

Overview of Recommended Discussion Items for the WAFWA Climate Change Committee 2010

**Note-Due to time constraints one or two of these topics will be chosen by committee members for further discussion at the meeting.*

Regional Collaboration and Workshops

- Further discussion of CC workshop for mid-winter WAFWA – how to insure broadest participation in person or electronically.
- Regional workshop ideas that will specifically meet the needs of WAFWA states.
- Regional vulnerability assessments
 - Setting up regional vulnerability assessments that several or more western state agencies can engage in.
 - Ways to assist Pacific islands, which are generally small and highly vulnerable, to complete vulnerability assessments and adaptation strategies.

Building Internal Capacity and Supporting Department/Agency/Provincial Efforts

- How to incorporate existing department efforts in the development of a state natural systems adaptation plan since this is avenue through which states will receive funding to address climate impacts.
- How we can be more efficient and effective at synthesis of multiple climate initiatives and scientific endeavors to make good management decisions that have long-term implications?
- How to move from strategic planning/policy to planning and implementing on-the-ground actions.
- How to plan adaptation actions/options at different scales – from provincial to local, at policy and operational levels.
- Recommendations for how to go about integrating climate change considerations into our various programs, policies, planning efforts, and management activities.
- Empowering and building capacity of stakeholder groups

Information Sharing

- Highlights of any on-the-ground climate change adaptation actions that any fish and wildlife agency has taken already.
- Sharing examples of how states are overcoming challenges and barriers (lack of funding)
- The situation in Utah is relatively unique. Are there other state agencies facing or have faced similar circumstances.
- Showcasing the importance of regional climate change committees to the other regional associations so that they may create their own.
- Talking points and outreach: how are states going about building a business model for climate change adaptation and wildlife to increase buy in?

Budget and Funding Challenges

- Addressing short-term budget challenges and priorities.
- How to fund positions within State governments dedicated to addressing Climate Change.

Opportunities for collaboration

- LCCs
 - LCCs will rely on state data, manpower, partnerships, resources, etc. States need to ensure that the LCC's provide adequate resources to the states and that they do not supersede states wildlife management authorities.
 - Collaboration with DOI's Climate Science Centers and LCCs. This committee is a good platform for engaging with both of these federal entities in order to make sure states needs are heard and, hopefully, met.
- Working with WGA.