

Wetlands and Climate Change

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Two-hour audio Web broadcast

Eastern: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Central: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Mountain: 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Pacific: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

A Watershed Academy Webcast:

Today, the scientific consensus on global climate change is challenging our assumptions about water resources. Wetland habitats in particular are faced with unique challenges due to a number of factors including rising sea levels and variable temperature and precipitation patterns. The importance of wetland functions and ecosystem services will continue to grow as the climate changes. Webcast instructors will discuss the issue from diverse perspectives reflecting the multifaceted approach needed to address the problem. Join us to learn more about the latest research findings, effects on inland and coastal wetlands in Alaska and Maine, and collaborative planning efforts in the Hudson River Valley to build coalitions that support adaptation strategies to protect people and the environment.

Instructors:



Dr. Virginia Burkett, Chief Scientist, Global Change Research at the U.S. Geological Survey

In her capacity as chief scientist at USGS, Dr. Virginia Burkett has been a Lead Author on the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Third and Fourth Assessment Reports (2001, 2007) and the forthcoming IPCC Technical Paper on Water (2008). She formerly served as chief of the Forest Ecology Branch at the USGS National Wetlands Research Center and as the Director of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Dr. Burkett will discuss key findings from the IPCC Report related to anticipated climate impacts on wetlands.

Peter Slovinsky, Coastal Geologist, Maine Geological Survey

Peter Slovinsky is a coastal geologist with the Maine Geological Survey where his focus has been on predicting potential impacts of coastal erosion and sea level rise. He was a NOAA Coastal Management Fellow and holds a M.S. in Geological Sciences from the University of South Carolina. Mr. Slovinsky will speak about the effects of climate change on coastal wetlands in Maine.



Jim Powell, Water Quality Standards Section Manager, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Jim Powell has served as the Alaska State Wetlands Program Coordinator for the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. He has also been the Assistant Director for the Division of Environmental Quality, Special Assistant for the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, and Deputy Mayor and an Assembly member for Juneau, Alaska. Mr. Powell will discuss changes observed at inland and coastal wetlands in Alaska and local adaptation management issues.

David VanLuven, Hudson River Estuary Landscape Director, The Nature Conservancy-Eastern NY Chapter

David VanLuven is the Hudson River Estuary Director for The Nature Conservancy where he is leading *Rising Waters*, a collaborative planning effort to help Hudson Valley communities adapt to climate change. Throughout his career as an environmental advocate, David has connected good science with sound policy to achieve community-sensitive conservation. Mr. VanLuven will speak about the importance of implementation and building coalitions at the local level, specifically in helping Hudson Valley communities adapt to climate change.



The Watershed Academy

The Watershed Academy is a focal point in EPA's Office of Water for providing training and information on implementing watershed approaches. The Academy sponsors live classroom training and online distance learning modules through the Watershed Academy Web at www.epa.gov/watertrain. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/watershedacademy.

Registration

Registration for this Webcast opens May 2, 2008. You must register in advance to participate. To register, visit www.clu-in.org/live. The Webcast will be a Web-based slide presentation with a companion audio portion. There are two options for accessing the audio portion of the Webcast: by phone OR by streaming audio broadcast (not both). When registering, you will be able to select the audio option you prefer to accompany the Web-based slides. If you choose the streaming audio option, you will not be able to participate by telephone. However, you will be able to submit questions online for the presenters to answer during the Webcast. Closed-captioning is available. Upon registration, you will receive complete participation instructions. **Please note that there are a limited number of toll-free phone lines available, so register early to guarantee your spot. Because of the limited number of spaces, we strongly encourage you to reserve a conference room and invite your colleagues and other partners to participate.** If you register after that limit is reached, you will be added to a waiting list. After the Webcast is over, an audio version of the Webcast will be available—visit www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts for more information.

Questions?

Visit www.clu-in.org/live or contact Helen Siverling at helen.siverling@tetrattech-ffx.com or 703-385-6000. [The materials in this Webcast have been reviewed by EPA staff for technical accuracy. However, the views of the speakers and the speaker's organization are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of EPA. Mention of any commercial enterprise, product, or publication does not mean that EPA endorses them.]