

This is the first issue of CCRP News! Its purpose is to provide information on the latest news and projects that impact NPS efforts to manage our parks in a changing climate.



MITIGATION



ADAPTATION



COMMUNICATION

Webinar held August 13th at 2pm EST: Jonathan Overpeck

“The Southwest Climate Change Network: Social Networking Comes to Climate Science.” To view, go to: <http://nrpcsharepoint/climatechange/communication/Web%20Seminars/Presentations PowerPoints References>.

Pacific West Region Announces Carbon Neutral Vision for Park Operations

In an effort to lead by example and educate the public regarding ways to mitigate climate change impacts on park resources, Jon Jarvis, Regional Director of the Pacific West Region (PWR) has established a vision for the operations of PWR parks to become carbon neutral. We will achieve this vision by: continuously reducing the amount of greenhouse gases produced by our operations; increasing the amount of carbon sequestered in parks; and educating the public and enlisting their support in this endeavor. To learn more, you can access the PWR Climate Change Vision statement at <http://inside.nps.gov/regions/region.cfm?rgn=438&lv=3>.

More Climate Change News:

- Waxman-Markey bill: Summary/analysis at <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d111:H.2454>:
- NOAA meeting: Review/products at <http://nrpcsharepoint/climatechange/Meetings/Forms/Sorted.aspx>
- Upcoming workshops and meetings
 - “National Park Service Global Climate Change Training” August 26-27, Honolulu, HI, Frank_Hays@nps.gov
 - “Climate Change, Land Use Change, and Invasive Species as Drivers of Ecological Changes in the Greater Yellowstone Area: A Workshop to Identify Priority Science and Implementation Strategies” Nov. 3, 4, 5, 2009 Bozeman, MT, Tom_Olliff@nps.gov
 - “Climate Change in the Southern Appalachians” Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere (SAMAB) Workshop, Nov. 17-19, 2009, Asheville, NC, <http://www.samab.org/>
 - “Predicting the Climate of the Coming Decades” SFC CESU, Miami, FL, Jan. 11-15, 2010 <http://mgs.rsmas.miami.edu/sfcusu/meetings.asp?type=Current>
 - “Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Workshop” NER, March 23-25, 2010, Cambridge, MA, Holly_Salazer@nps.gov; David_W_Reynolds@nps.gov

CCR Steering Committee

In an effort to increase NPS capacity to understand and respond to climate change, the NPS has formed a CCR steering committee. The committee serves as an advisory body to the Climate Change Program Office (CCPO) and the National Leadership Council. The most recent of six monthly meetings since February 2009 was held on July 23rd. The meeting notes, the committee’s charter, work plan, activities of their six working groups, news and updates, resource materials and external links can be found on the Climate Change SharePoint site at <http://nrpcsharepoint/climatechange/default.aspx>. We encourage everyone to visit the site and read about NPS efforts to mitigate, adapt to and communicate about the impacts of climate change on our national parks. For more information, contact Leigh_Welling@nps.gov.

CCR Working Groups

Climate change will impact all of NPS operations and an effective response strategy will necessarily involve collaboration and leadership at all levels of the organization. Six Working Groups (WGs) were created during 2007 to begin to identify and articulate the specific needs and issues facing the NPS: 1) Policy, 2) Planning, 3) Science, 4) Mitigation, 5) Adaptation, and 6) Communication.

Policy Working Group – Contact: Don Neubacher, (415) 464-5101.

- Group meets periodically; looking at policy arenas that will require NPS guidance for climate change; will coordinate drafts of those areas deemed most appropriate.

Planning Working Group – Contact: Pat Kenney, (303) 969-2674.

- Group meets twice monthly; developing guidance for incorporating climate change into park planning, with an initial focus on scenario planning and the General Management Planning process. Group is also taking the lead on a broader climate change strategy being developed through the Steering Committee.

Science Working Group – Contact: John_Gross@nps.gov

- Group is reforming after a several month hiatus. If interested in participating, and you have the capacity to be an active participant for a sustained period (at least a year), contact John Gross.

Mitigation Working Group – Contact: Shawn_Norton@nps.gov

- Group is currently drafting a mitigation plan, using the Pacific West Region plan as a model. They will hold a face-to-face meeting in Denver in August in conjunction with the Park Sustainable Operations Program.

Adaptation Working Group – Contacts: Daniel_Odess@nps.gov; Tom_Olliff@nps.gov

- Group is working on a three-part adaptation strategy (natural resources, cultural resources, and facilities) that will fit into the broader climate change strategy for the NPS.

Communication Working Group – Contact: John Morris, (907) 644-3372

- Group meets once per month. Currently working on a public-facing Climate Change portal to be hosted on www.nps.gov/climatechange; expects to have the site available by October 15th. The group also organizes a monthly CC web seminar series. Viewing information and past seminars can be found at <http://nrpcsharepoint/climatechange/communication/default.aspx>.