



## **CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION ADVISORY GROUP**

### **NATURAL SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED ECONOMIES TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP**

Call # 2, June 30, 2008, 2:00 – 4:00 pm (Alaska Time)

#### **Attendance:**

##### Facilitators:

Colleen Donovan, Michael Fraidenburg

##### Technical Working Group members:

Ken McHugh, Chris Maisch, Tony Nakazawa, Gerd Wendler, Jeff Short, Molly McCammon, Michele Hebert

##### Non-member Participants:

Eric Volk

##### Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation:

Jackie Poston

Public – none

#### **Background documents: (all posted at: [http://akclimatechange.us/Natural\\_Systems.cfm](http://akclimatechange.us/Natural_Systems.cfm))**

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. PowerPoint® for Teleconference
3. Draft Summary of Meeting #1
4. Draft NSAE Catalog 1
5. 06-27-08 AK NSAE Option Description

#### **Discussion items and key issues:**

This was the second conference call of the Natural Systems and Associated Economies Technical Working Group (NSAE TWG). The call purpose was to update group about the citations issue raised at the first meeting; come to a broad agreement about the content of the Catalog and Policy Option Descriptions, while still reserving the right to work with this list in the future, and discuss the logistics of the next meeting. The main topics discussed are

outlined in the PowerPoint presentation.

Update (status report) on the citations issue raised at the first meeting: An inquiry to one of the authors of the impact document indicated completing citation annotations is a tractable but non-trivial issue. The facilitators alerted the project managers about the TWG's request for including citations. They are exploring the possibilities for providing this additional documentation. The facilitators will report to the TWG when an answer is provided.

TWG members raised the following issues:

1. Jeff Short noted the desirability for setting the context for impacts and policy options in our issue area. Essentially, we need to move beyond providing a simple catalog and provide an integrated context that shows why climate change impacts and policy interventions are important in our issue area. This could take the form of an introduction to the catalog that gives the physical and ecological context for both our judgments about impacts and the intervention opportunities.
2. Jeff Short, after the last meeting, observed that it is not clear where will, in the overall planning process, negative spin-off impacts of policy choices be revealed, evaluated, and judgments made. For example, if a priority policy choice is carbon emissions taxing, when, where, and how in the planning process will the potential negative economic impacts to low-income Alaskan communities be considered, given their dependence on fossil fuels for basic life needs like keeping warm in the winter? Mike Fraidenburg (facilitator) related the two outcomes from his conversation with the project manager about this question: (a) the multi-layered approach to this planning, all the way up to the Governor, is intended to reveal these kinds of questions and promote active decision making about them and (b) it is the job of a TWG (or any support group in the planning) to point these questions out and make them apparent to the planning hierarchy.
3. Label documents as DRAFT.
4. Add date and/or version numbers to the sequence of edited versions of the documents we produce.
5. The TWG: (a) approves the policy options documents provided by the facilitators; (b) asks the facilitators to incorporate Chris Maisch's comments (which have yet to be incorporated); (c) agreed to have the facilitators accept and incorporate any additional TWG comments using the facilitator's suggested July 5 deadline; and (d) gave the facilitators authority to finalize documents and submit them to the AAG with these additions.
6. Add qualifiers to our documents to make the tentative nature of these documents clear to the AAG (draft, brainstorm, not committing our members to a decision, etc.).

### **Next steps and agreements:**

1. The facilitators will report back to the TWG after the July 16 AAG meeting on the outcome, about any assignments arising from their meeting, and propose a work plan for meeting our next deadline (i.e., identification of deliverables, process recommendation for generating the deliverables, etc.).
2. Planning for the next TWG meeting dates and times will occur after the July 16 AAG meeting using an Internet-based meeting scheduling procedure.

### **Public Input**

Input from the public was solicited. No members of the public were present on the call.