



Post-fire research

The range of impacts from recent large fires in Oregon have spurred extensive research and monitoring across multiple agencies, landowners, and non-governmental organizations. As wildfires increase in frequency and extent across the state, it is beneficial to understand the impacts that large-scale fires have on all aspects of the landscape. To address this need, the Northwest Climate Hub helped support and facilitate a [Post-Fire Research and Monitoring Symposium](#) in February 2023. The symposium provided an opportunity for scientists to share what they are learning or hoping to learn from recent westside Oregon fires, provided an opportunity for practitioners and policy makers to discuss how new discoveries can inform future decision-making, and promoted collaboration among institutions involved in post-fire research and monitoring. The 3-day event, attended by over 600 people, was live-streamed and recorded, and the recordings are available for others to watch.

Building wildfire resilience

Climate change is affecting the severity of wildfires and their effects on forests. The California Climate Hub developed the [Southern California Regional Profile](#) as part of their role in support of the Science Advisory Panel of the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force. The profile summarizes the socio-ecological context of the Southern California region related to community and ecosystem resilience to wildfire and climate change. Additionally, the Hub led a series of virtual trainings for Forest Service staff in the Northern, Southern, Central, and Southern Sierra Zones. Trainings for forest and natural resource managers focused on the use of climate data tools and interpreting their outputs, which provided an opportunity to learn when and how to assess and interpret information useful in routine management operations.

Climate adapted forests

Climate change is affecting all forests, resulting in a widespread need for information about climate change risks and adaptation to inform timber management. Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) certifies organizations in sustainable timber management, which includes a new objective on “Climate-Smart Forestry”. In partnership with SFI, the Climate Hubs shared information on climate change and how it may affect forests as well as facilitated discussions on climate change adaptation. The Northern Forest Climate Hub and partners worked with the [Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service](#) and Wisconsin County Forest Association. The Northwest Climate Hub and partners shared information with private industrial timber companies, Tribal Nations, and state agencies from throughout the Northwest. From these workshops, we developed region-specific climate change risk assessments and adaptation actions to meet the new certification objective.



Carbon – State, Private & Tribal Forestry

Nature-based climate solutions are land management actions aimed at increasing carbon uptake and storage or reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Nature-based carbon offset projects have been identified as a climate-smart strategy for compensating forest landowners. However, forest landowners, forest managers, and individuals who advise them often lack an adequate understanding of how and if changing carbon market opportunities align with their financial and management plans. Therefore, the Northeast, Northern Forests, and Southeast Climate Hubs partnered with Penn State University to develop the [Forest Owner Carbon and Climate Education \(FOCCE\)](#) program to deliver timely educational and training resources to help forest landowners make important decisions about managing their forest land for carbon (NIFA extension project).

USDA Climate Hubs Mission Area Highlights

Natural Resources and Environment – Forest Service

FY23 Q2



Looking ahead

New projects, collaborations and upcoming meetings

- In June 2023 we celebrate the 10 year anniversary of the Secretary of Agriculture's announcement of the establishment of the Climate Hubs Program.
- After engaging with Forest Service staff in the Pacific Northwest region, the Northwest Climate Hub will continue their outreach to support silviculturists in using climate-informed reforestation via this [workshop for federal, state and tribal silviculturists and Forestry Extension](#) pm 23 May in Olympia, Washington.
- [The International Climate Hub](#) joins USDA Regional Climate Hubs to share research, tools, collaborative efforts, and best practices on a global scale to improve the world's ability to adapt to climate change and mitigate its impacts.
- NIFA announced a \$9M investment in the 2022 awardees for the [Extension, Education and USDA Climate Hubs Partnerships](#). Seven of the regional hubs will partner with six projects led by American Farmland Trust, Clemson University, the Migrant Clinicians Network, Purdue University, Texas A&M Agrilife Research, and Washington State University.

Top pick

Read about forest management, urban trees and new approaches to biofuel in the latest issue of Northeast Climate Hub's "[The Pulse](#)".

By the numbers

The USDA Climate Hubs

- 10 Regional Directors
- 20 Regional Co Leads
- 10 Regional Coordinators
- 1 Regional Tribal Coordinator
- 3 agency liaisons
- 25 research and other staff
- 1 National Coordinator
- 1 National Lead

Engagements

In QR2, the Hubs hosted, participated in, or led

- 85 workshops and webinars
- 14,213 stakeholders engaged
- 54 presentations

Publications

The Hubs published 75 products in the second quarter, including

- 14 peer reviewed publications
- 61 white papers or grey literature

Website and social media

- 107,779 website users
- 192,736 pageviews
- 21,498 Twitter impressions

USDA Climate Hubs

Building climate resilience and supporting equity by co-developing research, tools, outreach, and engagement with natural resource and agricultural managers.

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