The Climate Risk Viewer is a spatial tool developed by the USDA Forest Service’s Office of Sustainability and Climate to assess potential gaps between climate pressures and current management intent, and identify the need for climate adaptation. The tool:

- Contains over 70 individual map layers and 4 embedded tools developed from 28 datasets and 15 information sources
- Illustrates the overlap of multiple resource values, climate change exposure and vulnerability, and management intent on national forests and grasslands

Resource managers can use the Climate Risk Viewer to:

- Identify risks to ecosystem values including watersheds, areas important for biodiversity, at-risk species, carbon, and old-growth forest characteristics
- Visualize current management intent related to ecosystem values
- Understand vulnerabilities, risks, or gaps in management to optimize alignment for climate resilience and carbon stewardship
- Assess and prioritize reforestation opportunities
- Support analyses and assessments

The Climate Risk Viewer is not an assessment tool by itself. Datasets are best used in conjunction with other data sources and tools, including:

- Locally developed Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments
- The Adaptation Workbook
- Additional resources including those available through external partners or in the Forest Service Climate Gallery

The Climate Risk Viewer will be expanded to enhance usability. Next steps include:

- Improving data and modeling
- Convening partners to enhance the tool’s capabilities
- Using data analytics to inform climate adaptation across multiple scales

For more information:
Visit the Office of Sustainability and Climate or send questions to sm.fs.OSC_Inquiry@usda.gov.

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