



ICARP

INTEGRATED CLIMATE ADAPTATION & RESILIENCY PROGRAM

Technical Advisory Council Oct. 25, 2024 Staff Report

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ICARP Programmatic Priorities

With guidance from the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP) Technical Advisory Council, and building on the 2023 ICARP Impact Report, ICARP staff implement a suite of programmatic priorities. Regular programmatic updates, organized by the following Council priorities, are summarized through these quarterly staff reports.

Actionable Research and Resilience Metrics

Grounding California’s adaptation and resiliency policy in cutting-edge science is central to ICARP’s charge. By identifying and contextualizing projected climate impacts through the CA Climate Change Assessments, supporting and guiding resilience metrics, and convening a Science Advisory Group, ICARP supports state and local efforts to operationalize actionable climate science.

Decision Support Tools and Guidance

ICARP develops and shares tools and guidance to support a community of practice on adaptation and resilience in California. Through the ICARP Climate Services Team, staff support integrated, science-based climate resilience decisions, planning, and implementation at all levels of governance, through tools like the [State Adaptation Clearinghouse](#).

Building Partnerships and Leveraging Resources

ICARP convenes stakeholders across agencies, sectors, and scales to build collaborative partnerships, facilitate integrated climate adaptation and resilience planning, and align funding opportunities. Through the Community Planning and Capacity Building – Recovery Support Function, ICARP staff provides technical assistance and helps communities integrate climate resilience and equity into disaster recovery planning.

Funding and Financing

ICARP’s work to scale funding and financing for climate resilience includes supporting state agencies with the integration of climate considerations in existing state programs and investments, as well as making direct investments through multiple grant programs.

Climate Equity and Vulnerable Communities

Climate equity and a focus on vulnerable communities is a core mandate for ICARP, both statutorily and programmatically as defined in [ICARP’s vision and principles](#). Building on the Council’s leadership to define [Vulnerable Communities](#), and in response to stakeholder needs, ICARP continues to fill critical gaps by developing resources and tools that support equitable adaptation action.

Additional Special Initiatives

ICARP Staff and Council respond proactively to new and emerging issues and opportunities as they align with the ICARP core vision and principles. This includes building new partnerships and initiatives and providing guidance and support for partner efforts to respond in real time to local, regional, and state needs.

1. Actionable Research and Resilience Metrics

California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment; Data, Core Climate Research & Synthesis Reports

Staff Lead: [Elea Becker Lowe](#)

Background / Framing Context

Preparing California for the impacts of climate change requires detailed and accurate projections of their location, severity, and onset. At the direction of [SB 1320 \(Stern, 2020\)](#) and with funding from the [2021 Climate Budget](#), ICARP is coordinating the Fifth California Climate Change Assessment in partnership with the California Energy Commission, California Natural Resources Agency, Strategic Growth Council, and other expert and community partners. The Fifth Assessment will include the next generation of downscaled climate change projections and modeling, technical research reports, regional and topical synthesis reports, decision-support tools, and a first-of-its-kind tribal research program.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Q1-Q2: Finalize new climate data and scenarios that will inform hydrologic and wildfire modeling, and sea level rise projections.
- Q1: Launch Core Climate Research projects implementation.
- Q1-Q2: Enter into contracts with author teams to develop regional reports.
- Q3-Q4: Enter into contracts with author teams to develop statewide topical reports.
- Q3-Q4: Ongoing original research and synthesis development.
- Ongoing: Robust community engagement to gather input on the scope of regional and statewide research products and embed equity in the State's climate research.

Updates for Q3 2024

- Staff are working with academic partners to recruit report contributors and key advisors to inform the scoping and development of Statewide topical synthesis.
- See August 2024 Progress Update for more information about key milestones and progress on key products: [Climate Assessment August 2024 Progress Update](#).
- See Fifth Assessment promotional video: [Introducing California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment and Its Partners \(youtube.com\)](#)

Looking Ahead

- Finalize Topical Synthesis Report themes, author teams, and commence work.
- Convene ongoing collaborations between Fifth Assessment research author teams.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

Fifth Assessment Tribal Research Program

Staff Lead: [Elea Becker Lowe](#) / [Bryce Lewis-Smith](#)

Background/Framing Context

Indigenous communities are on the frontlines of those experiencing and adapting to climate change. Through the Fifth Assessment Tribal Research Program, California is investing in tribal-led climate change research initiatives throughout the Fifth Assessment products.

This program will:

- Engage with Tribes early, often, and meaningfully throughout the Fifth Assessment, offering continued Government to Government Consultation.
- Support tribal-led research and assessments focused on climate change goals as identified by the State and Tribes through a tribal grant program.
- Form a Tribal Advisory Group to guide the integration of traditional knowledge and tribal-led research into the State's Climate Assessment research portfolio.
- Support information sharing and learning among and within Tribes.
- Develop guidance and protocols to guide the State and researchers on meaningful collaboration around Indigenous Knowledge(s) (IK) and Tribal Expertise which protects tribal data sovereignty.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Ongoing: Convene the Tribal Advisory Group.
- Q1: Announce Round 1 Tribal Research Grant Awards.
- Q2: Contracting for Tribal Synthesis Report.
- Q2: Release Solicitation for Round 2 Tribal Research Grants.
- Q4: Announce Round 2 Tribal Research Grant Awards.

Updates for Q3 2024

- The Tribal Research Grant Program will release a Notice of Proposed Awards for Round II grant applicants.
- Bryce Lewis-Smith joined the Fifth Assessment team as the Senior Tribal Research Engagement Specialist to lead the Tribal Research Program.

Looking Ahead

- Develop scope for Indigenous Knowledges Guidance document.
- Ongoing collaborations between Fifth Assessment tribal research author teams.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

Science Advisory Group (SAG)

Staff Lead: [Ben McMahan](#)

Background / Framing Context

Actionable science is foundational to California's climate agenda and supports science-informed policies and investments to respond to accelerating climate impacts. While many state agencies have science advisory bodies that provide valuable, sector-specific guidance, there have been many calls to convene statewide and multi-sector science advisory bodies that provide consistent climate science guidance across state agencies and inform statewide climate adaptation and resilience decision making.

As the state's primary hub for coordination on adaptation and resiliency across local, regional, and state efforts, and with funding through the 2021 Climate Budget, ICARP will coordinate the ICARP Science Advisory Group (SAG) to promote alignment of the state's deployment of climate science in resilience planning, policy, and investments. The SAG will significantly advance ICARP's goal of providing relevant, actionable data and research to support robust climate adaptation and resilience planning and policy.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Q1: Align existing interagency coordination with SAG framing and develop updated overview of SAG role and structure (e.g. input on emergent science questions, with ad-hoc participation based on the question at hand).
- Q2-4: Convene topical working groups in response to emergent issues and questions.
- Q4: Brief report evaluating updated SAG framework and plans for 2025.

Updates for Q3 2024

- Staff convened the Interagency Technical Working Group in conjunction with Vulnerable Communities Platform science/data review.
- Staff continued ad-hoc coordinating with SMEs and science experts for emergent questions, including SSP/RCP guidance for policy guidance, interagency coordination (e.g. DRIP, C-DAWG), and with the VCP ITWG to identify data sources and best practices for characterizing social and climate vulnerability.

Looking Ahead

- Staff are coordinating with the Fifth Assessment team to pilot an expertise network that leverages UC/CSU expertise, to coordinate agency connections to academic experts.
- Staff will coordinate with ongoing ICARP efforts to develop an updated technical assistance framework for climate and adaptation data, to funnel science questions and emergent priorities into the SAG for review and input.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

2. Decision Support Tools and Guidance

Adaptation Clearinghouse

Staff Lead: Hanna Bliska, Ben McMahan

Background / Framing Context

ICARP's enabling statute, SB 246 (Wieckowski, 2015), charges ICARP with creating and managing a clearinghouse of climate adaptation information. The Adaptation Clearinghouse is the State of California's consolidated searchable database of resources for statewide, local, and regional climate adaptation planning and decision-making at ResilientCA.org.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Q2: Updated site navigation and home page improvements.
- Q2-Q4: Adaptation Help Desk, Intro to Adaptation content, and technical assistance service launched.
- Q4: Updated Search, Topics, Case Studies, Data/Tools, and Investing in Adaptation pages.
- Ongoing: database quality control and updates.

Updates for Q3 2024

- Staff are working with web development contractor to implement a menu/navigation revision that focuses on intuitive and user centered navigation and experience (based on input from the 2023 user needs assessment, and ongoing stakeholder feedback).
- Staff are also coordinating with the contractor to prototype a help desk framework, to emphasize user pathways and that points new users towards clusters of resources found on the ACH and across State resources, and to provide support for low-capacity users in navigating State adaptation resources.

Looking Ahead

- Staff are developing the inaugural Adaptation Help Desk on the Adaptation Clearinghouse (See Technical Assistance).

Follow-ups for Council

- Anyone can submit resources for staff to consider adding to the Adaptation Clearinghouse database at any time through this form: <https://forms.office.com/g/pxif53cDwA>.

Cal-Adapt

Staff Lead: [Ben McMahan](#)

Background / Framing Context

Cal-Adapt is the State of California's open-source web platform for accessing high-quality, peer-reviewed downscaled climate data, projections, and visualizations from California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment. These valued resources guide decisionmakers at all scales when advancing climate adaptation plans and projects. With funding from the 2021 Climate Budget, the California Energy Commission (CEC) and OPR are expanding Cal-Adapt into the Cal-Adapt Enterprise with new climate data from the [Fifth Assessment](#) includes updated, more accessible and versatile features for a broad range of users, while also providing a more powerful analytics engine to serve highly technical, data-intensive needs.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Q2-4: Coordination with the Fifth Assessment teams as new projections become available, with iterative feedback from stakeholders and user groups during these development phases, to support report authors in use of data.
- Q3-4: Develop use-case guidance and support documents for best practices and use cases of updated data and tools, support for data and scenario choice, and ongoing coordination with Analytics Engine team to support for a range of users.
- Q4: Coordination within ICARP climate services (Vulnerable Communities Platform and Adaptation Clearinghouse) to ensure alignment across the climate services portfolio.

Updates for Q3 2024

- Staff have been coordinating with the Fifth Assessment team to support regional report authors around data use and choice, and will continue to provide assistance and coordination. Staff have begun exploratory data analysis to integrate baseline data from the Fifth Assessment into the Vulnerable Communities Platform.

Looking Ahead

- Ongoing coordination with CEC around platform development, to support users in navigating data, and to explore opportunities to expand the user base for the Fifth Assessment data.
- Development plans are emphasizing integration across the climate services portfolio and other state adaptation resources, to highlight connection and integration in planning and decision making.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

State Adaptation Guidance

Staff Lead: [Ben McMahan](#), [Sarah Samdin](#)

Background / Framing Context

State guidance documents provide key information and best practices to inform how communities, local governments, and State agencies integrate climate risk and adaptation solutions into planning, investments, and other actions. OPR maintains and updates multiple critical State guidance documents such as the Planning and Investing for a Resilient California Guidebook ([Resilience Guidebook, 2017](#)), the [Climate Resilience Plan Alignment Toolkit](#), and more. ICARP staff also coordinate with other State agencies' guidance efforts to facilitate interagency alignment and collaboration, including the Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) on updates to the [California Adaptation Planning Guide](#) and other key State guidance and policy documents.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Ongoing: Plan Alignment - distribution of plan alignment booklets at public events.
- Ongoing: collaboration with State partners on climate resilience-related guidance.
- Q2: Plan Alignment – Pilot Workshop.
- Q1-2: Resilience Guidebook - Engage with agency collaborators regarding needs and gaps, and to identify priority areas for updates.
- Q4: Resilience Guidebook - Draft update to Guidebook released for feedback and input.

Updates for Q3 2024

- OPR's Planning and Community Development Team will be launching an update process for the State's General Plan Guidelines in 2024. Key priorities include integrating additional climate risk, adaptation and resilience policy and guidance updates throughout the new Guidelines. The updated Guidelines will be updated over the course of the next two years, with anticipated release in 2026.

Looking Ahead

- Staff will participate in CalOES's Hazard Mitigation Summit in December 2024, sharing best practices and lessons learned from the Climate Resilience Plan Alignment Toolkit.

Follow-ups for Council

- To request a printed plan alignment booklet, send your mailing address to icarp@opr.ca.gov and staff will mail the guide to the provided address. To request a plan alignment presentation or workshop in your region, contact staff.

3. Building Partnerships and Leveraging Resources

Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function

Staff Lead: [Michael Maguire](#) / Disaster Resilience and Recovery Specialist, TBD

Background / Framing Context

In partnership with Cal OES, OPR serves as the lead state agency on the Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function (CPCB-RSF), which strengthens the adaptive capacity of local governments to plan for and implement long-term disaster resilience and recovery programs by coordinating information, technical assistance, and funding. OPR, through ICARP, works to integrate climate adaptation and resilience policies into hazard mitigation, emergency management, and disaster recovery programs. To extend the impact of the CPCB-RSF, the ICARP team will lead the development of a peer-to-peer learning network for disaster resilience and long-term recovery planning.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Ongoing: Engage stakeholders from disaster-impacted and at-risk communities to solicit feedback on local planning and capacity needs for long-term disaster recovery and resilience.
- Ongoing: Convene local governments as part of Peer Learning Network to build a cohort of disaster-impacted and at-risk communities, accelerate information exchange, and connect communities to funding opportunities.

Updates for Q3 2024

- Staff continues to participate in weekly interagency CPCB-RSF meetings. The group has begun discussions about the scope and goals of the Peer Learning Network.

Looking Ahead

- No updates forecasted until the Disaster Resilience & Recovery Specialist is hired.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

Staff Lead: N/A

Background / Framing Context

With support from the ICARP TAC, OPR signed an MOU with HCD on August 19, 2021 to enable the ICARP TAC to serve as the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) for the 2017/2018 Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) grant program. CDBG-MIT is a federal program that funds planning and infrastructure projects that reduce disaster risks and promote community resilience in disaster-impacted communities. HUD requires state grantees to convene a CAC to promote transparency and engage stakeholders on how to use and implement these one-time community hazard mitigation funds. The CAC represents an opportunity for dialogue with agencies, grantees, and external stakeholders to inform program implementation and align the program guidelines other state hazard mitigation funding sources, including those administered by Cal OES and CAL FIRE.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Q1: Staff will amend the MOU to dissolve the partnership.
- Q2-3: Staff amended the MOU to dissolve the partnership.

Updates for Q3 2024

- HCD and ICARP Staff reflected on the terms of the CDBG-MIT MOU and the past TAC discussions on this item. Because these agenda items rarely resulted in public feedback on the program, Staff felt that the purpose of the MOU was not being supported.
- The Department of Housing and Urban Development no longer requires a public advisory committee in this program, so Staff determined that this partnership to leverage the TAC as the CDBG-MIT Citizen Advisory Committee was no longer necessary.
- Staff developed an amendment to the MOU to dissolve the agreement, which HCD and OPR's legal and leadership have approved.

Looking Ahead

- Staff will continue to coordinate with HCD and will bring agenda items on CDBG-MIT to the Council as beneficial to the program and TAC.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

Technical Assistance

Staff Lead: Hanna Bliska, Ben McMahan

Background / Framing Context

OPR Climate Services aims to build the capacity of adaptation practitioners by providing targeted, customized technical assistance (TA). Following research, practitioner interviews, a user needs assessment in 2023, and a review of public feedback from multiple OPR climate adaptation programs, the Climate Services team is prioritizing the need for more direct, personalized technical assistance from the State to support California adaptation practitioners. Climate Services staff are investigating new TA services that could provide advisory, connective, and problem-solving support to current and prospective users of the Adaptation Clearinghouse, Cal-Adapt, Vulnerable Communities Platform, Adaptation Planning Guide, and others – including State agency staff, local government staff, and regional and community-based practitioners. In helping build practitioners' knowledge, capacity, and ability to use these tools and resources, Climate Services aims to help advance local, regional, and state adaptation goals and actions.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Ongoing: State & Federal TA navigation & coordination efforts.
- Q1-Q2: Conducted interviews with users of drought information in the San Joaquin Valley to further understand user needs for applicability and accessibility of technical resources. This work further informed the Climate Services teams' plans for improving technical assistance to support adaptation practitioners. Project was conducted in partnership with Duke University.
- Q2-Q4: Developing centralized TA platform ("Adaptation Help Desk") for use on the Adaptation Clearinghouse, Vulnerable Communities Platform and Cal-Adapt. The vision has evolved to having technical assistance integrated across the Adaptation Clearinghouse, Vulnerable Communities Platform, and Cal-Adapt to assist users in identifying at the onset which resources would be most applicable to their work in addition to later providing assistance with more specific use of these platforms.

Updates for Q3 2024

- Staff have begun developing the inaugural Adaptation Help Desk on the Adaptation Clearinghouse, which will serve as a portal for practitioners to access technical assistance from ICARP's Climate Services team and other State technical assistance services and adaptation resources. The Help Desk is planned for public launch later in 2025.
- Staff are planning to pilot 1:1 technical assistance with ICARP grant program grantees. For example, Climate Services staff will support RRGF grantees with developing case studies for the Adaptation Clearinghouse. Ultimately, this pilot will help ICARP inform its technical assistance programs moving forward.

Looking Ahead

- Staff are launching coordination efforts to evaluate opportunities for interagency collaboration, and to potentially leverage the TA resources of other State agency programs.

Follow-ups for Council

- Technical assistance providers (including State, Federal, and non-government entities) interested in coordinating to support the provision of accessible adaptation support services may contact [Ben McMahan](#).

4. Funding and Financing

FEMA Cooperative Technical Partners

Staff Lead: [Sarah Samdin](#)

Background / Framing Context

ICARP has received three Cooperative Technical Partners (CTP) grants from FEMA to provide coordination support to align federal Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) funding with state resilience goals. The partnership supports identification of projects that strengthen California's portfolio of nature-based, social and environmental justice projects. With a specific focus on hard-to-reach priority project types, as identified by FEMA, these pilot projects will help shape a pipeline of projects that may be eligible for future FEMA funding.

ICARP, in partnership with CalOES, provides technical assistance to state partners who are new to the federal HMA space, and helps identify innovative projects for FEMA's newest pre-disaster infrastructure funding program, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program. This partnership advances California's climate resiliency goals, as well as the Governor's priority of leveraging state and federal funding.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Q1-Q4: Outreach and engagement to California Native American tribes to inform the Tribal User Needs Assessment.
- Q1-Q4: Staff will establish an advisory group, composed of state agencies to inform the development of a guidebook on how to align state climate resilience funding programs with federal hazard mitigation assistance funding.

Updates for Q3 2024

- Staff have partnered with the California Indian Environmental Alliance (CIEA) and the Pala Band of Mission Indians to lead outreach and engagement with California Native American tribes to inform the Tribal User Needs Assessment.
- Staff have created a survey for tribal leadership, tribal government staff, and tribal community members to understand challenges tribes face to implement climate resilience adaptation planning efforts.
- Bryce Lewis-Smith joined in September 2024 to support the Tribal User Needs Assessment as Senior Tribal Engagement Specialist.

Looking Ahead

- Staff will share updates on the outreach and engagement efforts for Tribal User Needs Assessment in the upcoming quarter.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

ICARP Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program

Staff Lead: [Braden Kay](#)

Background / Framing Context

Extreme heat is a public health, climate resilience, and social equity problem that will impact every community in California. Historically, the lack of guidance and support to plan and implement heat interventions has hindered bold local action to address these unique risks. The Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program builds capacity for heat action planning and project implementation in the most heat-burdened communities by providing funding and technical support. The program also drives the state's work to implement California's Extreme Heat Action Plan, a comprehensive, coordinated response across state agencies for advancing equitable outcomes, including reducing economic and health disparities associated with extreme heat.

The Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program will invest in local, regional, and tribal heat reduction and mitigation efforts. This program will fund projects that mitigate the impacts of extreme heat or the urban heat island effect by adopting strategies, including, but not limited to, heat action plans, providing mechanical or natural shade, increasing building and surface reflectance, providing passive or low-energy cooling strategies, and promoting evaporative cooling.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Q1: Round 1 Request for Proposals opens.
- Q2: Round 1 RFP closes and application review.
- Q3: Round 1 Application review and selection process.
- Q4: Round 1 Awardees Announced and beginning design process for Round 2 which will be released in 2025.

Updates for Q3 2024

- 165 applications for the four grant types: small and large planning grants and small and large implementation grants.
- Working on potential program designs for upcoming rounds.

Looking Ahead

- Round 2 will be released in 2025 using GGRF funds.
- Awaiting results from Proposition 4 to determine future rounds from the Climate Bond.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

ICARP Adaptation Planning Grant Program

Staff Lead: Brandon Harrell

Background / Framing Context

In 2021, OPR, through ICARP, received funding in the state budget to fund the ICARP Adaptation Planning Grant Program (Adaptation Planning Grant Program) to support local, regional, and tribal adaptation planning across California.

As communities in California experience more frequent, prolonged, and severe impacts of climate change, state, regional, local, and tribal governments are undertaking adaptation and resiliency planning. However, many jurisdictions lack the capacity, tools, guidance, and resources to effectively prepare for climate impacts. To meet this need, the Adaptation Planning Grant Program provides funding to help fill planning needs, provides communities the resources to identify climate resilience priorities, and supports the development of a pipeline of climate resilient infrastructure projects across the state.

Key priorities of the program are to:

- Explicitly and meaningfully prioritize equitable outcomes, particularly in the most vulnerable communities.
- Encourage communities to equitably plan for and respond to multiple climate risks.
- Build statewide capacity to plan for and implement equitable planning strategies.
- Embed equity into the planning process, from project visioning through project evaluation.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Q1: Round 2 Draft Guidelines, Round 2 Request for Proposals (RFP) opens.
- Q2: Round 2 funding has been canceled. Focus on Round 1 project implementation, technical assistance and capacity building.
- Q3-Q4: Continued support for Round 1 project implementation, technical assistance and capacity building.

Updates for Q3 2024

- R1 Grantee Highlights:
 - San Rafael Climate Adaptation Planning Collaborative: "The Oceans Are Rising and We're Not Ready" is a [interactive map](#) showcasing local impacts of sea level rise. This project was also featured in a [Washington Post article](#), highlighting efforts to bridge science and community action in climate adaptation.
 - Ramona Barona: Received a significant \$10M grant from Strategic Growth Council's Community Resilient Centers (CRC) program for their Climate Adaptation and Action Plan, creating a Community Resilience Campus for climate emergencies.
 - Lake County Biomass Project: OPR-funded Lake County Biomass Aggregation Pilot Project launched on September 16, focusing on sustainable biomass utilization.

- City of Stockton US EPA Award: Secured a \$1M grant through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program, aimed at enhancing mitigation efforts in accordance with their LCI-funded Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.
- Shade Equity Masterplan: In response to extreme heat threats, the Coachella Valley's initiative focuses on providing shade in underserved areas. As detailed in a recent [AP News article](#), community leaders are working to ensure equitable access to shade, addressing health disparities and improving resilience against climate impacts.
- Berkeley's "Prepared, Safe, and Healthy" Environmental Justice Initiative: Received an additional award from Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN), but [advocates stress the need for sustained, long-term funding](#) to effectively implement climate action programs.

Looking Ahead

- APGP staff, along with a third-party consultant, are providing technical assistance and capacity building services to grantees through a series of technical assistance workshops and a variety of resources to support grantees successfully implement their projects.
- In October, the Center for Law, Energy, & the Environment (CLEE) at UC Berkeley School of Law will publish a policy memo on the APGP and RRGPs' progress to date and policy recommendations.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

ICARP Regional Resilience Planning & Implementation Grant Program

Staff Lead: [Dolores Barajas](#)

Background / Framing Context

The Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program has developed the Regional Resilience Planning and Implementation Grant Program (Regional Resilience Grant Program, RRGP) that funds planning and implementation resilience needs on a regional scale. Available to CA Native American Tribes, public entities, community-based organizations, and academic institutions, the Regional Resilience Grant Program supports diverse partnerships in advancing resilience addressing multiple climate risks. In 2023, the program awarded \$21.8M in grants both competitively and through funding set-asides.

Key Priorities of ICARP's Regional Resilience Grant Program are to:

- Support regional projects aligned with ICARP priorities that improve regional climate resilience and reduce climate risks from wildfire, sea level rise, drought, flood, increasing temperatures, and extreme heat events.
- Support projects or actions that address the greatest climate risks in the region, particularly in the most vulnerable communities.
- Fill the gaps in climate resilience funding and support sustainable and cohesive climate resilient projects.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Q1: Submit report to the Legislature on RRGP's progress and regional resilience recommendations. (Complete)
- Q3:
 - Execute grant agreements with 16 awardees. (Complete)
 - Technical assistance workshop. (Complete)

Updates for Q3 2024

- RRGP staff held a technical assistance workshop for all grantees to review program requirements, available resources and establish connections across regions.

Looking Ahead

- RRGP staff, along with a third-party consultant, are providing technical assistance and capacity building services to grantees through a series of peer-to-peer learning workshops and a variety of resources to successfully implement their projects.
- In October, RRGP and APGP will publish a policy memo on progress to date and policy recommendations.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

5. Climate Equity and Vulnerable Communities

Vulnerable Communities Platform

Staff Lead: [Ankitha Doddanari](#), [Mark Hedlund](#)

Background / Framing Context

Building off the 2018 ICARP TAC definition of “vulnerable communities” in the context of climate adaptation, and in response to queries from a range of cross-sector stakeholders, OPR is developing an integrated platform to make this definition actionable for adaptation policy and investment decisions. The goal for the Vulnerable Communities Platform is to develop an open, accessible, and community-grounded platform that holistically identifies the communities most vulnerable to climate change.

Developing the ICARP Vulnerable Communities Platform consists of several workstreams: (1) identifying, combining, and visualizing data in a way that can best illustrate climate vulnerability; (2) convening an interagency state technical workgroup to advise on best practices; (3) engagement with vulnerable communities through listening sessions and pilot community partnerships; and (4) technical assistance and support from ESRI.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Q1: Partner with ESRI to build web-hub to house the platform and prototype the climate hazard and sensitivity map viewer application.
- Q1: Engage with Interagency Technical Working Group (ITWG) to identify optimal extreme heat, wildfire, drought, flooding/SLR risk and vulnerability data.
- Q2: Prototype climate vulnerability tool comparison and resource springboard applications.
- Q3-4: Design of the VCP website completed. Staff are now soliciting and incorporating feedback on the draft platform from groups of agency, community, and academic stakeholders.
- Q3-4: Scope and launch initiative to train a cohort of representatives from community-based organizations and local governments in developing community-informed assessments of climate vulnerability using the VCP.

Updates for Q3 2024

- Staff have presented updates and overviews of the VCP in various forums including APGP and RRGP awardee workshops, Community Resilience Working Group meetings, and the California Community College Climate Summit.

Looking Ahead

- The platform has been made public with draft data and staff are actively requesting input from key stakeholders to inform the development of the final product.
- Staff will continue to engage with subject matter experts in the ITWG to vet and finalize the VCP data.
- Staff will work with a contractor to develop a plan to recruit a cohort, facilitate classes, and create case studies on the VCP.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

6. Additional Special Initiatives

California Climate Adaptation Strategy

Staff Lead: [Abby Edwards](#), [Braden Kay](#)

Background / Framing Context

California prepares a comprehensive statewide climate adaptation strategy every three years ([AB 1482](#), Gordon, 2015). Previous strategies were released in 2009, 2014, and 2018. Beginning with the 2021 Update, the California Natural Resources Agency and OPR, through ICARP, partnered to co-coordinate the development of California's 2021 California Climate Adaptation Strategy. [AB 1384 \(Gabriel, 2022\)](#) requires the 2024 Strategy and subsequent updates to place greater emphasis on the needs of vulnerable communities. The Strategy statute also requires annual reporting on implementation progress.

The Strategy shows how the state's existing, planned, and resourced climate adaptation efforts fit together to achieve broad climate resilience priorities. It also specifies needed actions, with timeframes and metrics, to drive progress and enable accountability. By organizing around outcome-based priorities, rather than individual sectors, the Strategy promotes a coordinated, integrated approach to climate resilience. The Strategy exists as an interactive website that will be updated to reflect progress and make adjustments and will allow for Californians to easily access information on the state's efforts.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Q1: Release Draft 2024 Strategy, onboard contracting firm, gather information from state agencies for 2021 Strategy's 2023 Implementation Report.
- Q2: Public engagement and workshops on Draft 2024 Strategy, release and promote 2021 Strategy's 2023 Implementation Report.
- Q3-Q4: Release final 2024 Strategy.

Updates for Q3 2024

- Staff have requested updated progress indicators and examples of success stories or case studies from state agencies, which will support content development underway for the 2023 Implementation Report to the 2021 Strategy.

Looking Ahead

- CNRA will release the final 2024 Strategy.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

The California Extreme Heat Action Plan

Staff Lead: [Braden Kay](#)

Background / Framing Context

The [2022 Extreme Heat Action Plan](#) provides a strategic and comprehensive set of state actions to adapt and build resilience to extreme heat. It outlines California's all-of-government approach to mitigating the health, economic, cultural, ecological, and social impacts of increasing average temperatures and heat waves. The action plan was developed as part of the state's 2021 update to California's Climate Adaptation Strategy, in recognition of the need for an updated, integrated approach to addressing extreme heat. The Extreme Heat Action Plan provides an update to and expansion of the state's 2013 report on extreme heat ("[Preparing California for Extreme Heat Guidance and Recommendations](#)"). In 2023, [SB 306 \(Caballero, 2023\)](#) directed OPR and CNRA to update the Extreme Heat Action Plan every three years, beginning with the next update that is due July 1, 2026.

Summary of Major 2024 Deliverables

- Ongoing: Extreme Heat Action Plan process planning and scoping.
- Q2: Staffing plan for SB 306.
- Q3: Coordination with CNRA on staffing, resources and timeline.
- Q4: Hiring of a Senior Planner to support EHAP development.
- Q4: Begin review and assessment of 2022 actions.

Updates for Q3 2024

- Staff are planning and scoping the update process for the Extreme Heat Action Plan.

Looking Ahead

- Review of progress on Extreme Heat Action Plan goals and actions.
- Designing community engagement and outreach plan for the EHAP.
- Coordination with state agencies on the EHAP process.
- Coordination between extreme heat-related grant programs and the EHAP update including Community Resilience Centers, Urban Greening, Urban Forestry, Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications' Heat Ready CA campaign and others.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.