

# CIRC Spokane Community Adaptation Project May 21st Meeting Highlights

On May 21st, 2018 members of the Pacific Northwest Climate Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) met with over 20 members of the Spokane community to outline next steps for the Spokane Community Adaptation Project (SCAP). Here are the highlights.

## Meeting Accomplishment:

Took the first steps toward a climate vulnerability assessment for Spokane by finalizing the key questions that the project will work to address.

## Working Groups:

To start the vulnerability assessment process, meeting participants formed five working groups organized around a set of themes:

- Agriculture
- Tourism & Recreation
- Growing Municipal & Industry Water Demand
- Water Quality
- Planning for Drought.

(Participants were asked to self-select their group based on their areas of expertise and interest.)



Spokane community members and CIRC team members at May 21st, 2018 meeting of the Spokane Community Adaptation Project. (Photo Credit: Ann Mooney, all rights reserved.)

## Outlining A Draft Vulnerability Assessment:

To organize the groups' discussions, each group was asked to respond to the following five questions:

1. What are the geographic boundaries of interest?
2. What are the main considerations around the topic of concern?
3. What is the timescale?
4. What climate variables are likely to affect the topic of interest?
5. What are the non-climate stressors to the topic of interest?

## Finalizing the Project's Questions

Through the working group process, meeting participants formed the following targeted questions that the project and assessment will focus on:

### What are the likely impacts from climate and non-climate stressors over next 30 to 70 years on

- Water Use and Demand (for Agriculture, Municipalities, Businesses, & Recreation)
- Natural Disasters
- Regulations
- Human Health
- and the Well-being and Identity of the Spokane community?

## Next Steps—Applying the Working Group Discussions:

The CIRC team is now using information from the May 21st meeting to figure out what questions the CIRC team can address given the team's climate and social science expertise.

Over summer 2018, CIRC team members will host a series of webinars that will dive headlong into climate science and tools relevant to the questions identified by SCAP.

A calendar of events and webinar links will be sent via email to SCAP participants and posted to [SCAP](#) page on [CIRC's website](#).

### Vulnerability Assessment Continued:

In the fall, CIRC and SCAP participants will continue the vulnerability assessment process (dates and events to be determined later).

## Meeting Participants:

John Abatzoglou (CIRC and University of Idaho)  
Betsy Bancroft (Gonzaga University)  
Allyson Beall-King (Washington State University)  
Deborah Bisenius (Spokane City)  
Amanda Braley (Gonzaga University)  
Ben Brattebo (Spokane County)  
Erik Budsberg (Eastern Washington University)  
Andy Dunau (Spokane River Forum)  
John Covert (Department of Ecology)  
Julia Havens (Department of Commerce)  
Brian Henning (Gonzaga University)  
Mike Hermanson (Spokane County)  
Bruce Howard (Avista)  
Jonathan Jones (Spokane County)

Patrick Jones (Eastern Washington University)  
Denise Lach (CIRC and Oregon State University)  
Terry Lawhead (Washington Dept of Commerce ret.)  
Bailey Luoma (Gonzaga University)  
Ann Mooney (CIRC and Oregon State University)  
Phil Mote (CIRC and Oregon State University)  
Kara Odegard (Odegard Consulting)  
Cadie Olsen (Spokane City)  
Mike Petersen (Lands Council)  
John Procello (GSI Water Solutions)  
Katherine Rowden (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)  
Jim Simon (Gonzaga University)  
Mark Solomon (University of Idaho)  
John Stifter (Powder Magazine)