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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>.

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EPA News and Featured Tool

EPA Announces Fourth Annual Campus RainWorks Challenge

EPA is calling for entries in its fourth annual Campus RainWorks Challenge, a green infrastructure design competition for undergraduate and graduate students. Student teams, working with a faculty advisor, will submit design boards, a project narrative, and a letter of support for a green infrastructure project on their campuses. This year, student teams will be encouraged to incorporate climate resiliency into their stormwater management designs. Registration will be open September 1-30, 2015, and entries must be submitted by December 18, 2015. Winners will be announced in April 2016. First-place teams will earn \$2,000 to divide evenly among students, and a faculty prize of \$3,000, to support green infrastructure research or training.

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

Featured Tool: Storm Water Management Model Climate Adjustment Tool (SWMM-CAT)

SWMM is widely used throughout the world and is considered the "gold standard" in the design of urban wet-weather flow pollution abatement approaches. It is a dynamic hydrology-hydraulic water quality simulation model used for single event or long-term (continuous) simulation of runoff quantity and quality from primarily urban areas and allows users to include any combination of low impact development (LID)/green infrastructure controls to determine their effectiveness in managing stormwater and sewer overflows. SWMM-CAT is an easy to use add-on that applies monthly climate adjustment factors onto historical precipitation and temperature data to consider potential impacts of future climate on stormwater.

Click [here to learn more and access the tool.](#)

Other Federal News

White House Releases Progress Report Highlighting Federal Actions Addressing Recommendations of State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience

As part of President Obama's Climate Action Plan, a State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience (Task Force) was established in 2013 to help the federal government respond to the needs of communities nationwide that are dealing with the impacts of climate change. The Task Force recommendations emphasized the importance of supporting communities that are likely to be disproportionately affected, including those that already face economic- or health-related challenges. The White House has released a progress report highlighting some of the key actions taken by the Administration that support the Task Force's recommendations, which were compiled and delivered to the President in November 2014. Building on this progress, the White House is also announcing a series of new actions focused on enhancing resilience in the communities most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change that includes over \$25 million in private and public investments.

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

Click [here to read a PDF of the report.](#)

NOAA Climate Program Office Releases 2016 Funding Opportunities: Letters of Intent due July 30, 2015

NOAA's Climate Program Office (CPO) supports competitive research through four major programs. Through this announcement, CPO's programs are seeking applications for 10 individual competitions in fiscal year 2016. Applicants are highly encouraged to learn more about CPO and its programs, as well as specific program priorities for fiscal year 2016, prior to submitting applications. This information, along with the names and contact information of relevant competition managers is provided in program information sheets. NOAA estimates that \$14 million will be available through this announcement for approximately 100 new awards pending budget appropriations. It is anticipated that most awards will be at a funding level between \$50,000 and \$300,000 per year, with some exceptions for larger awards. For

details on the due dates of Letters of Intent and Full Applications, visit the funding opportunity site linked below.

Click [here to learn more about the funding opportunities.](#)

Northeast Climate Science Center Releases Report: “Integrating Climate Change in to Northeast and Midwest State Wildlife Action Plans”

The Department of Interior’s Northeast Climate Science Center has released a report synthesizing the latest information on the vulnerability of species and ecosystems to climate change. State fish and wildlife agencies in the 22-state region of the Northeast and Midwest will use the report to help them update their 10-year conservation plans to help hundreds of animal species and their habitats adapt to climate change. Species of greatest conservation need identified in the report include moose, brook trout, American shad, Atlantic sturgeon, spruce grouse, piping plover, freshwater mussels, and hundreds of other animal species and their habitats.

Click [here for more information and to download the study.](#)

NASA and U.S. Geological Survey Joint Project: National Blue Carbon Monitoring System

A joint project between NASA and the U.S. Geological Survey is working to link remote sensing data to estimate coastal wetlands carbon stocks using available data sets and field collected data from six sentinel sites around the U.S. One can keep informed about this 3-year project, the project team, and their results with the recently launched NASA Blue Carbon Monitoring System website. The Carbon Monitoring System is poised to fill a missing gap in "blue carbon" accounting by providing a national-scale data framework to integrate and extrapolate field measurements that support national greenhouse gas inventory requirements and testing data needs for quantification of stock-based changes in coastal wetland sediments and vegetation.

Click [here to view the site and learn more.](#)

Other News

Early Career Climate Forum Re-Launches Online Community

The Early Career Climate Forum (ECCF) is a science-based venue for communication, collaboration, and professional development for early career scientists working on climate change. The site has been expanded and redesigned as part of a Northeast Climate Science Center funded project. The primary purpose of the ECCF is to support and build a national network of early career scholars, provide an online platform to facilitate and increase information sharing and networking across the Department of Interior’s Climate Science Centers and consortium institutions.

[Click here to access the ECCF site.](#)

Yale University Project on Climate Change Communication Releases “Hurricane Attitudes of Coastal Connecticut Residents: A Segmentation Analysis”

As Superstorm Sandy approached the U.S. East Coast in 2012, residents along the Connecticut shore received “mandatory” evacuation orders, but many people didn’t leave. A recent report from Yale University’s Project on Climate Change Communication, based on a survey of 1,130 people living along the state’s coastline, provides insights into why some people decide to evacuate in the face of a weather emergency and why others try to ride out a storm. The report identifies five distinct groups of Connecticut coastal residents based on their attitudes towards hurricanes, including the “First Out” group who are most likely to evacuate and the “Diehards” who are least likely to leave.

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

Click [here to access the NEW Yale Climate Connections site.](#)

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](#).