



For Immediate Release
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NSTC & CCSP RELEASE SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON—The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), together with the U.S. Climate Change Science Program (CCSP), today announced the release of a scientific assessment of the effects of global change on the United States, with special emphasis on climate change. An updated strategy, the “Revised Research Plan for the U.S. Climate Change Science Program,” will also be released.

“This assessment represents a comprehensive look at the effects of climate change for the United States and will be yet another tool for the Nation’s decision-makers to use when planning for the future,” said Dr. Sharon Hays, Associate Director and Deputy Director for Science for the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

“Recognizing that this report reflects a snapshot of current research in an area of rapidly increasing knowledge, it’s important to outline an up-to-date strategy for continued research on climate change. The updated research plan that is also being released today does that,” added Dr. William Brennan, Acting Director of the Climate Change Science Program.

The assessment summarizes and integrates recent findings from several Synthesis and Assessment Products of the U.S. Climate Change Science Program as well as from assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Analyzing current and future trends in climate for the United States, the report assesses the present understanding of the impacts of climate change on key sectors of the Nation, such as water resources, transportation, agriculture, ecosystems, and human health.

Accompanying the scientific assessment is an updated research plan for the U.S. Climate Change Science Program that provides direction for addressing remaining uncertainties in climate science, including impacts at regional scales and adaptation options. The plan also emphasizes the need for strengthened communication of scientific studies to decision-makers across the United States. An extended opportunity for public review was provided during the development of the revised plan. The release of the plan is part of ongoing extensive strategic planning in the Climate Change Science Program that began in 2007.

The titles of the two documents being released today are:

Scientific Assessment of the Effects of Global Change on the United States

Revised Research Plan for the U.S. Climate Change Science Program

They are available at:

www.climatescience.gov

www.ostp.gov

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