



News Release

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Scientists, Land Managers Grapple with Effects of Climate Change on Southwest Wildlife

Scientists and land managers will gather in Tucson this week at a climate change workshop. Sponsored by the Southwest and California/Nevada Regions of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service), in collaboration with the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Western Region, the workshop will address the effects of a changing climate on habitat and wildlife in arid and semiarid ecosystems.

Workshop speakers will discuss current climate research, trends and data relevant to desert ecosystems. Participants will also identify additional scientific study and technologies needed to help resource managers respond to anticipated climate change impacts on fish, wildlife and plants in the Southwest.

“We have some of the top scientists and land managers in the nation participating in this workshop,” said Benjamin Tuggle, the Service’s Southwest Regional Director. “This workshop presents a real opportunity to develop the kind of synergistic partnerships that lead to innovative and viable conservation strategies.”

In addition to climate scientists and federal, state and tribal land managers, representatives from non-governmental organizations and interest groups will take part in the workshop.

The workshop begins on Monday evening, Aug. 18, and runs through Wednesday, Aug. 20. A press conference is scheduled at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 18. Interested media representatives may contact Charna Lefton at 505-248-6285 or 505-235-0170.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.

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