



Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center

The Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center (SW CASC) was established in 2011 to provide objective scientific information, tools, and techniques that land, water, wildlife, and cultural resource managers and other interested parties can apply to anticipate, monitor, and adapt to climate change impacts in the southwestern United States.

The SW CASC is one of eight regional Climate Adaptation Science Centers under the Department of the Interior managed by the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) National Climate Adaptation Science Center (NCASC). The Southwest region formally comprises the states of Arizona, California, Nevada, and Utah. However, because the Southwest is heavily dependent on the Colorado River Basin, the SW CASC also addresses the upper Colorado River basin, particularly direct and indirect effects of climate change and management on water delivery to the lower basin.

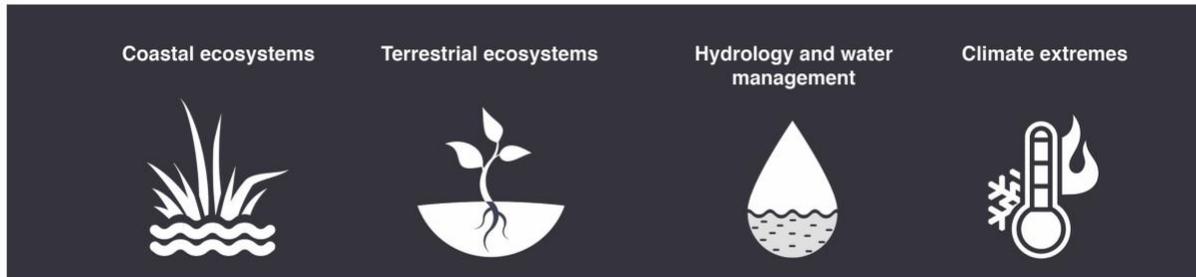
The SW CASC is a collaborative partnership between USGS and a consortium of seven academic institutions from across the region. It is hosted at the University of Arizona, at the Institute of the Environment, led by University Director Gregg M. Garfin and Federal Director Steve Jackson.

- University of Arizona, Host
- Colorado State University
- Desert Research Institute
- Scripps Institution of Oceanography at University of California, San Diego
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Los Angeles
- Utah State University



The mission of the SW CASC is to work with natural and cultural resource managers to develop and deliver scientific information and techniques to anticipate, monitor, and adapt to climate change in the southwestern United States. The Southwest is an ecologically varied region, with ecosystems including deserts, mountains, forests, and coasts, hosting some of the most iconic vegetation and wildlife in the U.S. Since it encompasses the hottest and driest region of the

U.S., the Southwest faces a number of challenges associated with rising temperatures, including record low snowpack, increased flooding, and extreme wildfires. Land and resource managers at every level of government need up-to-date research on these topics to be prepared for changes and to anticipate future challenges.



SW CASC goals are:

- To foster and support the highest quality climate and biological sciences research by connecting the scientific strengths of the USGS with those of the SW CASC partner institutions.
- To coordinate and collaborate with stakeholders and other providers of climate information to ensure that the research pursued by CASC-affiliated scientists results in tools, techniques, models, and actionable information to inform robust decision-making by resource managers, policy makers, and other stakeholders.
- To build enduring relationships with stakeholders that enable meaningful collaboration, clear communication, and effective translation of scientific results.

In 2018, the SW CASC received \$4.5 million in renewed funding from the USGS. With its renewed funding, the SW CASC will build on its almost seven years of collaborative research and outreach in partnership with USGS and researchers in the seven consortium institutions. The center will continue to help meet the region's highest priority scientific needs.

More information can be found at <https://www.swcasc.arizona.edu>.

