



Adaptation Notes

EcoAdapt™

February 2019, Issue 25

EcoAdapt is celebrating 10 years of meeting the challenges of climate change! Join us over the next year as we celebrate the progress the field of adaptation is making, reintroduce you to some achievements from our history, and acknowledge the contributions of our staff, board, partners, and donors.

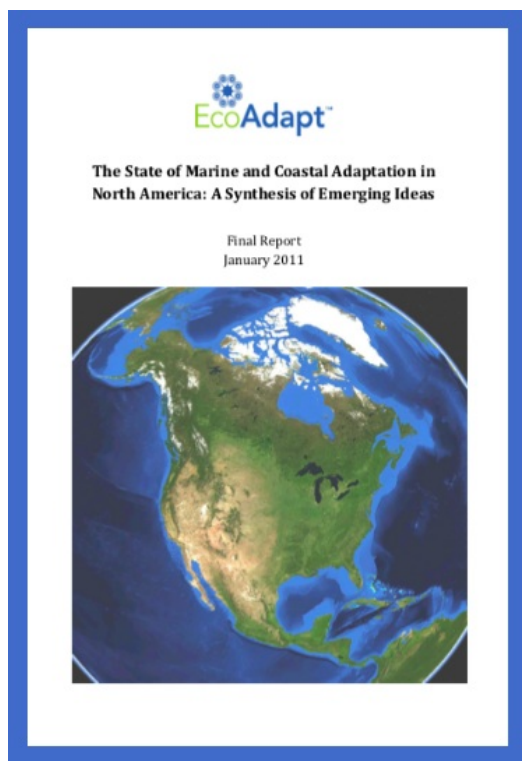
This month, we share the origin story of the State of Adaptation Program and the launch of a new survey initiative! Please consider sharing the love this Valentine's Day by [donating to EcoAdapt!](#)



Uncovering Adaptation in Action Since 2009

- How and where is climate change adaptation action happening?***
- What adaptation resources and tools are most useful?***
- What adaptation strategies and actions have worked and why?***

EcoAdapt's [State of Adaptation Program](#) provides answers to these key questions by investigating and synthesizing how adaptation is happening on today's landscape. Our expertise in gathering adaptation information spans traditional boundaries, allowing us to provide a holistic picture of adaptation options, approaches, and lessons learned to inform the development of future opportunities. Since 2009, we have conducted over 4,500 interviews and surveys, resulting in over 400 case studies of on-the-ground adaptation projects.



The State of Adaptation Program began with our pioneer project, [The State of Marine and Coastal Adaptation in North America](#), the first-ever synthesis of on-the-ground adaptation initiatives gathered through interviews, surveys, and case studies. The report summarizes barriers faced by decision-makers seeking to take adaptation action, including lack of financial resources, institutional mandates, capacity, and guidance. The majority of interview participants indicated that adaptation potential was strengthened by strong collaborations between federal, tribal, state, and local entities, and the ability to integrate climate change considerations into existing laws, regulations, and programs. Overall, the bulk of projects we uncovered were primarily focused on building awareness of how climate change may affect marine and coastal environments and adaptation planning, with few projects that had advanced into implementation.

“Climate change can be controversial to some, however with sea level rise and coastal land loss being indisputable, adaptation is something we all should be engaged in. Information is knowledge, knowledge is power. [The State of Adaptation] effort is a call to action to overcome the stubbornness and ennui towards climate change.”

Gregory J. DuCote, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management

Since this initial project, we have conducted similar assessments for the [Great Lakes region](#), the western United States and Canada, [U.S. marine fisheries](#), [the Southeastern United States and U.S. Caribbean](#), and several other [sectors in the United States](#), and we are currently assessing [the state of adaptation in public health](#). We have also expanded our work to include assessments to evaluate the science behind management approaches of the past to determine their effectiveness under changing climate conditions. Since 2014, we have assessed evidence supporting [wildfire](#), [sea level rise](#) and [ecological drought adaptation options](#).

Case studies and synthesis reports, as well as resources and tools collected from interviewees, are used to populate the Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange ([CAKE](#)). Additionally, State of Adaptation products have been featured and cited prominently by sources such as the National Climate Assessment, U.S. Department of State, United Nations, World Bank, Bloomberg News, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“The case studies have provided fodder for discussion and ideas to solve our local problems. When trying to implement a new idea, showing that IT CAN BE DONE is half the battle. Pointing at another location where our idea is functioning is the best argument.”

*Matt McRae, Climate and Energy Analyst,
City of Eugene, Oregon*

“The case studies have given me ideas to advance my own work in the climate adaptation field.”

*Neil Cliffe, Fisheries Manager,
Queensland Government
Department of Agriculture
and Fisheries*



Expanding the Assessment of Marine and Coastal Adaptation Activities

We are thrilled to announce the launch of a new project to identify, assess, and synthesize adaptation activities in the marine and coastal environments of the United States, territories, and commonwealths. We will update existing case studies and identify new content from projects in the United States that have emerged since 2011, and expand the project geography to include new areas such as the Pacific and Caribbean U.S. states, territories, and commonwealths. This will allow us to consider trends over time (what has changed since 2011), determine progress toward implementation, and evaluate the effectiveness of adaptation practice. Submit your project [today!](#)



Climate Change may be back on the Congressional Map



House committees have been holding hearings on climate change over the past week. Yesterday, EcoAdapt shared its expertise about what is happening in adaptation and what adaptation needs. Kind of like an early Valentine to the planet, its people and future generations. [Read EcoAdapt's testimony](#) or [watch the hearing](#), then share it with others and let your elected officials know how you feel about adaptation.



Donate



Today!

EcoAdapt is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization created to help develop the field of adaptation through research and education. If you've used the Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange, attended a National Adaptation Forum, benefited from an Awareness to Action workshop, or been informed by a State of Adaptation assessment, consider making a gift.

EcoAdapt is a modest organization with a modest anniversary goal:

Get ten new individual donors!

Nope, we're not asking for ten million dollars (although we'd take it!), we're not even asking for \$10,000 dollars (we'd also happily take). We're asking you to make a significant difference by being 1/10th our birthday wish. Heck, give ten donations as gifts to ten friends, thereby single-handedly reaching our goal.

[Click here to donate!](#)



Upcoming Events

Join EcoAdapt in person!

- [4th National Adaptation Forum](#) April 23-25, 2019 - Madison, WI

Donate Here

