



**Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks**



Anticipating Climate Change:

A FWP workshop focused on northern Coniferous Forest ecosystems, alpine meadows, and the Clark Fork upstream of Idaho to the Bitterroot River headwaters

Kalispell, Montana
December 15-16, 2009

Documents pertinent to climate change in Montana and post workshop reports are and will be posted at: <http://www.nwf-wcr.org/ClimateChangeFWP-12-09.htm>

Desired Outcomes

- Increased awareness of the relevance of climate change as a challenge facing fish and wildlife managers in Montana;
- Identification of potential impacts and opportunities related to climate change on selected terrestrial and aquatic systems (northern Coniferous Forests and alpine meadows for terrestrial and the Clark Fork upstream of Idaho to the Bitterroot River Headwaters for aquatic);
- Identification of available and useful management responses;
- Identification of important ecosystem attributes that should be monitored to assess direction and pace of climate-induced changes in the selected ecosystems;
- Identification of areas where existing fish and wildlife management plans for these 2 systems are inadequate to address potential challenges posed by a climate change and development of a process for making needed changes;
- Enhanced knowledge of USFWS and USFS efforts to safeguard wildlife from impacts from climate change and identification of collaborative opportunities;
- Recommendations for further exploration of the impacts of climate change on fish and wildlife conservation in these and other ecosystems in Montana.

Registration

There is no registration fee. Please confirm your attendance by Thursday, December 10, 2009 by emailing or calling Sterling Miller millerS@nwf.org (406-541-6730) or Rob Brooks robrooks@mt.gov (406-444-5786).

The workshop will be held at the **Red Lion Hotel, 20 North Main St., Kalispell, Ballroom B.** (406) 751-5050 or 800-733-5400). Block of rooms reserved under code “FWP climate change” available at \$78/night + tax. Rooms will be held until 12/9 but potentially available at this price after that.

DIRCTIONS FROM HIGHWAY 93 NORTH (MISSOULA):

Take Highway 93 North until to Kalispell. The Kalispell Center Hotel will be on the left side of the street just before the intersection for Highway 2 at the intersection of Highway 93 and Center Street and is attached to the Kalispell Center Mall.

Agenda

Tuesday, December 15

12:30-12:45. Participants arrive and mingle

12:45-1:00. Welcomes and introductions. **Dave Risley Fish and Wildlife Division Administrator, or Ken McDonald**

1:00-1:15. Strategic planning for climate change within FWP. **Dave Risley, Paul Sihler and/or Rob Brooks**

1:15-1:20. Questions and discussion.

1:20-2:05. Climate Change in the Northern Rocky Mountains. **Faith Ann Heinsch**, Research Ecologist, Rocky Mt. Research Station, Missoula.

2:05-2:20. Questions and discussion

2:20-2:35. DOI responses to Climate Change, Landscape Conservation Cooperatives and other initiatives. **Chris Servheen**, Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator, FWS, Missoula Montana.

2:35-2:40. Questions and discussion

2:40-2:55. What's Going On in the Forest Service Regarding Climate Change? **Ann Carlson**, USDA Forest Service, Missoula, MT.

2:55-3:00. Questions and discussion.

3:00-3:10. Paying for state climate change planning and safeguarding: Wildlife funding in national climate change legislation. **Tom France**, Director, Northern Rockies and Prairies Regional Center, Missoula.

3:10-3:50. Overview of impacts and possible responses for terrestrial wildlife in western Montana. **Scott Mills**, University of Montana, Missoula.

3:50-4:00. Questions and discussion

4:00-4:15. Coffee Break

4:15-4:50. Overview of impacts and possible responses for fisheries in western Montana. **Bruce Rieman**, USFS Retired

4:50-5:00. Questions and discussion

5:00-5:10. Introduction to aquatic and terrestrial breakout sessions and facilitators

5:10-6:00. Begin aquatic (facilitator **Colleen Matt**) and terrestrial (facilitator **Katie Duell**) breakout sessions. Facilitated discussions of:

- Potential stressors, risks and opportunities related to identified management concerns from climate changes for each focal system;
- Winners and losers;
- Variations associated with river segment and/or habitat type;
- Management responses, monitoring and research priorities to reduce climate change impacts

6:00-7:30. No-host mixer at Red Lion—Snacks provided by National Wildlife Federation.

Wednesday, December 16.

7:30-8:00 AM. Coffee and pastries

8:00-11:30. Continuation of terrestrial and aquatics breakout sessions (midmorning break available at about 10:00)

11:30-11:45. Report from aquatic breakout group

11:45-12:00. Report from terrestrial breakout group

12:00-12:15. Closing comments and adjourn