



# MONTANA CLIMATE SOLUTIONS COUNCIL

CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND DECISION SUPPORT COMMITTEE

## MEETING INFORMATION

November 26, 2019

1:30 pm

Montana Room, DNRC

## ATTENDEES

John Tubbs, DNRC

Sally Ericsson

Sarah Hartley, DES

Delila Bruno, DES

Ann Schwend, DNRC

Patrick Holmes, Governor's office

Hannah Riedl, DEQ

Ben Thomas, Dept. of Ag.

Blackfeet Nation member

Cathy Whitlock, MSU

Tom Armstrong, Madison River Group

Bruce Maxwell, MSU

Cathy Hadley

Steve

Stacy Barta, DNRC

Amy Cilimburg, Climate Smart Missoula

Sierra Farmer, DNRC

Shaun McGrath, DEQ

Renee Lemon, FWP

KarenDe Herman, DNRC

## THEMES

### Preparations for Climate Solutions Council meeting December 9-10

Completion of working papers to share that frame issues and identify what we know and don't know.

These papers will lead into the preparation of a scoping document in January that will present important questions for the public and preliminary perspectives on some issues.

Workshop sessions on our highest priority issues.

### Decision Support White Paper

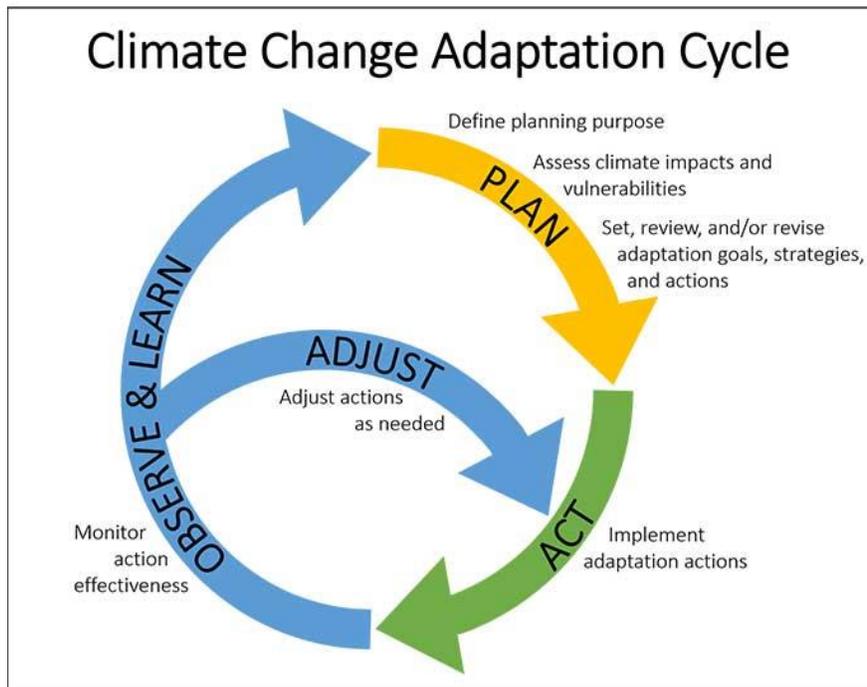
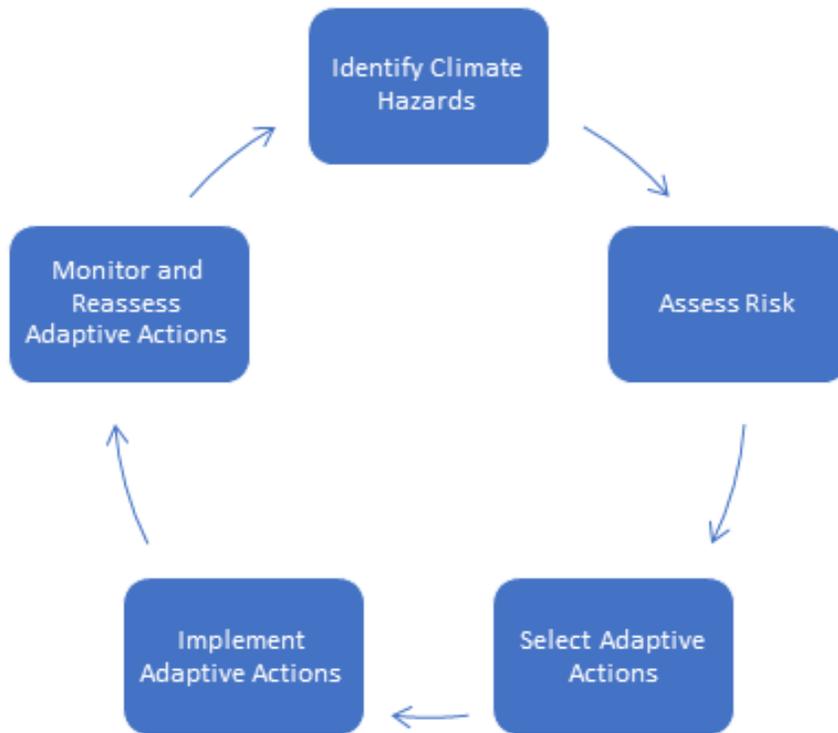
What are the options for delivering "climate services" to bridge the gap between science and decision makers?

Montana Adaptation Knowledge Exchange (M.A.K.E.) is one option, built on the MCA and subsequent discussions. What is the scope of a possible organization? How to best utilize other entities?

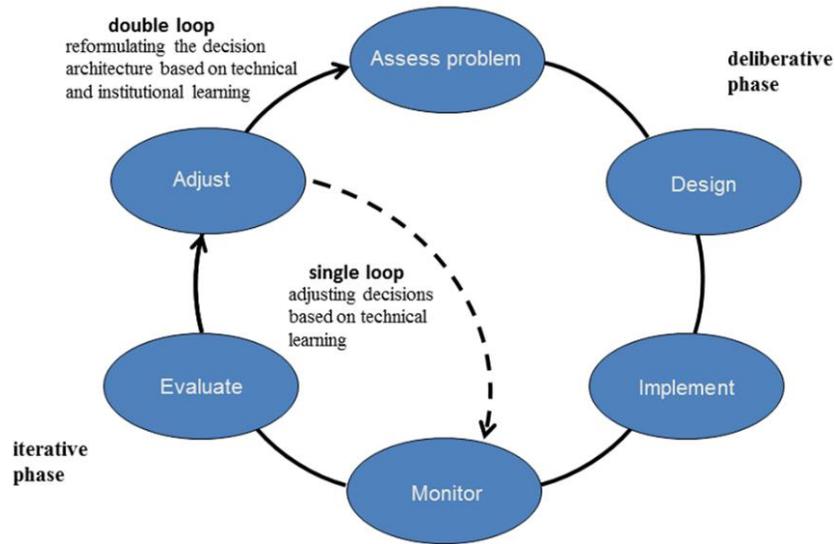
Who is our decision-making audience?

- Citizens of Montana
- Government agencies (what are the barriers to using climate science in the decision process?)
- Governance structure at the state level

Need to discuss further, perhaps in a Council workshop.



## Adaptive Management Cycle



### Water Resources – Build a Better Sponge

Protect and Restore Floodplains, Wetlands, and Riparian areas

Map water resources to drive prioritization

Monitor

Promote Function

- Slow down the water

- Natural Storage

### **Range (Grasslands) – Build a Better Sponge**

Carbon sink (carbon credit mitigation)

Soil health

Pollinators (see report prepared for MCA)

Conservation Easements to preserve sizeable rangeland areas

Weed and Pest Control

### **Forestry**

Maintain and Increase

Fire adapted forest and communities

Urban/Community forestry

Manage for wood products

Biomass

- Liquid fuel
- Soil enhancement

Species composition

Watershed

One size does not fit all!

### **Agriculture**

Research Priorities

Practices/Technology

- Incentives
- Information

Information

- Monitoring
- Programs
- Database

Mitigation and adaptation strategies are often identical

### **Working paper on monitoring to be developed**

Including inventory of state and Federal monitoring programs

### **Community Resilience – Focus on Process**

The recommendations focus on planning process to assist communities in assessing climate risk and how to best respond

Planning processes outline including strategies to build capacity

Resources identified including Montana community climate adaptation plans

Implementation

The state could facilitate community audits

- Trees
- Water quality
- Safety
- Housing
- Energy

**Public Health Recommendations/Priorities**

Human/public health climate assessment will be released in fall 2020.

Community Assessments

Monitor Health for

- Extreme heat
- Infectious disease
- Water-borne illness
- Food-borne illness
- Mental Health
- Wildfires:
  - Smoke
  - Allergies
  - Ozone
  - Particulates

Local Action Plans

**Built Environment**

Planning processes to develop policies to address climate impacts in local communities

- Transportation
- Energy infrastructure
- Energy efficiency (especially Tribal and rural housing)
- Floodplain development

Recommendation to follow FEMA process that communities work with.

Growth policies would address these issues – developing in floodplains, wildfire risk, etc.

ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBLE POINT OF CONTACT	DUE DATE
<b>Revised working papers submitted on or before Tuesday, December 3.</b>	John Tubbs, Sally Ericcson, and Shannin Danko	12/03/2019
<b>Papers will be circulated before the December 9-10 Council meeting.</b>		