



MONTANA CLIMATE SOLUTIONS COUNCIL

CLIMATE ADAPTATION, INFORMATION AND DECISION SUPPORT

MEETING INFORMATION

November 5, 2019

1:30 pm

Montana Room, 1st floor, DNRC

406-444-4647, 3759016

ATTENDEES

Sally Ericsson, co-chair	Yes		Hannah Riedl, DEQ
John Tubbs, co-chair	Yes		Ben Thomas, Agriculture
Charlene Waters Alden	No		Kathy Hadley, Council Chair
Tom Armstrong	No		Stephanie Hester, DNRC
Bill Bryan	No		Steve Kimball, DNRC
Amy Cilimburg	Yes		Stacey Barta, DNRC
Kelsey Jencso	Yes		KarenDe Herman
Bruce Maxwell	Yes		Shaun McGrath, DEQ
Erik Somerfeld	No		Tim Davis, DEQ
Gerald Wagner	Yes		Ann Schwend, DNRC
Cathy Whitlock	No		Renne Lemon, DFWP
Lori Young (ex-officio)	No		Craig Henrikson, DEQ
Delia Bruno	Yes		Sierra Farmer, DNRC
Patrick Holmes	Yes		

THEMES

The committee discussed the possible grouping of “sectors” and how to divide the issues in order to begin drafting white papers. Noted additions to the list of sectors provided in the agenda were Fish and Wildlife, Recreation, Invasive Species. The timeline was discussed but the committee does not control these dates. Again, use of the Montana Climate Assessment as a base document for reference was discussed. Unless there is a specific forecast or modeling that is necessary to present adaptation strategies, the Montana Climate Assessment will be used for the base forecast.

After a wide-ranging discussion of options two groups were identified among the possible sectors: a natural resources group and a community based group. Using the initial sectors, the natural resources group will include Agriculture, Air, Forestry, Range, Fish and Wildlife, and Water. The community based group will address adaptation strategies in Montana communities: large, rural and tribal; transportation and other infrastructure resilience, and public health.

ACTION ITEMS

Natural Resource Group: John Tubbs, Charlene Waters Alden, Kelsey Jencso, Bruce Maxwell, Erik Somerfeld, and Lori Young; -- Community Based Group: Sally Ericsson, Bill Bryan, Amy Cilimburg, Gerald Wagner, and Cathy Whitlock. Tom Armstrong was assigned to decision support and to work with both groups. Each group will receive further direction from the co-chairs. However, the basic assignment is to develop two white papers around each of the groups.

Information and data collection was brought up at the end of the meeting and it is recognized that white paper on this subject is needed. John Tubbs will work with agency staff to draft an initial white paper for review by the committee.

The next meeting will be held November 26 starting at 1:30 pm. A notice of the meeting has already been sent to council and staff emails.

Attached is the beginning of the Natural Resource Group white paper. Something similar will be drafted for the Community-Based Group. The purpose of this draft is to set the direction for the entire white paper. Committee members assigned to the natural resources group are asked to author one "recommendations section" for the natural resource you see as the highest priority. The concept that I am trying to achieve is an integrated approach to natural resource climate adaptation. When you author your "recommendation" for the resource of highest priority remember to bring the adaptive strategies for that resources and explain the interconnections between resources. For example, with water resources adaptive strategies often focus on land management that either protects water or leads to improved water conditions.

Agency staff are asked to identify the top 3-5 published resources for forestry, range, invasive species, and water. I would also ask staff to take on one of the groups and the sectors assigned and work with the committee members and draft portions of the white paper. It would be great if staff could draft a series of short one to two page papers overviewing a particular effective adaptation strategy the demonstrates effectiveness and ones that integrate multiple resource threats into the adaptation.

The community adaptation group will draft recommendations for (1) processes to develop community-based adaptation plans; (2) strategies for the adaptation in the built environment including transportation, water and private infrastructure; and (3) public health. Drafts will be circulated this week for input from the team. The papers will build on on-going work in the State which is being identified.

At the November 26th meeting we will take your initial drafts and discuss how to approach revisions to bring the various individual efforts into one document. By November 21st, please submit your draft recommendations to John Tubbs so they can be distributed to the subcommittee for review ahead of November 26th.

ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBLE POINT OF CONTACT	DUE DATE
Draft white papers for Natural Resource or Community-based sectors	John Tubbs or Sally Ericsson	Drafts due Nov. 21 st , for discussion at Nov. 26 th meeting.