

Policy Forum on Nature Based Solutions

NAS Building, Washington, D.C.

Objectives

1. Identify needs in policy development and regulation to advance effective implementation of NbS.
2. Understand constraints and opportunities for NbS uptake and national-scale application.
3. Support equitable and inclusive engagement through networking and collaboration across organizations, communities, and perspectives.
4. Share knowledge and best practices from successful international NbS projects and partnerships.

DAY 1

February 7, 2024

| Time | Session | Facilitator(s) |
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| 8:00-9:00 | Registration & Breakfast | |
| 9:00-9:30 | Opening Remarks & Housekeeping <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Amanda Staudt, Senior Director, Climate Crossroads, National Academy of Sciences• Dr. Jeff King, National Lead, Engineering With Nature Program, US Army Corps of Engineers | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Stephanie Houser, Program Officer, Gulf Research Program, National Academy of Sciences |
| 9:30-10:30 | Financing for Nature-based Solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Michael Beck, Director, Center for Coastal Climate Resilience, University of California Santa Cruz• Tee Thomas, Vice President, Quantified Ventures• Leigh Whelpton, Director, Environmental Infrastructure Programs, Connecticut Green Bank | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Lydia Olander, Ecosystem Services Program, Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment & Sustainability, Duke University |
| 10:30-11:45 | Federal Permitting for Nature-based Solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Craig Aubrey, Chief, Division of Environmental Review, Ecological Services Program, US Fish and Wildlife Service• Manisha Patel, Deputy Executive Director, Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council• Tunis McElwain, Deputy Chief, Regulatory Program, US Army Corps of Engineers• Carrie Selberg Robinson, Director, Office of Habitat Conservation, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Brett Branco, Executive Director, Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay |

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| 11:45-12:45 | Lunch | Sponsored by: Jacobs Solutions Inc. |
| 1:00-2:00 | Fireside Chat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jainey Bavishi, Assistant Secretary, Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Deputy Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ● Michael Connor, Assistant Secretary, Army for Civil Works ● Sarah Greenberger, Associate Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Todd Bridges, Professor of Practice, Resilient and Sustainable Systems, University of Georgia |
| 2:00-3:15 | Small Group Session Participants will answer questions to discussion prompts around best practices and common challenges faced with the permit process for Nature-based Solutions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Devyani Kar, Principal Resilience Scientist, Jacobs Solutions Inc. ● Chaz Garraway, Water Resources Designer, Stantec Consulting Ltd. |
| 3:15-3:30 | Break | |
| 3:30-4:45 | Innovations in Permitting with Considerations to Nature-based Solutions Coordination & Efficiencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Luisa Valiela, Environmental Protection Specialist, San Francisco Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team ● Martin Mayer, Regulatory Division Chief, US Army Corps of Engineers ● Todd Miller, Founder and Executive Director, North Carolina Coastal Federation ● Dr. Timothy Male, Executive Director, Environmental Policy Innovation Center ● Peter Murchie, Manager, Geographic Programs, Environmental Protection Agency | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Jordan R. Fischbach, Director, Planning and Policy Research, The Water Institute |
| 4:45-5:00 | Closing Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Amanda Tritinger, Deputy Program Manager, Engineering With Nature Program, US Army Corps of Engineers | |
| 5:00-7:00 | Reception | Sponsored by: Stantec Consulting Ltd. |

DAY 2
February 8, 2024

| Time | Session | Facilitator(s) |
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| 8:00-9:00 | Registration & Breakfast | |
| 9:00-9:30 | Welcome back & Summary of Small Group Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Devyani Kar, Principal Resilience Scientist, Jacobs Solutions Inc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Josh Running, Principal, Stantec Consulting Ltd. |
| 9:30-10:00 | Equity & Justice Keynote Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Margot Brown, Senior Vice President, Justice and Equity, Environmental Defense Fund | |
| 10:00-11:00 | Equity & Justice Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Margot Brown, Senior Vice President, Justice and Equity, Environmental Defense Fund • Dr. Scott Hemmerling, Senior Research Scientist, The Water Institute • Dr. Renato Molina, Assistant Professor, Environmental and Resource Economics, University of Miami • Kristie Trousdale, Deputy Director, Children's Environmental Health Network | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valerie Black, General Counsel and Legal Policy Researcher, The Water Institute |
| 11:00-11:30 | Engineering with Nature - An Atlas (Volume 3) Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courtney Chambers, Communications Lead, Engineering With Nature, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers | |
| 11:30-12:00 | The White House Roadmap for Accelerating the Implementation of Nature-based Solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Lydia Olander, Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment & Sustainability, Duke University | |
| 12:00-1:00 | Lunch | Sponsored by: San Antonio River Authority |

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| <p>1:15-2:30</p> | <p>International Best Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Jill Slinger, Associate Professor, Delft University of Technology ● Anita Van Breda, Sr. Director, World Wildlife Fund ● Courtney McGeachy, Director, OV-UN Decade Collaborative Center for Ocean Climate Solutions, United Nations ● Irina Likhachova, Global Lead, Biodiversity Finance, Climate Business, International Finance Corporation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Francis Wiese, Vice President, Science Director, Climate Solutions, Stantec Consulting Ltd. |
| <p>2:30-3:00</p> | <p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Todd Bridges, Professor of Practice, Resilient and Sustainable Systems, University of Georgia | |