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United States Department of Agriculture

USDA's  
93rd  
Annual

# Agricultural Outlook Forum

## A New Horizon: The Future of Agriculture

February 23-24, 2017 • Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia

Presentation from the USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum 2017

United States Department of Agriculture  
93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Agricultural Outlook Forum  
“A New Horizon: The Future of Agriculture”

February 23-24, 2017  
Arlington, Virginia



# Making Decisions in a Changing climate: Tools and Resources for Farmers and Managers

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Adaptation Workbook: A Climate Change Tool for  
Agricultural Management and Conservation

*Michael Kucera*

Making Decisions for an Uncertain Future: Farmer  
Decision-making *Chad Kruger*

Incorporating Climate Change and Sustainability  
into Kellogg's Decision-making *Diane Holdorf*



## Do managers on working landscapes need or want information about climate change?

80% of 900 farmers in the northwest think weather patterns and the timing of their practices has changed

Most are concerned about intensity of precipitation and drought

75% see moderate to high risk to their operations



## What kind of information is useful to farmers and managers?

The greatest concern of 100 farmers in the Northwest is climate effects on water:

- Water resource availability
- Extreme drought
- Changes in plant productivity
- Wildland fire

Indicators:

- Rainfall to snowfall ratio
- Seasonality of rainfall
- General precipitation





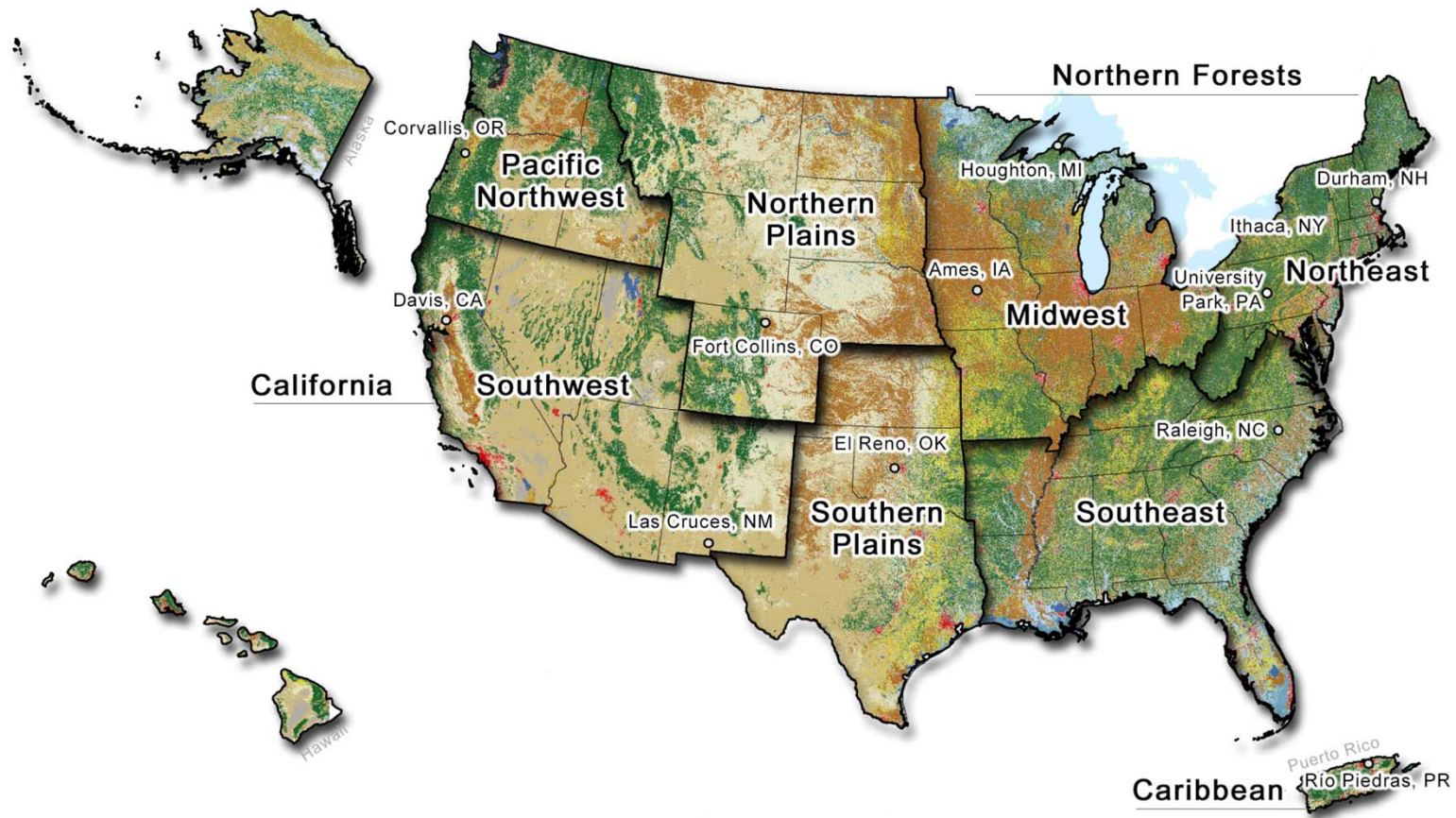
## What kind of information is useful to farmers and managers?

- Future projections for the indicators they use
- Costs and benefits of different adaptation options for their landscape





# Feb 2014 – USDA announced 10 Regional Climate Hubs





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