Climate Smart Tool

Pilot Application to Black Duck Outcome

Project Overview

- FY 2015 GIT-funded project: adapt framework and test on a few *outcomes*
- Short term: checklists and tables to evaluate potential climate change impact on *stressors*
- Long term: guide to modify actions/strategies to remain achievable and effective (i.e. *resilient* in face of climate change)

Lessons Learned

- Importance of tailoring to Workgroups!
  - Differences in type of resources they manage
  - Differences in how they apply framework and decision tables/address questions
  - Differences in interpretation of climate as direct vs indirect stressor

Lessons Learned

- How should Workgroups use this tool?
  - Introducing the Framework
    - Preliminary application can be done by a single knowledgeable manager (i.e. staffer)
    - Group size of 3-10 people was considered optimal
  - Involving interdisciplinary expertise
    - Climate Resiliency Workgroup, Workgroups related to subject outcome
  - Encourage the broadest application of framework possible to begin (outcome level)
  - Is facilitation necessary?

    Important for development and testing (e.g. workshop, planning calls)

Black Duck Case Study

- Case study performed at Management Strategy/Outcome level
- Possible improvements:
  - Could be reworked to consider wider breadth of stressors included in Management Strategy Work with Wetlands Workgroup to project areas of wetland loss/range shift and coordinate on targeting, evaluation, selection of wetland restoration/protection projects

Black Duck Case Study

- Adapting Approach to be “Climate Smart”:
  - Focus initially on high tidal marsh where substantial engineered or natural accretion occurs;
  - Potentially transition to focus on non-tidal marsh when losses of tidal marsh due to the high magnitude of SLR lead to landscape-scale collapse of the tidal marsh system.
  - Use modeling of shifting range locations of preferred tidal marsh habitat and black duck energetics requirements to target restoration locations.
  - Refine population targets through 2025 based on best available science.

Moving Forward

- Reality: tool not used by Black Duck team in its most recent strategic review
- Consider:
  - Require that climate resilience be considered by WGs during SRS process?
  - “Hardwire” climate both in SRS materials and dialogue with MB?
  - Offer facilitation/consultant assistance on climate to WGs in SRS planning?