

Welcome to the **OCTOBER 2011** edition of the WDFW Climate News Digest. Here you will find highlights of climate change news, events and resources for WDFW staff. Feedback or suggestions for items to include in future editions are much appreciated – please send them along!

Note: A few folks wrote that an article referred to in the September edition of this email news digest was not available in the link provided. That article is attached here – describing research by scientists at the University of York about wildlife responding to climate change 3x faster than previously thought. Species have moved towards the poles (further north in the northern hemisphere, to locations where conditions are cooler) at three times the rate previously accepted in the scientific literature, and they have moved to cooler, higher altitudes at twice the rate previously realized.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WDFW?

Selected projects, agency resources and initiatives

WDFW was a co-sponsor of the Second Annual Pacific Northwest Climate Science Conference held in mid September this year. A primary objective of the conference was to stimulate a place-based dialogue and exchange regarding emerging climate science on impacts to natural systems and the climate information needed by managers. Conference presentations and related audio files have been posted to the conference website:

<http://cses.washington.edu/cig/outreach/pnwscienceconf2011/agenda.php>. The site also includes an agenda with detailed topic descriptions.

WDFW is also a member of the steering committee charged to develop the Washington State Integrated Climate Response Strategy, required by the state [Climate Leadership Act of 2009](#). In that capacity, agency staff convened stakeholders and experts to develop an interim draft report on adaptation recommendations for species, habitats and ecosystems. That report is available on the Department of Ecology website [here](#). A summary of that interim report was combined with several other chapters on infrastructure, water, agriculture, forestry and others into a preliminary draft Integrated Climate Response Strategy. This draft report is currently available for agency and stakeholder review; a full public review draft will be available in late November. Please be in touch with Lynn if you would like more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Webinars (note time zones vary)

November 2, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (eastern)

Mapping and Visualizing Sea level Rise and Coastal Flooding Impacts

Presenter: Douglas Marcy, NOAA Coastal Services Center

<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/webinar/>

In this webinar, participants will learn about

- The benefits of providing interactive maps online for visualizing inundation risks and potential impacts
- New mapping techniques that incorporate high-resolution data sources
- The methods used to develop the Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flooding Impacts Viewer, its current status, and plans for expanding the tool to the rest of the coastal U.S.

November 16th - Josh Lawler, University of Washington.

“Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment for the Pacific Northwest” | [Register Here](#) |

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. (mountain)

Sponsored by the Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative

<http://nrmsc.usgs.gov/gnlcc>

December 7, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (eastern)

Marshes on the Move: A Manager’s Guide to Understanding and Using Model Results Depicting Potential Sea Level Rise Impacts on Coastal Wetlands

Presenters: Nate Herold and Nancy Cofer-Shabica, NOAA Coastal Services Center; Adam Welchel and Roger Fuller, The Nature Conservancy

<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/webinar/>

The scientific community is generally in agreement that global sea level is rising and coastal marshes are changing as a result. Understanding where and how coastal environments will change in response to sea level rise, however, is a complex modeling challenge dependent upon many factors.

In this webinar participants will

- Gain a basic understanding of some key parameters and uncertainties associated with these models
- Hear from technical specialists regarding real world implications of model results
- Learn how to more effectively incorporate modeling results into management initiatives

NEWS AND RESOURCES

The Rocky Mountain Research Station's Grassland, Shrubland and Desert (GSD) Science Program is producing a series of updates, each focused on one element of their research priorities. The first update of the series focused on the **influences of climatic changes on grassland, rangeland, shrubland and desert ecosystems**

<http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/grassland-shrubland-desert/docs/gsd-update/2011-07.pdf>

Northwest Tribes See Changes In Sacred 'First Foods'

<http://news.opb.org/article/northwest-tribes-see-changes-sacred-first-foods/>

Northwest tribal leaders say they're seeing climate change affect food sources that are vital to their culture.

Flow regime, temperature, and biotic interactions drive differential declines of trout species under climate change

Additional information from the Western Native Trout Initiative regarding western trout and climate change. <http://www.pnas.org/content/108/34/14175.full.pdf+html?sid=7ddcf9e7-986a-4591-8037-bb9eb007969a>

“The American “allergy” to global warming – why?”

An Associated Press journalist draws on decades of climate reporting to offer a retrospective and analysis on global warming and the undying urge to deny.

<http://news.yahoo.com/american-allergy-global-warming-why-171043981.html>