



Enhancing Workforce Climate Change Literacy

Background

From the preservation of wildlife to the management of wildfire, climate change exerts a complex influence across all operational areas of the National Park Service. To meet our obligation to the American public, the National Park Service (NPS) must cultivate the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to respond effectively.

The NPS Climate Change Response Program (CCRP) takes a leadership role in workforce climate change literacy efforts. In collaboration with training managers and subject matter experts, the CCRP formulates training plans, develops and delivers content, evaluates outcomes, and coordinates training efforts across bureaus in the Department of the Interior.

Needs Assessment and Training Strategy

The CCRP led the development of the 2016 *NPS Workforce Climate Change Literacy Needs Assessment and Training Strategy*. The Strategy provides a service-wide blueprint for cultivating a climate-capable workforce that boasts the full suite of skills and abilities necessary to meet the NPS mission.

The assessment and strategy informs the development of training “road maps” for specific occupational categories, guides investments in future curricula, and facilitates coordination of efforts across bureaus in the Department of the Interior.

In accordance with the assessment and strategy, the CCRP offers a blended portfolio of formal and informal learning opportunities targeting NPS employees across occupational series.



Ongoing Efforts

Formal Training

The *Introduction to Climate Change in National Parks* online module provides a self-paced primer accessible to all employees. Offered as both an online module and an instructor-led course, *Interpreting Climate Change* explores the knowledge and skills park staff need to actively engage the public on climate change. Additional training offerings are currently in development that provide introductions to adaptation, scenario planning, and facilities management.

Informal Learning and Information Exchange

Various informal channels are maintained to support continued learning and discussion around climate change topics. These include an ongoing webinar series, monthly newsletters, and a growing *climate change video series*. A newly-formed discussion group on climate change topics is now hosted on the NPS Common Learning Portal.

External Partners

Partnerships are leveraged with other federal agencies, universities, and organizations to share training content and tools, and engage the larger communication and training community. Through these efforts, NPS employees have participated in collaborative learning opportunities offered through the NASA *Earth to Sky Partnership* and the *Association of Climate Change Officers*.

More Information

Larry Perez
Communications Coordinator
Climate Change Response Program

ph: (970) 267-2136
email: Larry_Perez@nps.gov

Cat Hawkins Hoffman
Chief
Climate Change Response Program

ph: (970) 225-3567
email: Cat_Hawkins_Hoffman@nps.gov

<http://www.nps.gov/climatechange>