

1890 Land Grant Institutions and PINEMAP Climate Change Workshops

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ABSTRACT

The 1890 Agroforestry Consortium in collaboration with the PINEMAP (www.pinemap.org) have been charged to implement a strategic plan to train educators from a variety of agencies, including county extension agents, state forestry and natural resource professionals and others with outreach responsibilities in forestry and natural resource-based climate change mitigation and adaptation solutions. Two in-service training workshops were organized targeting the 1890 Land Grant faculty members and selected county extension agents in the Southeast.

The expected outcomes of these workshops were that, through the training of the 1890 Land Grant faculty members and the county extension agents, PINEMAP will support climate educators who will eventually provide support and assistance for regional trainings to a wide range of practitioners. Overall the participants were very satisfied with the workshop organization. Relative to climate change issues, the field tours added value to the indoor presentations.

INTRODUCTION

In most other nations, elected officials, the business community, and citizens are already planning for climate change. They may be altering their dependence on fossil fuels, redirecting stormwater drainage patterns to accommodate sea level rise, or planting crops that tolerate warmer growing seasons. Many communities in the United States are also exploring ways to reduce carbon emissions or make transportation systems more effective, for example. We believe educators from a variety of agencies, including county extension agents, state forestry and natural resource professionals and others with outreach responsibilities in forestry and natural resource-based climate change mitigation and adaptation solutions need current information, the background to make sense out of existing data, the willingness to listen to different points of view, and the skills to work together to help families, neighborhoods, communities, municipalities, states, and nations approach the challenges that climate change might bring.



Climate Change and Southeastern Forests

WORKSHOPS

- Two in-service training workshops were organized targeting the 1890 Land Grant faculty members and selected county extension agents in the Southeast. Pre-workshop surveys were sent to registered participants asking them to send topics of interests to be included in the workshop agenda. Positive pre-workshop survey responses were received and a robust agenda was developed for the two respective workshops.

The main topics included:

- Perceptions of Climate Change: Six Americas in the general public and extension faculty
- Climate Change Basics: Climate 101
- Forest Management
- PINEMAP's Decision Support System
- Forestry and Agroforestry Strategies, Needs, Plans and Futures

The first workshop was conducted at Alabama A&M University and the second one at the Hampton Inn, in, Wilmington, NC.

FIRST WORKSHOP ALABAMA A&MU



SECOND WORKSHOP WILMINGTON, NC.



FIELD TOUR TO BURGAW, NC.



PARTNERSHIPS



IMPACTS



Overall the participants were very satisfied with the workshop organization. Relative to climate change issues, the field tours added value to the indoor presentations. One participant made the following comment in the evaluation form: "In the future workshops, participants should be given chance to give a short presentation on their works with respect to climate change and global warming effects."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PINEMAP received funding as one of three Coordinated Agriculture Projects (CAP) awarded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture in 2011 to encourage agriculture and forestry producers to increase carbon sequestration and adapt practices to reduce the impact of or to accommodate anticipated climate variation.