



June 8, 2015

EPA Climate Change and Water News is a bi-weekly newsletter from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Water that covers climate change and water-related news from EPA, other U.S. Federal agencies, and partners. To learn more about climate change impacts on water resources, visit our website at: <http://www.epa.gov/water/climatechange>.

EPA News and Featured Tool

- [EPA Signs Clean Water Rule](#)
- [Featured EPA Tool: "Being Prepared For Climate Change: A Workbook for Developing Risk-Based Adaptation Plans"](#)

Other Federal News

- [NOAA Announces Coastal Resiliency Grants](#)
- [Department of Homeland Security and FEMA Announce Flood and Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants, Due August 28, 2015](#)
- [U.S. Geological Survey and EcoAdapt Release a New Community Resource: Climate Registry for the Assessment of Vulnerability \(CRAVe\)](#)
- [FEMA Issues 2015 National Preparedness Report](#)
- [Northwest Climate Science Center Releases New Annual Publication](#)
- [National Water Center Opens at University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa](#)
- [Federal Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science Releases Report](#)

EPA News and Featured Tool

EPA Signs Clean Water Rule

In a historic step for the protection of clean water, the EPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers finalized the Clean Water Rule on May 27th to clearly protect from pollution and degradation the streams and wetlands that form the foundation of the nation's water resources. The rule ensures that waters protected under the Clean Water Act are more precisely defined and predictably determined, making permitting less costly, easier, and faster. In developing the rule, the agencies held more than 400 meetings with stakeholders across the country, reviewed over one million public comments, and listened carefully to perspectives from all sides. The Clean Water Rule will be effective 60 days after publication in the Federal Register.

Click [here for more information](#).

Featured EPA Tool: “Being Prepared For Climate Change: A Workbook for Developing Risk-Based Adaptation Plans”

The Workbook, a product of the EPA Climate Ready Estuaries Program, provides much needed guidance for any place-based organization about how to conduct risk-based climate change vulnerability assessments and developing adaptation action plans. It is an ideal tool for communities or organizations that manage places, watersheds, or coastal environments. On the website linked below, one can find videos highlighting the tool, as well as a case study on the San Juan Bay Estuary in Puerto Rico. Previously recorded webinars and other Climate Ready Estuaries Program resources are also available on this site.

Click [here for the Climate Ready Estuaries Program risk-based adaptation page](#) to watch the San Juan success story and find workbook resources.

Click [here to access the workbook](#).

Other Federal News

NOAA Announces Coastal Resiliency Grants

Coastal Ecosystem Resiliency Grants Program, Deadline: July 2, 2015

NOAA has developed the Coastal Ecosystem Resiliency Grants Program to build resilience of coastal ecosystems and communities in the United States. Awards will fund projects that develop healthy and sustainable coastal ecosystems through habitat restoration and conservation. A primary objective of the funding is to promote comprehensive planning efforts that address ecosystem resiliency, seek to minimize risks associated with extreme weather events, and provide for adaptation to known or potential climate change impacts.

Click [here for more information](#).

Regional Coastal Resilience Grants Program, Deadline: July 24, 2015

The Regional Coastal Resilience Grants Program will support regional approaches to undertake activities that build resilience of coastal regions, communities, and economic sectors to the negative impacts from extreme weather events, climate hazards, and changing ocean conditions. The program focuses on the development of safe and productive coastal communities through the development of policies, incentives, regulations, standards, and other tools and strategies. Awards will be made to organizations that advance resilience strategies in plans for land and ocean use, disaster preparedness, environmental restoration, hazard mitigation, or other regional, state, or community plans.

Click [here for more information](#).

Department of Homeland Security and FEMA Announce Flood and Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants, Due August 28, 2015

Flood Mitigation Assistance Program Grants

The Flood Mitigation Assistance Program makes available federal funds to state, local, and tribal governments to implement and sustain cost-effective measures that minimize or negate the risk of flood damage to residential or non-residential properties insured under the National Flood Insurance Program.

Click [here for more information](#).

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program Grants

The Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants Program makes available federal funds to state, local, and tribal governments to implement and sustain cost-effective measures designed to reduce the risk to individuals and property from natural hazards, while also reducing reliance on federal funding from future disasters.

Click [here for more information](#).

U.S. Geological Survey and EcoAdapt Release a New Community Resource: Climate Registry for the Assessment of Vulnerability (CRAVe)

The USGS National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center (NCCWSC) has developed the Climate Registry for the Assessment of Vulnerability (CRAVe), a registry to provide access to information about climate change vulnerability assessments. The effort is a partnership between the NCCWSC and EcoAdapt, with funding support from various federal agencies. An interagency/public-private steering group provided critical input. The purpose of CRAVe is to help leverage the investments being made by all agencies and partners in climate vulnerability assessments.

Click [here to learn more about CRAVe](#).

FEMA Issues 2015 National Preparedness Report

The National Preparedness Report is an annual status report summarizing the Nation's progress toward reaching the 2011 National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. The 2015 Report places particular emphasis on highlighting preparedness progress in implementing the National Planning Frameworks. The 2015 Report identifies 43 key findings across the prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery mission areas.

Click [here to access the report](#).

Northwest Climate Science Center Releases New Annual Publication

A new annual publication from the Northwest Climate Science Center, the Climate Impacts Research Consortium, and the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative will share stories about Northwest climate research in the United States. The "NW Climate Magazine" will help share research and improve coordination and collaboration among federal, state, tribal, university and non-governmental groups across the Northwest.

Click [here to access the magazine](#).

National Water Center Opens at University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa

The National Water Center, a new facility located at the University of Alabama, hopes to be an incubator for innovative breakthroughs in water prediction products and services for the federal government. As the country becomes more vulnerable to water-related events, from drought to flooding, the innovative predictive science and services developed by NOAA, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the National Water Center will bolster the nation's ability to manage threats to its finite water resources and mitigate impacts to communities.

Click [here to view the NOAA press release](#).

Click [here for an overview of the National Water Center](#).

Federal Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science Releases Report

The federal Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science advises the Department of Interior (DOI) Secretary on the operations of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National

Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center (NCCWSC) and the Department of Interior's Climate Science Centers (CSCs). The Committee recently released a report which recognizes accomplishments of the Centers and provides key recommendations to clarify, focus, and enhance the program's efforts. The committee recommends that the NCCWSC/CSC program should expand its capacity to work closely with partners. A "how-to guide" for "actionable science" is included as an appendix to the report, as well as a summary of a primer on climate change and indigenous peoples and guidelines for considering traditional knowledge in climate change initiatives. Click [here to view the press release and access the report](#).

Upcoming Webinars, Conferences and Trainings

For a calendar of climate change and water-related trainings, conferences, and webinars, visit: <http://water.epa.gov/scitech/climatechange/Calendar-of-Events.cfm>.

This newsletter is produced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water (EPA). If you have questions related to the newsletter or want to submit an item, email the editor at water_climate_change@epa.gov. For past issues of EPA Climate Change and Water News, as well as further information on climate change impacts on water resources, visit www.epa.gov/water/climatechange. For more information on EPA's climate change activities, visit www.epa.gov/climatechange. To unsubscribe to this newsletter, send a blank email to [Unsubscribe](#).