

NRCS Climate Concerns and Adaptation Practices

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USDA Southeast Regional Climate Hub (SERCH)



Overview

- A tool that connects climate variability with the conservation planning process
- Users:
 - District Conservation Planners
 - National and State Specialists
 - Program Specialists



Purpose

- Climate variability impacts natural resources
- NRCS provides technical and financial support to address the degradation of natural resources (practices or standards)



[Source](#)



Purpose

- These practices are not explicitly tied to climate variability
- Create a tool that integrates region specific changes in climate variability to NRCS resource concerns



[Source](#)



How it works

- The tool combines NRCS conservation practices and resource concerns with regional specific climate trends
- The tool supplies a list of conservation practices to address resource concerns specific to each region



Climate Connections

- The predominant climate trends in the region that impact natural resources (i.e., above average temperature, insufficient rainfall, etc)
- Developed by using recent scientific literature



Climate Connection: Excess Rainfall

Region: southeast

Description: Excess rainfall from storms (i.e. severe thunderstorms, hurricanes, extratropical cyclones) can produce short-term and long-term flooding conditions both locally and regionally. The frequency of extreme rainfall events has increased across the southeast over the past twenty years. Increases in extreme rainfall events are most prevalent across the lower Mississippi River Valley and along the northern Gulf Coast. Most climate models are in agreement that the number of days with extreme rainfall events (more than 1 inch) will continue to increase throughout the century.



Linking climate connections and resource concerns

- Determined by considering which weather event could cause the climate connection to impact the resource concern
 - Ex: excess rainfall from a thunderstorm causes localized flooding
 - In turn causing excess water, runoff, soil erosion, etc



Live Demo

Search Criteria

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Select your region



Region*

Select your state



State*

Search by climate connection



Climate Connection

Search by land use



Land Use

Select the resource concern



Resource Concern

Option to select a specific crop



Crop

Livestock

Option to select a specific livestock



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Next steps

- Develop climate connections for the other Hub regions
- Add user registration for access to additional features and information
- Add references from practice standards
- Engage technical specialists

Questions

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