

# NSW Climate Change Adaptation Newsletter

The latest in climate change adaptation research, news and events

Welcome to the second edition of the NSW Adaptation Newsletter from [The NSW Adaptation Research Hub](#).

It's been an exciting month in Adaptation - this month we cover:

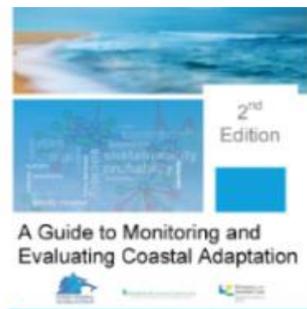
- The National Adaptation Conference
- Local Government coastal adaptation support
- An invite to celebrate our anniversary and
- The latest publications, events and grants

If you haven't already, please take our [short survey](#) to tell us what you'd like to see in this newsletter, and how it can best be delivered to you.



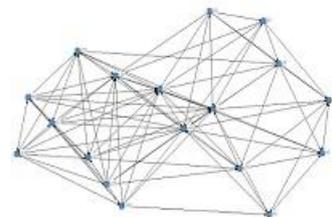
## [National Adaptation Conference 2014](#)

Missed the National Adaptation conference? Read about The Adaptation Hub sponsored session '[Turning Research into Action](#)', and get the word on the street from a [Vox Pop](#), asking the question 'What is Australia's greatest Adaptation Challenge?'



## [Coastal Adaptation Tools](#)

['A Guide to Monitoring and Evaluating Coastal Adaptation \(ed. 2\)'](#). The practical guide provides a framework for climate change adaptation strategies and practices of LG in coastal areas. **Related is** [Prioritising Coastal Adaptation Development Options for Local Government](#)



## [Free Seminar Series](#)

*Social Network Analysis*  
Chris Cvitanovic, CSIRO.  
27 Nov, 2-3.30pm.  
59 Goulburn St, Sydney or  
participate online. [RSVP](#).

Missed Bill Peirson's seminar on *Climate change adaptation of NSW Estuaries*? [Request](#) a copy of the presentation slides

# Save the date - Adaptation Hub Anniversary

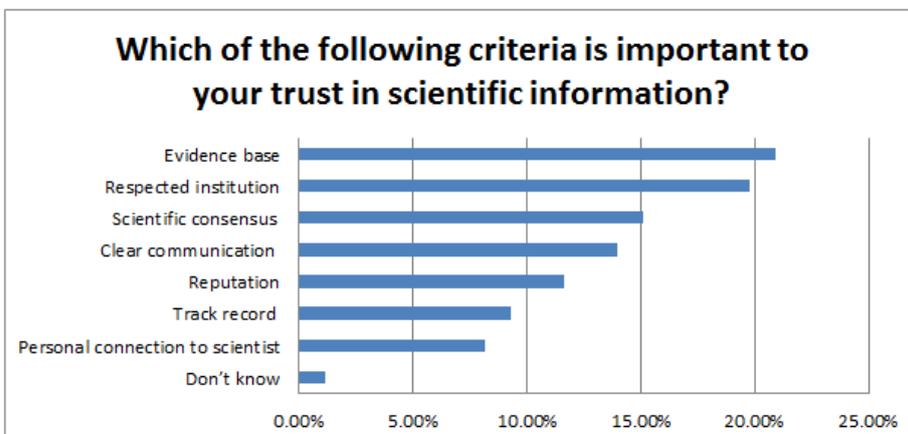
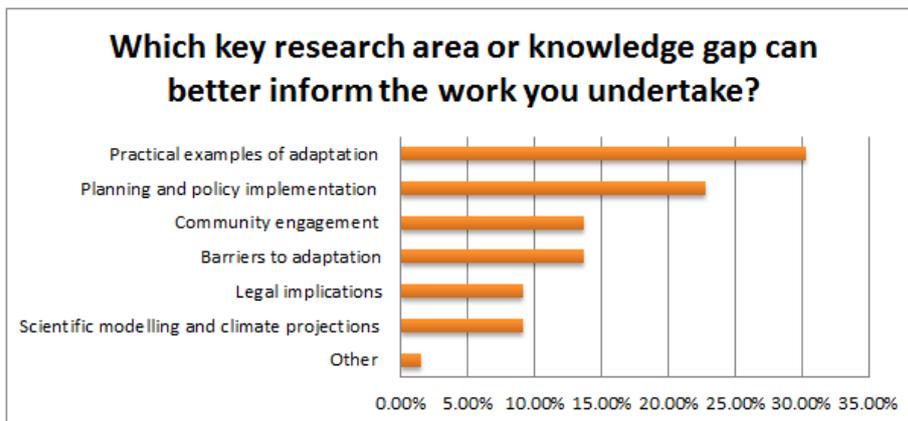
8th December 10am-4.30pm, Aerial Function Centre UTS, 235 Jones St, Ultimo

Join us to celebrate the NSW Adaptation Research Hub first anniversary! Hear more about the research outcomes from the Coastal Processes and Responses, Biodiversity and Adaptive Communities Nodes. Join researchers, government and practitioners to discuss adaptation action across NSW. [RSVP](#).

## Turning Research into Action

The Hub hosted a session at the National Climate Change Adaptation Conference on 'Turning Research into Action'. Each of the Node leaders presented an update on their research projects, as well as addressing what they saw as the barriers of turning research into action.

Participants were asked to share their opinion through using a 'clicker'. The focus of the poll was to look at the process by which science, policy and communities interact. Some responses are shown below.



# National Adaptation Conference Vox Pop

*What is Australia's greatest adaptation challenge?*



Allan Young, NSW  
Dept of Planning

***"Who pays?"***



Bethune  
Carmichael, Alice  
Springs CDU

***"First principle  
of adaptation  
is mitigation"***



Liz Dovey, ANU

***"Taking it  
seriously"***



Dan Ware, Griffith  
University

***"Limited  
capacity for  
public debate"***



Emma Austin,  
University of  
Newcastle

***"Translating  
research  
outcomes into  
action"***



Ian Carruthers,  
Chair of NCCARF  
Board

***"Creating  
community  
support on the  
need for  
adaptation"***



Barbara Norman,  
University of  
Canberra

***"Managing  
urban growth"***



Momtj Khalil,  
Institute for  
Sustainable  
Futures

***"Engaging with  
people"***



## Biodiversity Node Leader wins National Eureka Prize

Biodiversity Node leader, Professor Lesley Hughes is the winner of the 2014 *Australian Government Eureka Prize for Promoting Understanding of Australian Science Research*. Professor Hughes has been researching and communicating the science of climate change for more than 20 years. Professor Hughes notes "*Climate science is a very wide and broad topic but it's so important that speaking out about climate change and the impacts that it will have not just on the environment but on our economy, on our agriculture, on our communities is, I think, the most important job that I could possibly do*".

## Research into drought impacts on NSW forests

Severe drought can cause large-scale forest death, transforming landscapes with potentially catastrophic consequences for biodiversity. Belinda Medlyn of the Biodiversity node, Macquarie University has been awarded an Australian Research Council funding for a project on "Identifying regions of high drought mortality risk for tree species in NSW". A collaboration between MQ, UWS and OEH, the project will quantify the risk of drought mortality across NSW for key tree species under a range of future climate change scenarios, enabling management of this risk in conservation planning.



Publications, events, news and grants

### *Publications*

Assisted Colonisation as a Climate Change Adaptation Tool. After an engaging and thought provoking masterclass on 'Assisted Colonisation', the Biodiversity Node has made all the slides, presentations and full reports available online.

Integrated regional vulnerability assessment of government services to climate change. Adaptive Communities Node Leader, Brent Jacobs et al (2014) paper describes the conduct and outcomes of an Integrated Assessment of the vulnerability to climate change of government service providers at regional scale in NSW.

Small islands and climate adaptation. Adaptive Communities Node researcher Natasha Kuruppu's paper looks at the vulnerability of small island developing states to the impacts of climate change. Her study points to governance, technical, cognitive and cultural barriers to adaptation.

Unearthing Australia's Climate History. Winner of the Eureka Science Prize for Excellence in Interdisciplinary Scientific Research, the SEARCH (South-eastern

Australian Recent Climate History) uncovered a comprehensive picture of our climate history over the past 1000 years, a feat not achieved before.

#### *Conferences*

IUCN World Parks Congress 12-19 November Sydney. A decadal event, the congress will include a stream on 'responding to climate change'.

Coast to Coast Australia 27-31 October. Mandurah WA.

23rd NSW Coastal Conference 11-14 November. Ulladulla

#### *Grants*

The NSW Government has announced the \$1BN reform package for Local Government called 'fit for the future'.