natural Resource Indicator process has been approved. Selection and revision teams are being established.
- From Laurie Rounds, Gulf Cost liaison: A new report, "Global Sea Level Rise Scenarios for the United States National Climate Assessment," is available from NOAA's Climate Program Office. | The Gulf Coast Vulnerability Assessment work plan is open for comments.
- The National Conservation Training Center will offer a pilot course in February on addressing climate-related uncertainty.
- Janet Cakir and Rua Mordecai attended a meeting about the National Sustainability Atlas which will contain information and data layers on ecosystem services. A [conservation questionnaire](#) is online.
- Visit www.southatlanticlcc.org for more information about these and other projects.
- Ginger is returning to graduate school and will be leaving the LCC this month.

Station Updates

Kier Klepzig, Assistant Director, Southern Research Station

- A special issue of *Forest Science* features articles from a special session of the 16th Biennial Southern Silviculture Research Conference, "Southern Forest Science in Support of a Low Carbon Economy." See SRS's online science log, [CompassLive](#), to learn more.
- John Stanturf, Scott Goodrick, and Mel Warren from the SRS Center for Disturbance Science conducted a Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Liberia for USAID. The assessment was used to prepare a national report for UN climate talks in Qatar. See www.forestdisturbance.net for more info.

Tom Schmidt, Assistant Station Director, Northern Research Station

- The Northeast Climate Science Center will hold meetings in Massachusetts and Minnesota to discuss stakeholder science needs. A draft plan for the CSC's future focus areas is available. Contact Tom (tschmidt@fs.fed.us) for a copy.
- Superstorm Sandy's impacts have opened doors for new conversations about climate change, and the Forest Service could be positioned to play a greater role. Jamaica Bay (New York) could be a potential test area for post-Sandy studies resulting from a partnership with the National Park Service.



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National Forest System Updates

David Meriwether, Ecosystems Management Coordinator, Southern Region

- Much work is focused on Planning Rule implementation. The El Yunque National Forest (an early adopter) has initial draft planning assessment report information for the interdisciplinary team. The Template for Assessing Climate Change Impacts and Management Options (TACCIMO) team is providing support by generating research syntheses. The Francis Marion and Nantahala-Pisgah National Forests (middle adopters) are working with the interdisciplinary team and the public involvement process.
- There is an increasing regional focus on project-level NFS support needs.
- A new climate change steering team, which includes leadership from NFS and R&D, will hold its first meeting on Monday.

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

- Adaptation demonstration projects on the ground in northern Wisconsin are formally incorporating vulnerability assessment information. The Nature Conservancy and tribal partners are involved.
- The Nature Conservancy and Superior National Forest are starting a new adaptation project in Minnesota.
- The Chippewa National Forest is working with NRS on new LANDIS modeling to provide information for their vulnerability assessment.
- A webinar on preliminary vulnerability assessment results was held for the Central Hardwoods area. A complete assessment draft should be available in early 2013,
- Vulnerability assessment work in New England may include new work on infrastructure vulnerability.

Presentation

- "What is PINEMAP and how can it help you?"— Heather Dinon Aldridge, Applied Climatologist for the State Climate Office of North Carolina, Raleigh, NC

*****The next FFACCTs will take place February 1. 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.**