

Notes from attending a Seminar on climat data

Faith Jones

September 23, 2020

Contents

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| 1 Overview | 1 |
| 2 ClimateData.ca | 1 |

1 Overview

This seminar was part of a series run by the BC Agriculture Climate Adaption Research Network <https://www.bcacarn.com/> that is trying to facilitate research and industrial adaption to climate change. It is a network of over 400 people and is free to join. Maybe we should join?

This presentation was introducing us to ClimateData.ca and the Climate Atlas. Both are based on downscaled daily temperature predictions (see <https://www.pacificclimate.org/data/statistically-downscaled-climate-scenarios>) using the BCCAQv2 method developed by the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium, although the two websites use different grid sizes. See <https://climatedata.ca/about/> for further details.

2 General comments

They mentioned the Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations who seem worth knowing about. Also the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium at the University of Victoria.

3 ClimateData.ca

This is the place to go to download data for further analysis. It uses a 10km by 10km grid of projected climate data. We need to be careful using it in BC because there are lots of topographical nuances that this tool doesn't capture. So it is good for broad brush strokes and getting trends, but not pinpointing predicted temperature at a specific location. Soon there will be an agricultural sector "module" added that looks interesting. This module will include a few extra tools and also some case studies including one one winegrapes in NovaScotia. You can get temperature already partly analyzed, for example number of degree days, frost days, days of

temp above whatever, and precipitation data. Downloading seems a bit clunky at the moment though. Training on how to use this tool is available at <https://climatedata.ca/training/>

4 (

ClimateAtlas) This is more for displaying data and interpreting results rather than downloading raw data. A nice tool to look at a slick interactive tool but less useful as a source of data for our analyses.

5 Useful links

Some potential useful links were shared during the seminar: <https://www.pacificclimate.org/data/bc-station-data> Where you can get data from BC weather stations. The data comes from a variety of locations, and they have the warning on the website “The PCIC Data Portal provides data in raw form before all quality assurance reviews are complete. This data is preliminary and is subject to change.”

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/canadian-centre-of-excellence-for-climate-science/basics/role-decision-making.html> A short article explaining why decision makers should care about climate projections.