

# Listening Session for the R9 Climate Adaptation Implementation Plan

Winter RTOC  
Wednesday, January 26, 2022, 11 a.m.

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# Listening Session Purpose and Agenda

**Purpose:** to hear from Tribes about climate adaptation, specifically on:

- Needs and challenges for science and TEK,
- Needs and challenges for training, and
- Ideas on how R9 can best approach climate adaptation.

**Agenda:**

- Brief review
- Look over prompting questions
- Hear from Tribes



# Review of Climate Terms and Impacts



**Climate Mitigation** – Getting climate change under control by controlling emissions and sequestering them.

**Climate Adaptation** – Building resilience to climate impacts, including natural disasters, until we get climate change under control.

Increasing temperature (air and water)

Extreme storm events including hurricanes and typhoons

Sea level rise

Extreme and frequent drought

Changes in precipitation type (less snowfall)

Ocean acidification

Extreme heat events

Extreme and frequent wildfires and their smoke

Flooding (coastal and inland, surface and groundwater)

Debris flow & erosion

Water supply unreliability

Habitat & species changes (including vectors and pathogens)

# R9 Already Works with Tribes on Climate Adaptation.

## Funding Assistance for:

- Climate Vulnerability Assessments and Adaptation Plan Development
- Prioritize water infrastructure projects that
  - Address water supply deficiencies related to drought
  - Support back-up power needs at tribal water and wastewater systems.
- Implementing Best Management Practices for non-point source pollution

## Technical Assistance

- Develop risk and resilience assessments and emergency response plans for Tribal Water Systems.

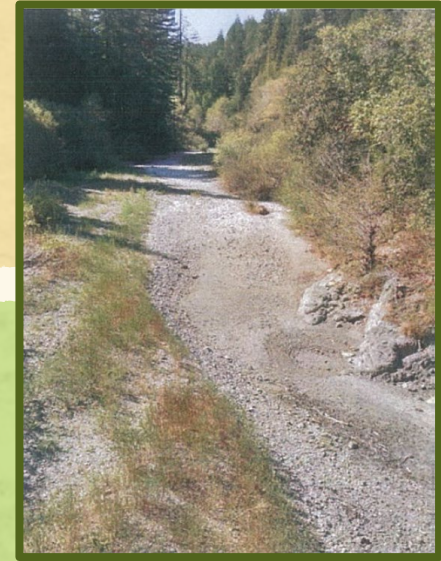


# Emphasis today is on **Planning** for Climate Adaptation Action

- All Federal Departments and Agencies Updated their national Climate Adaptation Plans in 2021, including EPA. See website [here](#)
- Now R9 is updating our Regional Climate Adaptation Implementation Plan (CAIP) to identify:
  - How can EPA best consider climate impacts in our own programs?
  - How can EPA best assist Tribes and others in building their resilience to climate impacts?
- **Plans are to include:**
  - Actions
  - Science Needs
  - Training Plan and Needs



# Current R9 Climate Adaptation Planning - Timeline



7/19/21 – **RTOC Presentation** on Climate Adaptation Implementation Planning.

10/21/21 – **Annual Meeting Think Tank: Moving Forward to Build Resilience to Climate Impacts and Disasters – Barriers and Opportunities.**

10/26/21 – **EPA HQ Listening Session** on the whole-Agency [EPA Climate Adaptation Plan](#).

12/9/21 – **OITA Listening Session** on their Office-level CAIP.

1/26/22 – **Today's R9 Listening Session on Climate Adaptation Planning.**

2/18/22 – R9 provides **Draft CAIP to HQ.**

Spring 22 – We **anticipate a consultation opportunity** on the R9 Draft CAIP, in collaboration with OITA.

Summer 22 – **Final CAIP to HQ.**

# Examples of Draft Actions for the R9 Climate Adaptation Implementation Plan



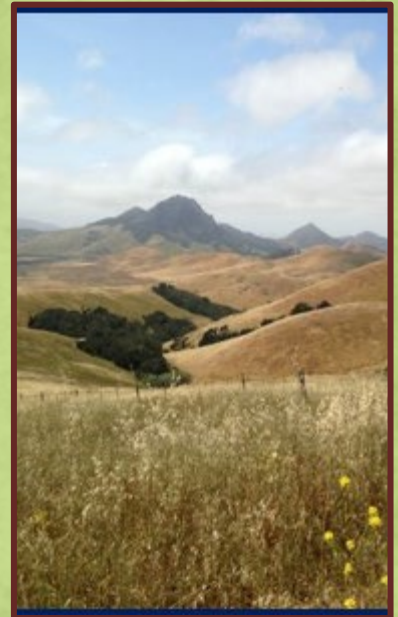
Draft Priority Actions would focus on current fiscal year (FY 22) and next fiscal year (FY 23):

- Build Tribal Climate Change Adaptation Capacity to Develop and Update Climate Vulnerability Assessments and Adaptation Plans.**
- Host 2 Webinars – one with Border Region Tribes and one with Binational Communities to share examples and tools for climate adaptation.
- Protect Children and Communities from Wildfire and Extreme Heat Events through advancing Air Quality communication.**
- Reduce Exposure to Wildland Fire Smoke through work across EPA Air Programs.
- Implement Climate Change Resiliency into Remedy Protectiveness at RCRA and TSCA PCB Cleanup Sites and Permitted Facilities.**
- Incorporate Climate Resilience into Remedy Selection and Protectiveness Determinations for Currently-Listed Superfund Sites.

# Examples of Draft Actions for the R9 Climate Adaptation Implementation Plan

## Additional Draft Actions for FY 22 and FY 23

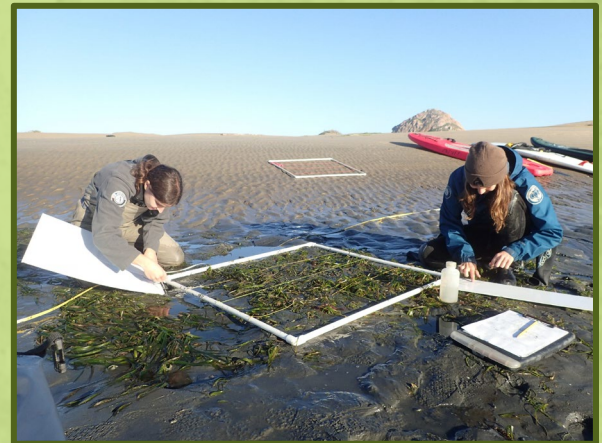
- Engage the Tribal Border Workgroup in Dialogue on Climate Mitigation and Adaptation.
- Collaborate with Tribes to Protect Water Quality through Integration of Agricultural Practices and Programs.
- Disaster Debris Reduction to Build Resilience.
- Underground Storage Tank and Aboveground Storage Tank Wildfire Guide.
- Promote Tribal Drinking Water Infrastructure Projects that address Climate Adaptation.





# What are your needs for **Science and TEK** around climate impacts and climate adaptation?

1. What science information do you need for climate change impacts on people, land, water and air?
  - Do you need better access to information on how wildfires, floods, drought or sea level rise may impact you?
  - Do you need help getting information to present to your leadership or membership?
2. What science information or sources have you used that were useful for your climate adaptation work?
3. Do you see barriers to accessing the science information that you want?
4. Do you see barriers to using TEK as you determine climate impacts or develop climate adaptation plans?
5. Is there science research you would like EPA to take on?
6. What sorts of tools do you need to do this work? What tools have worked for you already?



# What are your needs for **Training** around climate impacts and climate adaptation?



1. What training does your staff need on climate impacts, vulnerability assessments, and climate adaptation planning? ...Either that EPA can provide or that we can help you find.
2. Are there specific aspects of climate adaptation planning or action you would like to find training for? For example, wildfire smoke abatement, water management during drought, best management practices for post-fire sediment management?
3. Is there training you have taken that you think was helpful for climate adaptation? Do you think others might benefit from it?
4. What training do you feel EPA staff need in order to better support your climate adaptation planning?
5. Are there barriers for you for accessing training?
6. Are there barriers for finding examples of work other tribes and communities are doing for climate adaptation?

# How could EPA best work with Tribes in Region 9 to help you with climate adaptation?



1. What do you see is EPA's best role in working with your Tribe on vulnerability assessments and climate adaptation planning?
2. Are there specific places where you think EPA could consider climate impacts more, in order to be more effective? For example, are there EPA policies, regulations, guidance or practices that come to mind?
3. Do you have thoughts on the draft actions proposed for the R9 Climate Adaptation Implementation Plan?
4. Are there Federal partners EPA should work with to better jointly support your work?
5. Are there other partners EPA should work with to better support your work on climate adaptation?



Now it is your turn.

What do you want to tell  
EPA Region 9 about climate adaptation?

Thank you.

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