



Forest Service Strategic Framework for Climate Change

**Tribal Climate Change Policy Training
Portland, OR
September 14, 2009**

The Forest Service Mission

Sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forest and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.



The Forest Service Motto

Caring for the land and serving people.

We Envision a Future Where...



New science increases understanding of adaptation and mitigation options. (Science)



Ecosystems and communities are adapting effectively. (Adaptation)



Management actions contribute significantly to mitigating climate change. (Mitigation)



Agency orientation explicitly integrates effective mechanisms to address climate change (Policy)



Ecosystem services from forests and grasslands are sustainable. (Sustainability)



Citizens are knowledgeable about climate change and its impacts on ecosystems. (Education)



New and stronger alliances are forged. (Alliances)



Seven Guiding Principles

Caring For the Land



- Adaptation to the effects of climate change is essential. (Adaptation)
- Management for adaptation will not be possible or needed everywhere. (Priorities)
- Improved risk analysis and decision support tools will be critical. (Uncertainty)
- Continual monitoring and incorporation of new science are essential. (Science)

Guiding Principles (cont.)

Serving People



- Alliances and collaboration will be essential. (Alliances)
- Institutional support for innovation is needed. (Innovation)
- Integration across all Deputy areas at all levels is required. (Integration)

Goals Focused on Managing the Land

- 1) **Advance our understanding of climate change and related management activities. (Science)**
- 2) **Enhance the capacity of forests and grasslands to adapt. (Adaptation)**
- 3) **Promote the management of forests and grasslands to reduce greenhouse gases. (Mitigation)**
- 4) **Integrate climate change into all Forest Service policies, program guidance, and communications. (Policy)**



Goals Focused on People

- 5) **Reduce the environmental footprint of Forest Service operations.** (Sustainable Operations)
- 6) **Advance awareness and understanding.** (Education and life-long learning)
- 7) **Establish, enhance, and retain strong alliances and partnerships.** (Alliances)



In Conclusion: The Framework



- 🍃 Sets the tone and provides structure to support the Forest Service Mission;
- 🍃 Provides a roadmap in the face of changing environmental, social, and economic conditions;
- 🍃 Is not a new initiative;
- 🍃 Overarching structure for other strategies, priorities, policy decisions, resource allocation;
- 🍃 Uses science to increase skills and find ways of dealing with uncertainties;
- 🍃 Accommodates each geographical region.