

# Helene Floods, Los Angeles Fires, Phoenix Heat: Lessons Learned for More Resilient Communities

Board on Atmospheric Sciences and Climate 2025 Spring Meeting – May 5-6, 2025

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**Webinar ID**  
959 4220 0185  
**Passcode**  
993060

**NAS Building**  
Room 125  
2101 Constitution Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20418

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## Purpose

- Understand the specific characteristics and dynamics of recent extreme hazard events, and how such events may change (e.g., in frequency, intensity, seasonality) going forward.
- Build on the work of local groups impacted by and engaged with these events. Highlight lessons learned to better prepare for, respond to, and build resilience to these events. Consider how potential changes in the characteristics of similar events will affect plans for preparedness and resilience.
- Identify the specific knowledge that communities need from the atmospheric, hydrometeorologic and social sciences to reduce extreme event risks. These needs include gaps in foundational science, shortfalls in the translation of science into practice, and opportunities to improve real-time responses. The effort will also identify best practices and lessons learned for future benefit.

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## MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025 [ALL TIMES IN ET]

**1:00–1:15**     **Welcome, Introductions, and Opening Remarks**  
*Brad Colman (BASC Chair) and Kasey White (BASC Board Director)*

**1:15–3:00**     **Case Study 1: 2025 Los Angeles Wildfires**  
*Presentations followed by panel discussion and Q&A*  
**Moderator:** *Bart Croes (California Air Resources Board, retired), BASC Member*  
**Panelists**

- Joost de Gouw (UC Boulder)
- Alan Talhelm (CAL Fire)
- LeRoy Westerling (UC Merced)
- Roy Wright (Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety)

**3:00–3:15**     **Break**

- 3:15–5:00**      **Case Study 2: 2024 Phoenix Extreme Heat**  
*Presentations followed by panel discussion and Q&A*  
**Moderator: Bernadette Woods Placky** (Climate Central), BASC Member  
**Panelists**
- Amber Sullins (ABC 15 Arizona)
  - David Sailor (ASU)
  - David Hondula (ASU and Phoenix Heat Office)
  - Lisa Patel (Medical Society Consortium on Climate/Health)
- 5:00-5:15**      **Wrap-Up and Preview of Day Two**  
**Brad Colman** (BASC Chair)
- END OF DAY 1**

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**TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025**

- 8:30-9:00**      **Coffee and Light Breakfast Available**
- 9:00–9:15**      **Welcome, Introductions, and Opening Remarks**  
**Brad Colman** (BASC Chair)
- 9:15–11:00**      **Case Study 3: Hurricane Helene in North Carolina**  
*Presentations followed by panel discussion and Q&A*  
**Moderator: Kevin Reed** (Stony Brook University), BASC Member  
**Panelists**
- Kenneth Kunkel (NC State)
  - Kathie Dello (NC State, NC State Climatologist)
  - Amir AghaKouchak (UC Irvine)
  - Chris Campany (Windham Regional Planning Commission)
- 11:00–12:30**      **Open Session Wrap Up and Lessons Learned**  
*Presentations followed by panel discussion and Q&A*  
**Moderator: Brad Colman** (BASC Chair)  
*Following the three case studies, this final session will identify gaps in the foundational sciences, shortfalls in the translation of science into practice, and opportunities to improve real-time responses.*
- 12:30**      **OPEN SESSION ADJOURNS**