

WAFWA Climate Change Committee Meeting
Anchorage, Alaska
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
July 18, 2010

Meeting Summary & Action Items

The 2nd WAFWA climate change committee meeting began with AFWA updates both on legislation and climate change activities within AFWA (particularly about the western regional climate change workshop in January). Doug Vincent-Lang briefed the committee on the WAFWA CC working group report on state adaptation planning. The working group distributed a draft to the committee for comment and will distribute to the directors and their staff for comment as well. This report focuses on a multi-sector approach to address the impacts of climate change within a state. John McCamman updated the committee on WAFWA's 2nd Annual Climate Change Update. All committee members filled out the survey for the update except one state and two provinces. The document is available on the WAFWA website <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/climatechange/wafwa/committee.asp> and we encourage you to take a look at it. It is a great resource on climate change activities within western states/provinces and partners and includes information for climate change contacts throughout WAFWA.

Bob Broscheid talked about the WGA's Climate Change Adaptation Report and their Decision Support System. Sue Haseltine from USGS talked about the future direction of the National Climate Change Wildlife Science Center. Janet Cushing from the US Army Corp of Engineers briefed the committee on the Corp's current and future work to reduce the impacts for climate change. Jeff Haskin from the USFWS updated the committee on Saturday's National Adaptation Strategy listening session and future work for strategy. The committee then had a round table discussion on items brought up in the annual update including but not limited to increasing capacity for states to fully participate in federal initiatives. The meeting ended with a discussion of federal budget priorities for the WAFWA climate change committee for FY2011. Below is a list of 6 budget priorities:

Climate Change Committee PROPOSED FY2011 FEDERAL BUDGET PRIORITIES

- Help increase state capacity to participate in federal climate change work i.e. LCCs and CSCs through federal funding.
- Full funding of \$350 million for State Wildlife Grant Program.
- Reduced cost share 75:25 per original WCRP allocation plan as part of PR.
- Increase funding for invasive species work associated with or impacting wildlife.
- Adequately fund LWCF programs for the acquisition of corridors or habitat to help species adaptation (state and federal funding).

- Maintain funding for the Cooperative Stream Gaging Program administered through USGS, and decrease the match requirements for cooperators. (USGS currently passes on overhead costs for the program, adding to financial burden on cooperators).

WAFWA Climate Change Committee Action Items

- The WAFWA Climate Work Group Report on State Adaptation Plans is open to review over the next month. A draft has been distributed to committee members already but is available for others to review.
- WAFWA directors are to identify one person on their staff to attend the WAFWA Climate Change Forum during the Director's Meeting in January. Travel assistance is available for those attendees who do not normally attend Director's Winter Meeting. Please see AFWA letter distributed by Larry Kruckenberg for details or contact Arpita Choudhury at AFWA.
- 2nd Annual WAFWA Climate Change Update is available on the web at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/climatechange/wafwa/committee.asp>. The update is an important source for information sharing and collaborative efforts across state lines.
- The WAFWA Climate Change Committee will continue efforts to coordinate with WGA to reduce duplication and build capacity.