

Climate Change and Adirondack Forests Agenda

Date: Thursday, September 12, 2019

Location: Adirondack Interpretive Center, 5922 State Route 28N, Newcomb, NY

More information and registration: <https://forestadaptation.org/Adirondack>

Hosting Organizations

- Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science
- State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- Forest Stewards Guild
- New York Society of American Foresters

General Description

Foresters and natural resource professionals face the tremendous challenge of developing and implementing management actions that help ecosystems respond to climate change. This session will:

- Provide information on the current and anticipated effects of climate change on local forests
- Describe how to integrate climate change considerations into management planning and activities
- Share examples real-world projects that considered climate change adaptation as one of multiple management objectives

Draft Agenda

8:30 Registration & Coffee (~30 min)

9:00 Welcome & Introductions (~30 min)

9:20 Presentations – Climate Change and Forest Impacts

- Climate change in the Adirondacks: past and present – Curt Staeger, Paul Smith’s College
- Climate change impacts on forests – Maria Janowiak, US Forest Service/NIACS

10:20 Break

10:40 Technical presentations – continued

- Projected changes in tree (and bird?) species – Louis Iverson, US Forest Service/NIACS

11:10 Activity: What does climate change mean for Adirondack forests?

Sticky note activity and discussion asking about what new or different considerations climate change brings to forest management in the Adirondacks. Potential trigger question: What new or different considerations do we need to think about when working to sustain healthy forests in the face of a changing climate?

12:00 Lunch

12:45 Presentations – Responding to Climate Change

- Adaptation Concepts and Resources – Patricia Leopold, NIACS (45 min)

- Adaptation Demonstrations: Examples of real-world projects incorporating adaptation strategies into management and planning. Actual projects TBD and could include:
 - [TNC's Tug Hill Project](#)
 - [Paul Smith's College: Creighton Compartment](#)
 - [St. Regis Mohawk Tribe: Black Ash Management](#)

2:00 Break and Transition to Field

2:30 Field Activity – (~1.5-2 hours, plus travel time)

- Go out to a nearby forested location. Have local manager describe management goals, past and current management, etc.
- Flag trees based on climate projections (winners/losers) and discuss likely climate impacts to site
- Go through Adaptation Workbook process and discuss actions for management and adaptation, exploring differences based on management goals, etc.

4:30 Adjourn