

2017 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee for the Sustained National Climate Assessment

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Commerce

2. Fiscal Year

2017

3b. GSA

Committee

No.

Advisory Committee for the Sustained
National Climate Assessment

2544

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

08/20/2015 08/20/2017

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

08/20/2017

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Global Change Research Act
of 1990, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2921 et
seq.

13. Effective Date

14. Committee Type

14c. Presidential?

10/24/1992 Continuing No

15. Description of Committee

Scientific Technical Program
Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for
this Fiscal Year

17a.

Open

2

17b. Closed

0

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

2

Meetings and Dates

Purpose

Start

End

This was one of two in-person meetings per year. Matters considered included: (1) The Fourth National Climate Assessment process; (2) data and tools developed to support sustained assessment; (3) approaches to sustained partnerships developed in regional science organizations and other groups; (4) state-level assessment activities; and (5) the Advisory Committee's work plan.

03/07/2017 - 03/08/2017

This was a webinar meeting to discuss the Special Report of Near-Term Recommendations on Sustained Assessment, including the work plan and agency input.

05/15/2017 - 05/15/2017

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$59,576.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$111,451.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$14,121.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$1,624.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$35,554.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$222,326.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.33	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The committee's mission is to provide advice on sustained National Climate Assessment activities and products to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere (Under Secretary), who will forward the advice to the Director of the Office of Science Technology Policy (OSTP). The committee's scope is to advise on the engagement of stakeholders and on sustained assessment activities and the quadrennial National Climate Assessment report. The committee shall function solely as an advisory body and shall comply with all applicable law and policies, including the FACA, the FACA's implementing regulations, and applicable Department of Commerce guidance. Further, the committee shall comply with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Information Quality Act Guidelines.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

To assure a balanced representation of views among preeminent scientists, educators, and other experts reflecting the full scope of issues addressed in the National Climate Assessment and/or relevant to the sustained national assessment process, the members shall have diverse perspectives and expertise that can support a sustained National Climate Assessment process that primarily:

- a. Integrates, evaluates, and interprets the findings of the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) and discusses the scientific uncertainties with such findings and
- b. Analyzes the effects of current and projected climate change upon ecosystems and biological diversity, agriculture, energy production and use, land and water resources, transportation, human health and welfare, and social systems, including in a regional context. And as feasible, we will seek

expertise that cuts across different disciplines and integrates multiple sectors, such as expertise in adaptation or vulnerability assessments. NOAA will also place a premium on achieving other facets of balance, including gender and ethnic diversity, geographic representation, and, to the extent possible, sector diversity (i.e., industry, academia, and NGOs). Information solicited in the nominations packages was the basis for balance analyses. During the appointment process, the expected committee membership was analyzed for the balance of the factors identified above prior to, and as needed, following each decision point.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Charter states at least one meeting per year.
Estimated Number of Meetings per Year - 2.
Estimated Total Meetings - 4. Monitoring the frequency to ensure adequate time between meetings to ensure advice is timely and relevant.
Reducing planned number to 2 meetings per year.
Will call additional meetings as required to meet timeliness requirements for advice.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Advisory Committee for the Sustained National Climate Assessment consists of non-government experts that will advise on the engagement of stakeholders and on sustained assessment activities and the quadrennial National Climate Assessment report. This invokes the requirement of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App. 2) for consensus advice. We have reviewed whether the work of this group could fall under the auspices of an existing committee within NOAA, such as the NOAA Science Advisory Board, and have

determined that it could not, in part because this is an interagency effort that is focused on climate impacts in the context of global change, rather than on science issues alone. Moreover, through our ongoing work with the other federal agencies involved in this interagency effort, we are aware of no other committees elsewhere in the government that could be used for the work contemplated here.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A

21. Remarks

Charter expired on August 20, 2017. It has not been renewed.

Designated Federal Officer

Cynthia Decker DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Avery, Susan	04/15/2016	04/15/2019	President Emerita, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Burkett, Maxine	04/15/2016	04/15/2018	Professor of Law, University of Hawai'i William S. Richardson School of Law	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Chischilly, Ann	04/15/2016	04/15/2019	Executive Director, Northern Arizona University-Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Dell, Janet	04/15/2016	04/15/2019	Vice President, Strategic Development, AECOM	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Dunlap, Riley	04/15/2016	04/15/2018	Regents Professor of Sociology and Dresser Professor, Oklahoma State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Fleming, Paul	04/15/2016	04/15/2019	Climate Resiliency Group Manager, Seattle Public Utilities	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Joppa, Lucas	04/15/2016	04/15/2019	Lead Environmental Scientist, Microsoft Research	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Knowlton, Kim	04/15/2016	04/15/2018	Senior Scientist, Science Center Deputy Director, Natural Resources Defense Council and Assistant Clinical Professor, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lemos, Maria	04/15/2016	04/15/2019	Professor of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Melillo, Jerry	04/15/2016	04/15/2019	Distinguished Scientist and Director Emeritus, The Ecosystems Center, Marine Biological Laboratory	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Moss, Richard	04/15/2016	04/15/2018	Senior Scientist, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's Joint Global Change Research Institute at the University of Maryland, Committee Chair	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Poppleton, Kristen	04/15/2016	04/15/2019	Director of Education, Climate Generation - a Will Steger Legacy	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Prather, Michael	04/15/2016	04/15/2019	Professor of Earth System Science, University of California, Irvine	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Whitehead, Jessica	04/15/2016	04/15/2018	Coastal Communities Hazards Adaptation Specialist, North Carolina Sea Grant	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Zarrilli, Daniel	04/15/2016 04/15/2019	Senior Director, Climate Policy and Programs, and Chief Resilience Officer, New York City Office of the Mayor	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
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Number of Committee Members Listed: 15

Narrative Description

The committee's mission was to provide advice on sustained National Climate Assessment activities and products to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere (Under Secretary), who would forward the advice to the Director of the Office of Science Technology Policy (OSTP). The committee's scope was—as requested by the Under Secretary—to advise on the engagement of stakeholders and on sustained assessment activities and the quadrennial National Climate Assessment report. Within the scope of its mission, the committee's specific objective was to provide advice on a sustained National Climate Assessment process that:

- a. Integrates, evaluates, and interprets the findings of the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) and discusses the scientific uncertainties with such findings;
- b. Analyzes the effects of current and projected climate change upon ecosystems and biological diversity, agriculture, energy production and use, land and water resources, transportation, human health and welfare, and social systems, including in a regional context;
- c. Analyzes current trends in global change, both human-induced and natural, and projects major trends for the next 25 to 100 years;
- d. Is a continuing, inclusive national process that synthesizes relevant science and information about changes in the Earth system as they affect the Nation's climate, and about how such changes relate to and interact with changes in social, economic, ecological, and technological systems;
- e. Addresses risk-based vulnerabilities for business and industry related to the impacts of weather and climate variations and changes; and
- f. Supports climate-related decisions by providing information in formats that are useful for decision support.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

Not Applicable

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

Not Applicable

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

0

Number of Recommendations Comments

No recommendations received from the committee before termination.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

No recommendations received from the committee before termination.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Not Applicable

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

Agency Feedback Comments

Not Applicable

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Not Applicable

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

Not Applicable

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

Committee's meeting documents have been posted on the Committee website. To date, no materials have been created as a Committee publication.