



Project Title: Coast to Coast: National Park Service Implementing a Servicewide approach to climate change wayside exhibits

Headline Title (2-5 words): National climate change wayside project

Brief Summary (Abstract): NPS sites throughout the country are beginning to experience impacts on natural and cultural resources associated with climate change, leading to a high priority communication project underway in several parks. A network of interpretive wayside exhibits in 13 parks will describe impacts to local resources, as well as national and global implications of climate change. This innovative project will convey current and projected effects of climate change to park visitors in a way that promotes understanding of the global nature of the issue and interconnected effects across the National Park System. Through Quick Response (QR) codes (and web urls) on the exhibits, visitors will see a list of parks with similar issues, and links to which they can navigate for more information. As an example, while considering glacial melt information on the exhibit in Kenai Fjords National Park, through QR codes, visitors will simultaneously be able to examine projected sea level rise in the Dry Tortugas, and realize that continued melting of glaciers has implications for resources in other areas, such as Fort Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas. Thus, through a nationwide network of exhibits, visitors will receive consistent, focused messages to understand key climate change effects at the local level, and how these relate to effects in other areas.

Project Location: Alaska, California, Tennessee, North Carolina, Washington D.C., Florida

Partners: NPS Harpers Ferry Center, Kenai Fjords NP, Sequoia & Kings Canyon NPs, Everglades NP, Dry Tortugas NP, Great Smoky Mountain NP, Wolf Trap NP, Rock Creek Park, Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens, Point Reyes NP, Golden Gate NRA, Biscayne NP, and Big Cypress NP, NPS Climate Change Response Program

Strategy Goals Implemented: Goal 6, strategy 6.2, actions 6.2.1: Identify and make opportunities available for public involvement to aid in the development of focused outreach materials. Action 6.2.3: Develop specific programs and/or modify existing programs (e.g., bird and amphibian surveys) to motivate action and engage citizens in monitoring impacts of climate change on the landscape (e.g., citizen science monitoring for detection of invasive species, nature center programs, etc.).

Climate Impacts Addressed: species shifts, phenological changes, and sea level rise

Status of Project Implementation (Timeline, Milestones, Next Steps):

Results to Date:

- One major focus for the first two years of this project has been to develop cohesive themes and servicewide messages on sea level (SLR) rise and phenology.
- Based on the initial information gathered during the 2012 project kick-off meeting, the project plan was developed and completed.



NATIONAL *fish, wildlife & plants*
CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY

- The wayside design-build contract was awarded in early 2013.
- A two-day virtual meeting was held with project collaborators to develop the vision for the accompanying web/microsite component. The web/microsite contract plan was awarded in the summer 2013. The initial kick-off meetings for the web/microsite component occurred in January 2014.
- All locations for the 23 waysides have been finalized and all site visits completed.
- The initial SLR Wayside Exhibit Proposal has been developed and is in the second round of review for the site-specific wayside purpose statements, content, graphics, maps and SLR marker poles.
- Draft shop drawings of the SLR Marker Pole were provided to the parks so they can begin the compliance process.
- A Google site has been developed for team communication and is updated with materials, contractor deliverable schedules, and a calendar for events and meetings.

Next Steps:

- Finish the web contract for the microsite template and populate all microsities with content.
- Develop or obtain engaging videos, images and other resources to accompany the microsities.
- Finalize the content, images and maps for all 23 waysides.
- Begin the wayside fabrication process.
- Parks start the compliance process for the new waysides.

Funding Sources: National Park Service