

**Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers
Seattle, Washington, April 12-16, 2011**

Activity: Panel / Q&A Session; April 14, 2011; 12:40-2:20pm

Presenter: Kathy Jacobs, Assistant Director for Climate Assessments and Adaption, Office of Science and Technology Policy

Panelists: Marc Perry, US Census; TC Richmond, GordonDerr LLC and Vice-Chair for NCADAC

Recorder: Bryce Golden-Chen, National Climate Assessment Program Administrator

Attendance: ~ 20 attendees

Following an overview of the NCA, Jacobs led an in-depth discussion with the audience, from which several points of interest about the NCA process emerged:

- The climate portal (in process) should provide different layers of data for different audiences to assist in reaching the general public and the 2013 report will serve as a foundational information document for people to use, expanding climate literacy.
- There is considerable agency support for focusing on the longer-term process. One challenge is to effectively network the multitude of assets around the country and sustain these efforts. The NCA will consider engaging with NGOs, states, adaptation plans, etc., as part of the long-term process.
- One example of agencies' role: the Census' bureaucracy and infrastructure can contribute to the long-term sustained process for the NCA, contributing regional and local census data.
- States serve an important role to the NCA process as well. There are representatives from 26 states on the Federal Advisory Committee and engagement of additional states will take place through other societal and sectoral groups.
- Deploying existing resources in a more coherent manner will be important. One concept is to work towards connecting people at lower-scales to share best practices, which can be long lasting and beyond the discrete report.
- There are many assessments already happening, so the NCA is trying to engage these groups and support their capacity; convening power is very important.