

National Climate Assessment (NCA) and the Role of CLIVAR

Overview of NCA – <http://assessment.globalchange.gov>

Objectives of NCA (paraphrased)

Synthesizing state of knowledge of the climate including uncertainties

Informing priorities

Building assessment capacity

Supporting climate literacy

Types of Contributions

Regional Climate Summaries – Northwest, Great Plains, etc.

Sector/Topical Summaries – Agriculture, Forestry, etc; Oceans and Marine Resources, Biogeochemical Cycles, etc; Urban Infrastructure and Vulnerability, Adaptation and Mitigation

Local Summaries – Example: Climate Change and the Olympic Coast: Interpreting Potential Futures

Issues

Balance in subject matter

Consistency amongst various types of contributions

Ongoing effort rather than periodic reports

Organization in general (e.g., 60 person advisory committee)