

Media Alert

For Immediate Release

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New Publication On Climate Change Adaptation Strategies Released:

Explores how people in coastal regions are dealing with the effects of climate change in their own backyard.

Real world examples—Practical advice.

Climate change is already affecting our coastal and inland regions and will continue to have impacts to both the natural resources and human communities. Natural resource managers and county planners are tasked with the challenge of developing innovative strategies and actions to reduce the negative impacts from climate change and allow natural and built systems to adjust and respond. This is commonly referred to as "adaptation." Climate change adaptation reduces the vulnerability of both natural systems and human communities to the harmful effects of climate change.

To develop a better understanding of climate adaptation efforts in North America and offer a centralized source of information, EcoAdapt recently completed a comprehensive, 18 month survey of coastal and marine areas in North America (United States, Canada and Mexico) and released a report entitled "The State of Marine and Coastal Adaptation in North America: A Synthesis of Emerging Ideas." This report summarizes climate impacts and provides summaries and examples of adaptation actions implemented throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

The survey efforts and report are part of a companion project led by EcoAdapt and Island Press called the Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange, or CAKE. This innovative community website, located at www.cakex.org, links people to projects and information on climate change adaptation. CAKE provides tools, data, directories, and more than two hundred examples of climate adaptation initiatives, with new content being added daily.

"The State of Adaptation report and CAKE are filling an information chasm that has been created by climate change. People can see climate change undermining their local efforts and investments but often don't know what they can do to help themselves while they wait for action to solve the broader problem. These new resources create a centralized source of information to help develop new ideas and share lessons about climate change adaptation—what really works and what doesn't," says Dr. Lara Hansen, Chief Scientist and Executive Director of EcoAdapt. "Climate change is happening and providing the tools and assistance for managers to take action will help both people and the natural environment better cope with the effects of climate change."

To download a copy of "The State of Marine and Coastal Adaptation in North America: A Synthesis of Emerging Ideas" go to, http://www.cakex.org/virtual-library/1615.

To join this new climate adaptation community and learn more about climate adaptation go to www.cakex.org.