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**Newsletter of the U.S. Global Change Research Program and
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Top Story

Draft Third National Climate Assessment Report now available for download

Today, the [National Climate Assessment Development and Advisory Committee \(NCADAC\)](#), the federal advisory committee for the [National Climate Assessment](#), approved their draft of the Third National Climate Assessment Report for release for public comment. The draft report is available for download - both as a single document and by chapter - at <http://ncadac.globalchange.gov>.

The public comment period for the report will run January 14 - April 12, 2013. All comments must be submitted via the online comment tool that will be available from <http://ncadac.globalchange.gov> beginning on January 14. The draft will be undergoing review by the National Research Council at the same time.

The draft report is a product of the NCADAC and is not a product of the federal government. The authors of the report will use the comments received during the public comment period to revise the report before submitting it to the government for consideration.

Expanding the climate change conversation - a blog post from John Holdren and Jane Lubchenco

In association with the release of the Draft Third National Climate Assessment Report, John Holdren (Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy) and Jane Lubchenco (Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) published post on the White House blog about the draft report and the history of the NCA. The entry can be found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2013/01/11/expanding-climate-change-conversation>.

About Us

The [U.S. Global Change Research Program \(USGCRP\)](#) coordinates and integrates federal research on changes in the global environment and their implications for society. The USGCRP began as a presidential initiative in 1989 and was mandated by Congress in the Global Change Research Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-606), which called for "a *comprehensive and integrated United States research program which will assist the Nation and the world to understand, assess, predict, and respond to human-induced and natural processes of global change.*"

The [National Climate Assessment \(NCA\)](#) is being conducted under the auspices of the Global Change Research Act of 1990, which requires a report to the President and the Congress that evaluates, integrates and interprets the findings of the USGCRP every four years. The NCA aims to incorporate advances in the understanding of climate science into larger social, ecological, and policy systems, and with this provide integrated analyses of impacts and vulnerability, helping the federal government prioritize climate science investments, and helping to provide the science that can be used by communities around our Nation try to create a more sustainable and environmentally-sound plan for our future.