

# AGENDA

TUESDAY, MAY 28

10:00AM – 1:00PM	REGISTRATION	BALLROOM II FOYER
1:00PM – 1:30PM	<p><b>OPENING REMARKS</b>  <b>William Ginn</b>, The Nature Conservancy,            Chief Conservation Officer  <b>Andrew Deutz</b>, The Nature Conservancy,            Director International Government Relations</p>	BALLROOM II
1:30PM – 3:30PM	<p><b>STATE OF PLAY: Climate, Risk &amp; Resilience</b>            From a variety of perspectives, this high-level panel will look at the opportunities and challenges – practical, political, financial – for scaling up investment in natural solutions. We will discuss how to overcome the barriers of scaling up investment in natural solutions and share lessons about the reality of these solutions on-the-ground.</p> <p><b>MODERATOR: Adam Freed</b>, The Nature Conservancy,            Director, Securing Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Niels B. Holm-Nielsen</b>, World Bank, Regional Coordinator- Disaster Risk Management Latin America and the Caribbean Urban Water and Sanitation Disaster Risk Management Unit</li> <li>• <b>John Stowell</b>, Duke Energy, Vice President International Stakeholder Relations</li> <li>• <b>Susan Ruffo</b>, White House Council on Environmental Quality, Deputy Associate Director for Climate Change Adaptation</li> <li>• <b>Minor Sinclair</b>, Oxfam America, US Regional Director</li> <li>• <b>Colonel Richard Hansen</b>, New Orleans District Commander, United States Army Corps of Engineers</li> </ul>	BALLROOM II
3:30PM – 4:00PM	BREAK	BALLROOM II FOYER
4:00PM – 5:30PM	<p><b>TOOLS TO SUCCESS: Climate, Risk &amp; Resilience On-The-Ground</b>            This session will highlight a few place-based examples of where and how tools (both TNC and externally supported tools) are being applied on the ground. In addition, presenters will cover how they have worked and continue to work with partners in the development, refinement and application of these tools.</p> <p><b>MODERATOR: Frank Lowenstein</b>, The Nature Conservancy,            Climate Adaptation Strategy Leader</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Evan Girvetz</b>, The Nature Conservancy, Senior Scientist</li> <li>• <b>Mike Beck</b>, The Nature Conservancy, Senior Marine</li> </ul>	BALLROOM II

- Scientist
- **Jeff Opperman**, The Nature Conservancy, Senior Freshwater Scientist
  - **Mary Ruckelshaus**, The Natural Capital Project, Director

5:30PM - 6:30PM

**SPECIAL SESSION: REINSURANCE INDUSTRY WITH CARL HEDDE**

**BALLROOM II**

6:30PM – 8:30PM

**WELCOME RECEPTION**

**RIVERBEND TERRACE  
PATIO**

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

7:00AM – 8:30AM

**BREAKFAST**

**BALLROOM II FOYER**

8:30AM – 10:15AM

**INVESTING IN CLIMATE RESILIENCE AT SCALE: How Do We Get There?**

**BALLROOM II**

In this session, attendees will hear from representatives of companies that are emerging as leaders among corporations in driving toward greater understanding of climate risk, as well as risk management and adaptation strategies. Reinsurance, engineering, and energy companies are among the corporate sectors that are immediately and critically facing climate-related risks, and developing best practices to help customers minimize risk and increase resilience. The panelists will share their views on what is needed from the scientific and public policy communities in order to most effectively reduce climate risk and enhance business and community resilience.

**MODERATOR: Michelle Lapinski**, The Nature Conservancy, Senior Advisor, Valuing Nature

- **Jaap Kwadijk**, Deltares, Head of Deltares Science Board, Scientific Director Dept. Inland Water Systems
- **Gary Lawrence**, AECOM, VP Chief Sustainability Officer
- **Laurens Van Der Tak**, CH2MHill, Vice President, Principal Water Resources Engineer, Water Business Group
- **Mary Grace Anderson**, Shell, UA VP SE & SP at Shell Energy Resources
- **Carl Hedde**, Munich Re, Senior Vice President and Head of Risk Accumulation, Underwriting Services Division

10:15AM – 10:30AM

**BREAK**

**BALLROOM II FOYER**

10:30AM – 12:00PM

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Science & Tools: Assessing Risk & Social Vulnerability: What Is The Science and Where are the Tools?**

**BALLROOM II**

This session will discuss the approaches and examples of assessing risk and social vulnerability. Breakout groups will be

formed to discuss the risks/impacts, social vulnerability, tools/approaches, and the gaps in available information in the areas you work.

- **Chris Zganjar**, The Nature Conservancy, Central Science and Climate & Disaster Risk Reduction
- **Zach Ferdaña**, The Nature Conservancy, Senior Marine Conservation Planner
- **Borja Gonzalez Reguero**, Environmental Hydraulics Institute of Cantabria
- **Chris Shepard**, The Nature Conservancy, Marine Scientist

#### **International Policy: Bridging Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Policies: Emerging Opportunities, Challenges and Further Needs**

**IMPERIAL ROOM**

The global forums dealing with adaptation and disaster risk reduction (DRR) are evolving at a rapid pace. The priorities, standards and guidance they set remain the primary reference that shapes national actions and funding streams of bilateral and multilateral donors. This session will highlight the state of play and trends in international policies on adaptation and disaster risk reduction, the commonalities and differences between them. We will map overlap areas between adaptation and DRR and the opportunities for bridging them. The second half of the session will discuss the benefits and implications on our field work, and the opportunities and challenges faced by specific regions.

**MODERATOR: William Ginn**, Chief Conservation Officer, TNC

- **Piet de Wildt**, Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, The Netherlands
- **Niels B. Holm-Nielsen**, World Bank, Regional Coordinator, Disaster Risk Management Latin America and the Caribbean Urban Water and Sanitation Disaster Risk Management Unit
- **Minor Sinclair**, Oxfam America, US Regional Director
- **Imen Meliane**, International Adaptation and DRR, TNC

#### **US Policy: US Policy Central to Incentivizing Natural Infrastructure**

**RIVER ROOM**

The panel will consist of federal agency partners who will speak to their key programs that now support natural infrastructure work. Topics will also include: opportunities and challenges in leveraging federal programs in support of implementing for natural infrastructure work, general natural infrastructure policies, Restore Act funding, and post-Hurricane Sandy funding.

**MODERATOR: Adam Freed**, The Nature Conservancy

- **Marian Hanisko**, NOAA, Coastal Services Center
- **Susan Ruffo**, White House Council on Environmental Quality, Deputy Associate Director for Climate Change Adaptation
- **Patrick O'Brien**, USACE, Chief, Wetlands and Coastal Ecology
- **Frank Pagano**, Mitigation Division Director, FEMA Region 6

12:00PM – 1:00PM

LUNCH

1:00PM – 2:30PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS (CONT.)

**Science & Tools: Effectiveness and Multiple Benefits of Natural Defenses/Infrastructure: How Does It Stack Up Against and Integrate with Built Infrastructure**

This session will discuss the science of green infrastructure with regards to coastal, freshwater, and drought solutions. The second half of the session will be a panel debate on the effectiveness of natural infrastructure.

BALLROOM II

**MODERATOR: Anna McIvor**, The Nature Conservancy, Post-Doctoral Researcher

- **Jen Molnar**, The Nature Conservancy, Director of Science
- **Kris Johnson**, The Nature Conservancy, Ecosystem Services Scientist
- **Christine Pickens**, The Nature Conservancy, Coastal Restoration and Adaptation Specialist
- **Jaap Kwadijk**, Deltares, Head Of Deltares Science Board, Scientific Director Dept. Inland Water Systems

**International Policy: From Local to Global: Scaling Up Policy Influence**

Using specific country examples, this session will discuss strategies and opportunities to scale up our place based and community-based work into national-level policies. We will also discuss engagement strategies with key countries to influence regional and global policies on adaptation and DRR.

IMPERIAL ROOM

This will be a facilitated group discussion with initial input from TNC regional reps on key opportunities/challenges to be addressed

**MODERATOR: Joel Paque**, The Nature Conservancy, Policy Advisor, International Climate Finance  
Regional Representatives:

- **Jack Hurd**, The Nature Conservancy, Deputy Director Asia Pacific

- **Ruth Blyther**, The Nature Conservancy, Program Director Caribbean Program
- **Vera Agostini**, The Nature Conservancy, Senior Scientist Caribbean Program
- **Patty Doerr**, The Nature Conservancy, Director of Coastal and Marine Program, New Jersey

**US Policy: Federal Programs, Project Implementation & Natural Infrastructure**

**RIVER ROOM**

Using freshwater and marine examples, this session will build off of the session with federal officials and discuss projects that are successfully using Federal programs and will break out into groups to elaborate on the specific case studies as related to the group. Groups will also discuss how federal funding would advance the disaster risk reduction work.

- **Matt Fisher**, The Nature Conservancy, Cedar Rapids, Iowa Field Office
- **Judy Haner**, The Nature Conservancy, Mobile Bay, Alabama Field Office
- **Stu Gruskin**, The Nature Conservancy, Southern NE Whole System, Post Sandy, New York Field Office
- **Chuck Peoples**, The Nature Conservancy, Albemarle Project North Carolina Field Office

**2:30PM – 4:15PM**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Science & Tools: Science-Based Stakeholder Engagement—Connecting Science and Decision Makers and Linking Science to Action**

**BALLROOM II**

This session will share examples of science-based stakeholder engaged planning and break out into groups to develop a conceptual model of how ecosystems play a role in reducing or exacerbating risk, estimate the economic cost and scale of risk reduction, and identify co-benefits and barriers to implementation for each proposed solution.

- **Patrick Doran**, The Nature Conservancy, Director of Conservation
- **Seth Blicht**, The Nature Conservancy, Director of Coastal and Marine Conservation
- **Anne Guerry**, The Natural Capital Project, Lead Scientist

**International Policy: Incentivizing Investment in Sustainable Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction**

**IMPERIAL ROOM**

This session will highlight challenges faced by governments to address the rising costs of adaptation needs and in shaping their national policies, financial plans and architectures, with a view to incentivizing private sector investments in what are

normally considered public expenditures. There will also be brief overviews of a few innovative approaches to climate adaptation finance, followed by a facilitated discussion about these and other potential incentives. Approaches to be highlighted include: Debt for Adaptation swaps, Impact Investment Bonds, Publicly funded risk insurance, Conservation Trust Funds and the role they can play in adaptation finance.

**MODERATOR: Andrew Deutz**, The Nature Conservancy, Director of International Government Relations

- **Joel Paque**, The Nature Conservancy, Policy Advisor, International Climate Finance
- **Rob Weary**, The Nature Conservancy, Director of Conservation Finance

### **US Policy: Key Partners With Shared Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Goals**

The DRR issue attracts a large spectrum of stakeholders and partners and thus presents an ideal opportunity for advancing this work at all levels of government. Interests include those with fiscal conservative viewpoints, to the insurance sector, to local officials to flood plain managers to our typical NGO colleagues.

- **Sam Medlock**, Association for State Floodplain Managers
- **Eli Lehrer**, President, R Street Institute
- **Mayor Patsy Parker**, Town of Perdido Beach
- **Rebecca Templeton**, Director, Bayou Grace Community Services

**RIVER ROOM**

**4:15PM – 5:15PM**

### **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

#### **Science & Tools/ International Policy: Second Lining - How Do Geeks and Wonks Dance Together**

We will identify ways to bridge the gap between science and policy and determine the next steps for science and tools in climate disaster risk reduction.

Introduction to Policy - 5 minutes

Introduction to Science - 5 minutes

Open Discussion- 10 minutes

Breakout groups - 30 Minutes Discussion

#### **Questions**

What do Geeks need from Wonks?

What do Wonks need from Geeks?

How Do Scientists help Wonks Answer Critics- What good are ecosystem Adaptations in a 4 degree changed world?

**BALLROOM II**

**US Policy: Partnerships to Advance Federal/Local Policy and Project Work**

**RIVER ROOM**

This session will involve a break out into groups to discuss how to foster relationships with federal agencies and a spectrum of stakeholders who seek to promote similar goals to support federal policy work and/or support implementation of project work. Participants will share their experiences with local partnerships to capture additional ideas and discuss how to apply these lessons to other projects.

**FACILITATORS: Sarah Murdock and Adam Whelchel**

**7:00PM – 9:00PM**

**DINNER ON THE RIVERBOAT NATCHEZ**

**MEET IN WESTIN**

Enjoy an evening on the Mississippi River with dinner and drinks.

**LOBBY AT 6:30PM**

- **Keith Ouchley**, State Director, Louisiana  
The Nature Conservancy
- **Mark Schleifstein**, Environment Reporter  
The Times-Picayune

**THURSDAY, MAY 30**

**7:30AM – 9:00AM**

**BREAKFAST**

**BALLROOM II FOYER**

**9:00AM – 12:30PM**

**MARINE EXCHANGE**

**BALLROOM I**

**Getting Started with Coastal Resilience**

The overarching goal of the Coastal Resilience Approach is to support decisions to reduce the ecological and socio-economic risks of coastal hazards and climate change. Join us as we highlight a suite of diverse examples of where the Coastal Resilience Approach has been implemented to help you understand what resources are available to you and others interested in applying the Coastal Resilience approach in your work. We will offer advice on finding an entry point, basic data and technical capacity requirements, and address your questions with a panel of project managers with experience in applying the Coastal Resilience Approach to TNC conservation projects.

- **Adam Whelchel**, The Nature Conservancy, Director of Science, Connecticut Field Office
- **Christine Shepard**, The Nature Conservancy, Marine Scientist
- **Fernando Secaira**, The Nature Conservancy, Mesoamerican Reef Coastal Resilience Coordinator
- **Judy Haner**, The Nature Conservancy, Marine and Freshwater Programs Director, Alabama Field Office
- **Ruth Blyther**, The Nature Conservancy, Program Director, Eastern Caribbean Program

**10:30AM – 11:00AM BREAK**

**Evaluating Success Of Nature Based Solutions: Keeping People In The Mix**

A number of projects focusing on nature based solutions are well underway at TNC. Strategies aimed at reducing risk to people and facilitating adaptation to climate change are being designed and implemented at local and regional scales. How do we evaluate and monitor effectiveness of these strategies? How do we ensure that “benefits to people” are in the mix? What is the important context for this work from a site, regional, and global perspective? This session aims to bring together practitioners and others who have grappled with evaluating and monitoring effectiveness of nature based solutions. Lessons learned to date will be shared, key challenges and opportunities as well as needs moving forward discussed.

- **Vera Agostini**, The Nature Conservancy, Global Marine Team Senior Scientist
- **Kimberly John**, The Nature Conservancy, Caribbean Science Program Manager
- **Terry Charles**, Grenada Red Cross Society, Director General
- **Anne Guerry**, The Natural Capital Project , Science Director

**9:00AM – 12:30PM**

**FRESHWATER EXCHANGE**

**BALLROOM II**

**Pushing the River – How to Inform, Engage, Incentivize and Lead for Better Freshwater Risk Reduction**

This session will explore how freshwater projects can work through an IEIL (inform, engage, incentivize, lead) framework to put natural infrastructure at the center of freshwater development and risk reduction efforts globally. After learning about two major risk reduction projects on Puget Sound and the Magdalena River, we will discuss in greater detail the best nature-based risk reduction strategies being applied in different parts of the world.

Session objectives are to:

1. Share information about the most effective ways to have natural infrastructure more consistently integrated into public and private decisions related to freshwater infrastructure development and planning.
2. Discuss how collectively and individually we can achieve the benefits we want at scale.
3. Gather and disseminate best ideas so natural infrastructure becomes central to development and planning decisions globally.

Introduction to the Inform, Engage, Incentivize and Lead

framework

- **Jeff Opperman**, The Nature Conservancy, Senior Freshwater Scientist, Global Freshwater Program  
Puget Sound/Skagit River Basin Case Study

- **Bob Carey**, The Nature Conservancy, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Washington Field Office

Presentation of Magdalena River Case Study Lima

- **Rosario Gomez**, The Nature Conservancy, Magdalena Project Coordinator

New directions in TNC's Global Freshwater Risk Reduction Program

- **Frank Lowenstein**, The Nature Conservancy, Climate Adaptation Strategy Leader, Global Freshwater

**10:45AM – 11:00AM BREAK**

#### **Breakout Discussions**

What are the most effective ways we are using the IEIL framework around the world? Who are our key audiences? Where are our greatest opportunities?

**9:00AM – 2:00PM**

**NORTH AMERICA LEADERSHIP MEETING (PRIVATE)**

**RIVER ROOM**

**12:30PM – 1:30PM**

**LUNCH**

**BALLROOM II FOYER**

**1:30PM - 2:30PM**

**MARINE EXCHANGE**

**BALLROOM I**

#### **Consider Your Audience: Communicating Effectively About Coastal Resilience**

Coastal Resilience is an approach which includes planning frameworks and tools that support decisions to reduce the ecological and socio-economic risks of coastal hazards. Successful examples of where the Coastal Resilience approach has been implemented on the ground span many geographies, cultures, and scales from global forums to local meetings. During this session we will talk about different audiences and explore the best ways of reaching them and inspiring action. This session will include a primer on Coastal Resilience communications that can begin the conversation as we delve into the details of successful and 'never try again' stories for communicating coastal hazard and adaptation issues.

- **Zach Ferdaña**, The Nature Conservancy, Senior Marine Conservation Planner
- **Cara Byington**, The Nature Conservancy, Associate Director, Marketing & Communications
- **Tom McCann**, The Nature Conservancy, Director of Communications, Global Marine Team

**1:30PM - 2:30PM**

**FRESHWATER EXCHANGE**  
**Report Back and Plenary**

**BALLROOM II**

How can we collectively and individually advance our freshwater risk reduction program?  
What can we do more of to Inform, Engage, Incentivize and Lead on the global freshwater development stage?  
Where are TNC's major opportunities?

**2:30PM – 3:30PM**

**CLOSING SESSION: Bringing It All Together**

**BALLROOM II**

Facilitated discussion about the lessons learned throughout the conference and key takeaways related to continuing the success of climate, risk & resilience work worldwide.

**MODERATOR: Jack Hurd**, Deputy Director Asia Pacific Region

- **Jen Molnar**, The Nature Conservancy, Director of Science
- **Adam Whelchel**, The Nature Conservancy, Director of Science, Connecticut Field Office
- **Julio Carcamo**, The Nature Conservancy, Director for Northern Andes and Southern Central America (NASCA) Conservation Program

**FRIDAY, MAY 31**

**6:00AM – 4:00PM/  
5:00PM - Weeks Bay**

**OPTIONAL FIELD TRIPS**

**MEET IN LOBBY  
AT 6AM**

**Location: Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Alabama**

Visit the Conservancy's Swift Tract Project – Part of the 100-1000: Restore Coastal Alabama Project, it encompasses 1,860 feet of oyster reef breakwater in the Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. About five miles long, this part of Weeks Bay is one of the longest undeveloped shorelines remaining in Mobile Bay and the presence of cedar and pine stumps hundreds of feet from the existing shoreline show the extreme erosion that occurs here. Participants will see the difference the breakwater makes for the marsh behind it, learn about the technical design of the project, and details of the public-private partnerships that support the 100-1000 project. These types of "green infrastructure" techniques protect the shoreline, while contributing to the delivery of additional ecosystem services (e.g. fish production, shoreline stabilization, habitat enhancement, climate change mitigation, storm surge protection). Lunch will be provided and bring your cameras. Weeks Bay is home to pitcher plants, alligators, bottle-nose dolphins, and more than 350 species of birds.

**Location: Grand Isle, Louisiana Oyster Habitat Restoration/Shoreline Protection Site**

Over the past three years the Louisiana chapter has put 4 miles of engineered oyster reef projects along Louisiana's threatened

coastline. These projects aim to recreate the suite of ecosystem services provided by mature, robust oyster habitat and can be considered an example of “green infrastructure”. Come to Grand Isle to witness example of one of these projects and learn about the successes and challenges of restoration and conservation along the nation’s most rapidly eroding coastline. Participants will take a short boat ride to the site, and discuss how and why the project was designed, local and regional efforts at coastal resilience and the restoration economy side of the project. Bring binoculars as there are often a number of sea and shore birds in the area, and bottlenose dolphins usually make an appearance as well. Participants will also be treated to a seafood lunch (other dietary needs can be met) at TNC’s gulf-side camp following the boat tour.