
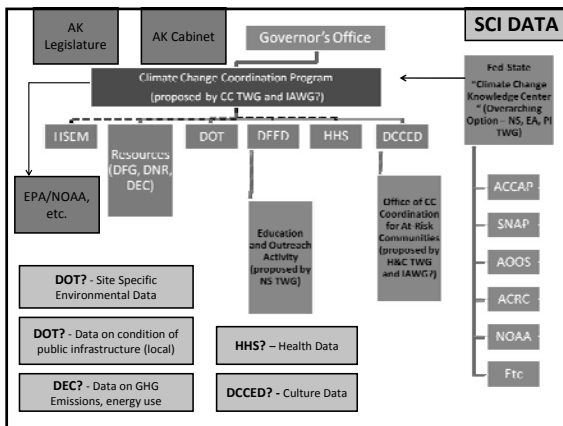
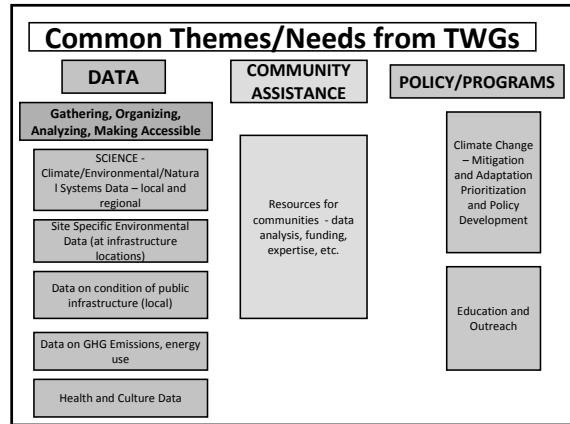


State of Alaska
Governor's Climate Change Sub-Cabinet

Overarching Options

April 3, 2009
Nancy Tosta, Ross & Associates

Overarching Options

- Various TWGs proposed options that were similar in many regards. The AAG recommended combining them. These have been addressed as follows:
 - An option from the NS TWG to create a "knowledge center" for climate change was combined with a recommendation from the EA TWG to more effectively share knowledge on Arctic issues. The result is Overarching Option #1
 - An option from the NS TWG for improved education and outreach was combined with an option in the Cross-Cutting TWG (Mitigation Advisory Group) - to develop a Statewide Climate Change program that includes education and outreach. The result is reported as a component of CC TWG #6.

#1: Establish an Alaska Climate Change Knowledge Center (CCKC)

- Numerous activities are underway to collect data relevant to climate change in Alaska, but finding and integrating climate change data are very challenging.
- Many forums are held on Arctic issues, but information to support or that result from the forums is difficult to find
- **The Subcabinet should establish an Alaska Climate Change Knowledge Center (CCKC) that will organize and help integrate climate change resources, will respond to questions regarding climate change, will provide online access to climate change data, and will help support knowledge sharing around Arctic issues**

#1: Potential Activities of the CCKC

- Maintain an inventory of entities collecting climate change data.
- Provide access to information about climate change
- Provide access to research papers and references
- Provide access to an inventory of successful Alaska-relevant climate-change adaptation programs
- Provide access to data about Arctic forums and individuals participating in them
- Provide a forum to bring together entities with responsibilities for climate change data collection to provide means to integrate data, conduct analyses.
- Establish means to address questions of users about climate change
- Identify gaps in data and explore potential funding
- Provide on-line forums to encourage knowledge sharing
- Promote focus groups on key topics

#2: Create an Alaska Climate Change Program that Coordinates State Efforts for Addressing Climate Change (CC-TWG #6) – Promote Climate Change Literacy

- Conduct direct outreach on climate change and GHG reduction strategies
- Support educators to teach students of all levels regarding climate change
- Provide outreach and education on climate adaptation actions and responses
- **The Subcabinet should allocate funding to support outreach and education activities as part of the Alaska Climate Change Program**

#2: Outreach and Education Activities

- Establish a framework for K-12 education to rapidly improve public understanding of the causes and consequences of climate change in Alaska
 - identify climate change as a high-priority subject and include it in the State K-12 Science Content and Performance (Grade Level Expectations)
 - establish and fund a new environmental/climate change science education specialist
 - provide funding to the University of Alaska to develop courses for K-12 teachers
- Support the development and delivery of effective public outreach materials and presentations regarding climate change