



INCORPORATING CLIMATE CHANGE INTO STATE FOREST ACTION PLANS



TWO-DAY WORKSHOP

An active, hands-on training to help state agencies incorporate climate change into the threats, strategies, and goals of a State Forest Action Plan Update for 2020.

INTERESTED?

Questions on this workshop and requests can be directed to the NIACS climate change specialist for your state:

ME, NH, MA, CT, RI, NY
[Maria Janowiak](#)

OH, WV, MD, DE, NJ, PA, NY
[Patricia Leopold](#)

IL, IN, MO
[Leslie Brandt](#)

MI, WI, MN
[Stephen Handler](#)

CO, NE, UT, AZ, NM
[Courtney Peterson](#)

ALL OTHER STATES
[Chris Swanston](#)

The Adaptation Workbook Process

[This workshop uses the Adaptation Workbook](#) to consider climate change impacts and identify adaptation options in [real-world management](#) situations.

State Forest Action Plans

The Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry (S&PF) [Forest Action Plan \(FAP\) Guidance](#) encourages integration of the S&PF programs to address priority issues and to complete cross-boundary work across land ownerships to achieve lasting benefits for forest health, water quality, habitat restoration, fire prevention, and forest products. Climate change is expected to have widespread effects on every program, and can therefore be considered a common theme across threats, strategies, and goals.

The goals of this workshop include:

- Describe regional and local effects of climate change on state forest resources and identify gaps in knowledge;
- Understand adaptation concepts and principles in the context of sustainable forest management;
- Provide resources and tools that can be used to integrate climate change adaptation into on-the-ground management;
- Connect climate change adaptation strategies to the state Forest Action Plan (FAP) for the 2020 plan update.

WHO HAS USED THIS PROCESS?

In June, 2019, the Forest and Rangeland Stewardship Department at Colorado State University, and NIACS facilitated a workshop for the Colorado State Forest Service to incorporate climate change drivers into the 2020 Forest Action Plan Update. The workshop used the NIACS Climate Change Response Framework and Adaptation Workbook process, as well as a previous workshop developed for informing the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' 2018 [Adaptation and Mitigation Plan](#).

Although workshops will follow the general Adaptation Workbook process, workshops can be tailored to individual state needs. An example agenda is provided on page 2.





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Example Agenda

Day 1: Climate Change Effects on State Forest Resources

The presentations and activities will set the stage for thinking about relevant climate change impacts on state forest resources. This session will:

- Bring together state agency leadership and resource specialists to review the FAP process and timeline
- Confirm state strategies and goals (identified by resource specialists prior to the workshop)
- Provide relevant presentations by climate science experts on climate change trends and projections, the latest IPCC report, and specific projected impacts to threats, strategies, and goals
- Use a risk matrix to identify and prioritize impacts to address in the FAP Update

Day 2: Adaptation Strategies

The presentations and activities of Day 2 will focus on developing climate-adaptive management strategies and approaches for FAP threats, strategies, and goals. This session will:

- Introduce key adaptation concepts, strategies, and approaches
- Identify specific adaptation strategies for FAP threats, strategies, and goals
- Identify monitoring variables, criteria for evaluation, and implementation methods
- Develop sample communication tools to share workshop results with key stakeholders and colleagues
- Next steps with agency leadership and resource specialists

The Adaptation Workbook Process

This training has been developed as part of the **Climate Change Response Framework**, a collaborative cross-boundary approach to incorporate climate change into natural resources management. Specifically, participants are provided with training on climate change and its effects on forest ecosystems.

The Adaptation Workbook is a structured process to consider the potential effects of climate change and design land management and conservation actions that can help prepare for changing conditions.

The workbook creates a practical framework for managers to design custom-built management actions to help reduce risks and increase the success of their management goals.

On Day 2 of this workshop, participants will use menus of strategies and approaches while using the general Adaptation Workbook process.

MORE INFORMATION

Find more information on the structured decision-making process - the Forest Adaptation resources and Adaptation Workbook at: forestadaptation.org/far.

