



ONLINE TRAINING ADAPTATION PLANNING AND PRACTICES for Recreation

The Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science, the Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals, the US Forest Service Western Wildland Environmental Threat Assessment Center, and the USDA Climate Hubs are offering a recreation-focused [Adaptation Planning and Practices](#) training in a series of seven virtual sessions.

This unique opportunity provides hands-on training in considering climate change information and identifying adaptation actions for outdoor recreation management. Participants will receive coaching and feedback on their own real-world climate adaptation project throughout the course.

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

- Identify local climate change impacts, challenges, and opportunities
- Develop specific actions to adapt outdoor recreation management to changing conditions
- Use the [Adaptation Workbook](#) to create their own “climate-informed” projects
- Better communicate with stakeholders about key climate change impacts, challenges, and opportunities
- Access post-training support from NIACS staff during project planning and implementation

DETAILS

DATES & FORMAT

Weekly April 5 – May 24, 2021

Weekly recorded 1-hour lecture plus periodic synchronous 1-hour discussion sessions.

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

This training is open to outdoor recreation professionals across the United States, with a focus on nature-based recreation.

APPLY ONLINE

www.forestadaptation.org/RecAPPo

There is no fee thanks to support from the US Forest Service and USDA Climate Hubs. Space is limited. Projects will be selected based on review of appropriate fit for the course.

QUESTIONS?

Contact: Leslie Brandt
(leslie.brandt@usda.gov)

APPLY TODAY

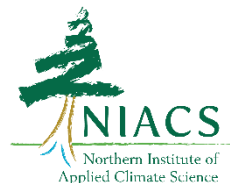
This training is provided by these partners:



United States Department of Agriculture
Climate Hubs



Western Wildland
Environmental Threat
Assessment Center



SOCIETY OF
OUTDOOR RECREATION
PROFESSIONALS

www.forestadaptation.org/RecAPPo

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

This training is designed for outdoor recreation professionals with a focus on nature-based recreation. This includes recreation managers on federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal lands. Also welcome are managers of private entities such as camps, resorts, outfitters, and ski hills. Individuals as well as small teams can participate in the course.

Participants will be selected who demonstrate an appropriate real-world project that they wish to adapt to climate change.

Example projects could include:

- a redesign of a campsite on a national forest
- a management plan for a youth summer camp
- a strategic plan for a regional park system's recreation program
- expansion or rerouting a cross country ski trail system
- developing a new summer picnic and swimming area



Example Adaptation Demonstration projects that have used the Adaptation Workbook are online at www.forestadaptation.org/demos. Filter by "Recreation" focus area to find those projects that may be particularly relevant to this training.

HOW DOES THE ONLINE COURSE WORK?

The seven-week online course draws on a combination of regular webinars and discussions with all participants, as well as independent work time to create adaptation projects. Throughout the course, participants will develop (individually or in small groups) their own climate-informed adaptation project.

- **Seven 1-hour lecture sessions** bring together all course participants to present and discuss key concepts. We expect participants to attend all lectures (offered live on Mondays), but meetings will be recorded for those who may need to miss a session. Smaller group discussion sessions will share insights and questions related to individual projects. **Discussion session times will be determined based on the availability of participants and instructors.**
- **Assignments** will guide participants through the new material, actively engaging them with recorded presentations, the online [Adaptation Workbook](#), and other activities. Participants will be assigned work to complete before each session, which is generally expected to take 2-4 hours to complete.

**Interested? Please apply online [by March 15, 2021](http://www.forestadaptation.org/RecAPPo)
www.forestadaptation.org/RecAPPo**

COURSE OUTLINE

Participants will receive instructions regarding how to prepare for the training in advance of the first meeting session. Prior to the training, participants are asked to identify a project to be used during the training and provide some additional information to course instructors. *denotes required discussion session week

***Session 1 (week of April 5) — Course Introduction; Defining Project Goals and Objectives**

- Course objectives, instructors, and agenda
- Introduction to the Adaptation Workbook tool (tutorial)
- Defining project scope and management goals/objectives
- *Assignment 1: Define project goals and objectives*

Session 2 (week of April 12) — Assessing Climate Impacts and Vulnerabilities

- Climate projections and impacts on tree species, ecosystems, and regions
- Prioritizing vulnerabilities of greatest concern for management goals/objectives
- *Assignment 2: Assess climate impacts and vulnerabilities.*

***Session 3 (week of April 19) — Evaluating Management Challenges and Opportunities**

- Re-considering and revising management goals/objectives in light of climate challenges
- Practice articulating climate-adaptive management goals/objectives
- *Assignment 3: Evaluate objectives considering climate impacts.*

Session 4 (week of April 26) — Identifying Adaptation Strategies, Approaches and Tactics

- Meeting existing demands while preparing for future conditions
- Adaptation concepts: resisting change, enhancing resilience, and facilitating transitions
- Developing specific actions for climate-change adaptation
- *Assignment 4: Identify adaptation approaches and tactics.*

Break (week of May 3) — No session

- Use extra time to catch up on projects and have office hours with instructors

Session 5 (week of May 10) — Monitoring and Evaluating Effectiveness

- Tools for measuring effectiveness of implemented adaptation actions
- Capitalizing on existing data, inventory or monitoring processes/partnerships
- *Assignment 5: Monitor effectiveness of implemented actions.*

***Session 6 (week of May 17) — Telling your Adaptation Story, Part 1**

- Tools for measuring effectiveness of implemented adaptation actions
- Capitalizing on existing data, inventory or monitoring processes/partnerships
- *Assignment 6: Complete adaptation project plans.*

***Session 7 (week of May 24) — Telling your Adaptation Story, Part 2**

- Summarizing and pitching adaptation plans to partners, clients, and others
- Next steps for implementation

INSTRUCTORS

This training will be led by a team of experienced instructors specializing in climate adaptation:



Leslie Brandt, Climate Change Specialist, USDA Forest Service and Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science

Leslie has been leading efforts on climate change vulnerability assessments and adaptation for over 11 years. She is the co-lead author of the [Adaptation Strategies and Approaches Menu for Outdoor Recreation](#). Other current projects include an adaptive silviculture for climate change project in the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area and a vulnerability assessment for recreation sites on the Mark Twain National Forest.



Kristen Schmitt, Climate Change Outreach Specialist, Michigan Technological University and Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science

Kristen leads work on adaptation across the United States, with a special focus on Western States and coastal areas. She has led virtual and in-person trainings for natural resource managers and developed content on the [Climate Change Resource Center](#) website over her 11-year tenure with NIACS. Her work with the San Bernardino National Forest was one of the first projects to test the Outdoor Recreation Menu.



Danielle Shannon, Climate Change Outreach Specialist, Michigan Technological University and Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science

In her 9 years at NIACS, Danielle has helped integrate considerations of watershed management and hydrology into climate change adaptation. She led the creation of [Adaptation Strategies and Approaches for Forested Watersheds](#) that was funded through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Danielle is also co-leading the recreation vulnerability assessment for the Mark Twain National Forest and is the coordinator for the USDA Northern Forests Climate Hub.

Apply!

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Interested individuals or teams can apply at:
www.forestadaptation.org/RecAPPo

Have more questions?

Contact Leslie at leslie.brandt@usda.gov to learn more about the course and whether it's right for you.

