



The 2013 National Climate Assessment (NCA):

Background & Pacific Regional Contributions



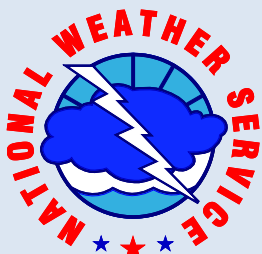
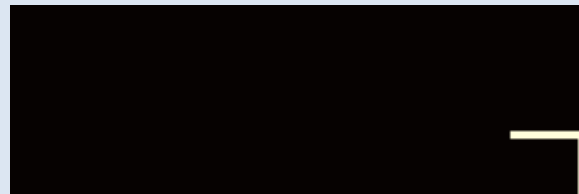
Victoria Keener, PhD

Research Fellow

East-West Center, Pacific RISA

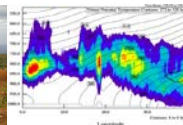
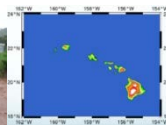
ORMP Meeting: July 7, 2011

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLIMATE CHANGE COOPERATIVE



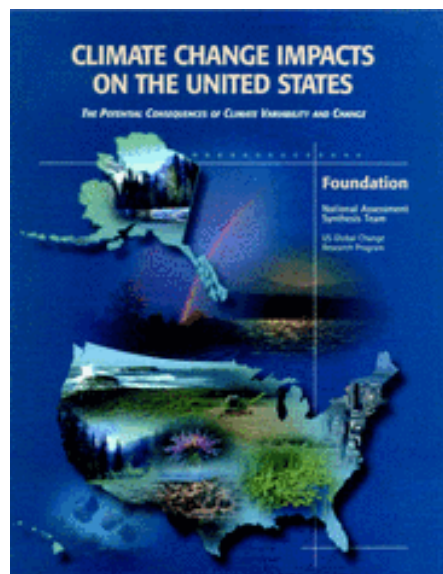
Global Change Research Act (1990), Section 106

- ...not *less frequently* than **every 4 years**, the Council... shall prepare... an assessment which
 - integrates, evaluates, and interprets the findings of the Program and discusses the scientific uncertainties;
 - analyzes the effects of global change on the natural environment, agriculture, energy production and use, land and water resources, transportation, human health and welfare, human social systems, and biological diversity; and
 - analyzes current trends in global change, both human-induced and natural, and projects major trends for the subsequent **25 to 100 years**.

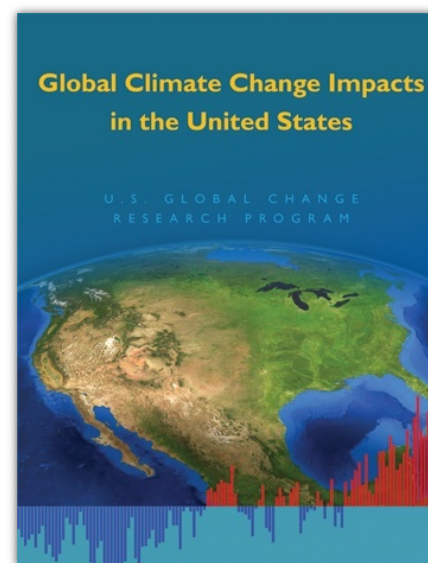


Previous National Climate Assessments

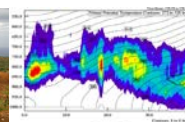
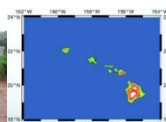
Climate Change Impacts on the United States (2000)



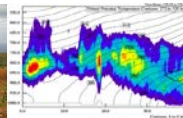
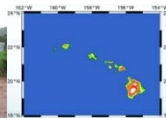
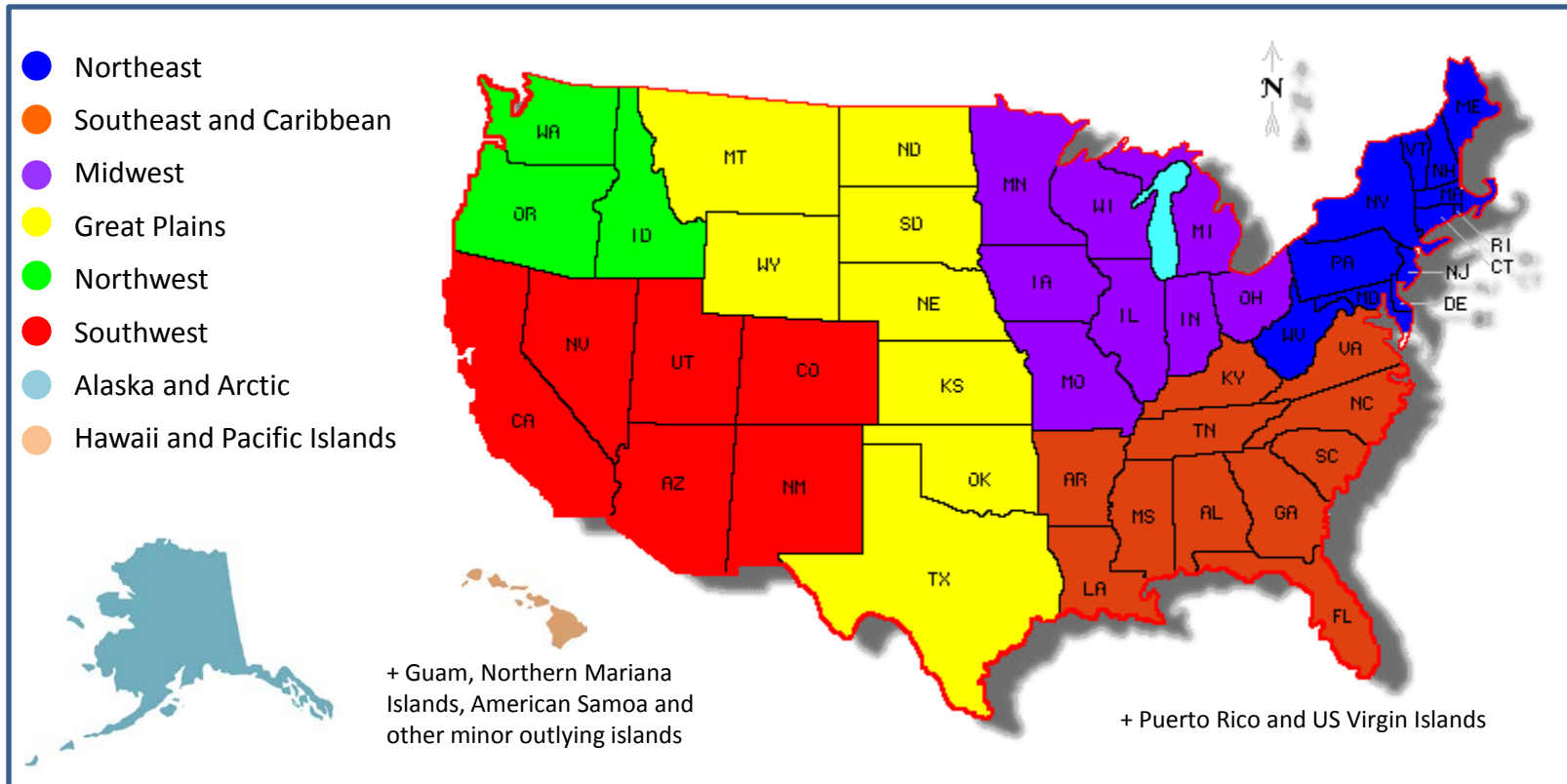
Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States (2009)



Target date for next NCA: 2013

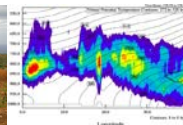
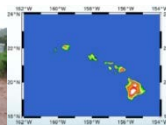


Suggested Regions



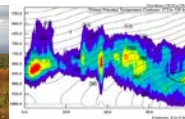
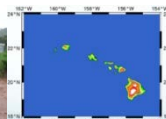
2013 National Climate Assessment

- Sustainable process with multiple products over time
- Cross-sectoral studies
- Consistent national matrix of indicators
- Central coordination, multiple partners
- Regional and sectoral networks building assessment capacity
- Recognizes international context
- Education and communications focus
- Web-based data and tools for decision support
- Process workshops to establish common methodologies



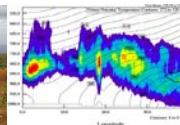
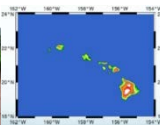
Products and Outcomes of the NCA

- A report or reports to Congress
- Web-based, vetted data and products
- Assessment and science translation capacity at multiple scales
- Ongoing national evaluations of changes in climate trends, impacts, risks and vulnerability
- Process documentation and evaluation
- Communications and education products

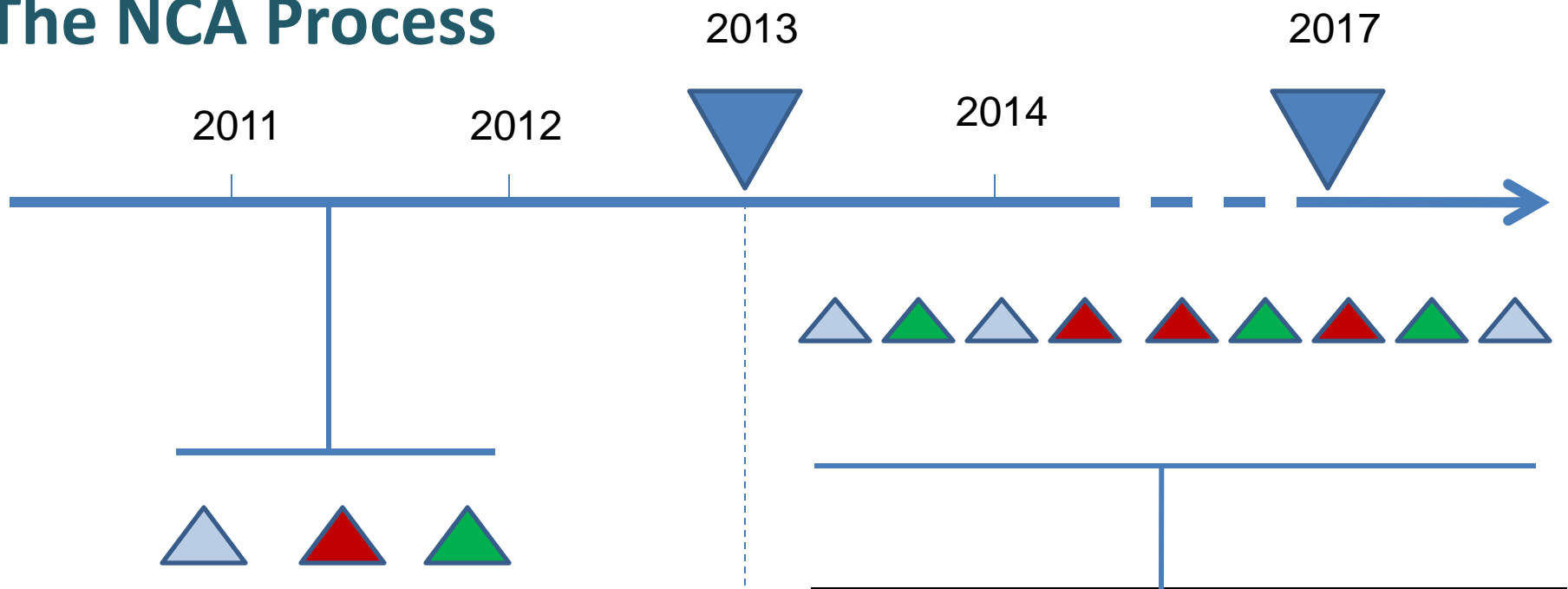


Sectors & Cross-Cutting Topics

- Water resources
- Energy supply and use
- Transportation
- Agriculture and food security
- Forestry
- Ecosystems and biodiversity
- Human health
- Water, energy, and land use
- Urban infrastructure and vulnerability
- Tribal, indigenous, and native lands and resources
- Land use and land cover
- Rural communities,
- Biogeochemical cycles & regions
 - Coastal zone
 - Watersheds
 - Oceans and marine resources (including ocean acidification)



The NCA Process



Initiate “topical” reports that will be completed by a defined date for inclusion in the 2013 report; cover all required sectors plus initial demonstrations of integrated and innovative approaches; cover all regions at least at some minimal level

Initiate “topical” and assessment process reports that will be completed at a defined date post 2013



Full assessment reports



Sectors



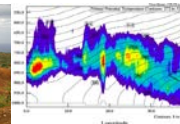
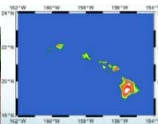
Regions



Cross-cutting topics

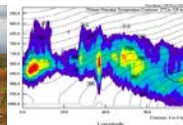
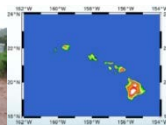
Opportunities for participation

- Expression of Interest by region
- Developing technical inputs, e.g.,
 - Literature reviews, discussion papers, and other review papers
 - Case studies
 - Modeling results, interpretation of data, and topical reports
- Participating in assessment activities, e.g.,
 - Meetings and workshops
 - Supporting indicator systems
- Network partners that help link the assessment activities to their constituents



Pacific Regional Strategy

- 3 Focus Areas as defined by the Pacific Climate Information System (PaCIS) meeting
 1. Preserving fresh water resources and minimizing the impacts of drought
 2. Fostering community resilience to the impacts of sea-level rise, coastal inundation, and extreme weather
 3. Sustaining aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems
- Technical reports on “state of the science”
 - Workshops or regional dialogues
- Assessment activities
 - Impacts, two-way dialogues, workshops
 - Ultimate process leading to a sustainable and regular region-wide “Mega-Forum”



2011-2012 Pacific Region Climate Assessment Process

Climate Science Assessment

Focus Area #1: Water and Drought

Focus Area #2: SLR and Coastal Inundation

Focus Area #3: Ecosystems

July 2011

observations
and
models
synthesis

observations
and
models
synthesis

observations
and
models
synthesis

Dec 2011

Climate Science
Consensus
Dialogs/Workshop

Climate Science
Consensus
Dialogs/Workshop

Climate Science
Consensus
Dialogs/Workshop

Jan 2012

Feb 2012

Mar 2012

Climate
Impacts
Overview

Synopsis and Scenarios
by Essential Climate Variable for each sub-Region

Regional Synthesis Report

Jun 2012

Oct 2012

Needs and Capabilities Assessment

Impacts
Indicators
Workshop
Climate Impacts Forum

**Synopsis of impacts,
needs and capabilities**

Regional Synthesis Report



Questions?

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<http://www.PacificRISA.org>

<http://noaaclimatepacific.org>

