

Notice of Technical Workshop: California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment

California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) will conduct a technical workshop to briefly describe the research projects planned for support by CNRA and the California Energy Commission as part of California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment. The goal of the workshop is to solicit input on how other on-going or planned research projects could be aligned to support the California Assessment and/or to benefit from the research funded by the State of California. The workshop will be held:

Monday December 1, 2014
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Governor's Council Room
California State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814
Remote Access Available by Computer or Phone via WebEx™
(instructions below)

Purpose

CNRA is seeking feedback from the research community and the public in general on how to best coordinate the California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment with relevant externally funded research efforts.

A document entitled "California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment: Proposed Non-Energy Research Portfolio" is available from <http://resources.ca.gov/climate/fourth/>. This document identifies key research themes for the non-energy part of the Fourth Assessment, describes specific projects included in each theme, and indicates proposed funding allocations (non-energy projects) for California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment. This document is ultimately intended to serve as the basis for a Request for Proposals (RFP) to be released by California's Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) for the non-energy research projects.

Staff and researchers will present the following:

1. Overall description of the Fourth Assessment.
2. Brief presentations about related external studies that may be coordinated with the State-sponsored research for the Assessment.
3. Discussion of how to coordinate and leverage the Assessment with relevant external research efforts.

Public participants will also have the opportunity to help the CNRA improve the proposed research portfolio through discussions during the workshop.

Background

The State of California has produced three scientific climate change assessments since 2006.¹ These assessments have been instrumental in fostering the passage of California's Climate Change Solutions Act (Assembly Bill 32, Nunez, Statutes of 2006), providing initial estimates of impacts to key sectors of California's economy, and responding to requests for further information regarding vulnerability and adaptation.

California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment will build on the success of its three prior assessments, each of which was scoped to address California-specific policy questions and information needs.

The prior three assessments were carried out under the leadership of the California Energy Commission, with advisory support from a steering committee of state agencies. The development of the Fourth Assessment will be coordinated under the leadership of the California Natural Resources Agency, with the Research Working Group of the Climate Action Team serving as an advisory steering committee.

The proposed research will benefit Californians by enhancing the capacity of local and regional entities to anticipate and plan for projected climate risks, including extreme events. Scientific studies will offer finer spatial resolution as to what impacts might be expected in the next 20 to 40 years while also considering end-of-century climate risks and management strategies (e.g., for forests and working lands) that must consider longer time scales. Regional case studies will delineate specific examples of addressing local vulnerabilities and financing adaptation options.

Workshop Format

This workshop will include several brief presentations about the proposed research portfolio and a larger explanation of how this work fits into broader efforts to prepare and respond to climate change at the state level. This will be followed by invited presentations from different research groups that are interested in coordinating their on-going or planned relevant research activities with the Fourth Assessment. There will be also an open forum to allow other research groups to briefly describe relevant projects.

Public Comment & Participation

Oral comments: Staff will accept oral comments during the workshop. Comments may be limited to 5 minutes per speaker. Oral comments may be made by those attending in person as well as those attending remotely. Comments may become part of the public record in this proceeding.

Written comments: Written comments should be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on December 5, 2014. Written comments will also be accepted at the workshop, though staff may not

¹ Prior assessments can be found at California's Climate Change Portal:
http://climatechange.ca.gov/climate_action_team/reports/climate_assessments.html

have time to review them before the conclusion of the meeting.

Staff encourages comments by email (climate@resources.ca.gov). Please include your name and any organization name. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Please indicate “Staff Workshop – Non-Energy Sector Research for California’s 4th Climate Change Assessment” in the subject line.

Send comments to climate@resources.ca.gov.

If you prefer, you may send a paper copy of your comments to:

Raul DeLaRosa
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Remote Attendance

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