

Online Course: Forest Adaptation Planning and Practices

The Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science and the University of Minnesota are offering the <u>Forest Adaptation</u>
<u>Planning and Practices</u> training as an online, six-week course!

This unique opportunity provides hands-on training in considering climate change information and identifying adaptation actions for natural resources management and conservation. Participants will receive coaching and feedback on their own real-world climate adaptation project.

Through this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Identify locally-important climate change impacts, challenges, and opportunities
- Develop specific actions to adapt forests to changing conditions
- Use the <u>Adaptation Workbook</u> to create their own "climateinformed" projects
- Better communicate with stakeholders about key climate change impacts, challenges, and opportunities
- Access post-training support from NIACS staff during project planning and implementation









Details

DATES

Six-week distance learning course held the weeks of January 18 through February 22, 2016

REGIONS

Northwoods and New England



REGISTER ONLINE

http://goo.gl/forms/reGFz1r6xE

There is no registration fee thanks to support from the US Forest Service and USDA Northern Forests Climate Hub.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Molly Roske at mrroske@umn.edu

Who should participate?

This training is designed for natural resources professionals working in forests and associated ecosystems in the Northwoods and New England. This includes foresters, natural resource managers, and consultants working on public, tribal, and private lands. Professionals providing Extension, service forestry, or technical assistance to

foresters and woodland owners are also encouraged to participate. Individuals as well as small teams can participate in the course.

We ask participants to bring their own real-world projects. Example projects could include:

- a forest management or stewardship plan for a property or parcel
- a timber sale or harvest plan for a single stand or multiple stands
- a habitat management plan for a wildlife species

Examples of Adaptation Demonstration projects that have used the Adaptation Workbook are online at www.forestadaptation.org/demos.

CHANGE INTO YOUR
MANAGEMENT



adaptationworkbook.org

How does the online course work?

The six-week online course draws on a combination of regular webinars and discussions with all participants, as well as independent work time to create adaptation projects. Over the course of six weeks, participants will develop (individually or in small groups) their own climate-informed adaptation project.

- Six 1.5-hour web meetings bring together all course participants to present and discuss key concepts, as well as share insights and questions related to individual projects. We expect participants to attend all sessions. These meetings will take place on Thursdays at 2:00-3:30pm Eastern / 1:00-2:30 pm Central.
- <u>Assignments</u> will guide participants through the new material, actively engaging them with recorded presentations, the online <u>Adaptation Workbook</u>, and other activities. Participants will be assigned work to complete before each session, which is generally expected to take 2-4 hours to complete.

Interested individuals or teams should register at:

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Course Outline

Course Preparation (January 11-21)

Registered participants will receive instructions regarding how to prepare for the training in advance of the first meeting session on Thursday, January 21, 2016. Prior to the training, participants will be expected to identify a project to be used during the training, clearly state the conservation/management goals and objectives for the project using the online Adaptation Workbook, and provide some additional information to course instructors.

Assignment 1: Define project goals and objectives (complete in preparation for Session 1)

Session 1 (January 21) — Introduction to the Online Course and Adaptation Workbook

- Defining project scope and management goals/objectives
- Learning from Demonstration projects
- Assignment 2: Assess climate impacts and vulnerabilities.

Session 2 (January 28) — Understanding and Evaluating Climate Change Vulnerabilities

- Climate projections and impacts by forest types and region
- Prioritizing vulnerabilities of greatest concern for management goals/objectives
- Assignment 3: Evaluate objectives considering climate impacts.

Session 3 (February 4) — Evaluating Management Challenges and Opportunities

- Re-considering and revising management goals/objectives in light of climate challenges
- Practice articulating climate-adaptive management goals/objectives
- Assignment 4: Identify adaptation approaches and tactics.

Session 4 (February 11) — Identifying Adaptation Strategies, Approaches and Tactics

- Meeting existing demands while preparing for future conditions
- Developing specific and actionable management plans for climate-change adaptation
- Assignment 5: Monitor effectiveness of implemented actions.

Session 5 (February 18) — Monitoring and Evaluating Effectiveness

- Tools for measuring effectiveness of implemented adaptation actions
- Capitalizing on existing data, inventory or monitoring processes/partnerships
- Assignment 6: Complete adaptation project plans.

Session 6 (February 25) — Telling your Adaptation Story

- Summarizing and pitching adaptation plans to partners, clients, and others
- Next steps for implementation

Society of American Foresters Continuing Forestry Education credits have been requested for this course.

Instructors

This training will be led by a team of experienced instructors specializing in climate adaptation:

Molly Roske, University of Minnesota



Molly focuses on silviculture in the context of climate change, in close collaboration with NIACS staff and a network of academic and government research partners. She also performs design and delivery of outreach publications and programs communicating research findings and forest management implications to a wide-ranging audience of land stewardship professionals. A proud Minnesota native, Molly is out paddling, running, camping and playing Ultimate Frisbee as often as she can.

Maria Janowiak, Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science & US Forest Service



Maria Janowiak is the coordinator for the New England Climate Change Response Framework, serving the states of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. Maria is also a co-coordinator of the Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework, with an emphasis on northern Wisconsin and Michigan's western Upper Peninsula. Maria has been working with land managers on issues related to climate change and adaptation since 2007. Outside of work, Maria is often found spending time with her

bicycles and garden.

Stephen Handler, Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science & US Forest Service



As a Climate Change Specialist at NIACS, his primary role is to coordinate the Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. This effort includes preparing vulnerability assessments, engaging stakeholders across the forestry community, and planning demonstration activities to model climate-informed forest management. Stephen spends his free time cutting, splitting, stacking, and carrying firewood.

Register!



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Have more questions? Contact Molly Roske at mrroske@umn.edu to learn more about the course and whether it's right for you.