

C3 Inventory Work Summary

Matthew Wood

C3 Inventory Work Group Members:

Tim Mayer, Leif Horwitz, Rachel Reagan, Matt Wood

This document outlines the work that myself, and others have put towards the C3 Inventory website (www.c3.gov). C3 is a regional forum of agency and science center climate change coordinators and leaders. The C3 Inventory website is an online database of federal projects consisting of federal climate change research, research tools, models, modeled scenarios, monitoring programs/projects and assessments related initiated or completed since 2005.

When I began my term as an intern, the C3 Inventory website had already been established and populated with 72 entries. These initial entries were the primarily the result of researchers, project coordinators, or other related personnel entering in their own projects. These entries were entered through a dedicated entry form on the C3 inventory page that only researchers had access to. Inventory entries were stored within an Access Database, which is where I entered in projects on my end. As the database was populated I periodically sent a copy to Ben Fell, a Web Specialist with USFWS, who then updated the database to the website.

Initially, I spent time reviewing the C3 Inventory entries, correcting any obvious errors or mistakes such as spelling and updating information. I also spent this time visiting similar climate change research inventory websites to gain insight to similar efforts and gather ideas on how to improve the C3 Inventory website. My first work entering into the database was primarily from other climate change research websites. These websites were first given to me from Tim Mayer (USFWS), and often lead to other sources being discovered. C3 members, specifically Chris Tool (NOAA-NMFS), Karen Bennet (USFS), Regina Rochefort (NPS) were instrumental in forwarding websites to search, as well as any climate research projects for entry. During this time I also spent a considerable time performing google searches based on previous information, and tips from C3 members. During this time I maintained phone, email correspondence with various C3 members who would directly email projects to be entered. I met with a few individuals in person who provided information regarding their agency research projects.

After this initial stage where entries were either directed towards me from existing contacts or discovered from my own searches, it became evident we needed to reach out to other groups and individuals who may have valuable research that was missing from the inventory. During a C3 Inventory strategy meeting we discussed establishing “gatekeepers” for agencies and work groups that would serve as my contact, and would provide projects for entry into the inventory.

Our first call was in April of 2011 with National Park Service gatekeeper Regina Rochefort, who pointed us to the NPS Research Permit Index to find projects that were currently being funded. This resulted in more entries under NPS, however as the projects were only funded, less information was available for the inventory (e.g. Authors, Completion Date, Citation).

The next meeting was with NOAA – NMFS, with Chris Tool serving as the gatekeeper. We discussed an issue with previous NMFS entries that Chris had provided, where research programs produce multiple publications but the inventory did not reflect this. The solution at the time was to edit these entries with “Research Program” before the title, to indicate it may have multiple products/publications.

The next call with was the EPA gatekeeper Claire Schary and Peter Beedlow where we discussed EPA projects and lack of entries in the inventory. After the meeting Claire and Peter both sent me list of programs and projects that were entered.

The next meeting was held with the Bureau of Reclamation gatekeepers Toni Turner and Bryan Horsburgh where we discussed the lack of BOR entries as of 4/27/11. Toni sent an email to me that provided links to various projects and programs that were subsequently added to the inventory.

The next meeting was with the Forest Service gatekeeper Marc Kramer. Marc noted that USFS had a good amount of entries represented within the database, but he followed up with additional entries for addition.

The meetings held with agency gatekeepers were instrumental in receiving new entries, verifying existing entries and providing an opportunity to gain input from each agency's representative. During the time the meetings were held with agency gatekeepers, the C3 inventory group also held periodic phone meetings updating one another on progress and any issues that required attention. Face to face C3 meetings were also held periodically where a larger group of C3 members met in person or via video chat to discuss various climate change endeavors including the C3 inventory. At these meetings I provided updates regarding the inventory and answered any questions that members had. During some meetings we received input from C3 members regarding their use of the inventory as well as any suggestions they had for the inventory.

The C3 inventory work group outlined a plan for a review of existing entries within the inventory at the end of 2011. Rachel Reagan created a QA/QC matrix that was then used to check the presence of entry information as well as the content of the abstract. The inventory was divided between the work group and review of the inventory was recently completed. Initial impressions from the review process are:

- The "Completion Date" category is often left blank
- Some piece if not most pieces of contact information are present (will allow for following up)
- Proposed and funded projects often have short, incomplete or missing abstracts
- Most project links that are provided are active

Some general recommendations have been made by the C3 Inventory work group and C3 members.

- Be able to view the latest entries
- Email update reminders to user entered projects
- Bold text on category headings, and regular text for contents under category (opposite of current format)
- Have a map that can display regional projects and can be searched
- When search results are returned there is no need for the "Completion Date" category to be shown as most entries don't have this filled in. It may be good to even remove this completely from the inventory

The C3 inventory does not represent a complete product as it will require periodic updating and maintenance. Future work that has been identified at this point includes correcting any errors or mistakes found while during the review process. Additional work must be done to ensure that entries are as complete as possible by following up with project contacts or through web searches.

List of resources used:

Northwest Fisheries Science Center - <http://www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/>
Puget Sound Partnership Research Center - <http://www.psparchives.com/>
USGS Northern Rock Mountain Science Center (NOROCK) - <http://www.nrmisc.usgs.gov/>
Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange (CAKE) – <http://www.cakex.org/>
Oregon Climate Change Research Institute (OCCRI) - <http://occri.net/>
Climate Impacts Group (CIG) - <http://ces.washington.edu/cig/>

(*note there are more sites that have been used, but my computer that had them all bookmarked has crashed. Feel free to add any you know have been used and don't see above)