
Overview of National Climate Assessment International Chapter

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U.S. Global Change
Research Program

U.S. Global Change Research Program

- USGCRP began as a Presidential Initiative in 1989
- Mandated by Congress in the Global Change Research Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-606), “to assist the Nation and the world to **understand, assess, predict** and **respond** to human-induced and natural process of global change”



USGCRP: Agencies and Departments



Department of Agriculture

Department of Commerce

Department of Defense

Department of Energy

Department of Health and Human Services

Department of the Interior

Department of State

Department of Transportation

Environmental Protection Agency

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

National Science Foundation

Smithsonian Institution

United States Agency for International Development



The National Climate Assessment: A Congressionally-Mandated Endeavor

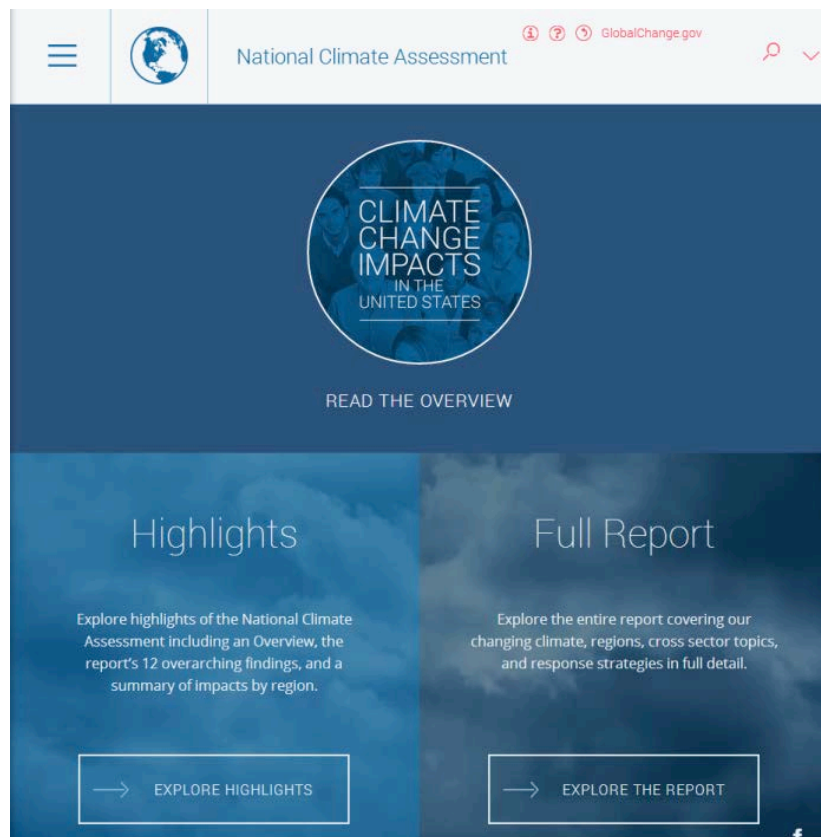
Global Change Research Act of 1990 (Section 106):

...not less frequently than every 4 years, the Council... shall prepare... an assessment which –

- **integrates, evaluates, and interprets** the findings of the Program (USGCRP) and discusses the scientific uncertainties associated with such findings;
- **analyzes the effects of global change** on the natural environment, agriculture, energy production and use, land and water resources, transportation, human health and welfare, human social systems, and biological diversity; and
- analyzes current trends in global change, both human- induced and natural, and **projects major trends for the subsequent 25 to 100 years.**



Building on the Success of NCA3



Five aspects of NCA3 (2014) were crucial to its success:

- Assessment based on broad scientific and technical inputs
- Stakeholder engagement
- Clear communication principles
- Transparency of process and information
- An extensive review process

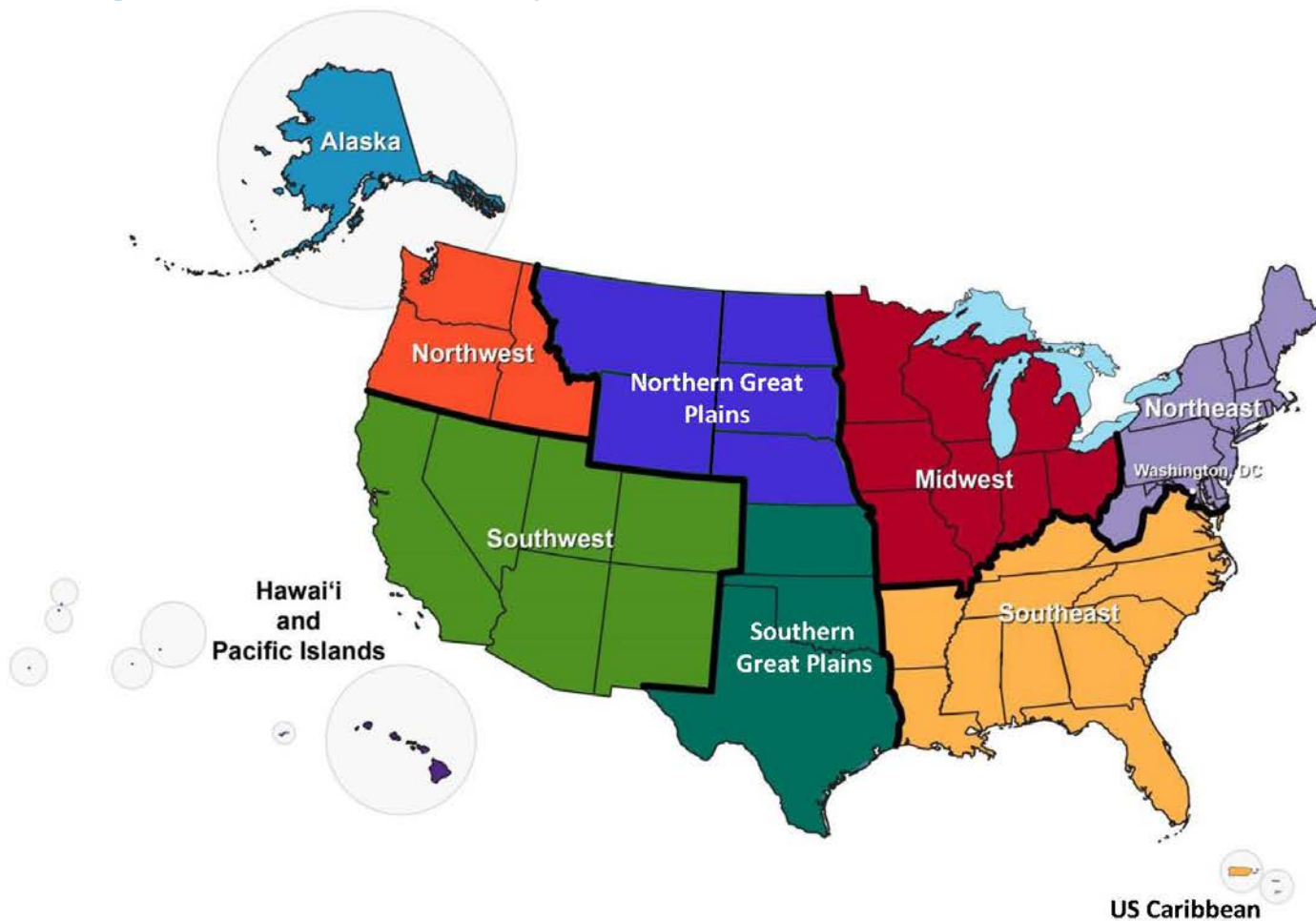


NCA4 Chapters

- **I: Overview**
- **II: Our Changing Climate**
- **III: National Overviews**
 - Water
 - Energy
 - Land Cover and Land Use Change
 - Forests
 - Ecosystems, Ecosystem Services, and Biodiversity
 - Coastal Effects
 - Oceans and Marine Resources
 - Agriculture and Rural Communities
 - Built Environment, Urban Systems, and Cities
 - Transportation
 - Air Quality **NEW!**
 - Human Health
 - Tribal and Indigenous Communities
 - **Climate Effects on U.S. International Interests NEW!**
- **IV: Regional Chapters**
 - Northeast
 - Southeast
 - US Caribbean **NEW!**
 - Midwest
 - Northern Great Plains } **EXPANDED!**
 - Southern Great Plains
 - Northwest
 - Southwest
 - Alaska
 - Hawai`i and Pacific Islands
- **V: Response**
 - Near-term Adaptation Needs and Increased Resiliency
 - Mitigation: Avoiding and Reducing Long-term Risks
- Sectoral Interdependencies & Compounding Stressors: The Science of Complex Systems **NEW!**



Regional Chapters



NCA4 International Chapter Overview

- First ever internationally-focused NCA chapter. Will assess climate change impacts on U.S. interests abroad
 - Not an assessment of climate impacts globally (IPCC's role)
 - Not an assessment of overseas impacts for NCA regions and sectors
- Focal Areas:
 - Economics and Trade
 - Climate and National Security
 - International Development and Humanitarian Assistance
 - Trans-boundary Issues (Canada, Mexico, Pacific, Caribbean, Arctic)
 - Building Scientific Knowledge and Capacity

Author Team

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NCA4 International Chapter Sections

Focal Areas

- Economics and Trade
- Climate and National Security
- International Development and Humanitarian Assistance
- Trans-boundary Issues (Canada, Mexico, Pacific, Caribbean, Arctic)
- Building Scientific Knowledge and Capacity

We invite you to share information or technical inputs (peer-reviewed literature, gray literature, case studies, etc.) with the chapter author team

<http://www.globalchange.gov/content/nca4-outline>

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