Developing a System of National Indicators to Track Climate Changes, Impacts, Vulnerabilities, and Preparedness

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National Climate Indicators System

A system of social, ecological, and societal indicators that communicate key aspects of the physical climate, climate impacts, vulnerabilities, and preparedness.

- Provide meaningful, authoritative climate-relevant measures about the status, rates, and trends of key physical, ecological, and societal variables and values;
- Inform decisions at multiple scales
- Identify climate-related conditions and impacts
- Provide analytical tools by which user communities can derive their own indicators for particular purposes.

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Indicator Technical Team Leads
(in no particular order)

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- Dennis Ojima, Grassland Team Lead (Colorado State Univ.)
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- Mike McGeehin, Health Team Lead (RTI International)
- Tom Wilbanks, Energy and Infrastructure Team Lead (ORNL)
- Leon Clarke, Mitigation and GHG Team Lead (DOE PNNL JGCRI)
- Jerry Hatfield, Agriculture Team Lead (USDA)
- Linda Heath, Forest Team Lead (USDA - USFS)
- Patricia Gober – Adaptation and Hazards Team Co-lead (AZ State Univ.)
- Kathleen Tierney – Adaptation and Hazards Team Co-lead (Univ. CO Boulder)
- Biodiversity – forthcoming
Indicators Milestones

- Ecosystems, Physical, and Societal Indicators Workshops:
  - 2010

- Approval of Indicator Vision by NCADAC:
  - 2011

- Indicator Technical Input Report:
  - 2012

- Technical Teams draft reports – conceptual model, indicators, and research priorities:
  - 2013

- Indicator Work Group chooses Indicators to include in the system:
  - 2014

- Launch Pilot Phase of National Indicators System:
  - 2015

- Submit Manuscripts, Data, and Methods documentation:
  - 2016-onward

- Final Scientific and Operational Review of Pilot Indicators System:
  - 2016-onward

- Launch Indicator System:
  - 2016-onward

- Evaluate, Improve, Research, Case Studies, and future NCA Reports:
  - 2016-onward