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EcoClimate News Southwest

January 2022

**Reflections from SW CASC Consortium PI Richard
Ambrose, UCLA**



Resource managers are constantly making decisions about how to achieve their management goals. Ideally, these decisions are based on sound scientific evidence, but often there is a lack of scientific information about a specific management issue.

conducted is often influenced by their own interests or what colleagues have studied. Thus, there is often a disconnect between the information that resource managers need to support their management decisions and the scientific information available. One way to remedy this problem is through knowledge co-production, where managers and researchers work together to identify the research needed to support management decisions and to collect the information to fill those research needs. Although knowledge co-production has been occurring in some form for years, it has been formally identified and encouraged only recently. Knowledge co-production is an explicit goal of the Climate Adaptation Science Centers.

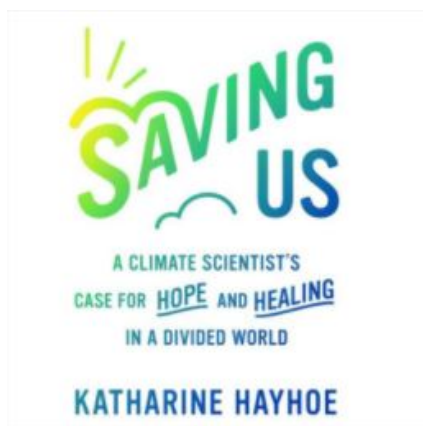
At UCLA, in partnership with the SW CASC, we have been encouraging knowledge co-production with a series of workshops with coastal managers and scientists. Glen MacDonald, a professor in Geography, Elizabeth Fard, a PhD student in Geography, and I convened a select group of coastal managers in California to give them an opportunity to discuss their most pressing research needs related to managing coastal resources under future climate change. One of the significant data gaps this group identified was information about how climate change will influence rocky intertidal communities (i.e., the species living on rocks at the land-ocean interface that are alternately exposed to air and under water). Thus, we invited a group of scientists and managers working on rocky intertidal communities to identify what is known about the response of rocky intertidal organisms to climate change and to identify research needs. The working group is in the final stages of producing a white paper summarizing the state of knowledge on this topic and identifying priority research needs, which will serve as a basis for future efforts to acquire funding to support the needed research. The group is now developing a set of research proposal concepts and hopes to continue to work together to secure funding for these proposal concepts. UCLA's goal has always been to facilitate the knowledge co-production process, and we hope the group continues to work together during proposal submission, funding, and project implementation.

Our experience indicates that managers and scientists are enthusiastic about opportunities to develop knowledge together. Of course, this is not the first time researchers and managers have worked together to develop research projects. Even in the rocky intertidal world, the Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network (MARINe) has a 30-year history of collaboration between resource management agencies and scientists. However, our working group's small size and focused, short-term goal has led to a high level of engagement among all participants, with managers and scientists contributing equally to the ideas being discussed. While we are still working towards collaborating on an actual project, the process of thinking collectively about what needs to be done and how to get it done has been rewarding and has put us on the path towards achieving our goal of knowledge co-production.



Come Rain or Shine Podcast

Katharine Hayhoe On Hope & Healing In A Divided World



An interview with world-renowned climate scientist and Chief Scientist for The Nature Conservancy, Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, on her most recent book titled Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World.

[Listen Here](#)

Save the Date! 2022 Southwest Adaptation Forum



Mark your calendars for the 3rd Southwest Adaptation Forum (SWAF), to be held October 10-14, 2022 in Albuquerque, NM!

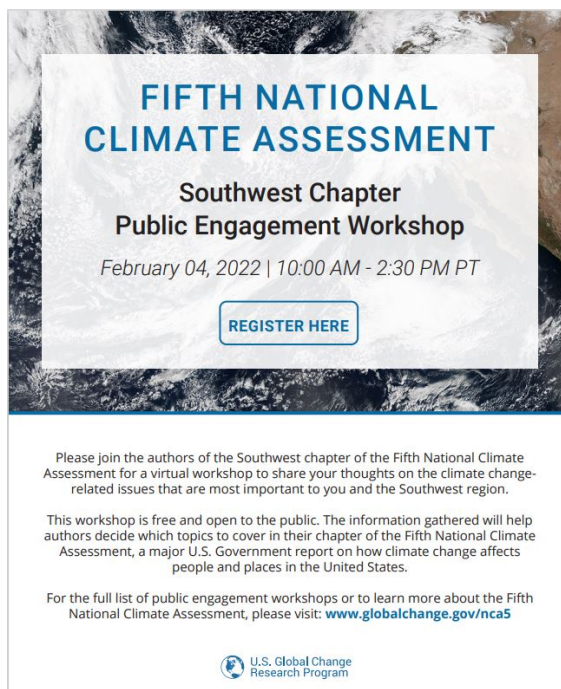
at the [2018](#) and [2021](#) SWAFs, we will further explore topics relevant to adaptation practitioners in the Southwest, such as cultural burning, drought, and ecosystem transformation. Keep an eye out for an invitation early this year. We look forward to seeing you in October!

Apply Now! SW CASC Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison

The [American Indian Higher Education Consortium](#) is looking for a Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison, to be housed at the SW CASC. This full-time, professional position will provide direct extension support to tribes and tribal colleges & universities located in California, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona, the states comprising the service area of the SW CASC, located on the campus of the University of Arizona in Tucson, AZ.

Apply Here!

Fifth National Climate Assessment Southwest Chapter Public Engagement Workshop

The poster features a background image of a snowy mountain range. A white rectangular box in the center contains the following text: "FIFTH NATIONAL CLIMATE ASSESSMENT" in large blue capital letters, followed by "Southwest Chapter Public Engagement Workshop" in black, and "February 04, 2022 | 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM PT" in a smaller black font. Below this is a blue button with the text "REGISTER HERE" in white. At the bottom of the poster, there is a block of text explaining the purpose of the workshop, its accessibility, and a link to the full list of workshops. The U.S. Global Change Research Program logo is at the very bottom.

**FIFTH NATIONAL
CLIMATE ASSESSMENT**

**Southwest Chapter
Public Engagement Workshop**


February 04, 2022 | 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM PT

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Please join the authors of the Southwest chapter of the Fifth National Climate Assessment for a virtual workshop to share your thoughts on the climate change-related issues that are most important to you and the Southwest region.

This workshop is free and open to the public. The information gathered will help authors decide which topics to cover in their chapter of the Fifth National Climate Assessment, a major U.S. Government report on how climate change affects people and places in the United States.

For the full list of public engagement workshops or to learn more about the Fifth National Climate Assessment, please visit: www.globalchange.gov/nca5

 U.S. Global Change
Research Program

Please join the authors of the Southwest chapter of the Fifth National Climate Assessment for a virtual workshop to share your thoughts on the climate

Fifth National Climate Assessment, please visit [here](#).

Date: February 4, 2022

Time: 10:00 - 2:30 PT

Register Here

Sonoran Desert Plant Species Flowering Earlier Due to Climate Change



Ken Bosma, Creative Commons:

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Olneya_tesota_in_flower.jpg

Understanding climate change impacts on the flowering of desert plant species is important for anticipating the future ability of plants to attract pollinators, reproduce, and persist under continued climate change. [SW CASC-funded researchers](#) used statistical models to expand on existing research and determine how the flowering of six Sonoran Desert woody species may respond to climate change, and which climate factors influence the probability of flowering. They found that, in addition to temperature, moisture availability was also an important determinant of the timing of flowering for some species. For five of the species studied, the researchers documented a trend towards earlier flowering on the order of 1-4 days per decade, and no trend for one species. They also note contrasting responses between species to different aspects of climate, suggesting that the flowering patterns of plant communities could diverge under future climate change.

The Importance of Communicating Applied Science



This profile is a part of our consortium profile series, highlighting the people that make up the SW CASC—what inspires them, makes them passionate about their research, and gives them hope for the future. For this profile, Bryson Mineart (SW CASC communications student assistant and undergraduate student in the University of Arizona Computer Science program) interviewed SW CASC Climate Adaptation Specialist, Jennifer Smith, UC Davis.

Having the skills to accurately communicate science to decision-makers, resource managers, and the public, is rapidly becoming increasingly important in the climate world. Jennifer Smith believes that we will continue to see this field develop. Together with increasingly prominent and collaborative interdisciplinary research teams, science communicators can support highly skilled environments to collectively have a positive impact on the climate crisis. Jennifer began her career conducting research in wildlife ecology. As she matured in this field, Jennifer found herself not only passionate about the research, but the process of translating the results for whoever may need or be interested in the implications. This interest in translation and communication of science continued to grow, until she ultimately decided to shift her trajectory to focus on translating relevant research for decision-makers and improving its accessibility for diverse audiences.

[Read More Here](#)

Partner Highlights

Photography Contest for Indigenous People Under the Age of 30

Indigenous photographers under 30 years old are invited to submit their images depicting a theme of climate change and climate action for the [World Intellectual Property Organization](#) photography contest. Photographs should show the impact of climate change on a specific community, or Indigenous adaptation or mitigation to the impacts of climate change.

More Information

Partner Events

CA-NV DEWS Winter Status Update Webinar

According to the January 4 U.S. Drought Monitor, 99.6% of CA/NV is in drought, with 19.7% in Extreme (D3) or Exceptional (D4) Drought. The area in D3/D4 is down from 70.4% just one month ago, reflecting the barrage of storms that have brought rain and snow to the region since mid-fall. These storms have improved conditions but have not ended the drought. The current drought developed over many months to years and left huge water deficits.

The California-Nevada Drought Early Warning System (CA-NV DEWS) January 2022 Drought & Climate Outlook Webinar is part of a series of regular drought and climate outlook webinars designed to provide stakeholders and other interested parties in the region with timely information on current drought status and impacts, as well as a preview of current and developing climatic events (i.e. El Niño and La Niña).

Date: January 24, 2022

[Register Here](#)

Society for Range Management 2022 Annual Meeting

The Southwest Climate Hub and partners will be hosting and/or presenting in several sessions at the upcoming Society for Range Management Annual meeting, including:

SYMPOSIUM: Transformational Climate Change on Rangeland Ecosystems

SYMPOSIUM: Precision Grazing: State of the Science and Opportunity for User Feedback on New Technologies

SYMPOSIUM: From Desert Pasture to Dinner Plate: Evaluating the Sustainability of Supply Chains for Beef Cattle Coming from Ranches of the Southwest

Deadline: February 6-10, 2022

[Register Here](#)

Wildlife Management Adaptation Planning and Practices Course

The Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science (NIACS) is partnering with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Midwest Climate Adaptation Science Center, Michigan DNR, and University of Wisconsin to offer a wildlife-focused version of our popular online Adaptation Planning and Practices course! Tailored for wildlife management professionals, this course will consist of seven weekly lectures and multiple discussion sessions. Participants will work individually or in small groups to complete the Adaptation Workbook and develop their own climate adaptation projects.

Registration Deadline: February 11, 2022

Date: February 28, 2022 - April 20, 2022

[Register Here](#)

2022 Southwestern Tribal Climate Change Summit



In partnership with the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians, the Pala Band of Mission Indians, and the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals, the Climate Science Alliance is excited to co-host the 2022 Southwestern Tribal Climate Change Summit (SWTCCS).

Date: May 16-18, 2022

[Register Here](#)

Contact us at:

University of Arizona, ENR2 Building, 1064 E. Lowell St., Suite N441, Tucson, AZ 85721

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