Early Career Training Program

Program Focus: NE CASC fellows develop skills in engagement, communication, and collaboration to help inform climate change adaptation for natural and cultural resources management.

Components of the NE CASC Early Career Training Program

- **Stakeholder engagement**: Developing relationships with decision makers, land managers, state, federal, Tribal agencies, and NGOs to produce knowledge that will inform climate adaptation and science-based decision making.

- **Ethical Collaboration**: Building a foundation of respect and understanding for Indigenous knowledge and science for a more complete vision of challenges and solutions, education on accurate Indigenous history and context, and committing to a lifelong process of learning and decolonization.

- **Climate Communication**: Practicing spoken and written science communication that is accessible and effective.

- **Career Preparedness**: Publishing, writing grants, establishing work/life balance, emphasizing inclusive practices, networking and job searching.

- **Federal and state employees**: State Departments of Natural Resources, USGS, NOAA, EPA, US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife

- **Practitioner community**: Engineering, consulting, and non-profit environmental work

- **Academic careers**: Full and assistant professors, research scientists, postdoc fellows, and graduate students at domestic and international Universities

39 Current Research Fellows

152 ongoing or completed research projects

100+ Fellows since 2013

This work is supported by the Department of Interior Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center, which is managed by the National Climate Adaptation Science Center.
Why NE CASC Fellows?

Core to the mission of NE CASC is the training of early career scientists to deliver science that helps wildlife, ecosystems, and people adapt to a changing climate. Our challenge is to identify and build relationships with stakeholder partners to collaboratively design research that will meet their climate adaptation needs. To meet this challenge, the NE CASC provides support in communication, engagement, and collaboration to a revolving cohort of students and postdoctoral researchers.

Fellows join the program through:

1. Selection by a NE CASC Consortium PI, USGS staff, or Tribal Liaison
2. Special opportunities such as NE CASC DEI Assistantship opportunity

Program Format:

NE CASC fellows engage with the training via three mediums.

Biweekly seminars - fellows meet virtually during the academic year to discuss and practice skills related to co-production and stakeholder engagement.

Annual Intensive - once a year, fellows participate in a three day on-site intensive to build collaborations, interact with practitioners, and deepen their knowledge and skill set around co-producing science with stakeholders.

Small Groups - formal small group initiatives and informal scientific collaboration provide a more tailored means to engage in scholarship or service related to climate science co-production.

Learn more at: necasc.umass.edu

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