

Tuesday Oct. 18th, 2016

Summary Notes: Communicating the Science of Climate Change

1. Recap: We have a very diverse community of actors that need to communicate with one another in order to achieve climate adaptation success: scientists, managers, policy-makers, public
 - a. We've seen several types of communication tools just in this symposium, including presentations from trusted sources, as well as participant discussion, and we also have graphic representation to capture key concepts
 - b. Making climate science accessible and relevant to each of these stakeholder groups has been addressed by at least one talk today
 - i. Natural resource managers:
 1. Carolyn: developed a climate adaptation road map for Dept of Defense
 2. Amanda: Making drought science more accessible through Drought Early Warning Systems and providing workshops to train and build capacity to utilize existing products
 3. Sam: Providing managers a workflow for scenario planning to allow planning given uncertainty in the future
 - ii. Tribes
 1. Susan: How to partner successfully with tribes in climate change adaptation: building relationships, having an understanding of tribal sovereignty, culture, and forms of knowledge
 2. Tamara: How narrative stories can be used to understand traditional ecological knowledge and integrate this with climate adaptation, young tribal members have been successful in interviewing elders
 - iii. Public
 1. Adina: CalNat program is developing a new fleet of land stewards and local leaders through classroom instruction, field learning, and community service
 2. Amanda: work with media to deliver drought info to public
2. Common challenges we've heard
 - a. **Partnering across boundaries: Working with different groups that may have different values or value different types of knowledge**
 - i. Carolyn, partnering with DoD: time, patience and long-term commitment; have a key person inside partnering agency who can carry the message
 - ii. Adina, public: build community to maintain long-term engagement, local leaders embedded in community
 - iii. Susan, tribes: cultural sensitivity, building relationships and trust, respect for differences
 - iv. Sam: if opposing agendas, partner with an independent 3rd party
 - v. Tamara, tribes: Involvement of "cultural ambassadors" to gather information through story prompts and translate information between tribes and western-cultural agencies

- vi. **Common lesson/theme for partnering across boundaries is emphasis on developing relationships/community, building trust, and finding key personnel** (Carolyn, Tamara, Adina)
 - b. **How to deliver “actionable science” to decision-makers?**
 - i. Carolyn, DoD: Need to engage stakeholders early on to cultivate buy-in, co-develop science: used Adaptation for Conservation Targets Framework involving workshops to develop climate-informed monitoring strategy
 - ii. Amanda, DEWS: Providing information rapidly and early on, generating awareness of and trainings for using available tools
 - iii. Susan, tribes: asking stakeholders (tribes) what they need and providing it in language that is easily understood
 - iv. **Common theme is early engagement and proactive outreach**
 - c. **The complexity and uncertainty of climate science can lead to paralysis and feeling at a loss for what can be done**
 - i. **Common theme is providing tools or information for empowerment**
 - 1. Adina: classroom and field learning, community service for public stewards are aware and engaged with ways they can contribute to the cause
 - a. Using science about how adults learn to figure out how to turn communication into conviction
 - 2. Sam: offering a process and scenario planning tools for managers to be able to make decisions in face of uncertainty
3. Impressive **breadth of communication techniques raised** during symposium
- a. Stakeholder meetings and workshops (Amanda, Carolyn, Adina)
 - b. Webinars (Susan, Amanda)
 - c. Field experiences (Adina)
 - d. Classroom learning (Adina)
 - e. Infographics (Carolyn)
 - f. Web tools (Amanda)
 - g. Narrative stories (Tamara, Adina, Amanda)
 - h. Graphic interpretation (Allison, symposium)
 - i. Press releases (Amanda, discussion)