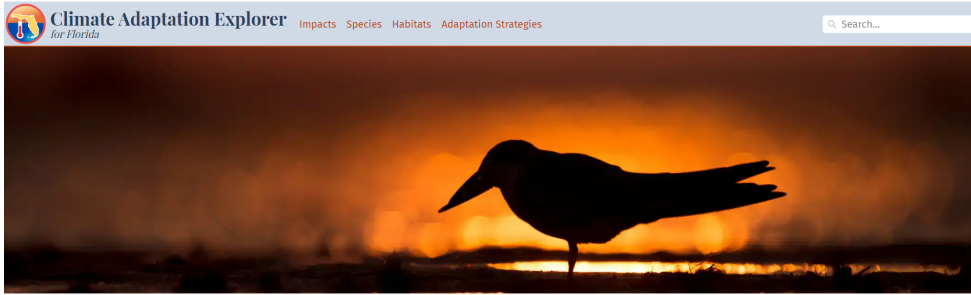


Florida Climate Adaptation Explorer

Quick Guide



The Climate Adaptation Explorer provides a starting point from which to address the predicted impacts of climate change on Florida's fish, wildlife, and ecosystems. It is intended to serve as a resource in understanding potential impacts and to help in the development of adaptation strategies that could be implemented by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and other natural resource management agencies and groups. The goal is that this "guide" will provide the tools for better integration of adaptation actions and tasks into broader policies and programs, serving as a toolkit to help natural resource managers and others understand and address the current and future impacts of climate change on Florida's ecosystems.

Use this tool to learn more about:

Climate Impacts in Florida



Florida is expected to be more severely impacted by climate change over the next century than most other states in the U.S. Many species of fish and wildlife in Florida have limited ranges that are determined in part by climatic conditions and their survival could be threatened by future climatic shifts. Learn more about climate change, climate impacts to Florida's unique species and habitats, and more.

Climate Impacts on Florida Species



Climate change is expected to have profound impacts on Florida's species. Nearly one-quarter of the approximately 1,200 species tracked by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory are projected to have at least 50% of their range lost to a sea level rise of 1 m. Several keystone species are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and the loss of these species can have cascading impacts on natural communities and other species.

Learn more about the impacts from climate change:

- Sea level rise
- Temperature
- Precipitation
- Extreme storm events
- Water chemistry

Learn more about the types of impacts on Florida's species:

- Habitat suitability
- Survival
- Phenology
- Physiology
- Disturbance regimes
- Keystone species

Species and Habitat Profiles:

- 138 species
- 31 habitats

Profiles include:

- Basic characteristics
- Range/extent
- Associated habitats/species
- Climate change impacts
- Vulnerability
- Adaptation strategies

Climate Impacts on Florida's Ecosystems and Habitats



Explore detailed profiles for 50 ecosystems, conservation assets, and habitats across Florida. Each habitat profile includes information on the location and defining characteristics of each habitat, climate impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation strategies.

Climate Adaptation Strategies



Find out what you can do to help plan for the future survival of Florida's unique species and habitats. Using an adaptation approach is vital to offset the increasing impacts from climate change combined with existing anthropogenic impacts to natural communities and species.

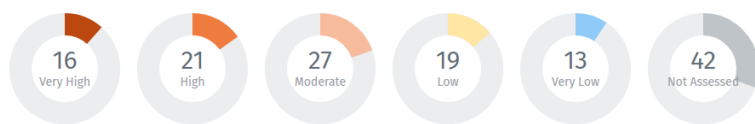
Vulnerability Assessments

A critical step in determining the potential impacts of current and future climate change is the assessment of the vulnerabilities of species and natural communities. Determining the relative vulnerabilities of habitats and species can lead to the development of more effective management actions and adaptation strategies to enhance resiliency.

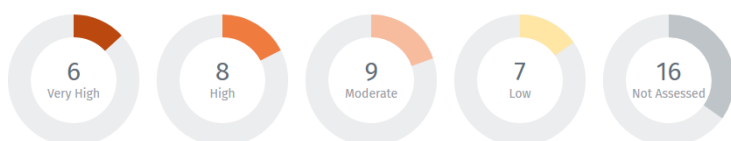


Of the 138 species included in this tool, 96 have been evaluated using at least one vulnerability assessment. Vulnerability assessments have been completed on 30 natural communities and habitats included in this tool. The tool provides a quick and easy way to identify species and habitats by their relative level of vulnerability - found on the "Species" and "Habitats" tabs.

Select species based on vulnerability level:



Select habitats based on vulnerability level:



Learn more about Adaptation Strategies and how to create them.

Climate change adaptation planning focuses on the implementation of strategies designed to prepare for and adjust to climatic changes in addition to the associated impacts on natural systems and human communities.

Adaptation strategies enable management to plan for and react to climate change impacts by targeting processes that encourage ecosystem resilience, reduce external stressors, and safeguard genetic diversity.

Developing adaptation strategies for natural systems requires an understanding of how climate change may affect important species and habitats, as well as how effects may interact with other ongoing threats, ecological processes, and management actions.

NOTE!: For the best experience using the CAE, you should use Google Chrome or Mozilla FireFox.

Questions?

We are here to help! If you encounter any difficulties or have any questions:

Contact information:
beth.stys@myFWC.com
850-404-6113