



Climate Change: Adaptive Management Tools and Strategies

Project # 10-466

Background:

The negative effects of climate change are becoming more prevalent, and U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) natural resources managers must use a variety of tools and strategies to mitigate those impacts. However, many natural resources managers need more information on the breadth of climate change tools available to them, as well as guidance on how to use the tools. The Legacy Program addressed this need by sponsoring the *Climate Change Tools for Adapting Management Strategies* workshop at the 2010 National Military Fish and Wildlife Association (NMFWA) Annual Meeting. This workshop invited speakers to provide assessments of tools available to DoD natural resources managers so they can better respond to climate change impacts.

Objective:

The project's goal was to create and implement a workshop describing currently available climate change response tools and provide information on how and when to appropriately use them. The three main workshop objectives were to:

1. educate DoD natural resources personnel about tools that are, or will soon be, available to help them adapt management activities in light of anticipated climate change impacts;
2. describe how and when to use these various tools; and
3. guide them through the use of these tools.

Summary of Approach:

Booz Allen staff established connections with climate change subject matter experts (SMEs) at the 2009 NatureServe Conference in Gettysburg, PA to request their participation in the *Climate Change Tools for Adapting Management Strategies* workshop. We researched additional climate change tools, and contacted potential speakers who could explain these tools to workshop attendees. Once we confirmed all workshop speakers, we contacted additional SMEs to have them participate in a poster display session. Booz Allen staff then created and finalized a workshop agenda, created and maintained a workshop website, coordinated hotel and travel logistics, and implemented the workshop itself. We developed and distributed to workshop attendees a survey of potential climate change tools and an evaluation form. We analyzed and compiled the results, and then posted them on the workshop website.

Benefit:

This workshop assembled DoD and private sector stakeholders to discuss tools to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts. The workshop evaluation form indicated that 60% of participants felt that the degree to which the workshop's purpose was met was "good/useful," and 70% of workshop attendees felt the presenters were collectively "good/useful." In addition to the workshop itself, the information gained by DoD natural resources managers can be used to support conservation efforts and protect threatened, endangered, and at-risk species. As a result, this workshop helped natural resources managers support military readiness on installations, and ultimately, the military mission.



Accomplishments:

The workshop served as a forum for natural resources managers and private sector personnel to share knowledge with one another, and work towards the common goal of fighting climate change impacts. The workshop analysis compiled both quantitative and qualitative information indicating that this workshop benefitted natural resources managers from different regions and backgrounds. The workshop analysis also identified a potential need for future workshops addressing climate change tools that can be used to address region-specific challenges. For example, natural resources managers residing near coastal Florida may require different tools to combat climate change than natural resources managers working on inland sites.

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