

**Little Hoover Commission Hearing on Climate Adaptation Strategies
Aug 22, 2013
State Capitol; Room 437**

Ann C. Chan testimony

The State of California is actively developing an Update to the 2009 CA Climate Adaptation Strategy. As agreed by the Little Hoover Commission, my remarks will focus on describing the process for developing the Update and will not include testimony on content or any anticipated recommendations in the still developing Update. I welcome the opportunity to provide you with information about the effort to update the state plan for preparing for climate risks.

Update to the 2009 California Climate Adaptation Strategy:

- The Update is not meant to replace the 2009 document, but to build on previously identified strategies and incorporate new information and advances in climate science and management responses.
- The Update is meant to be a policy guidance document for state decision makers.
- The Update will highlight remaining gaps in efforts to prepare for climate risks and will also include some perspectives on climate from the business community and other partners.
- The Update will follow the format of 2009 document – and will be organized around sector chapters.
 - While the 2009 document had 7 chapters, the Update will have 9 chapters
 - The 9 chapters are: agriculture, biodiversity and habitat, emergency management, energy, forestry, ocean and coastal ecosystems and resources, public health, transportation, and water.
- Two advance tribal outreach and listening sessions were held July 2013
- Five regional workshops are planned for the first two weeks of October 2013
- Content is being developed through coordination with nine sector leads and sector lead working groups, as well as other state agencies and departments; and will also be informed by input from tribes and input from public workshops and public comments.
- The CNRA webpage contains a Climate Adaptation tab which provides information about the Update and climate adaptation list serve.
- Release of a public review draft of the Update is anticipated during the last quarter of 2013; robust opportunities for public comment will be available.
- The update should be finalized during the first quarter of 2014.

California Climate Adaptation Accomplishments

- In 2009, the California Climate Adaptation Strategy was released - it was one of the first multi-sector adaptation strategies in the country.
- In 2010, a first year's progress report on the CA Adaptation Strategy was issued which described beginning efforts to prepare for climate risks in the State.
- Sector specific implementation efforts are still on-going.
- In 2012, a 3rd California Climate Assessment was released including research findings regarding vulnerable populations and more regionally specific climate risk projections.
- The PIER program which supported the state's first three climate change assessments was not reauthorized in 2011; given the importance of continuing climate research to enable policy and planning efforts that support resilient communities and businesses, the State is proceeding with work to scope a potential 4th California Climate Assessment.