

National Practice Forum on Nature-Based Solutions

Objectives:

1. Showcase large-scale implementation of nature-based solutions and lessons learned
2. Promote equity and justice in hazard mitigation and adaptation projects
3. Identify challenges & opportunities to meet objectives for risk reduction & conservation
4. Strengthen partnerships to accelerate the pace and scale of NBS implementation

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2025 (All Times are Pacific Time)

TIME	SESSION
8:00-9:00	Registration & Breakfast
9:00-9:45	Welcome and Plenary Negin Sobhani , National Academy of Sciences Dr. Cynthia Larive , Chancellor of UC Santa Cruz, Welcome Meghan Hertel , Deputy Secretary for Biodiversity and Habitat at California Natural Resources Agency, Plenary Dr. Michael Beck , UC Santa Cruz, Stage Setting
9:50-10:50	Coastside Chat: Leadership Perspectives on NBS Violet Sage Walker , Chairwoman of the Northern Chumash Tribal Council Cindy Messer , Deputy Director of the California Department of Water Resources Chrissy Thom , Executive VP and Global Environmental Markets Director at Jacobs Moderator: Dr. Todd Bridges , Professor of Practice at University of Georgia
10:50-11:15	Break
11:15-12:15	Lightning Talks Part 1 Janan Reilly , FEMA Aron Chang , Civic Studio Dr. Brett Sanders , UC Irvine Dr. Amanda Tritinger , USACE Ian Costello , UC Santa Cruz Dr. Brent Constantz , Blue Planet Systems Bip Padrnos , Environmental Science Associates Dr. Sarah Pease , NOAA Aliza Leit , Econcrete Cheyenne Morgan , University of Oklahoma
12:15-1:30	Lunch

1:30-2:15	Panel 1: Nature Based Solutions and Adaptation: From the Roots to the Margins Dr. Marccus Hendricks , Assoc. Professor of Urban Studies and Planning at U of Maryland Dr. Beth Rose Middleton Manning , Professor of Native American Studies at UC Davis Maria Elena de la Garza , CEO at Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County Moderator: Dr. Heather Tallis , UC Santa Cruz
2:20-3:10	Breakout Session 1
3:10-3:40	Break
3:40-4:25	Panel 2: Mainstreaming Nature in Decision-Making: Using and Advancing Standards and Implementation Guidelines Dr. Marta Vicarelli , Asst. Professor of Economics at University of Massachusetts Amherst Tom Smith , Executive Director of the American Society of Civil Engineers Chris Clavin , Senior Advisor for Resilience at Nat. Institute of Standards and Technology Moderator: Dr. Kristin Ludwig , Science Advisor for Risk Reduction at USGS
4:25-4:30	Closing Remarks Dr. Stephanie Houser , Program Officer, National Academy of Sciences
4:30-6:30	Reception and Poster Session
END OF DAY 1	

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025

8:00-9:00	Registration & Breakfast
9:00-9:10	Welcome Dr. Jack Hu , Provost of University of Georgia
9:15-10:00	Panel 3: The Growth of NBS: State of Practice and Lessons Learned Dr. Curt Storlazzi , Research Geologist at US Geological Survey Jesse Ross , Nature-Based Resilience Coordinator at the Department of Navy Dr. Ellen Herbert , Senior Scientist in Sustainability and NBS at Ducks Unlimited Moderator: Dr. Luce Bassetti , Americas Coastal Resilience Director at Jacobs

10:05-10:40	Lightning Talks Part 2 Dr. Heidi Waite , California Ocean Science Trust Juli Beth Hinds , UC San Diego Chris Levitz , AECOM Dr. Ellie Simpson , DHI Dr. Naama Raz-Yaseef , The Watershed Project Carter Beale , University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
10:40-11:00	Break
11:00-11:45	Panel 4: Using Nature-Based Solutions to Reduce Social Vulnerability Dr. Shalini Vajjhala , Executive Director at PRE Collective Kaiea Medeiros , Mahiai / Hawaiian Regenerative Farmer Emily Nobel Maxwell , Founder and Principal at Nobel Cause Consulting Moderator: Dr. Megan Kelso , Conservation Scientist at UC Santa Cruz
11:50-12:30	Breakout Session 2
12:30-1:30	Lunch
1:30-2:15	Panel 5: Challenges and Opportunities in Advancing NBS in Disaster Recovery Dr. Melissa Forbes , Deputy Executive Director of the Gulf Research Program at NAS Dr. Steven Jensen , Lecturer, Emergency Services Administration at California State University Long Beach Dr. Guillermo Franco , Managing Director & Head of Cat Risk Research at Guy Carpenter Moderator: Dr. Devyani Kar , Principal Resilience Scientist at Jacobs
2:20-3:05	Panel 6: Implementing Nature-Based Solutions at Scale: What does it take? Dr. Piper Wallingford , Climate Resilience Scientist at The Nature Conservancy Dr. Kyle McKay , Senior Research Civil Engineer at the US Army Corps of Engineers Jamil Ibrahim , Senior Principal Hydrologist at Stantec Moderator: Dr. Francis Wiese , Senior Scholar at the National Academy of Science
3:10-3:30	Closing Remarks
MEETING ADJOURNS	
3:30 – 5:30	Optional Nature Walk