NRAP Workshops Completed

We hosted 5 two-day science-management workshops in Bozeman, Bismarck, Missoula, Coeur d’Alene and Helena in October and November. The workshops brought together scientists and resource managers from federal agencies and many other organizations.

On Day 1 of each workshop, climate projections for each subregion were reviewed. Scientists from the Rocky Mountain Research Station followed with presentations on the vulnerability of priority resource areas (water resources, fisheries, wildlife, forested and non-forested vegetation, recreation). Participants downscaled information from the region-wide assessment to identify the most significant vulnerabilities to climate change for priority resources in each subregion.

On Day 2, participants used the assessment as the basis for developing adaptation strategies and tactics to reduce resource vulnerabilities and transition biophysical systems into a warmer climate. Opportunities, barriers, and specific applications of adaptation tactics were identified in each subregion.

The workshops were a great success, with 250 people and 30 different organizations participating. We look forward to compiling the results and reporting back in our next newsletter.

Link to workshop gallery here. Our workshops were also featured in the front page of the Missoulian last month. Read the article here.

Next Steps

Over the next month, resource area leads and the workshop conveners will review and synthesize the downscaled information and adaptation worksheets from each workshop into a draft report to be peer reviewed and published as a Forest Service General Technical Report. This report will provide the scientific foundation for operationalizing climate change in planning, ecological restoration and project management. Stay tuned for the review process.

NCAP Report Published

The North Cascadia Adaptation Partnership (NCAP) report has finally been published! The report found here identifies natural resources that will be sensitive to a warmer climate in the North Cascades and offers management responses that will minimize adverse impacts on aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. This partnership is led by the Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station; Mount Baker-Snoqualmie and Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests; North Cascades National Park Complex; Mount Rainer National Park; and the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group.

Read the press release here.