USDA Climate Hubs for Risk Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change

Assist Ranchers, Farmers and Forest Land Managers with Decision-making

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Overview

• Video from Secretary Vilsack
• Key thrust and approach of Regional Climate Hubs
• Efforts in first 6 months
Secretary Vilsack Announcement

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zs6UcBKJgrU
Key Thrust

• The Hub will deliver science-based knowledge and practical information to farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners that will help them to adapt to climate change and weather variability by coordinating with local and regional partners in Federal and state agencies, NGO’s, private companies, and Tribes.
Key Approach

• Conduct the transfer of information, tools and management practices to agricultural producers to enhance decision making with weather/climate variability for reduction of enterprise risk and increased resilience of working lands.
Conceptual Framework for a USDA Regional Climate Hub

Science and Technology providers:

Federal Partners
- NOAA Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments
- USGS Climate Science Center

Intramural funded Research (ARS/FS/ERS/NRCS)
- USDA Intramural funded Research (ARS/FS/ERS/NRCS)
- USDA Extramural funded Research (NIFA)

Non-Federal Partners
- Agricultural Experiment Stations
- Many others

Technology Transfer providers:
- Others
- State Agricultural Extension
- USDA Service Centers
- Forest Service Threat Centers
- eXtension

Science Coordination, Synthesis, and Tools

Information and tools
- Questions and feedback

Stakeholders and Stakeholder groups:
- Farmers / Ranchers / Forest Managers
- Tribes / State Land Managers / Federal Land Managers / Landscape Conservation Cooperatives / Others
Regional Climate Hubs Will Provide:

- Technical Support

[Map showing Cumulative Conservation Technical Assistance Program Funds Fiscal Year 2002 – 2012]

http://www.fs.fed.us/ccrc/
Regional Climate Hubs Will Provide:

- **Assessments/Forecasts**

  Projected Changes in Key Climate Variables Affecting Agricultural Productivity

Third National Climate Assessment

Regional Climate Hubs Will Provide:

• Outreach/Education

Conduct retrospective/prospective efforts to garner feedback from agricultural producers
Sneak Peak Ahead

• Regional web sites: fall 2014
• Regional vulnerability assessments: winter/spring 2015
  – Identify customer priority needs
  – Identify adaptation tools
  – Identify gaps
• Enhanced coordination/collaboration of existing resources
  – Extension meeting: fall 2014
  – NRCS Listening sessions: 2015
Questions?

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