

Save the Date
Lower Willamette Climate Futures Forums
Natural Systems Workshop
For Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties

February 24, 2010
Portland

Photo: Gary Halverson 2008

Even if worldwide emissions of carbon dioxide are rapidly reduced, temperatures will likely rise by an average of 1° F per decade in Oregon for the next 50 years (CIG 2007). Each degree is likely to reduce the region's snowpack by about 20%, alter vegetation and insect patterns, and increase the size and frequency of wildfires. Some of the well-known consequences include reduced streamflows that negatively affect fish and wildlife, hydropower, and the communities and industries that rely on that water (CLI & NCCSP 2008; CLI and NCCSP 2009).

A concentrated effort is urgently needed to support natural resource managers, businesses, communities, individuals and all levels of government to develop the methods and tools needed to prepare for the consequences of changing climate conditions. Lack of preparation will lead to crisis management that will be extremely costly for ecosystems and people.

To further support preparedness efforts for the Lower Willamette River Basin, the Climate Leadership Initiative at the University of Oregon, in partnership with local and state agencies, local governments, universities, and nonprofit organizations, will hold a series of workshops in Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties in 2010 to solicit local input on climate change projections and recommendations for developing a regional preparedness framework. One workshop will focus on the natural systems of the Basin (held in Portland). The other three workshops will focus on the "community" systems (built, human, cultural and economic) (held in Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties). Each of these day-long workshops will convene participants with strong knowledge of the Lower Willamette's resources to:

- assess basin level projections for climate change impacts;
- identify risks and vulnerabilities to the various systems; and
- provide recommendations for co-beneficial solutions to prepare ways to build resistance and resiliency to projected climate impacts

Following the workshops, a regional, integrated report will be produced from the discussions, comments, and recommendations of participants. The report will be distributed widely within the communities and across the region.

The next page provides a schedule and sample of who should attend these workshops. **We invite you to participate in the workshops that are most applicable to your interest and expertise.** If you are unsure about whether you should attend the natural systems or community systems workshop, please contact the coordinator. All workshops are free to attend, and coffee and lunch will be provided. Prior to the workshops, participants will receive local climate model data with basin-level climate change projections (provided by the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute), a workshop agenda, and background documents to help focus the workshops. **Please see the next page for workshop dates, times, locations, and contact information for RSVP or questions.**

We look forward to learning from you!

Workshop Topic	Who should attend	Date	Time	Location/Venue	RSVP deadline
Natural Systems	Biologists, ecologists, natural resource managers, watershed councils, hydrologists, geomorphologists, forest managers, etc.	Feb. 24th	8:30am-5pm	White Stag Block 70 NW Couch Street Portland, OR 97209	Feb 15th
Community Systems	Agriculture industry, businesses, insurance, real estate, public works, local government, planners, watershed councils, developers, tourism bureaus, public health, educators, economists, water resource managers, timber industry, forest managers, fisheries, emergency services, cultural resource managers, etc.	April 6 th (tentative)	8:30am-5pm	Gresham (tentative)	March 15th
Community Systems		April 7 th (tentative)	8:30am-5pm	Clackamas Co. (tentative)	March 15th
Community Systems		April 9 th (tentative)	8:30am-5pm	Washington Co. (tentative)	March 15th

For questions or to RSVP for a workshop, please contact:

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