

National Forests and Climate Change



How well are our national forests and grasslands responding to climate change? Starting this year, each national forest and grassland is tracking progress using a new 10-point scorecard. The Forest Service's research branch along with regional and national programs will provide support for this agency-wide effort.

The Forest Service Climate Change Performance Scorecard

By 2015, each national forest and grassland is expected to do seven of the following,
with at least one in each of the four dimensions:

Dimension 1: Organizational Capacity

1. Train employees to help them integrate climate change considerations into their work
2. Assign at least one employee as a point person for climate change issues
3. Integrate climate change activities into operations

Dimension 2: Engagement

4. Partner with the science community to improve ability to respond to climate change
5. Incorporate climate change into new and existing external partnerships

Dimension 3: Adaptation

6. Assess the vulnerability of ecosystems and human communities to climate change
7. Develop climate change adaptation strategies for vulnerable resources
8. Monitor climate change impacts and effectiveness of adaptation activities

Dimension 4: Mitigation and Sustainable Consumption

9. Assess carbon stocks and flows and carbon management strategies
10. Reduce energy, emissions, water, and other environmental footprints



USDA Forest Service
Office of the Chief
Climate Change Advisor

<http://www.fs.fed.us/climatechange/pdf/Scorecard.pdf>

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