



Climate Change Update

May 2009

View the Service's Climate Change Video

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conserves our nation's heritage of wild things and wild places. This task is made more difficult by challenges such as habitat destruction and fragmentation, invasive species, and water scarcity. Now, worldwide scientific consensus tells us that human activity is changing the climate system itself. See how the Service is working with partners to reduce the impacts of climate change on fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats. <http://www.fws.gov/home/climatechange/>

NWF and NCTC to Co-Host Monthly Climate Change Webinars

The National Wildlife Federation and the National Conservation Training Center have partnered to begin co-hosting monthly Webinars with experts on climate change and wildlife related issues. The first Webinar is scheduled May 13 at 1:30 p.m. EDT. If you wish to join the call, please contact Naomi Edelson at edelsonn@nwf.org or Donna Brewer at donna_brewer@fws.gov.

In the initial Webinar, Patty Glick, Senior Global Warming Specialist at NWF, will present the findings of a recent literature review on climate change adaptation for wildlife and natural resources. To put the issue into context, she will also highlight results of NWF's analyses of sea-level rise impacts on coastal habitats and will offer a range of potential adaptation measures for coastal systems.

Upcoming Webinars will feature:

Chris Zganjar, The Nature Conservancy, ClimateWizard model

Dr. Molly Cross, Wildlife Conservation Society, emissions scenario planning

Dr. Katherine Hayhoe, downscaling climate data for your site, state or region

Dr. Jennie Hoffman, EcoAdapt, vulnerability assessments and worldwide efforts

EPA Releases Climate Change, Wildlife and Wildlands Toolkit for Educators

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and six other federal agencies, has developed a new Climate Change, Wildlife and Wildlands Toolkit for formal and informal educators. The kit contains materials that will help classroom teachers and informal educators in parks, refuges, forest lands, nature centers, zoos, aquariums, science centers, and other venues teach middle school students about how climate change is affecting our nation's wildlife and public lands and how everyone—including kids—can become "climate stewards." <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/kids/index.html>

Climate Change Effects Prompt American Pika Status Review

Following an initial review of a petition seeking to protect the American pika under the Endangered Species Act, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced the American pika may warrant federal protection as a threatened or endangered species.

The Service will undertake an in-depth, scientific review of the American pika to determine whether to propose adding the species to the federal list of threatened and endangered wildlife and plants. The petition provides information suggesting that climate change may have effects resulting in individual mortality,

population extirpations, and reduced species range for the pika. <http://www.fws.gov/home/climatechange/>

Sea Level Rise Simulations Now Available Online

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has released a new user-friendly internet tool that allows the public to view simulations of sea level rise. Released in honor of Earth Day, this program is designed to help people understand the potential impacts of climate change on sea levels.

The Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model (SLAMM)-View is a web browser-based application that displays map pairs of the same area, each at different sea levels. The strength of this tool is its ability to visually show the modeling of sea level rise predictions, allowing people to see the impacts in a more intuitive way. <http://www.fws.gov/home/climatechange/>

\$1 Million Donation Helps Service, Partners Combat Climate Change Effects

A \$1 million donation from Duke Energy is helping the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy and other partners help wildlife adapt to the effects of climate change on North Carolina's Coast <http://www.fws.gov/home/climatechange/>

For more information on how the Service is working with others to conserve the nature of America in a changing climate, visit <http://www.fws.gov/home/climatechange/>