Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment
ALC3184

Course Description
This is a regional offering in collaboration with the USGS North Central Climate Science Center (NC CSC). The traditional course is based on the January 2011 publication "Scanning the Conservation Horizon - A Guide to Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment" (www.nwf.org/vulnerabilityguide). The guidance document is a product of an expert workgroup on climate change vulnerability assessment convened by the National Wildlife Federation in collaboration with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station, National Park Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, and the Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program. This course is designed to guide conservation and resource management practitioners in two essential elements in the design of climate adaptation plans: (1) identifying which species or habitats are likely to be most strongly affected by projected changes; and (2) understanding why these resources are likely to be vulnerable. Vulnerability Assessments are a critical tool in undertaking any climate change planning or implementation. We will use regionally specific examples tailored to participants.

Objectives
At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Design and interpret natural resource related climate management actions to help build resiliency and adaptation,
- Understand vulnerability assessment in the broader context of adaptation planning,
- Evaluate the different factors influencing vulnerability and how they can affect the outcome of vulnerability assessments,
- Identify and evaluate approaches for conducting vulnerability assessments and choose among options,
- Design a vulnerability assessment applicable to their needs,
- Evaluate and interpret the results of vulnerability assessments and recognize next steps,
- Communicate the purposes, methods, and results of vulnerability assessments to others,
- Develop (elements of) a vulnerability assessment work plan/statement of work, including level of effort.

Date
October 9-11, 2013

Location
Jackson, WY

Who Should Attend
The target audience includes conservation practitioners from Federal and State fish and wildlife agencies and other conservation managers and students who work on natural resource issues and need to determine which resources are most vulnerable when setting priorities for conservation action.

Length
3 days

College Credit
One semester hour is available on request.

Tuition
There is no tuition for this class.

To Register
Register online at http://training.fws.gov using DOIlearn, the Department of the Interior’s Learning Management System.

Availability
The NCTC and DOI Climate Science Centers are working to provide regional offerings of this and other climate-related courses. Please monitor ntc.fws.org or contact the CSC in your region for more information.

Contact for Registration Questions
Tannor Kopp at 304-876-7477 or Tannor_Kopp@fws.gov

“Building the capacity of conservation and resource management practitioners to assess upcoming changes to the landscapes and resources they manage provides a vital link in bridging the gap between people, nature and climate.”