USDA Regional Hubs for Risk Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change
What are the Climate Hubs?
Vision: Agricultural production and natural resources maintained and strengthened under increasing climate variability and environmental change

Mission: To develop and deliver science-based, region-specific information and technologies through USDA agencies to agricultural and natural resource managers that enable climate-smart decision-making.
USDA Regional Climate Hubs will provide:

• Technical Support
• Assessments and Forecasts
• Outreach and Education

USDA provides:
• Information Delivery
• Tools
• Research
USDA Regional Climate Hubs will provide:

1. Technical Support
2. Assessments and Forecasts
3. Outreach and Education

USDA will work with Federal Partners:
• National Climate Assessment
• NOAA’s Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments Program
• DOI’s Climate Science Centers
• DOI’s Landscape Conservation Cooperatives
Stakeholders and Stakeholder group: Farmers / Ranchers / Forest Managers / Tribes / States / Feds / LCCs / Others

Conceptual Framework for a USDA Regional Hub

Science and Technology providers:

Federal Partners

- NOAA RISA
- USGS CSC
- DOE
- NASA
- etc

Non-Federal Partners

- USDA Intramural Research (ARS/FS/ERS/NRCS)
- USDA Extramural funded Research (NIFA)
- Agricultural Experiment Stations
- Many others

Science Coordination, Synthesis, and Tools

Technology Transfer providers:

- Cooperative Extension
- USDA Service Centers
- Forest Service Threat Centers
- State Climatologists
- Others

Information and tools

Links with other Hubs & National Coordinator

Questions and feedback

Many others
Where are the Climate Hubs?
Original USDA Climate Hub Regions

- Pacific Northwest
- Northern Plains
- Midwest
- Southeast
- Southern Plains
- Northeast
- Southwest
Other federal regional efforts associated with climate change

NOAA Regional Integrated Science and Assessments

USGS Climate Science Centers

FWS Landscape Conservation Cooperatives
What was the process to choose the Hubs?
• Hubs announced

June 2013

• Internal, competitive process among USDA facilities to serve as a Hub

June-August 2013

• Hub proposals due

August 21, 2013

• Proposals reviewed by climate change experts (USDA, NOAA, CEQ, DOI)

September 2013-January 2014

• Hub locations announced

February 5, 2014
Proposals showed overwhelming support:

- **90** Universities
- **14** State Government Departments
- **5** Tribal Communities
- **3** Private Companies
- **34** NGO’s
- **58** Partnerships with federal agencies, local offices, or federal initiatives

Over 200 letters of support
What’s next for the Hubs?
- Work with partners and stakeholders to assess needs and capabilities
- Establish work plans
- Establish web presence
- Assess regional vulnerabilities to ID most pressing issues

February-December 2014
Questions?