# [***ADVANCING THE NATIONAL FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PLANTS CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY INTO A NEW DECADE REPORT***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:61VX-S631-DYTH-G3DX-00000-00&context=1516831)

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The following information was ***released by Defenders of Wildlife***:

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is pleased to announce the release of a new report "Advancing the National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy into a New Decade". This is an update on the 2012 Strategy which was designed to enable natural resource managers to take effective steps towards climate adaptation. The new report presents an update of the science and practice, with a special section on Indigenous Knowledge systems, demonstrates implementation progress, and provides recommendations for the future.

"Climate change impacts on fish and wildlife are some of the most important challenges confronting natural resource agencies," said Stafford Lehr, Deputy Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Chair of the AFWA's Climate Adaptation Committee. "The Strategy provided the vision and guidance managers needed to address these impacts. This new report provides the next steps in how we can continue to approach climate-smart conservation in the future."

"We applaud the release of the report, the expanded inclusion of environmental justice and the explicit acknowledgment of Indigenous Knowledge systems," said Mic Isham, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission's Executive Administrator. "This report makes the Strategy more relevant to tribal and marginalized communities."

"The Association has been a strong partner and proponent of the Strategy since its inception," said Maggie Ernest Johnson, Climate Adaptation Program Manager for the Association and who also coordinated the development of the report. "We are thrilled to see this report released and hope the recommendations can drive the conservation community towards greater implementation of the critical adaptation strategies our natural resources require."

The new report was developed and reviewed by members of AFWA's Climate Adaptation Committee and the National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Network representing federal, state, tribal, and non-profit organizations. Contributing authors to the report include representatives from the US Forest Service, NOAA, US Geological Survey, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Confederated Salish and Kootenai ***Tribes***, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals, Defenders of Wildlife, Michigan State University, and the University of North Dakota.

Defenders of Wildlife is dedicated to the protection of all native animals and plants in their natural communities. With over 1.8 million members and activists, Defenders of Wildlife is a leading advocate for innovative solutions to safeguard our wildlife heritage for generations to come.

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