



Climate Adaptation Worksheet

Step 1: Where are you working and what do you care about?

Define the project location and describe what you value most about this landscape (e.g., wildlife, clean water, recreation opportunities). What are achievable outcomes and measurable actions (i.e. your management goals & objectives) and timeframes for this area?

Step 2: How will climate change impacts affect your local area?

Consider how climate change might affect your local landscape and project location. **Select the top (1-3) changes** that will be most important in your specific project area. Include a few notes on how these impacts will influence your specific site.

- Warmer temperatures
- Longer growing season
- Less snow and shorter winters
- Altered seasonal precipitation and streamflows
- Increased summer moisture stress and drought
- More frequent heavy precipitation events
- Less suitable habitat for northern & alpine species
- More suitable habitat for southern species
- Increases in insect pests and forest pathogens
- Increases in non-native plants
- Potential changes in wildfire regimes
- Other?

Step 3: What challenges or opportunities does climate change present?

Describe how the climate impacts above may create challenges or opportunities for project objectives.

Challenges:

Opportunities:

Step 4: What actions can help systems adapt to change?

What actions can help address climate change impacts and challenges, while also achieving your project goals and objectives? Consider a variety of actions, including:

- **Things you already do** that are even more important because of climate change.
- **Small tweaks or enhancements** that improve upon what you are already doing.
- **Major changes**, or wild and crazy ideas, from the current way of doing things.

Adaptation Strategies & Approaches are designed to help you bridge the gap between big, fuzzy concepts and real on-the-ground actions. What are some ways to incorporate climate change adaptation into your project?

- [Explore the USDA Compendium of Adaptation Approaches.](#)
- [Search the NIACS Menu of Adaptation Strategies & Approaches.](#)
- [Explore the Adaptation Partners Library.](#)

Step 5: Monitor and evaluate effectiveness of implemented actions.

How will you know if your actions were effective? What can you learn to inform future management?

Provide an example of something you could monitor to evaluate whether your project actions helped to both achieve your goals and increase your area's ability to adapt to changing conditions.



Adaptation Workbook Process: Described in *Forest Adaptation Resources: Climate change tools and approaches for land managers, 2nd edition* (www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/52760) and also available as an online tool at www.adaptationworkbook.org.