Fourth National Climate Assessment: Process & Progress on the Public Draft

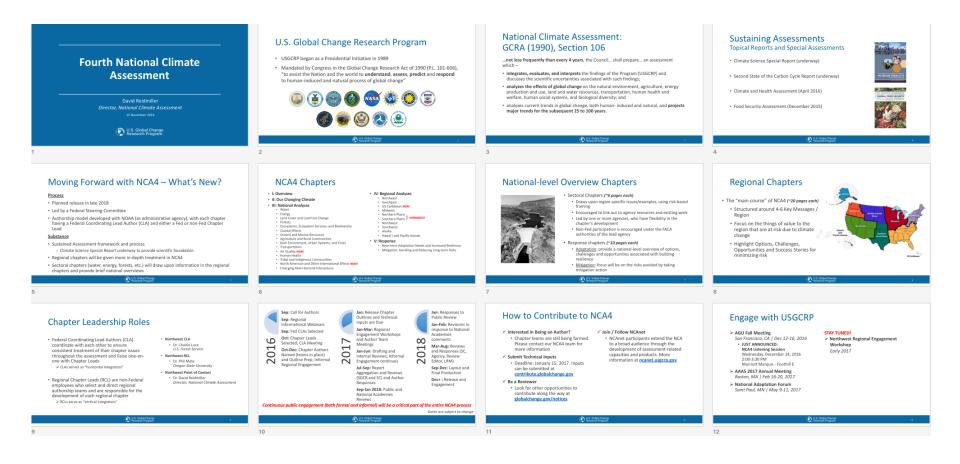
David Reidmiller

Director, National Climate Assessment

11 October 2017



Roughly a year ago...





National Climate Assessment (NCA)

GCRA (1990), Section 106:

Not less frequently than every 4 years ... shall prepare and submit to the President and Congress an assessment which:

- Integrates, evaluates, and interprets the findingsand discusses the scientific uncertainties associated with such findings
- Analyzes the effects of global change on the natural environment, agriculture, energy production and use, land and water resources, transportation, human health and welfare, human social systems, and biological diversity
- Analyzes current trends in global change, both human- induced and natural, and projects major trends for the subsequent 25 to 100 years.

NCA4: A two-volume effort

Congressional Mandate	4 th National Climate Assessment	
	Vol. I: Climate Science Special Report	Vol. II: Climate Change Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the U.S.
integrates, evaluates, and interprets the findings of the Program (USGCRP) and discusses the scientific uncertainties associated with such findings	✓	√
analyzes the effects of global change on the natural environment, agriculture, energy production and use, land and water resources, transportation, human health and welfare, human social systems, and biological diversity	√	
analyzes current trends in global change, both human- induced and natural, and projects major trends for the subsequent 25 to 100 years.	✓	√

NCA4 Vol. I: Climate Science Special Report

- Scheduled for final release in early November
- Underwent six rounds of review, including by the public and an expert panel of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
- Provides an updated, detailed analysis of the findings of how climate change is affecting the weather and climate across the United States
 - Written for those with strong technical awareness
 - Executive summary written for the informed public
- Provides foundational information and projections for climate change, including extremes, to improve end-to-end consistency in sectoral, regional, and resilience analyses for NCA4 Volume II
 - Risk-based framing when possible
 - Provide scenarios and datasets for use in impacts analyses



NCA4 Vol. II: Climate Change Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the U.S.

- Analyzes the effects of global change, described in NCA4 Vol. I (*Climate Science Special Report*), on sectors and regions of the United States
- Policy relevant, but not policy prescriptive

NCA4 Vol. II:

- Is a technical, scientific assessment of climate change-related impacts, risks, and adaptation
- Assesses a range of potential impacts, helping decision makers better identify risks that could be avoided or reduced
- Places a strong emphasis on regional information
- Uses case studies to provide additional context and opportunities to showcase community success stories



2016

Processes and guidance developed
by the Steering
Committee

Chapter leadership recruited

Full Chapter Author teams named

Author teads scored had to each and the west of the chapter outlines

2017

Feb-Mar: Engagement activities and author team teleconferences

Apr: Author meeting

Jan-Jun: Drafting and public engagement

Aug-Oct: Interagency review of Second Order Design Value of Second Order Or

Nov-Mar 2018: Public comment period and National Academies review of Third Order Draft and author

Draft and author response

2018

Mar: Author meeting

Apr-May:

Interagency review of Fourth Order Draft and area response

interagency reviews of Fifth Order Draft

Sep-Dec: Layout and production of Final Report

Dec+ : Release
and public
engagement

Schedule is subject to change



NCA4 Vol. II: Public engagement

- Public feedback on the draft prospectus helped shape overall content and direction of NCA4
- A call for **author nominations** helped ensure a range of expertise was included in the writing process
- **Technical inputs** were solicited through a public call, giving individuals an opportunity to include relevant literature (peer reviewed and grey)
- A series of Regional Engagement Workshops and sector-specific webinars reached more than 1000 stakeholders, ensuring more relevant, useable chapter content
- A call for **Review Editors** provides an important layer of external, independent validation that authors responded to external comments
- In Fall 2017, stakeholders will have an opportunity to provide **public** comment on the Third Order Draft of NCA4



COMING SOON: Public Comment



- Scheduled to begin in early November and run through January
- Visit https://review.globalchange.gov/
- Authors are required to provide a written response to every submitted comment
 - Chapter-specific Review Editors to serve as quality control



Thank you!

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