



NIHHIS Northeast Decision Calendar Workshop

18 October 2018

8AM – 4PM

[Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife \(MassWildlife\)](#)

1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581

Breakfast and Lunch provided

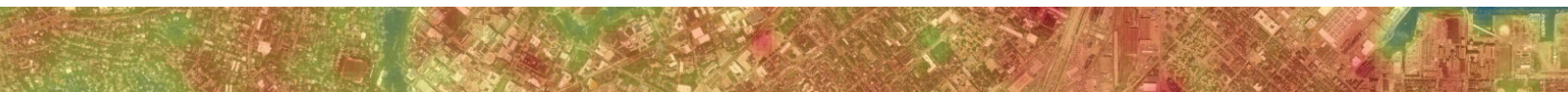
[REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Meeting Summary

The intent of this meeting is to convene a **local** set of **decision-makers** who collectively seek to reduce the **health risks** of **extreme heat** by implementing **interventions** at a variety of **timescales** in response to **present and future climate and social conditions**. This meeting will build upon decision-maker **interviews and questionnaires** which were conducted in advance to support the development of **prototype decision calendars** for discussion. Decision calendars document discipline specific and timescale explicit decisions made to reduce risk – and the information needs to support those decisions. This one-day session will feature presentations and conversation which further enhances our understanding of how practitioners protect populations of concern from extreme heat.

Key Outcomes

- Build and strengthen the **network** between a multidisciplinary set of heat-health decision-makers through relationship and awareness building.
- Identify and document locally-contextualized **interventions** at the planning and preparedness timescales, with important constraints and considerations noted.
- Discipline-specific decision makers will use **planning scenarios** to explore decision contexts behind the identified interventions, and specific **information needs** will be documented to support decisions in the form of **decision calendars**.

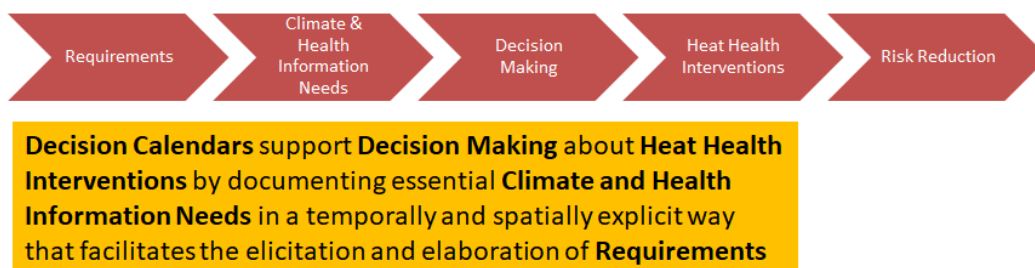


Meeting Background

The National Integrated Heat Health Information System (NIHHIS) helps decision makers prepare for and manage heat health risk days, months, and years in the future with integrated information. Initiated in 2015, NIHHIS integrates the capabilities and information of many agencies – NOAA, CDC, FEMA, OSHA, NIOSH, ASPR, EPA, SAMHSA, USDA – to support informed multi-disciplinary decision making in cities and counties across the U.S. to protect populations from extreme heat. NIHHIS employs a decision calendar approach to understand local context and information needs. This workshop is focused on Interventions, the decision-makers who implement or influence them, and timescales for implementing them.

The Decision Calendar Approach

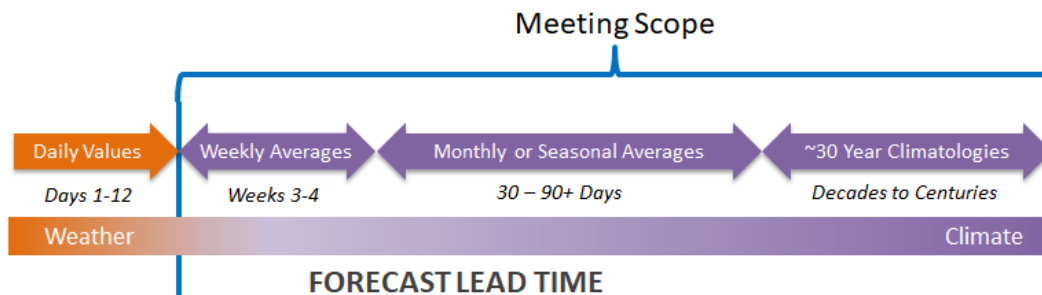
Decision calendars build understanding of user decision-making context to support development of climate information and services that are useful and usable. Users in this case are classes of users (represented by sampling individuals of the class) who share similar responsibilities and decision-making needs [chief resilience officers, emergency managers, public health, urban planners, athletics officials, chief resilience officers, energy utility managers, etc...].



Decision calendars are living documents which document information needs in support of decision making – such as urban scale air temperature predictions or social vulnerability information by city block. These documents will be used to inform the provision of information from and research priorities of government programs.

Meeting Scope

This meeting will be focused on the timescales served by probabilistic predictions. This timescale extends from 3-4 weeks of lead time to decades of lead time. The meeting will not focus on short timescale responses to extreme heat.



Tentative Agenda (Workshop Process)

The workshop opens with a primer on the process for developing decision calendars that will be followed throughout the day, as well as a brief overview of the heat health climate context. The meeting then proceeds through three cycles of lightning talks and breakout groups which will successively build decision calendars, first through concept mapping, and then using a timeline.

0800-0830 **Registration and Breakfast Provided**

0830-0850 **NIHHIS Opening and Context Setting**

0850-0950 **Lightning Talks I: Local Decision-Makers & Interventions**

This session outlines the growing hazard for the city and the local vulnerability profile, with talks featuring current interventions used to manage heat health risk.

- Doug Casa, Korey Stringer Institute
Activity modification and HSI prevention in active outdoor populations
- Darci Schofield, Metropolitan Area Planning Council
Planning, design, and prioritization of nature-based solutions for UHI
- Matt Cahillane, NH Dept. of Health
Caretaker Training & Other Education & Awareness Activities
- Alisha Pegan & Erin Polich, Boston City Government
Interdepartmental Heat Health Planning & Threshold Updates
- Homeless shelter speaker pending

0950-1000 **Break & Transition**

1000-1100 **Breakout I: Concept Mapping**

Populations of concern, risk factors, and Interventions used to protect them

1100-1130 **Break and Working Lunch Set-up**

1130-1215 **Lightning Talks II: Decision-making Science and New Approaches**

This session covers the science of decision-making under uncertainty using climate information, and new approaches to managing urban problems.

- Rui Shi, Johns Hopkins University
Long-term planning and decision-making under uncertainty
- Jared Ulmer, VT Dept. Public Health
Interdisciplinary Coordination on Heat Thresholds & Long term climate comms.
- Hospital Expert Pending
- Elderly Commission Expert Pending

1215-0115 **Breakout II: Timeline Mapping**

Plotting decisions on a timeline for interventions and identifying key decision-makers, information needs, and uncertainty tolerances.

0115-0145 **Lightning Talks III: Climate Extremes & Cascading Failures**

This session covers future climate scenarios and the likelihood of extreme events and disaster scenarios.

- Keith L. Eggleston, Regional Climatologist
Climate extremes and the new normal
- Additional speakers pending

0145-0245 **Breakout III: Timeline Stress Testing**

Stress testing the decision timelines using climate extremes and scenarios.

0245-0330 **Wrap-up and Adjourn**