



NATIONAL *fish, wildlife & plants*
CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY

*Shared solutions to
protect shared values*



Photos: Chase Fountain, James Jordan, George Andrejko

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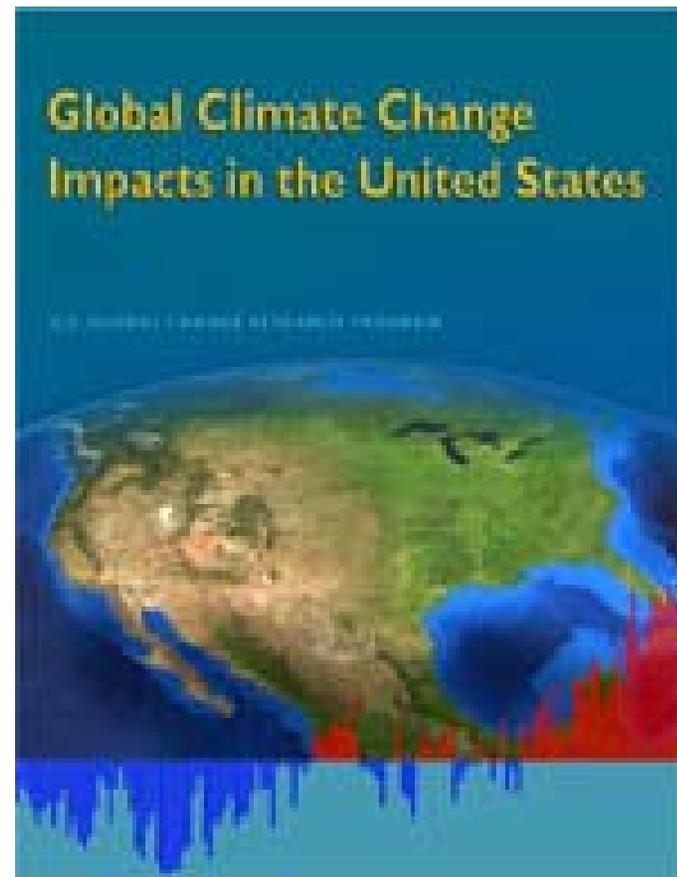


Why Do We Need a National Strategy?

Adverse impacts of climate change will not respect administrative boundaries.

No single entity or level of government can safeguard wildlife and society against the effects of climate change.

We can't do this alone.





What is a National Fish and Wildlife Climate Adaptation Strategy?

- ***A multi-partner response*** to the threat of climate change in the United States.
- ***A unified approach to promote adaptation*** to climate change impacts on fish, wildlife, and plants and on the human uses, values and benefits that are derived from those resources.
- ***A response to directives*** from the Congress and Administration calls to safeguard our valuable natural resources.

In short—a blueprint for common action.



Target Audiences

- Primary
 - Natural resource agencies (fed, state, tribal)
 - Government decision makers in various sectors (executive and legislative)
 - Non-Governmental organizations
 - Natural resource industries, agriculture and private landowners
- Secondary
 - International conservation partners
 - Educators
 - Interested public(s)



Organizational Structure

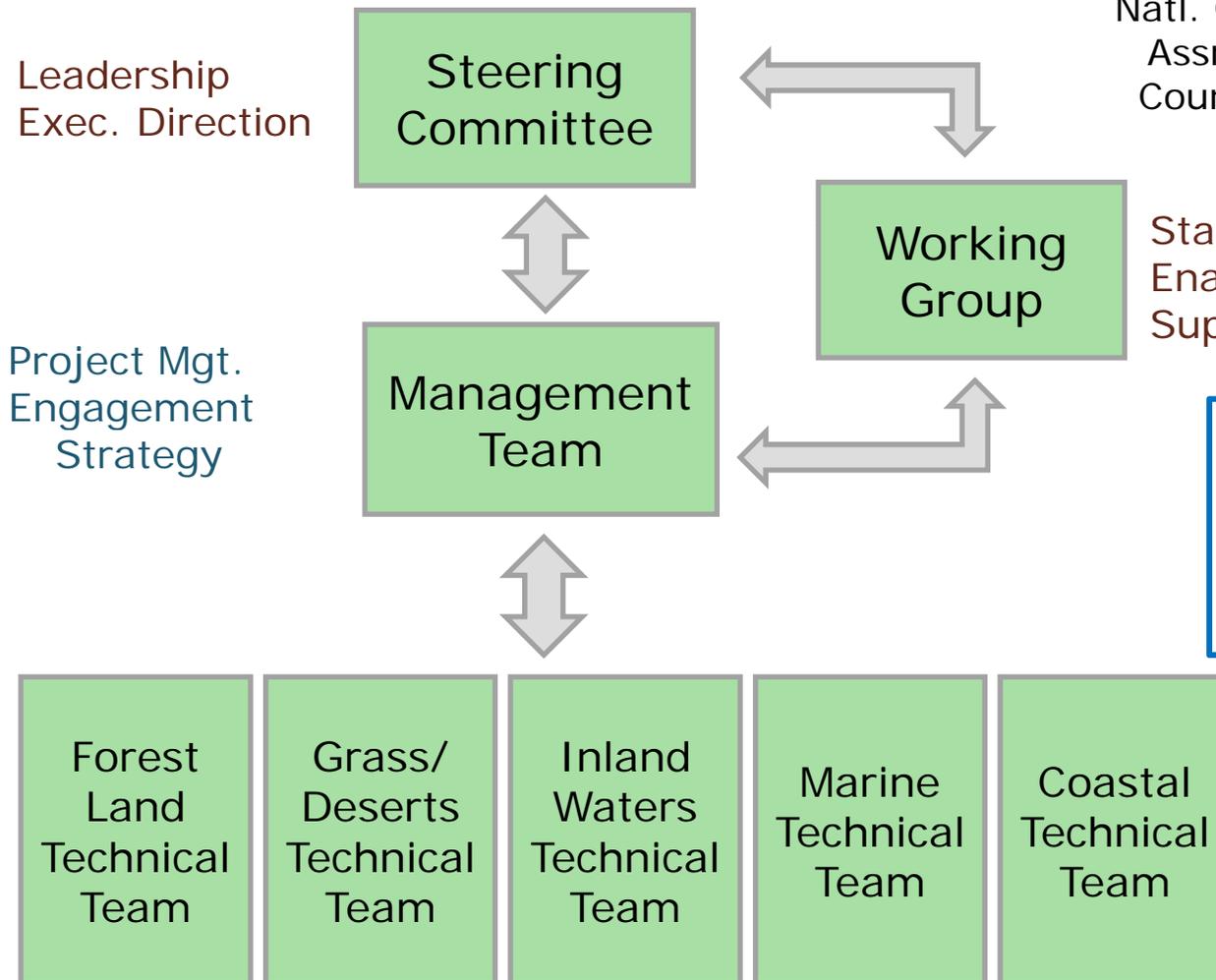
Strategy Leads:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Natl. Ocean and Atmospheric Admt.
Assn. of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
Council on Environmental Quality

Staff to SC (#2s)
Enable Communication
Support Strategy Dev.

USACE representation:

SC: Chip Smith-ASA(CW)
WG: Janet Cushing
TT: Janet Cushing, Lynn
Martin, Katherine Trott



Content Development
Technical Outreach
Drafting



Progress Report

- Technical Teams
- Strategy Framework
- Example Strategies and Actions
- Engagement and collaboration



Technical Team Assignments

1. Forests (16)
2. Grass/Shrublands and Deserts (14)
3. Inland Waters (25)
4. Coastal (17)
5. Marine (15)



Photo: Tim Torrell



Tech. Team Leadership

Tech Team	State Co-chair	Federal Co-chair	Tribal Co-Chair	Facilitator
Marine	Karen Chytalo, New York Department of Env. Conservation	Richard Merrick, NOAA		Roger Griffis, NOAA
Coastal	Doug Parsons, FL Fish & Wildlife Cons. Comm.	Kim Penn, NOAA		Laurie Mcgilvray, NOAA
Inland Waters	Dave Day, PA Fish & Boat Commission	Dan Shively, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	Laura Gephart, Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission	Gerry Barnhart, Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
Forests	John O'Leary, MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife	Rick Kearney, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	Mark Petruncio, Yakama Nation	Arthur (Butch) Blazer, Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission
Grass, Shrub, Deserts	Armand Gonzales, CA Department of Fish & Game	David Olson, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; Peggy Olwell, BLM		Mark Shaffer, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

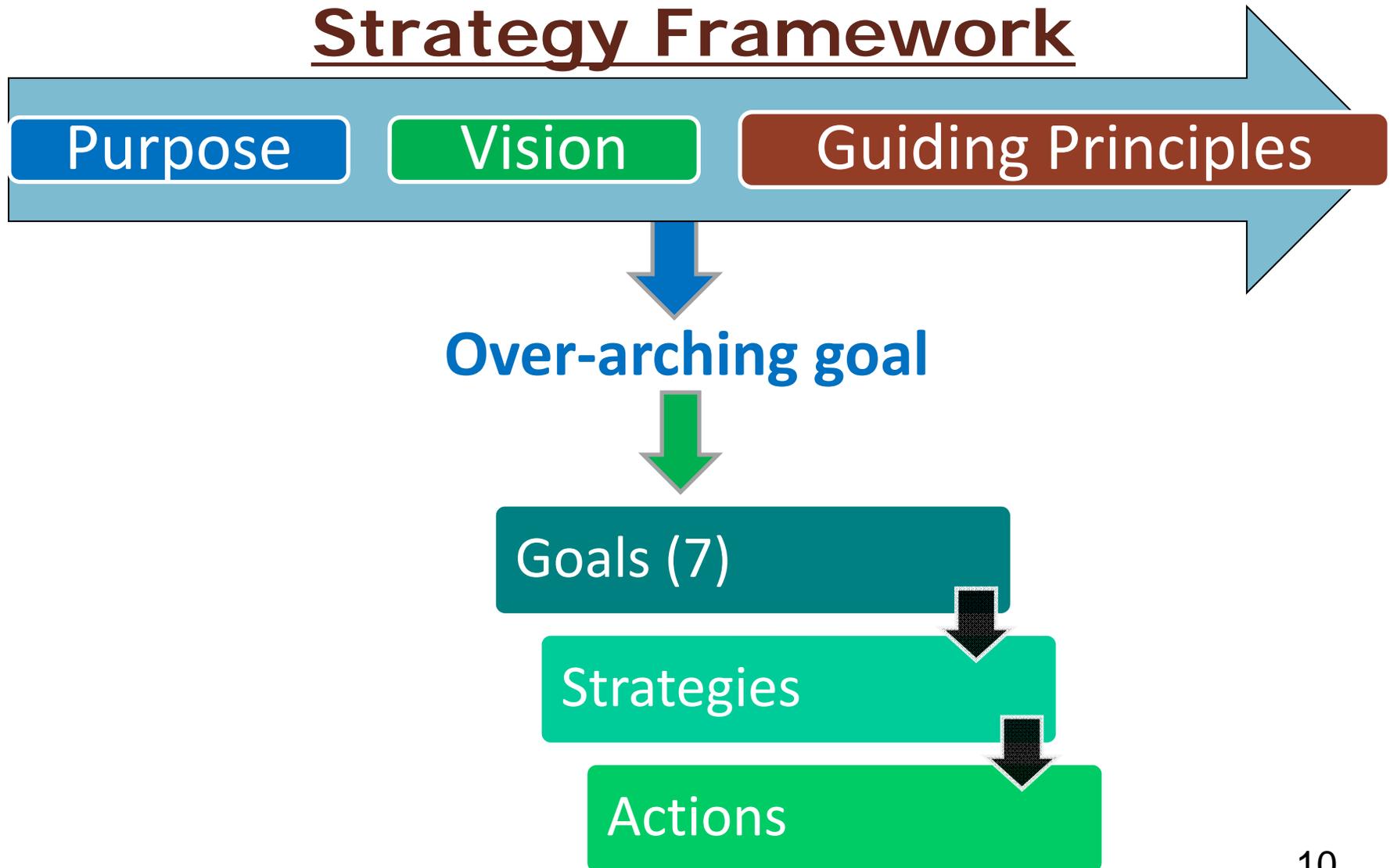


Technical Team Work

1. Three very successful meetings (Mar, May, June)
2. Benchmarking other adaptation strategies
3. Climate change impacts/stressors ID'd
4. Candidate strategies & actions drafted
5. Identified cross-cutting/overlapping issues
6. Completed Draft Strategy



Strategy Framework





Purpose

*The purpose of the National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy is to **inspire** natural resource professionals and other decision makers to **take action** to **safeguard** fish, wildlife and plant resources and the human uses, values and benefits they provide in a **changing climate**.*



Vision

*Ecological systems will **sustain** healthy, diverse and abundant populations of fish, wildlife and plants that continue to provide cultural, economic and environmental benefits in a world impacted by global climate change.*



Strategy Guiding Principles

- Build a **national framework** for cooperative climate response
- Respect jurisdictional authorities – foster **communication and collaboration**
- Provide blueprint for **collective action**
- Focus on **resources** of US & Territories
- **Landscape/seascape-based** approach that integrates **science & adaptive management**



Strategy Guiding Principles (cont.)

- **Integrate** with adaptation plans of other sectors
- **Engage** the public
- **Identify critical** scientific and management **needs**
- **Integration** of adaptation/mitigation efforts
- **Time** is of the essence



Strategy Overarching Goal

*Provide a **nation-wide, unified** approach – reflecting shared principles and science-based practices - to safeguard the nation’s biodiversity, ecosystem functions and sustainable human uses of fish, wildlife and plants in a changing climate.*



Goals:

- 1. *Protect, connect and restore*** natural areas to ensure robust populations, biodiversity, and ecosystem functions in a changing climate
- 2. *Design and implement species and area management activities*** that promote the sustainable use of fish, wildlife, and plants for cultural, subsistence, recreational, and commercial uses in a changing climate
- 3. *Decrease impacts of non-climate stressors*** to reduce the vulnerability of fish, wildlife, and plants in a changing climate



4. ***Build coordinated inventory, monitoring, information management, risk assessment, decision-making, and policy systems that facilitate risk-wise and adaptive management in the face of uncertainty***
5. ***Build capacity for effective management in a changing climate***
6. ***Increase knowledge and information on impacts and responses of fish, wildlife and plants to a changing climate***
7. ***Increase awareness and motivate action to safeguard fish, wildlife and plants in a changing climate***



Strategy Outline

1. Executive summary
2. Introduction
 1. Purpose, vision, guiding principles
3. Impacts of climate change on fish, wildlife, and plants
4. Goals, strategies, and actions
 1. National
 2. Ecosystem-specific
5. Cross-cutting strategies and actions with other sectors
6. Integration and implementation



Example Strategies & Actions

Goal 2: Species and area management activities

Strategy: Manage water resources for culturally-, recreationally- and commercially-important fish, wildlife and plants.

Action: Improve integrated water resource management, including coordination of surface and groundwater withdrawals, to meet the needs of fish, wildlife and plants and consumptive human uses.



Example Strategies & Actions

Goal: Build coordinated inventory, monitoring, information management, risk-assessment, decision-making and policy systems

Strategy: Develop, maintain, and enhance a long-term, robust national climate change monitoring/sentinel site system

Action: Use existing systems and platforms to develop nationally agreed criteria to identify species and ecosystems most likely to be affected by climate change



Example Strategies & Actions

Goal: Build capacity for effective management

Strategy: Incorporate climate change considerations into existing federal, state and tribal natural resource plans

Action: Promote integration of climate change into the CZMA, floodplain plans and hazard mitigation plans



Engagement & Collaboration

- Identify and engage key stakeholders
- Engage key sector/state/local associations (e.g. NASF, CSO) and Congressional representatives, OMB
- Communications Package
 - Interactive website
(www.wildlifeadaptationstrategy.gov)
 - Newsletter piece
 - Talking points
- G2G consultation with Tribes
 - Added tribal representative to MT (Arthur “Butch” Blazer)
 - Consultation with DOI regarding process
 - Regional workshops with tribes



Engagement & Collaboration

- ✓ Stakeholder briefings and input
- ✓ Coordination with other Adaptation efforts (CEQ)
- ✓ Public input opportunities at Steering Committee meetings
- ✓ Public comment opportunity (until July 1; Federal Register Notice of Intent)
- Public comment on draft (Jan-Feb 2012)
- Regional input sessions (4) (Jan 2012)

Timeline

First Steering Committee meeting	January 2011
Technical Team Drafting and Work Sessions (1-3)	March – July 7, 2011
Assemble Draft Strategy	August 2011
Steering Committee Review	Sept 9 – 27, 2011
Agencies Review Draft	Nov-Dec 2011
Public Review Draft	Jan-Feb 2012
Technical Teams Revisions	Feb-March 2012
Assemble & Review Final Strategy	April 2012
Release Strategy	May 2012



What does this mean for CW Planning?

- USACE would determine priorities for implementation of various actions within the Strategy that fall within mission areas
- Improved coordination with FWS, NOAA, State fish & wildlife agencies, Tribes on climate adaptation measures; Landscape Conservation Cooperatives would be one vehicle for coordinated efforts



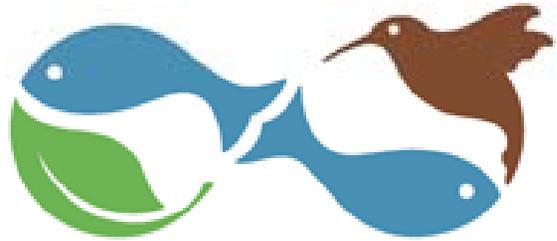
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For More Information:

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Photos: Chuck Olsen, Tom Woodward, Jane Pellicciotto, Lynette Schimming

Common solutions to protect
common values

www.wildlifeadaptationstrategy.gov