

Climate Action Leadership Team

Working Group on Mitigation

Meeting Notes: March 29, 2018

9:00am **Welcome and Updates**

- Interest from legislature in economic impact and adaptation costs
 - Intent of CALT to recommend analyses for recommended actions
- Review of April calendar
- Science Advisory Panel moving forward
- Oil and Gas Technical Panel drafted

9:30am **Communications and Partnerships**

REAP presentation

- REAP communications have historically focused on renewables as an economics issues. Renewables as it relates to climate change has been done strategically and associated with risk, but not the primary discussion point. Increasingly however, and in response to public and board interest, climate change has been a focal point.
- For both renewables and climate change organizations can advocate for state programs to address issues, or for policy changes like PACE.
- Part of the goal for renewable energy was to increase energy literacy, and the same is true for climate change. Work with partners to develop messages.
- Energy education is a big part of what REAP does, and 200 classroom visits last year; also now attention to energy employment and linking across sectors

Economics is there now for renewables so we don't need to necessarily make the climate change argument.

Utilities are thought of as a necessary evil, and for utilities there is a cost to developing renewables that is difficult to justify given current investments

- Need consumer education, and consumers understand the climate change argument but don't want to see costs go up

In the railbelt costs should be more manageable, but this is difficult in rural communities

Follow through on AHFC energy efficiency goal of 30-40% savings

Climate change ends up being cultural belief system; beyond price and policy

Entrepreneurs are interested in the Alaska clean energy market but disincentivized because of policy framework

- Need to address PPA and IPP issues
- Energy and transportation testbed
- Economics are there, but policy isn't – need green light for business

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Adapt Alaska (Aaron Poe, ACF)

- Initiated by LCCs (landscape conservation cooperatives) but a public/private partnership engaging many entities (about 300 people overall).
- Built the AdaptAlaska.org hub and looking to expand the cooperative element in the future.
- People wanted some central way to access information and to communicate with and between resource managers
- Hearing from communities through workshops – exchange of solutions, working together
- Blending ITK and science – coproduction of knowledge
- Challenge of so many people working on this issue, which makes it confusing
- Uncertainty about federal government's commitment to science and climate work

Urgency of lack of coastal sea ice, harmful algae blooms, ocean acidification, etc.

- STATE OF EMERGENCY as it relates to food security, implications for planning horizon
- IARPC considering listening session

Need to develop new ways to determine priorities so that we can address emergencies quickly – dependent on data and understanding of options

Engage with local governments – municipal and tribal

- CALT can facilitate partnership between governments
- Embed cooperation within action plan
- Action: Work with DCRA and AML
- Consider also a way to find pathways through difficult and divisive issues at the local level
 - (Sustainable Southeast Partnership may be a good model - community catalysts that are paid (in part, if necessary) by the community).

Suggestion: consider how our work goes on after the climate leadership team or after the September deliverable to make sure the resources are in place to implement the action plan.

Let people know that there are many people working on climate change – opportunities and solutions. Are there ways to excite and inspire people to learn.

Review the carbon cost of development of natural resources, including sequestered carbon (report uploaded to DB)

We understand the problem, lots of people working on it

- Symptoms are complex and stressing
- Solutions within grasp
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National Climate Assessment – Alaska participating. Different regions have different urgencies related to this, however, they are all thinking and working on the communications related to climate change.

We are missing the state policy and action that can live year to year.

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Balance in communications – urban vs. rural. The thread on the economy and efficiency is a good one.

- Explore interconnections, like migration
- Aspirational socialization of One Alaska, different but unified
- Social impacts communication
- Identity in relation to climate change

Don't forget international and national connections – different, again, but good resources

Suggestion: the state should consider a guidance document for communities to address climate change.

- Include regional differentiation

We are having tomorrow's problems today in Alaska. We are in a leadership position for other countries with much higher carbon emission.

- Create playbook for other regions
- Export experience and thought leadership

Public trust in science, let alone climate science, is very low

Research continues to be an important priority – mitigating and adapting to change. What about research into the effective communication of these changes.

Challenges: we are talking about science in this area (lower public trust in this particular area – climate change), lack of confidence in solutions that come from others (in particular the federal government), people in Alaska lack some awareness, we are a low education state, views can be polarized, must be nonpartisan.

- Tailored for Alaskans
- Scale and timeline important

Conduct economic impact analysis to understand implications of policy efforts

- Link to other major policy issues in Alaska

Action: Circulate again the previous materials from the sub-cabinet on climate change.

Action: CALT member to monitor national efforts – US Climate Alliance, Pacific Coast Collaborative, Bloomberg, others

Increase educational attainment

Comms buckets

- K-12 – climate literacy
- University – research on mitigation, adaptation, communications
- Community leaders and resource managers – decision support
- Policy - priorities and funding; state of emergency

Look at sponsored or hosted workshops for CALT

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- Ocean Acidification Network, Maine Island Institute, AML, Nature Conservancy

Elevate community voices

Upcoming event: ICC General Assembly in Barrow

Attending:

- Jim Johnsen
- Nils Andreassen
- Chris Rose
- Nicole Kanayaruk
- Sam Schimmel
- Isaac Vanderburg
- Luke Hopkins
- Linda Behnken
- Mara Kimmel
- Meera Kohler
- Randal Buckendorf
- Larry Hinzman
- Reggie Joule

State:

- Nikoosh Carlo
- Alice Edwards
- David Rogers
- Fred Parady
- Janet Reiser
- Katie Conway
- Mark Wiggin

Other:

- Tiel Smith (sp?)
- George Donner
- Alec McMahan
- Ann Grovier
- Dorothy Childers
- Doug Whidby
- Aaron Poe