



January 10, 2017

EPA Climate Change and Water News is a bi-weekly newsletter from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Water that covers climate change and water-related news from EPA, other U.S. Federal agencies, and partners. To learn more about climate change impacts on water resources, visit our website at: <http://www2.epa.gov/climate-change-water-sector>.

EPA News

- [EPA Updates the State Water Agency Practices for Climate Adaptation Webpage](#)
- [EPA and U.S. Geological Survey Release Report on Protecting Aquatic Life from Effects of Hydrologic Alteration](#)

Federal News

- [Explaining Extreme Events from a Climate Perspective](#)
- [Bureau of Reclamation Seeking Letters of Interest to Participate in WaterSMART Basin Study](#)
- [Secretarial Order on Actions to Address Effects of Drought and Climate Change](#)
- [NOAA Water Initiative](#)

Other News

- [Progress Toward Restoring the Everglades: The Sixth Biennial Review](#)
- [Rain as a Resource: St. Paul, MN Innovates Shared, Sustainable Stormwater Management](#)

EPA News

EPA Updates the State Water Agency Practices for Climate Adaptation Webpage

EPA, in collaboration with the Association of Clean Water Administrators, the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, and The Association of State Wetland Managers, recently updated a webpage showcasing innovative practices that state water agencies are currently performing to reduce their vulnerability and build resilience to climate change. The webpage was recently supplemented with new descriptions of select climate adaptation related practices in diverse programmatic areas and geographic locations across the country. The information presented on these state practices can be a useful resource for other state agencies, as well as local and tribal governments, seeking to engage in climate adaptation efforts within their own water programs.

[Learn More.](#)

EPA and U.S. Geological Survey Release Report on Protecting Aquatic Life from Effects of Hydrologic Alteration

EPA and the U.S. Geological Survey released a report providing scientific and technical information related to protection of aquatic life from the effects of hydrologic alteration. Exacerbated through climate change, hydrologic alteration can affect aquatic species' ability to spawn, gather nutrients from the stream system, access high-quality habitat and other survival practices. The report presents a literature review of natural flow and a description of the potential effects of flow alteration on aquatic life, as well as examples of water quality criteria that some states have developed to support natural flow and maintain healthy aquatic life.

[Learn More.](#)

Federal News

Explaining Extreme Events from a Climate Perspective

NOAA released "Explaining Extreme Events from a Climate Perspective," which presents assessments of how climate change may have affected the strength and likelihood of individual extreme events. The report provides details on the increased intensity of numerous heat waves, diminished snowpack in the Cascades, record-low Arctic sea ice extent in March, and the extraordinary extent and duration of Alaska wildfires.

[View the Press Release.](#)

[Read the Full Report.](#)

Bureau of Reclamation Seeking Letters of Interest to Participate in WaterSMART Basin Study

The Bureau of Reclamation is seeking letters of interest from eligible non-federal entities interested in participating in a new WaterSMART Basin Study. The Bureau of Reclamation works with stakeholders to identify strategies to adapt to and mitigate current or future water supply and demand imbalances, including the impacts of climate change and other stressors on water and power facilities. Basin studies include four main elements: (1) Projections of water supply and demand, including the risks of climate change; (2) Analysis of how existing water and power infrastructure will perform in response to changing water realities; (3) Development of adaptation and mitigation strategies to improve operations and infrastructure to supply adequate water in the future; and (4) Trade-off analysis of the strategies identified and findings. Letters of Interest Due: January 20, 2017.

[Learn More.](#)

Secretarial Order on Actions to Address Effects of Drought and Climate Change

U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell issued a Secretarial Order directing the Department of the Interior and its bureaus to take timely actions to help address the effects of drought and climate change on California's water supply and imperiled wildlife. The Secretarial Order provides direction for the Department, and particularly Reclamation and Fish and Wildlife Service, with scientific support and technical advice from the U.S. Geological Survey, to complete the technical, scientific, and analytical work necessary to make permitting, regulatory, and other decisions associated with various water initiatives.

[View the Press Release.](#)

[Read the Secretarial Order.](#)

NOAA Water Initiative

NOAA released the "NOAA Water Initiative - Vision and Five Year Plan." A plan designed to give people and governments better access to the water information they need for their unique circumstances, so that they may take appropriate actions to address water-related risks and manage their water resources more efficiently and effectively.

[View the Press Release.](#)

[Read the Full Report.](#)

Other News

Progress Toward Restoring the Everglades: The Sixth Biennial Review

The biennial review finds that, although measurable progress is being made, there is insufficient attention on radically changing system and planning constraints. New knowledge about the Everglades' pre-drainage hydrology, climate change and sea level rise, and the feasibility of originally-envisioned storage alternatives will have substantial impacts on the expected outcomes of restoration efforts. The report concludes that forward-looking analysis, in conjunction with program-level adaptive management, is needed to ensure that the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan is based on the latest scientific and engineering knowledge and is robust to changing conditions.

[Read the Full Report.](#)

Rain as a Resource: St. Paul, MN Innovates Shared, Sustainable Stormwater Management

New infrastructure systems in St. Paul, MN use rain as a resource instead of letting stormwater enter area lakes and the Mississippi River, along with all of the pollutants that water collects. This new method of managing stormwater is called "shared, stacked green infrastructure," meaning the system does more than one thing on site, it can provide additional community services or amenities that add a sense of community.

[Learn More.](#)

Upcoming Events

[See a calendar of climate change and water-related training, conferences, and webinars.](#)

This newsletter is produced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water (EPA). For questions related to the newsletter, or to submit an item, email the editor at water_climate_change@epa.gov.

For past issues of EPA Climate Change and Water News, as well as further information on climate change impacts on water resources, visit: <http://www2.epa.gov/climate-change-water-sector>