



SUMMARY OF TELECONFERENCE MEETING #3
Florida Adaptation Technical Work Group (TWG)
April 4, 2008
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST

Attendance:

1. TWG Members: Camille Coley, Debbie Harrison, Doug Shaw, Gary Appelson, Jim Murley, Hilary Swain, Peter Merritt, Richard Owen, John Ogden, Ricardo Alvarez, Meg Lowman, Paul Johnson, Jerry Sansom, Julie Brashears-Wraithmell, and Barry Heimlich.
2. Members of the Public:
3. Stephen Adams, Florida Department of Environment and Doug Parsons, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
4. Center for Climate Strategies: Ken Colburn, Linda Schade, Joel Smith and Jason Vogel.

Background materials:

(Posted at www.flclimatechange.us)

- [Notice and Agenda](#)
- [Powerpoint for Call #3](#)
- [Draft Summary for Call #2](#)
- [Draft ADP Outline Framework](#)
- [Alternative Draft ADP Framework](#)
- [Draft Florida Adaptation Catalog](#)

For background review:

- [Adaptive Response Planning to Sea Level Rise in Florida](#)
- [Climate Smart Adaptation: An action plan for managing the impacts of climate change](#)

Discussion Items and Issues:

This was the third call of the Florida Adaptation TWG.

1. Ken Colburn of CCS called the meeting to order, called roll, and reviewed the agenda for the call. The May 29 Action Team meeting has been extended to include May 30 from 9am to 3pm.
2. The Florida Adaptation TWG's goals are an overall approach for adaptation and inclusiveness and early action items. Adaptation is more vulnerability factors as compared to Inventory and Forecast.
3. A member offered that the Oceans and Coasts Council has a report due out that would be useful to the TWG's work: 'Effects of Climate on Florida's Ocean's and Coasts'.

4. Call #1 and #2 Draft Summary approved. A suggestion was made that the TWG attempt to meet in person though public noticing requirements make this difficult. A request was made that call numbers be included on all future call reminders.
5. There was a discussion of whether the Adaptation framework includes the regulatory framework of the state. For building codes, perhaps not. In the context of a plan for where development will occur, it might be in the planning section. Given the nature of the climate change phenomena, the FAU Bollman-Murley report emphasized planning because the timeframe of climate change allows planning. And in Florida, any development must be consistent with plans. Some of those permitting processes are going to need legislation to tweak them. Further discussion explored the role of flood maps in permitting and the comprehensive planning process. The classic FEMA maps are used and other flood mapping is taking place which all have an impact on development on the coast. To the extent that Sea Level Rise (SLR) can be forecast over time - if that is mapped and tied in to the planning process - that would supply the link for future plans. A member suggested that a briefing is needed on the state's LIDAR process and the state's emergency planning system. The entire state of Florida is being done with LIDAR.
6. The American Society of Engineers is responsible for setting design criteria and then they establish the design standards that design professionals must use, which in turn get reflected in building codes. Add 'Coordination with Other Entities' to framework – add Professional societies as a sub-category.
7. The National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife shows that the natural resource sector generates billions for Florida's economy. National Ocean Economic Project did an economic study with report date of end of June (Judy Kildow) in which a team of economists are projecting the significant economic value of Florida's oceans to the state economy. It is a large number.
8. Doug Parsons is working on a blueprint project for species management and habitat issues that might be a resource for the TWG. Wetlands, other natural resources and also eco-system services need explicit attention. One member suggested that Natural Lands might be a place for ecosystem services, species and habitats in the framework. It was suggested that federal participation be sought as there is federal work being done on species and habitats.
9. Concern was expressed that the Adaptation framework be focused on the major issues that need addressing. There was discussion about whether Adaptation requires an 'integrative framework' which raised a question about handling overlap of issues with other TWGs.
10. There was a discussion of whether the TWG's Adaptation work should focus only on human adaptation or if it should also include natural systems. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is hosting a climate change workshop in August addressing species and habitats (suggesting adaptation includes both human and natural systems). Steve Adams clarified that while there are a number of groups in the state working on Adaptation, this TWG's work should focus on specific deliverables such as an adaptation framework and protocol, and a set of early actions. Joel Smith suggested that adaptation is a challenge that

involves natural resource management for resources sensitive to climate, and offered that it might be best organized in broad categories.

11. One member questioned whether the framework should be organized by topic or by mechanism and commented that the current ADP catalog has a deficiency in the social science side. There is insufficient understanding of how humans might respond to potentially dramatic circumstances. There are studies which show that until someone experiences a hurricane they don't respond to warnings (only effective means is knocking on doors and asking how many body bags the state should buy). A question was posed about what kind of scenarios would 'engage human behavior'.

In response, a member commented that 'the state is going to have to take dramatic actions and it is going to have to take action with infrastructure.' ADP local land use planning and land use development and ADP building regulation is relevant. Coastal plus building code is needed to build for a 500-year storm. Support was also expressed for the alternative version of the proposed framework.

Conclusion: add to framework an item on advancing understanding of climate change and human behavior and how human and natural systems connect. Note that this ties in to public education and outreach.

12. Water supply was also identified in the context of potential dramatic scenarios. Minimum flow levels must be set. There are already building setbacks from water supplies. As climate changes, adjustments will have to be made. Uplands, Freshwater and Marine Systems was suggested as new framework category. It was noted that Australia is doing substantial work on ADP and has done very interesting work engaging the public.
13. The need to discuss criteria was raised and it was suggested that the TWG break down into working groups to tackle that and other issues. Resource constraints were noted but Ken Colburn agreed to work with Steve to evaluate that possibility and to come up with another round of meeting dates. June 12 is bad day for a number of people.
14. Barry Heimlich (contributor to FAU Bollman report) suggested a separate framework option for flood control as flooding is seen as one of the biggest threats which will affect not only the coasts but also rising water levels in interior areas. A recommendation was made to use the terminology of flood protection, not flood control. If SLR of 3 to 4 feet is expected this century, it involves public works of such long term efforts – like levies for the coasts – a multi-decade effort. Post-Carbon Cities Institute was also mentioned as a resource.

There were no public comments or announcements.