



Adaptation Notes

A quarterly update from

EcoAdapt™

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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 National Adaptation Forum, a new tool to support climate savvy local planning, and a job opportunity for an Associate Scientist!



The National Adaptation Forum's Origins

The [National Adaptation Forum](#) is the largest gathering of adaptation practitioners in the United States. Its origins are much more humble. The Forum is an outgrowth of one of EcoAdapt's pioneer projects - [The State of Marine and Coastal Adaptation in North America](#), an effort to identify and assess on-the-ground adaptation initiatives through interviews, surveys, and case studies. Sponsored by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the project was a huge success in identifying the common trends, barriers, and opportunities for adaptation action in the early 2010s, and spurred us to ask the question - **what else could we do to motivate climate-informed change from the grassroots to the highest levels of government?**



One idea was an in-person convening of the adaptation-minded who were already connecting online through the [Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange](#). We penned a concept note in April 2011 and shared it with more than 50 likely partners. This document outlined the Forum's core goals to convene the practitioners and innovators of climate adaptation and create a space for these professionals to share strategies, lessons, and tools.

Enthusiasm for the idea was contagious and a core steering committee volunteered to spearhead the Forum's development. These individuals included Jessica Hitt and Lara Hansen (EcoAdapt), Margaret Davidson (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), Joel Scheraga (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), Michael Goldstein (U.S. Forest Service), Noah Matson (Defenders of Wildlife), Naomi Edelson (National Wildlife Federation), and Amber Pairis (California

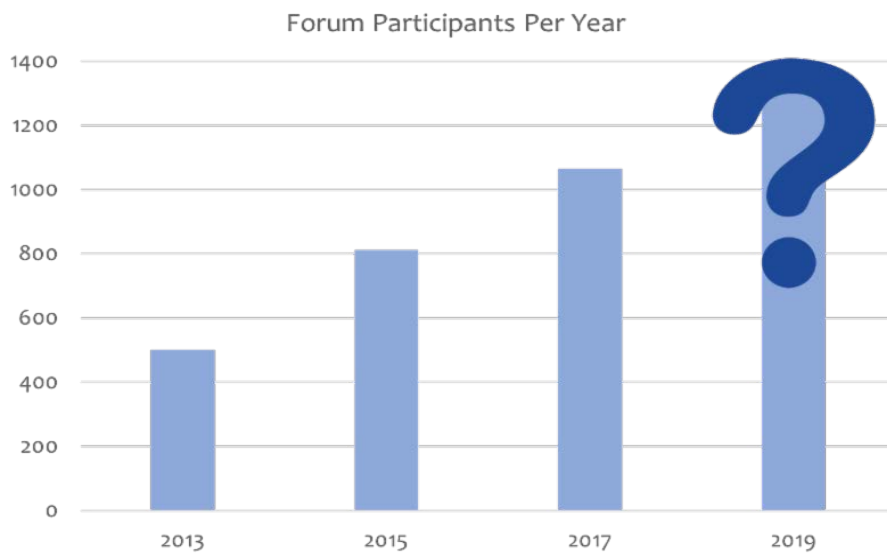


The Inaugural National Adaptation Forum convened in Denver, Colorado on April 2-4, 2013. In our wildest imagination, we could not have anticipated the response we received, from the incredible registration numbers (over 500 participants from 41 states!) to the over 102 sessions featuring speakers from a cross-section of fields and disciplines. The Forum's success was grounded in providing a unique opportunity for adaptation practitioners to interact in a manner that had heretofore been missing from the community.

But it was not without its excitement. With less than 30 days to go before the 2013 Forum, the threat of a federal budget sequestration became a reality, leading to less federal government participation than expected and limiting travel budgets for those relying on that support. With the support of a few critical funders, including the MacArthur, Kresge, Wilburforce, and Fink foundations, and NOAA, we were able to provide travel grants to 146 participants. In fact, the 2013 Forum was not even fully funded until the day before it was scheduled to begin!

Since 2013, the Forum has grown significantly with the support of countless individuals. Because the Forum is created by and for the members of the adaptation community (albeit with a lot of work by EcoAdapt's biggest little team in adaptation!), each event focuses on the adaptation issues of the day (for a sampling, check out this overview of the [2015 Forum](#)). Regional Adaptation Forums have also popped up across the country in the interim Forum years, and we host quarterly [webinars](#) providing continued adaptation learning and knowledge exchange opportunities.

If you are interested in participating in the premier in-person gathering of adaptation professionals, please [join us April 23-25 in Madison, Wisconsin!](#) And please consider supporting the Forum financially by clicking the Donate button below.



For those of us working in rural regions, it was so enlightening and uplifting to have the opportunity to share and meet our peers from across the country at the Forum!

Marcie Bidwell, Mountain Studies Institute



New Tool for Climate Savvy Local Planning!

The [Climate Change Adaptation Certification Tool](#) enables climate savvy decisions when it comes to capital expenditures or local permitting determinations. This three-step process guides you through how to apply climate data to local activities so they have better long-term outcomes.

- Do you know of a bridge with off ramps underwater during high tides?
- Does your subdivision regularly flood?
- Can't get a new project insured because of fire or flood risk?
- Is water in short supply during summer months?
- Are trees or other vegetation dying off?
- Are energy costs making affordable housing unaffordable?



Your community can make climate savvy decisions to avoid these types of problems. Use the [Climate Change Adaptation Certification Tool](#) to take action and avoid experiencing these types of hazards going into the future!



Want to create a climate savvy Comprehensive Plan to support use of the Climate Change Adaptation Certification Tool? Try the process outlined in [Climate Change Adaptation through Local Comprehensive Planning](#).



Job Opening: Associate Scientist

EcoAdapt seeks an Associate Scientist for a full-time, non-exempt position in the Seattle, Washington metro area. This specific position will support the State of Adaptation program, a research initiative designed to raise awareness of and build capacity for on-the-ground climate adaptation action. As an Associate Scientist, you will provide research and writing support for multiple projects, create science-based products that support the integration of climate change into decision-making, and regularly engage with adaptation practitioners through interviews, surveys, workshops, and outreach. Applicants should be comfortable working in a fast-paced, independent work environment, demonstrate flexibility, and have a commitment to supporting EcoAdapt's non-profit mission. See the full listing [here](#).



Donate



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

Today!

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

