# **Climate Change Response Newsletter**

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Climate Change Response Program National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior





# DOI BUREAUS PARTNER TO DELIVER NEW CLIMATE CHANGE COMMUNICATIONS TRAIN-THE-TRAINER COURSE

Clear, meaningful communication about the realties of climate change is crucial for supporting Department of the Interior (DOI) response efforts. Over the past decade, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Park Service (NPS) developed employee guidance, tools, and trainings to support the delivery of impactful communications on this critical topic.

Building on these earlier efforts, training personnel from the FWS, NPS, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) collaborated over a full year on the development of a <a href="Speaking of Climate Change train-the-trainer course">Speaking of Climate Change train-the-trainer course</a>. The pilot offering was delivered at the National Conservation Training Center in early April.

Fifteen two-person teams from across all three bureaus participated in the four-day event. The participant teams will deliver subsequent *Speaking of Climate Change* offerings for their respective organizations over the next 12 months.

"Thank you...this was truly a life-changing training and I look forward to the challenge of inspiring my staff to act!"

-2024 Speaking of Climate Change Participant

The National Park Service (NPS) Climate Change
Response Strategy provides a servicewide
blueprint for meeting the challenge of climate
change. This monthly newsletter captures notable
developments, publications, and successes to
inform and inspire similar action across the
National Park System and beyond.









This newsletter is published by the NPS Climate Change Response Program. If you experience any difficulty accessing the information in this newsletter, please contact us at:

climate\_change@nps.gov

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Above: Course participants included multi-disciplinary communications personnel across a variety of refuges, parks, and program offices. In the months ahead, participant teams will deliver similar trainings to colleagues at their respective home units. NPS Image.

### **NEW RESOURCES FOR MANAGING HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

#### Sustainability and Energy Efficiency



Guidelines on Sustainability >
Guidelines on Sustainability for Rehabilitating Historic



Preservation Brief 3 >
Improving Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings



Preservation Brief 24 >
Heating, Ventilating, and Cooling Historic (revised Preservation Brief in progress)



Historic properties can be made more sustainable, energyefficient, and resilient, improving their performance and use while also preserving their historic character. Doing so not only improves their efficiency and livability but helps to ensure their long-term preservation against many climate-related threats.

Current NPS guidance and technical preservation information are collected and presented on <u>this new webpage</u> for easy access to available resources.

New guidance on resilience to natural hazards has been issued. It is adapted from the "Resilience to Natural Hazards" section in The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings (2017) and from The Guidelines on Flood Adaptation for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (2021).

Right: In 2007 the Old Customs House located in Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, AK, was significantly damaged by riverine flooding. Historic properties that may not have flooded before are increasingly affected by larger flood events. NPS Photo.



#### **CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE WEB**



NPS.gov / Park Home / Learn About the Park / Nature / Environmental Factors / Climate Change

#### Climate Change



This area has been important to people for thousands of years. What will its future look like? And how can we take action to protect it?

Hot Springs has long been a place where humans and nature connect. Now, in the face of climate change, that connection is more important than ever.

More than one-third of NPS units <u>currently use their websites</u> to interpret the site-specific relevance of climate change. This month, we're celebrating <u>this recently published page</u> which explores the implications of climate change for **Hot Springs National Park**. Is your park on <u>the steadily growing list of units</u> with a dedicated climate change web page?

Since March, the *Headwaters* podcast from **Glacier National Park** published <u>a series of episodes</u> focusing squarely on implications of climate change. The episodes feature in-depth conversations exploring the role of science, communication, and community in meeting challenges from our warming world.



# WEBINAR: WHAT'S YOUR PARK'S CLIMATE FUTURE?



Park-specific climate futures summaries will soon be available for *all* NPS units in the conterminous United States. These summaries help park managers navigate potential uncertainty in planning efforts and decision-making.

In preparation for public release, the NPS Climate Change Response Program will provide an orientation to the contents and utility of the climate futures summaries. The webinar will be held at 1:00 PM MT on July 10, 2024. <u>Advance registration</u> is required.

#### **CLIMATE-RELATED NEWS OF INTEREST**

Padre Island National Seashore announced a new research project to assess coastal impacts from climate change and the effects of nuisance flooding on nesting sea turtles, including the endangered Kemp's ridley.

At Capitol Reef National Park, staff <u>use the Resist-Accept-Direct</u> (RAD) framework to guide forward-looking ecosystem restoration efforts that account for anticipated climate change impacts.

Staff at **Pinnacles National Park** recently received recognition for <u>efforts to proactively safeguard cultural resources</u> in light of climate-related threats.

Right: A Kemp's ridley sea turgle digs a nest on the beach. NPS photo.



## **CLIMATE FRIENDLY PARKS EFFORT RECOGNIZED**



The NPS Natural Resource Stewardship and Science Directorate (NRSS) recently received an Environmental Achievement award at the 77th DOI Honor Awards Convocation. The Honor Awards are the most prestigious recognition granted by DOI for exceptional support of the Department's mission.

NRSS was recognized in the "Climate Champion" category for a 2022 <u>Climate Friendly Parks effort</u> that developed new and novel methods for calculating business-related greenhouse gas emissions and established graduated goals for emissions reductions over time.

Do you have a climate-related project, publication, or update you'd like to share? Email your suggestions to <a href="mailto:climate\_change@nps.gov">climate\_change@nps.gov</a>.

Submissions received by the 15th of each month may be published the following month, or held for future newsletters as necessary to meet our editorial calendar. Submissions may be edited to meet length requirements or adhere to editorial style.

This newsletter is distributed primarily—but not exclusively—to employees, volunteers, and partners of the National Park Service.

