Tongass Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Workshop

Phase 1 – Resource Inventory and Prioritization

When: May 2-3, Juneau, AK
Where: TBA

GOALS: The goals of this workshop are to:
1) Identify social, ecological, and economic resources in and around the Tongass vulnerable to climate-related changes.
2) Using a set of climate scenarios, discuss how climate change may impact these resources
3) Prioritize a list of candidate resources for phase II & III of the vulnerability assessment

Wednesday, May 2
8:30 am-4:30 pm

Day 1 morning session, 8:30 am – 12:00 pm (Facilitator: Scott Rupp)

8:30 am Welcome (Forrest Cole)
8:35 am Introduction of participants & observers
8:50 am Overview of Assessment Process & Proposal Phases
9:00 am Vulnerability assessment framework: an example (Paul Duffy)
9:15 am Presentation of SNAP scenarios of projected climate changes (Todd Brinkman)
9:35 am Discussion of climate science uncertainty (Steve Gray)
10:00 am Participant “rapid fire” drill to create a working resource list
   Considerations when identifying resources to include:
   1. Is the resource within the management realm of the Tongass NF?
   2. How likely is the resource to be impacted by climate change and related environmental change?
   3. If the resource is impacted by climate change, how severe are the consequences (social, ecological, economic)?
10:15 am 15 minute BREAK
10:30 am Breakout group brainstorm: What additional resources should be included, if any?
11:15 am Reports from breakout discussion
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11:40 am    Opportunity for observers to comment

11:50 am    Assemble and review the resource list reported from breakout groups. Are we missing something important?

12:00-1:00 pm    Lunch provided

Day 1 afternoon session, 1:00 – 4:30 pm (Facilitator: Todd Brinkman)

1:00 pm    Exposures: examples and instructions
            Probability of exposure X severity of consequences = resource vulnerability

1:15 pm    Breakout group brainstorm– Exposure on list of resources.
            Based on scenarios presented earlier, each group will be assigned resources and will identify:
            1) What type(s) of climate related exposure is the resource likely to face (i.e. air or water temperature change, flooding, snow line shift, etc.)?
            2) How likely is the exposure to occur?
            3) If the exposure occurs, how severe are the consequences (social, ecological, economic)?

2:00 pm    Report-back from break out groups on exposure.

2:20 pm    Opportunity for observers to comment.

2:30 pm    15 min BREAK

2:45 pm    Assemble and review a matrix of resources and their exposures. Are we missing something?

3:00 pm    Individual prioritization of resource list.
            Question: To what extent do you agree or disagree with this resource being a top-priority candidate for a vulnerability assessment?

3:30 pm    Day 1 wrap-up

Thursday, May 3
8:30 am-12:00 pm

Day 2 morning session (Facilitators: Paul Duffy & Sarah Trainor)

8:30 am    Welcome: overview of today’s intentions

8:45 am    Summary of results from individual prioritization (Todd Brinkman)
9:05 am Participant discussion on the summary of prioritized resources and exposures. Considerations:
1) Are we acknowledging both short and long-term resource issues?
2) Are we acknowledging community, district, and regional needs?
3) Do we have the appropriate balance among ecological, social, and economic resources?
4) How should we decide which resources should be included in Phase II and III?

9:50 am Opportunity for observers to comment

10:00 am 15 min BREAK

10:15 am Assemble and review final list (Consider re-prioritization)

10:30 am Next steps (Phase II & III)

10:45 am Workshop wrap-up (Tricia O’Connor)

For more information, please contact: Dr. Todd Brinkman, Scenarios Network for Alaska and Arctic Planning, (907)474-7139, tjbrinkman@alaska.edu