



Enhancing Workforce Climate Literacy

Background

Building a workforce that is literate about climate change effects and response options is fundamental to ensure that managers can address climate change as part of routine operations. The National Park Service (NPS) Climate Change Response Program has made it a priority to create the climate change content and tools the NPS needs to include this topic in daily work routines. Past efforts through regions and the Workforce and Inclusion Directorate have provided guidance on the development and delivery of relevant training. Informed by these efforts, climate change content was developed for inclusion into existing curricula and training programs across multiple disciplines. A priority has also been given to communication technology, such as video and online training platforms to enable larger numbers of people to benefit from training resources and materials.

The climate change training products available now are the result of effective partnerships with the NPS training managers and subject matter expert teams across a variety of career fields. More information on each training can be found on our intranet site:

www1.nrintra.nps.gov/climatechange/training.cfm

Training Modules and Tools

Interpretation and Education

A full curriculum teaches the knowledge, skills and abilities that front line interpreters need to actively engage the public on climate change in national parks. Taught twice a year as a virtual classroom course, it provides an overview of climate science in national parks, audience perspectives, and effective engagement techniques. The curriculum is also available as 4 online modules for self-paced learning.

Superintendent Leadership Series

Working with the New Superintendents Academy, a climate change leadership series provides a unique opportunity to hear about real climate change challenges directly from current superintendents. The series showcases useful resources, tools, management responses, lessons learned, and discussion among fellow managers. Over the course of the series, participants also develop their own park-based case study to explore how climate change challenges and solutions apply to their individual park. This series is available to superintendents, deputy superintendents, and senior park managers.

Training Videos

Fifteen place-based climate change videos are available online to enhance literacy and explore management actions on topics such as sea level rise, glacial melting, and species shifts:

www.nps.gov/subjects/climatechange/photosmultimedia.htm



To be effective leaders in climate change it is imperative to develop the content and tools staff need to incorporate climate change response into all aspects of NPS operations. NPS photo, rangers past and present.

External Partners

The NPS also engages with a larger communication and training community consisting of other federal agencies, universities and partners to share training content and tools. Examples include:

- Climate Fundamentals Academy hosted by the Association of Climate Change Officers is a 2-day training workshop to provide participants with a foundation for understanding greenhouse gas emissions, strategies for engaging stakeholders, assessing the legal and policy landscape and examining the implications of climate change.
- Earth to Sky, hosted by NASA, is a workshop-style course to provide a foundation in climate science with emphasis on the connection of global to local processes.

Training for Resource Specialists

An online module has been developed for inclusion in the Career Academy for Natural Resources. This module aims to help field-level resource specialists begin to identify the climate change questions for study in their park, prepare adaptation and planning options, and explore the benefits of citizen science. The module is available through DOI Learn.

More Information

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