

National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy:

Project Plan and Timeline

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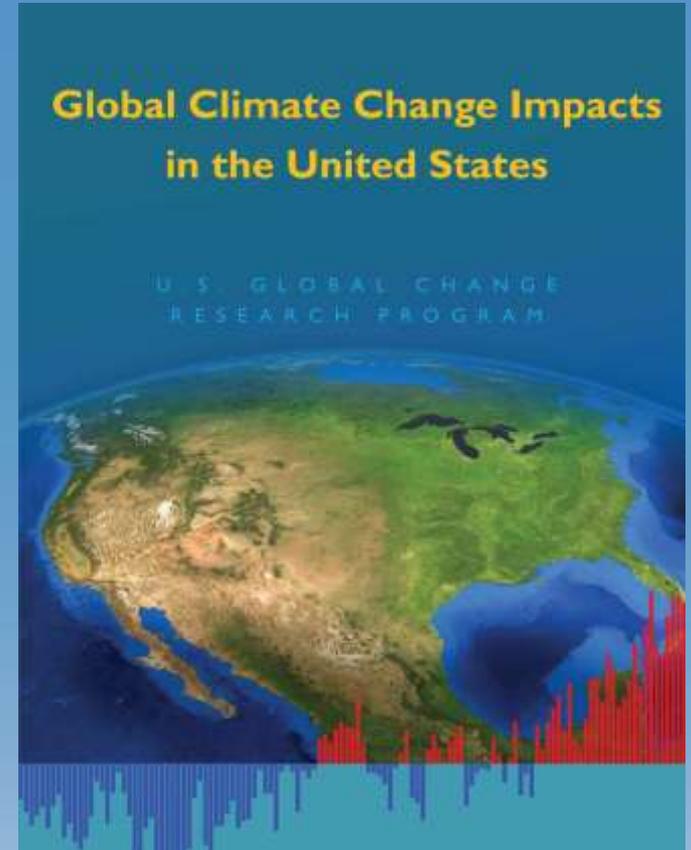
Climate Adaptation

- “Adjustment in natural or human system in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities.” (IPCC 4AR)
- Various types of adaptation:
 - Anticipatory/before the fact
 - Reactionary/after the fact



Federal Adaptation Planning

- Interagency Activities
- Agency Strategic Planning
- US Global Climate Change Research Program
- Other internal programs



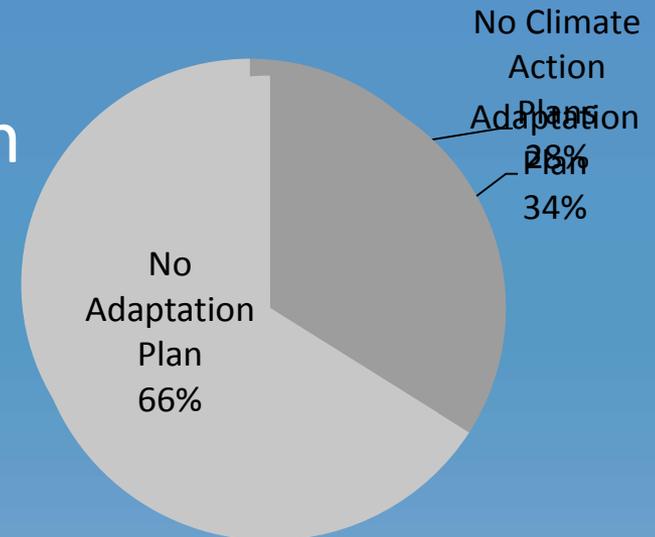
State Climate Change Planning

- Lots of variation in scope, depth

- Climate Action Plans: 38 States

- Adaptation Plans: 17 States

- Executive orders (AK, CA, MD, NH, NY, VA, WI) and legislative mandates (CT, FL, MA, ME, PA) or both (OR, WA)



What is a National Fish and Wildlife Climate Adaptation Strategy?

An agreement among major conservation interests that identifies and defines principles and methods to maintain key terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems and functions needed to sustain fish, wildlife and plant resources and the services they provide in the face of accelerating climate change.

In short—a blueprint for common action by federal, state, tribal and local government agencies and NGO conservation partners.

Why Do We Need a National Strategy?

Adverse impacts of climate change will not respect administrative boundaries

No single entity or level of government can help wildlife and society adapt to the climate change challenge, but collectively, as a conservation community, we can.



Society Has Much at Risk

- Economically - \$122 Billion Value of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-related recreation
- Socially – “Quality of Life”
- Ecosystem services
 - Clean Air
 - Clean Water
 - Flood Control
 - Erosion Control

FY2010 Appropriations Act Conference Report

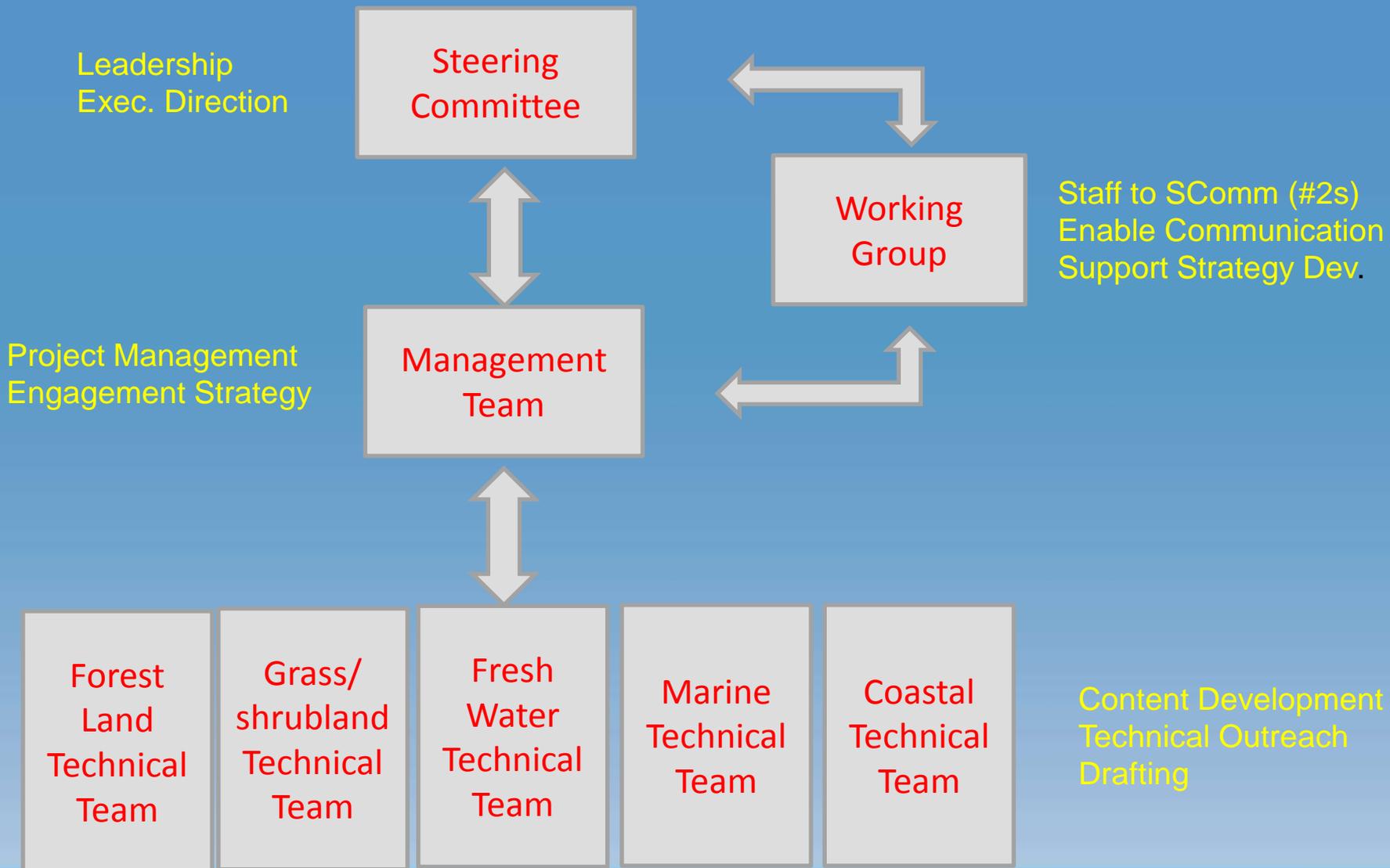
Urges the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and the Department of the Interior (with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as lead agency) to develop a national, government-wide strategy to address climate impacts on fish, wildlife, plants and associated ecological processes.

Guiding Principles

- A national framework for cooperative climate response
- A focus on national boundaries but with the recognition of the international nature of fish and wildlife resources
- A philosophy of collaboration and interdependence
- Landscape-scale science and management
- Integration of adaptation and mitigation efforts
- Ecosystem-based management approach to sustain biodiversity and ecosystem services

National Fish Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy

Proposed Structure



Steering Committee

- FWS, NOAA/NMFS and NY/DEC to co-lead
- All bureaus within the Interior Department
- NOAA National Ocean Service
- USDA's Forest Service, Farm Services Agency, Natural Resource Conservation Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
- Army Corps of Engineers and DOD Installations
- EPA
- State natural resource agencies (CA, NC, NY, WI, WA)
- Tribes (Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission; Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission)

Ongoing Engagement

Continued collaboration with nongovernmental organizations, national associations and local governments



Audience Options

- Primary
 - Internal natural resource agency members
 - Governmental decision makers; executive and legislative; natural resources and other sectors
 - NGO conservation organizations
 - Natural resource dependent industry/landowners
- Secondary
 - International conservation partners
 - Educators
 - Interested public(s)

Content Options

- Compelling case for need for action
- Clear statement of goal and direction
- Ways to build capacity in science, decision making, adaptive management
- Framework to translate broad strategy to action on the ground
- Methods to facilitate inter-jurisdiction coordination (e.g. how does Strategy fit with LCCs)

Content Options (cont.)

- Methods to facilitate inter-sector integration (e.g. nat. res. with transportation, agriculture)
- Guidance on best practices
- Options to measure progress
- Approaches to enhance communication – intra and inter-jurisdictional and inter-sector
- Five to ten year time horizon

Proposed Organization

- By major systems
 - Forested
 - Shrub/Grassland
 - Freshwater
 - Coastal
 - Marine

Proposed Organization (cont.)

- By Action Area
 - Science
 - Policy/legal
 - Conservation action implementation
 - Evaluation/adaptive management
 - Awareness

Engagement Options

- 4 day-long workshops, 1 w/in each reg. Assoc.
- Day-long workshop at North American.....
- Outreach to other sector state/local associations (e.g. NASF, CSO)
- Focus group with NGO conservation and user groups (e.g. TNC, NWF, DoW, DU, WMI, ASA)
- Steering Committee public sessions
- Formal review of draft document
- Interactive website

Timeline

Steering Committee Formed—December 2010

Technical Teams Identified--January 2011

Engagement Sessions— Beginning December 2010

Agency Review Draft—September 2011

Public Review Draft—October 2011

Final Strategy—May 2012

Facing Change Together



U.S. Global Change Research Program